DEDE Business Meeting Minutes  
SICB Annual Meeting 4 January 2016

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

There were 13 DEDE members in attendance

Robert Miller from the National Science Foundation gave an NSF update. He explained that program directors are still working on funding decisions from recommendations made in the October panels because NSF does not yet have a FY16 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. 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. 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. Another new NSF initiative is the EDGE program, aimed at developing genomic tools. This has an April 29 letter of intent deadline with a June 1 full proposal deadline. The Broadening Participation events at SICB are important and something to always keep in mind when writing proposals for NSF. 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.

Chair Marty Martin discussed a SICB proposal to add an open-access online journal. The rationale is that there is no journal right now for primary research in ICB, and additionally, it could serve as a major income stream. The journal would be handled by Oxford, and the publisher will take $10,000 risk for journal, but there would be little to no risk to SICB.

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. Bram Lutton specifically asked DEDE members to consider adding teaching resources to the SICB website

Chair Marty Martin discussed DEDE elections. We need to elect ‘elect’ positions for all three of our offices. The secretary-elect and the program officer-elect would take over as secretary and program officer, respectively, at the end of the 2017 meeting, but the chair elect would take over as chair at the end of the 2018 meeting. The DEDE officers have already identified a good slate of candidates, and new division chair Carol Fassbinder-Orth will ask each of them if they will accept their
nominations. We need a minimum of two candidates for each of the three positions and once candidates have accepted their nominations, Secretary Travis Wilcoxen will collect their biography information and picture and assemble the newsletter. We need to complete nominations by mid-February.

Chair Marty Martin thanked a number of people for their service to DEDE, including Loren Merrill for coordinating student awards again, Dan Becker for organizing lunch with ecoimmunologist, Sarah for putting together a great program, and a welcome to Carol as next DEDE chair.

The two symposia for next year were discussed. In addition, Chair Marty Martin encouraged the DEDE membership to consider other symposium ideas for the 2018 meeting.

We discussed the addition of $10 membership dues in 2017 for DEDE. The extra funds provide much flexibility in what we can do as a division, including improvement of our social, and possible branching off to have our own social in the future. As of right now, we plan to continue a joint social with DCE.

Chair Marty Martin noted that helpers are needed for the ‘Fate’ committee. The goal of this group is to track former student members and find out where they went, career wise. This is important as SICB assesses the costs/benefits of the vast amount of student support they provide. Anyone who wants to help can contact the head of Membership Committee (Marcus Davis).

Finally, we encouraged all DEDE members to attend main SICB business meeting on Wednesday at 5:45 pm - 6:30 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm