



Division of Invertebrate Zoology

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DIZ Officers & Representatives

Dianna K. Padilla
Chair 2009-2012

John McClintock
Chair-Elect 2011-2012

Erika V. Iyengar
Secretary 2010-2013

John Zardus
Program Officer 2011-2014

Karen Chan
Student/Postdoc Rep. 2011-2014

Jennifer Burnaford
Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship Committee Chair

Robert W. Thacker
ICB Editorial Board Representative 2010-2015

Message from the Chair

Dianna Padilla

Dear fellow invertebrate zoologists,

This is my last newsletter entry as Chair of DIZ. My term as Chair will be completed in January, at the end of the meeting in Charleston. My job has been made much easier by those of you who have held office over the past three years - Renae Brodie and now Erika Iyengar as Secretary, and Jim McClintock and now John Zardus as Program Officer. As you know, we held an election to find a new Chair for DIZ. I want to thank Ken Halanych for running for this office, and announce Jim McClintock as the incoming Chair of DIZ. Most of you know Jim from his outstanding service as our Division Program Officer for three years. It is great to leave DIZ (and all of those exciting Executive Committee Meetings) in Jim's capable hands, and I want to thank him for taking on this important role.



Dianna Padilla

Changing of the Guard

Because each of the three elected officers of DIZ serves a three-year term and the terms are staggered, each spring we have an election for the officer whose term will end after our next meeting. In the spring of 2012 we will hold an election for Secretary. I am looking for volunteers to serve on the nominations committee, which will be appointed in early November. The members of the nominations committee are expected to complete their work by mid-January, so that candidates can get their information to Erika in time for the spring election. The committee can usually get this work done during the annual meeting. If you would like to serve on the nominations committee, please let me know!

There are a number of standing committees in the society (<http://www.sicb.org/resources/committees.php3>). Each year the Divisional Chairs are asked to nominate people to serve on these committees. If you are interested in being nominated for one of these committees, or for service to DIZ, please let me (or Jim, after January 7) know.

How should we spend our money?

As a result of an initiative I put forward to the Executive Com-



mittee last year, at the request of the DIZ membership, all divisions now (once again) have a discretionary budget. As many of you know, our division had a budget in the past that we could choose how to spend. Four years ago all discretionary budgets were removed, and we were given a budget that could only be spent on symposia and our social at the meeting. We will not know until the Charleston meeting the size of this budget, but we should be thinking about how we might use it. One suggestion is the return of our previous support of best presentation winners by providing them with a year's dues for the Society. Please bring your ideas for other potential uses of our budget to the business meeting in Charleston. If you cannot make the meeting, please email me your ideas and I will make sure they are part of our discussion at the meeting.

Charleston here we come!

The time is now to start preparing for the Charleston meeting. Based on John's Program Officer report, this promises to be another record-breaking meeting. We will have many great symposia that include invertebrates, and an abundance of oral presentations and posters! Of particular interest to members of DIZ will be a symposium honoring Mary Rice, and also symposia entitled Dispersal in Marine Organisms, Poecilogony as a Window on Larval Evolution, and Barnacle Biology. See John's report for the full list. At the meeting, we will be having a social with the members of the Division of Ecology and Evolution, the American Microscopical Society, and the Crustacean Society. Also, please be sure to put the DIZ business meeting into your schedule! Check the program for the time and room number.

As usual, we will be looking for volunteers for judging best student presentations and posters at the meeting. Consider volun-

teering. Beth Davis-Berg will once again be organizing the DIZ judging this year. If you would like to volunteer to judge, please contact Beth.

It is not too early to consider organizing a mini-symposium or organized set of contributed papers around a single theme for the San Francisco meeting. The symposia for the meeting have been selected, but there is plenty of room for mini-symposia (half day, 20 minute talks) and oral sessions that are focused on a theme. Mini-symposia and focused oral sessions are great for focusing on hot, new areas of research, and are great for in-depth discussions. I would really like to see postdocs and graduate students organize some sessions that they would like to see at the meeting. I am sure that our trusty Divisional Program Officer, John Zardus, will be happy to help you. As usual, sessions that can be linked to Grand Challenges questions and issues are especially welcome!

Auction to Support the Libbie Hyman Fund - San Francisco 2013

I hope all of you have been collecting items for the Auction to Support the Libbie Hyman Fund that will be held at our San Francisco meeting in January 2013. Plans for the auction and requests for help to organize and run the auction will be made during the coming year. But, it is time to start collecting those books and making that beautiful invertebrate artwork that draws in the crowds and makes them want to spend their money! At the last auction we received several very generous donations in exchange for vacation weekends with famous invertebrate zoologists (or at least at their houses or on their boats!). So, think ahead and be creative!

DIZ is committed to supporting students in a variety of ways, including through scholarships.



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Information about these funds can be found at: <http://www.sicb.org/students/awards.php3#support>

Donations can be made on line at: <https://ssl4.westserver.net/birenheide/sicbcart/donations.php>

Check the box at the top if you are willing to have your donation used this year.

This year we were contacted by one of Libbie Hyman's relatives (see the report from the Hyman Fund committee). We would like to update our web site with more information about past recipients of Hyman Fund awards. So, if you received an award, please contact Jen Burnaford and let her know when you received the award, and what you are doing now!

Have you been to a field laboratory or station recently?



View from the dock at Friday Harbor Laboratories. Wish you were here?

Field laboratories and field stations are wonderful venues for research of all types. I find them especially exciting areas for research because there is generally a wide range of scientists and science that I can learn from, and usually a much wider range than one would find in your home department. Field labs and stations are the perfect place to get inspired about new areas of research, find common ground among otherwise disparate fields of science, and discover and address trans- and interdisciplinary questions and techniques. Many undergraduate

courses are now moving away from living organisms and real environments, but most universities are less than 100 miles from a field station or lab. And all field stations and labs I have visited, even those far inland, have an abundance of wonderful invertebrates to study! They can be wonderful places to take classes as a student, or teach classes as a professor. Due to budget cutting across the country, budgets for field labs and stations are suffering tremendously. They are often viewed as a luxury by administrators, who view things solely in terms of dollars spent per undergraduate trained. We need to be voices of support for these important resources, and we need to make sure that each new cohort of students gets the same opportunity to enjoy and learn from these valuable resources. At this year's executive meeting I will request that SICB have as part of its web site a list of, and links to, field stations and labs. If you know of particular labs or field stations that you would like to see listed, please let me know!

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Charleston! Happy Invertebrates!



Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA) students, getting down and algified to find invertebrates while taking a course at the Darling Marine Center (Walpole, ME).



Message from the Program Officer

John Zardus



John Zardus

Greetings dear invert-ophiles,

I hope your summer has been fabulous and productive. Fall is here and that means preparing for the SICB meeting in January in Charleston, SC. This is slated to be the biggest meeting ever with almost 1,500 abstracts submitted and the program looks exceptional! Ten symposia are scheduled of which

the following seven are being sponsored by DIZ:

- The Impacts of Developmental Plasticity on Evolutionary Innovation and Diversification (organizers Matthew Wund and Armin Moczek)
- Barnacle Biology: Essential Aspects and Contemporary Approaches (organizer John Zardus)
- Poecilogony as a Window on Larval Evolution: Polymorphism of Developmental Mode within Marine Invertebrate Species (organizers Emily Knott and Damhnait McHugh)
- Combining Experiments with Modeling and Computational Methods to Study Animal Locomotion (organizers Laura Miller and Silas Alben)
- Novel Methods for the Analysis of Animal Movement: Spatial and Temporal Structure Across Scales (organizers Douglas Altshuler, Michael Dickinson, and Andrew Straw)
- Dispersal in Marine Organisms

(organizers Vicki Martin and Sara Lindsay)

- EvoDevo Rides the Genomic Express (organizer Billie Swalla)

Further details on all symposia are posted on the meeting page of the SICB website.

On day four of the meeting (Friday, 6 January) DIZ will also be co-hosting a whopper social from 6:00 – 8:30 PM with the SICB Divisions of Ecology & Evolution and Phylogenetics & Comparative Biology (formerly DSEB), The Crustacean Society, and the American Microscopical Society.

The venue for the meeting, the Charleston Area Convention Center in North Charleston, is very near the airport and many of the area hotels offer free airport pick-up and drop-off. Check the hotel board in the baggage claim area on how to call for a pick-up. Staying at the Embassy Suites Hotel will make the meeting very convenient as the hotel is directly connected to the convention center. I encourage you to book soon as the hotel does not have the capacity for all participants. Overflow hotels will be posted on the SICB website as needed but will not be quite as convenient. A good variety of restaurants are near the convention center but it should be noted that the meeting site is about 9 miles from historic downtown Charleston. There will be a complimentary shuttle service to take registrants back and forth to downtown Charleston for dinner and sightseeing the evenings of January 4, 5 and 6. The shuttles will run from 6:30 - 11:00 PM and will leave from the Convention Center. Check the SICB website for "Notes From the Underground" regarding restaurants and things to do and see as the meeting gets closer.

Babysitting services may be available during the SICB meeting if there is enough interest. When registering please fill out the babysitting survey portion of the form and in early November the survey results will be tallied and reported to the Executive Officers for a determination.



And looking ahead, the lineup for San Francisco, California in 2013 is also looking great. A record 31 symposium proposals were submitted. With room for only 11 symposia this made the job of whittling down a host of very good submissions difficult indeed. It is not too early to begin percolating ideas for Austin, Texas in 2014. In fact, I encourage you to contact me early with ideas or questions to make your submission as competitive as possible. [Check out the proposal guidelines on the SICB website to start planning.](#) If a high number of submissions is a trend (and I hope it is!), early planning will pay off.

Best wishes and I look forward to seeing you in Charleston.

Message from the Secretary

Erika Iyengar

Perhaps now is the time to dust off those notes you jotted down at the last SICB meeting and actually contact the people you noted that you needed to contact later. I am always energized and excited by the people I meet at SICB, and continually amazed at the plethora of great ideas I get for my research, classes, and general interest. I take piles of notes as to who I should follow-up with afterwards, and I'll bet you do too. But, if you are anything like me, once you return home, the notes get filed (or in my case, perched on the left-hand corner of my desk amidst an impending avalanche). Maybe now is the time to shoot off those emails,



Erika and Flat Stan seeking tidepool invertebrates to send to a pre-school class

start ideas flowing again, and make plans to meet up with those people in Charleston! This brings me to trivia about the location of our next meeting. Apparently South Carolina's state tree is the cabbage palmetto and the bird is the Great Carolina Wren. Their motto is a great one: "*Animis opibusque parati/Dum spiro spero*" = "Prepared in mind and resources/While I breathe, I hope." (I keep telling myself that each day as I am sinking under a mound of grading . . .) Unfortunately, I can't seem to find



Flat Stan makes friends during his stay in Maine.

whether they have a state invertebrate. Sigh! If one of you knows, perhaps you can illuminate me at the meeting. . . See you there!

I wanted to ask you to join me in extending huge thanks to Ruediger Birenheide and Lou Burnett who are the muscles behind the scenes in producing these newsletters. I do not think many of us know the huge workload of what they do (I did not, before becoming DIZ secretary). Lou is in charge of organizing all of the Divisions to make sure that we have a newsletter submitted (think of herding cats, from a distance, electronically). He sends multiple reminders ahead of time and beats the bushes (with politeness and aplomb) if we are late. He also has spent countless hours on the thankless job of combing through the bylaws of the

Society and each Division to make sure they are complete and in accord, and he reads through our submitted newsletters to look for



needed edits. Ruedi does a phenomenal job orchestrating the complex layout of our newsletter, taking my suggestions as to where to put the pictures and improving on them, running the text around them, etc. This fine attention to detail is a major pain, and he really makes it look smashing. So, when you get a minute, please send each of them a note of thanks for all their hard work!

Finally, you may have noticed that the gorgeous pictures in our newsletter catch your eye and make you want to read the content—or at least the captions! Please help us to make the newsletter as interesting as possible by sending in pictures of your own to be included. If you want to highlight an invertebrate with a little paragraph blurb, or a field station where invertebrates are plentiful (and I am not sure where one would exist without invertebrates), please do! Send any submissions to me: iyengar@muhlenberg.edu.

Message from the Graduate Student - Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative



Kit Yu Karen Chan (Karen Chan)

Dear postdoctoral and graduate student members,

Hope you have enjoyed a productive summer and are excited about the upcoming Annual Meeting in Charleston!

Karen learning how to use the delicate “optoe” to measure larval respiration rate.

Check out the SICB meeting website for registration details and the different student support programs and awards (www.sicb.org/meetings/2012/). Don't forget the deadline for the Charlotte Mangum

Student Support Program is always at the end of October.

The upcoming SICB meeting is really exciting -- our division is sponsoring SEVEN stimulating symposia. You can find the details here: <http://sicb.org/meetings/2012/symposia/index.php>. The Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee will organize a workshop focusing on job applications and interviews. The workshop will include panel members who have served on search committees as well as have recently applied or are currently applying for jobs. We also plan to include panelists working in both traditional academic and non-academic settings.

I attended a “preparing for an academic career” workshop in geosciences this past June. (Yes, I am in oceanography, and therefore count as a geoscientist. . . . but I am a biologist at heart.) The workshop covered the job search process, job application packet, teaching preparation, and how to move your research forward. If you can't wait until January for tips on job applications at the SICB meeting, you might find the materials and suggested readings from “On the Cutting Edge” helpful (http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGT_Workshops/careerprep/index.html).

See you in Charleston.



Adult *Amphiliura filiformis*, an important ecosystem engineer in the North Sea.



Sven Loven Center at Kristineberg, Sweden where Karen spent her summer exposing larvae to future ocean conditions.



Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair

Beth Davis-Berg

Another meeting is almost upon us, and we anticipate many students to vie for DIZ's Best Student Paper and Poster awards. I encourage **all** post-graduate members who are attending the meetings in Charleston to sign up as judges. Attendees will have the option to sign up as a judge during registration. However, you are still welcome to sign up as a judge by contacting me directly at edavisberg@colum.edu. Judges are asked to referee 4 or fewer presentations.

We will allow judges to choose talks to judge via the web. Judges will go online and select the talks they want to judge: first come, first choose. When the schedule is complete, I will email your assignments and judging instructions—typically late December.

I would like to thank all past judges for their time and effort, and ask for their continued help. If you have not volunteered as a judge, I strongly encourage you to volunteer. It is fun, and a great way to help out the division. Judges are often in short supply, yet necessary to continue to offer student awards. If you have any questions about what is required of a judge, please email me (edavisberg@colum.edu).

Message from the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Selection Committee Chair

Jennifer Burnaford

Our 2011 Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship recipient, Nathan Farrar, used the \$1100 award to support attendance at the

5-week summer "Evolution and Development of the Metazoans" course at the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Laboratories (FHL). Nathan is a Ph.D. student at the University of Alberta working with Dr. Sally Leys. He had this to say about his experience at FHL: "The experience was both novel, having never been to a marine station, and educational as I had the good fortune of studying with two experts in the field of evolutionary developmental biology – Drs. Billie Swalla and Ken Halanych. I had the opportunity to see firsthand a wide diversity of marine invertebrates collected from different environments (e.g., from collecting along rocky shorelines to dredging in the ocean aboard a marine research vessel). While there I worked on a small research project which involved searching for classical axon guidance molecules in two ascidians. The techniques I learned and practiced during the project will benefit me as I continue work on my own thesis back in the far north at the University of Alberta!" This is exactly the type of experience that the Libbie Hyman Scholarship is intended to support.



Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship recipient Nathan Farrar, exploring marine invertebrate diversity in the Evolution and Development of the Metazoans course at Friday Harbor Labs, Summer 2011

During the summer I received an email from a relative of Libbie Hyman who discovered the existence of our scholarship as she was searching for genealogical information on the web. Diane Greenspun of Washington, DC, the grand-daughter of Libbie's cousin, was very pleased to see that SICB had established a scholarship in honor of this pioneering female scientist. Diane wrote "It is moving to me that the scientific community continues to revere



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[Libbie Hyman's] work, and I am excited to see generations of women following her!" Diane noted that the scholarship also honors the female high school teacher who played a pivotal role in Libbie's life by encouraging Libbie (who was working at a factory) to apply to college. This correspondence has reminded me of the amazing accomplishments of Libbie Hyman and the fact that a single caring mentor can have a long-lasting and wide-ranging impact.

As always, I thank Will Jaekle and John Zardus for their service on the committee, and Ruedi Birenheide for making the web-based application process work smoothly.

We are looking forward to hearing from another group of strong candidates in 2012 -- please encourage your best students to apply! **Applications are due March 1st**. The application form is available at <http://sicb.org/grants/hyman/>. If you or your students have questions about the application process, please feel free to contact me via email (available at that site).

One of our continuing goals is to increase the number of awards to two per year, so we encourage you to contribute to the Scholarship Fund. Click on 'Donate to SICB' on the SICB home page (<http://sicb.org>) or send donations to:

SICB Business Office
Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402
McLean, VA 22101

Checks should be made payable to SICB and marked as a "Contribution to the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund." All contributions are tax deductible. Thanks for your help!



Never too early to investigate invertebrates! A 12- and 4-year-old go seeking at Graver Arboretum (Muhlenberg College's field site), and are thrilled with leeches and clams!



Contemplating life's mysteries, particularly amazing invertebrate adaptations, near Darling Marine Center (Walpole, Maine).