

**DEDE Business Meeting Minutes**  
SICB Annual Meeting 4 January 2015

Meeting called to order by Lynn “Marty” Martin, DEDE Chair, at 5:50pm

There were 7 DEDE members in attendance

Chair Martin began the meeting with a brief history of the division, following our official acceptance as a SICB division. After the January 2014 organizational meeting in Austin, Texas, three officers were elected and a student/post-doc representative was appointed. We drafted by-laws, which were approved by the membership in DEDE by a 43-0 vote. In addition to the division officers, Ken Field has been appointed the DEDE representative to the ICB Board.

The next order of business was a discussion on replacing Chair Martin after the 2015 year as he will be taking over as Editor of ICB. The members discussed the need to form a nominating committee, which according to the SICB by-laws, is to be coordinated by the Division Chair. The members then had a general discussion about individuals who may serve as Chair, and perhaps created a list of individuals who we should recruit to increase their participation in SICB, in general. Those named were:

Dana Hawley  
Sonia Altizer  
Vanessa Ezenwa  
Ken Fedorka  
Susannah French  
Shelly Adamo  
Kirk Klasing  
Andrea Graham

Bill Zamer from the National Science Foundation then arrived to give an NSF update. He congratulated the members on the formation of this division. He then explained that program directors are still working on funding decisions from recommendations made in the October panels because NSF does not yet have a FY15 budget. He informed the attendees that SICB symposia funding will continue to be competitive and those submitting proposals should focus on the future of your science rather than those that summarize past breakthroughs in the field. He also encouraged submitting proposals for sessions in workshop format, allowing for a broad discussion of topics, including opportunities and challenges in our field. He reminded the members that only the Animal Behavior section of IOS solicits DDIG proposals, but that all sections of DEB do. NSF is transitioning to new guidelines for supplemental REU proposals. They are now asking that PIs submit any supplemental REU requests with the full proposal rather than after a decision is made on the proposal. The NSF also encourages submission of proposals for Mid-Career Investigator Awards. In IOS, one of the new programs is Beyond the Genome

(or Genome → Phenome) studies. These awards are given to post-tenure, but non-retired faculty members and are specifically aimed for them to learn new skill sets in genomics and technology that may substantially improve their understanding in an existing study/system (a supplement to existing funding) or something that can be incorporated into a new full proposal as well. The Broadening Participation events at SICB are important and something to always keep in mind when writing proposals for NSF. The pre-proposal process is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and an external review has been arranged by NSF to determine its effectiveness. Bill Zamer reminded the DEDE members that paying attention to which directorate your proposal is best suited for is important, particularly because DEB and IOS do things differently, including due dates and required forms. Finally, he recommended that individuals interested in submitting CAREER grant proposals submit a regular pre-proposal and if they are not invited to a full proposal, they will have panel feedback in time to submit the CAREER proposal in July.

The SICB Executive Committee / Officers then stopped in to introduce themselves, welcome us as a division and inform the membership that things are all looking good for SICB as a whole.

The Executive Committee departed and we received reports from each of the division officers.

Program Officer Sarah DuRant shared that there were 19 students in the best student presentation competition, with 7 of those being posters and 12 talks. We have 178 members of the division according to the SICB website, and we discussed ways to increase participation, Program Officer DuRant and Chair Martin discussed the value of symposia to get outside people involved and Student/Post-Doc Representative Cynthia Downs offered to share draft examples of her previous successful symposium proposal to anyone who is interested in developing one. There was some talk, too, of how abstracts and proposals from posters to symposia are handled and though the Division Program Officers have some say, the SICB (Executive) Program Officer has a lot of pull when it comes to the final program of meetings. Program Officer DuRant also noted that there will be more discussion, and likely another poll, asking SICB members about their preference for the timing of the meeting. We are co-sponsoring two symposia at the next meeting and 12 overall were chosen from 23 proposals. One of our sponsored symposia is on migratory animals as superspreaders of disease and the other is on parasites.

Secretary Travis Wilcoxon announced that the newsletter is an open forum for all DEDE members, not just the officers, and that any announcements, opportunities for upcoming participation in other meetings or other information can be included as long as that information is delivered to Secretary Wilcoxon before the newsletter deadlines.

Student/Post-Doc Representative Cynthia Downs announced that while only Chair Martin was participating in the Get To Know an Ecoimmunologist lunch at this 2015

SICB meeting, that there were five students going to lunch with him. This is something that we will work to expand for future meetings.

Chair Martin took the lead again and reminded the members about the DCE/DEDE social and to encourage other members to make donations to SICB, because when it comes to extra support and activities, with such a large membership, a little contribution from each goes a long way.

We currently have about \$320 in our division fund.

Chair Martin also asked if the attendees had ideas for what to do about the large number of cancellations and what the implications should be for that action. The SICB by-laws describe a suspension from meeting participation in the subsequent year (or 2 years) but it seems as if it may not be enforced.

Chair Martin also reminded the attendees that there is still some money left in the NSF-RCN budget because he received an extension on the use of those funds. Cynthia Downs asked whether it might be a good idea to coordinate a workshop with those funds where a group of students or other individuals could learn a number of techniques in one place.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm