



Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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DCE Officers & Representatives

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Erica Crespi
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Rachel Bowden
Secretary-Elect 2012-2013

Ignacio Moore
Program Officer 2012-2014

Rebecca Calisi
Student/Postdoc Rep 2010-2013

Message from the Chair

Steve McCormick, Chair.DCE@sicb.org

Fall is in the air here in the northeast, so it must be time for an update on the Division of Comparative Endocrinology! The main news of course is the upcoming meeting in San Francisco in January, which is likely to be one of the biggest and best SICB meetings ever. There are a number of events at the meeting of high relevance to Comparative Endocrinology. DCE is co-sponsoring four timely symposia (see Ignacio's Message below for details), and there is a society wide symposium on Phenotypic Plasticity and the Evolution of Gender Roles that will be of interest to many of us.



It is my great pleasure to announce that this year's Bern Lecturer will be Professor Ellen Ketterson of Indiana University.

*2013 Bern Lecturer
Ellen D. Ketterson*

Ellen has conducted pioneering work on the role of sex steroids in life history transitions and the trade-offs between reproduction and survival. She is strongly interdisciplinary in her approaches and is working at the interface between ecology and endocrinology. It will be a great talk of wide interest to Comparative Endocrinologists and the Society as a whole. I would like to thank Stephen Shcoech, Wendy Reed and Ethan Clotfelter for putting forth Ellen's nomination, and of course to Ellen for accepting. Thanks also to all the others who made nominations, and to the selection committee. It is a difficult task for the selection committee to choose the Bern Lecturer, but heartening to see the incredible outcomes of hard work and a long career in science.

Sadly, Howard Bern passed away earlier this year, making the Bern Lecture especially poignant. There will be a special session at the San Francisco to honor Howard's work and continuing legacy: "Perspectives in Comparative Endocrinology: A Special Session Honoring Howard Bern." Talks in this session will relate to the many interests Howard had over his career and summarize current knowledge and future directions of research. It should also be great fun, and I encourage you all to attend to hear some Howard stories and learn more about one of the icons of our field.

Howard A. Bern, 1920-2012





One of my goals as DCE chair is to strengthen our discipline and make it easier to share our ideas and visions for Comparative Endocrinology. I continue to look for ways to achieve this goal, and hope that you will share with me any ideas that you have. Please come to the DCE social which occurs immediately after the Bern Lecture, and introduce yourself to me and others you may not know. I would encourage all to attend the business meeting, especially new faculty, post-docs and grad students. Yes, there are nuts and bolts (boring parts) we accomplish there, but it is also an opportunity discuss important issues and to shape the future of Comp Endo. The DCE Facebook page is gaining traction, so please join it and use it.

The annual meeting is the centerpiece of SICB, and one sure way to strengthen Comparative Endocrinology within SICB is to sponsor highly topical and appealing symposia and special sessions. These are huge attractions for attending the meeting and can set the tone for the meeting as a whole. Symposia are published in Integrative and Comparative Biology, which makes them highly visible to the wider scientific community. While the Chair has some ability to encourage symposia and sessions (twisting arms and providing funds), the best symposia are going to come from our young people with new ideas. I encourage those of you at all levels of your career, grad students, post-docs, assistant professors and fellow veterans to think about where the most exciting and important advances in our field are coming from, and to organize symposia and sessions around those ideas. Organizing symposia takes substantial effort and advance planning, but has great rewards. Organizing sessions is easy and can be done just 6 months before the meeting. Both are a great way to keep both our meeting and our field growing and expanding. The Chair has funds that can help with both these efforts, and I encourage you to contact me with your ideas for Austin and beyond.

See you in San Francisco!



Message from the DCE Program Officer

Ignacio Moore, DPO.DCE@sicb.org

I have just returned from the program committee meeting for the San Francisco meeting. I am really excited about the program we put together. We had the largest number of total abstracts submitted (over 1600) to an SICB conference. There are many exciting symposia (DCE-related and otherwise) and even more contributed presentation sessions. This year's symposia are (click on links for more information):

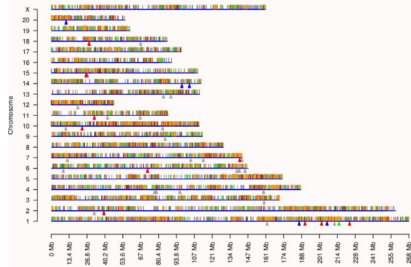
- [Ecological Epigenetics](#) (DEDB, DEE, DCE)
Organizers: Cristina Ledon-Rettig, Andrea Liebl, Christina Richards, Aaron Schrey, Armin Moczek
- [Understanding First Order Phenotypes: Transcriptomics for Emerging Model Systems](#) (DEDB, DAB, DCE, DIZ)
Organizer: Suzy Renn, Antónia Monteiro, Arkhat Abzhanov
- [Hormone-mediated sex ratio adjustment in vertebrates](#) (DCE, DCPB, DAB)
Organizer: Kristen Navara
- [Coping with uncertainty: Integrating physiology, behavior and evolutionary ecology in a changing world](#) (DAB, DCE, DEE, DCPB)
Organizers: Zoltan Nemeth, Frances Bonier and Scott MacDougall-Shackleton

As a division we will have 10 contributed paper sessions and lots of posters. There will be some inevitable overlap of oral sessions (as happens when there are 15 concurrent sessions) but I did my best to make sure there is something of interest to members of our division on every day with as minimal overlap as possible. We also have about 50 presentations entered in the Best Student Presentation competitions. It seems the main theme for DCE this year will be 'stress' as we had dozens of contributions that highlighted that topic.

DCE is also a primary sponsor of a bioinformatics workshop that complements the Transcriptomics symposium titled, "**Genomics for Non-Model organisms: Custom Microarray Development and Analysis.**" This hands-on workshop will be led by Dr. Matthew Settles, Director of the Genomics Core at the Institute for Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Studies at the University of Idaho. This workshop will provide a primer of the technology and analyti-



cal methods currently available for scientists working on non-model organisms, and will provide hands-on experience working through microarray analysis using FREE software, which can now be done on almost any species given the increasing ease in ability of sequencing entire transcriptomes. If you are interested in attending, please email Erica Crespi (Secretary.DCE@sicb.org), or see the workshop website for more information: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2013/microarray.php>



The conference will be in the Hilton San Francisco. This is in the middle of downtown and walking distance (with hills) from Chinatown. The hotel is easily reached by BART from the airport. It's a great location and the facilities appear very good.

As Steve noted, the Bern lecture will be given by Ellen Ketterson. We will follow this with a reception on the top floor of the Hilton, the tallest building in the area. This promises amazing views (if it's clear) and combined with great company should make for a wonderful evening! Please note that drinks will be expensive and food limited (San Francisco is an expensive town)... just remember that the meeting hotel is cheap. So reserve a room quickly, if you haven't already made your reservation.



Please plan on talking to Steve, Rosemary, and/or me about planning a symposium for future conferences. We have discussed trying to have at least one primary DCE symposium at each conference and then others for which we are a co-sponsor. If you are

planning a symposium, take time to describe your idea and why it is exciting and broadly of interest. Also, make sure to describe how your symposium differs from other similar symposia at recent conferences. Finally, include a diversity of speakers (gender, career stage, under-represented groups, etc.). The success of our conferences and division depend on you!

Message from the Secretary

Erica Crespi, Secretary.DCE@sicb.org

Just a reminder that the **early registration deadline for the conference is Dec. 3, 2012**. Like last year, child care is available at the conference. If you are interested in using this service (for an additional fee), see information on the Registration link

Congratulations to Rosemary Knapp, of the

University of Oklahoma, who was voted the new DCE Program Officer-Elect earlier this year. "I am excited to again be able to serve the DCE as Divisional Program Officer and thank the members for their vote of confidence for how I served in my first term," Rosemary said about her upcoming return to the PO position in 2014. "I look forward to using my familiarity with the duties of position to serve the division even better in the coming years."



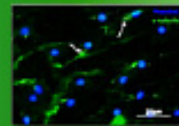
Rosemary Knapp of the University of Oklahoma

DCE Facebook page: We currently have 56 members of the SICB DCE group on Facebook. There have been posts about job ads, announcements of deadlines and posts seeking DCE membership input. It would be great to increase the number of participating members.



Please join!

Go to the following web site to join the DCE Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/104465249680261/>



2013 Meetings to mark on your extended calendars:

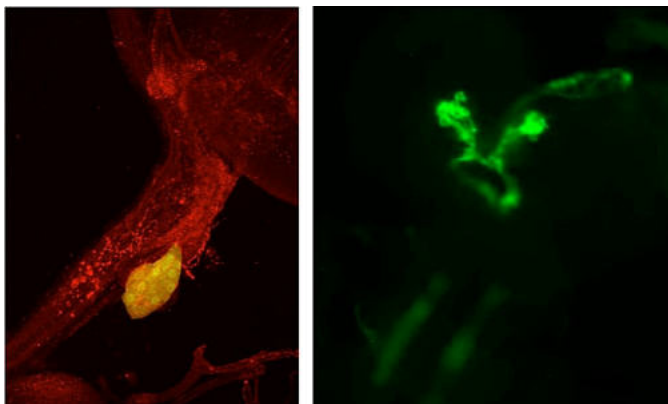
- 2nd meeting of the North American Society of Comparative Endocrinology held at Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM), Campus UNAM-Juriquilla, Queretaro, Mexico. May 22-25 2013. See <http://www.mcdb.lsa.umich.edu/labs/denver/NASCE/NASCE2013.php>
- Endocrine Society Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA June 15-18.
- Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. Atlanta, GA June 23-26.
- 17th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, Barcelona, Spain. July 15-19, 2013
- Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA Nov. 9-13

Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Rebecca M. Calisi-Rodríguez, rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu

Hello DCE family! Many of us are gearing up for San Francisco, and I wanted to streamline some of the events, funding, and topics at the upcoming meeting that are pertinent to graduate students and postdocs. Registration fees and deadlines can be found [here](#), and more information regarding registration and the meeting in general can be found in the [registration brochure](#).

Also, get up-to-date changes or notices about the meeting on the SICB [meeting webpage](#) and DCE's [facebook page](#).



Events specific to students and post-docs:

- Student First Timer/Student Worker Orientation discussing how to get the most out of your meeting on Thursday, Jan. 3rd, at 5:30pm
- Workshops (dates and times TBA):
 - Broadening Participation: Negotiating your first job or post-doc
 - Broadening Participation: Effective presentations: Performance and visual aids
 - Macrophysiology
 - Genomics for non-model organisms: custom microarray development and analysis
 - Talk: teaching and learning roundtable: Vision and change in introductory biology
- Graduate Student Workshop on Sunday, Jan 6th, Topic TBA
- SICB Society-Wide Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs on Monday, Jan 7th from 4-6pm, at which we, the brilliant students and post-docs, will be rightfully honored.

Sources of funding/awards for students

- [Click here](#) for more SICB Awards, Fellowships and Scholarships for students, which include:
 - o Best Student Paper awards for best poster/talk
 - o Grants in Aid of Research
 - o Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel
 - o Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship

And don't forget to check out...

- The Employment Opportunity bulletin board in the SICB Registration/Information area. You can schedule rooms to meet with people at the conference to learn more about these opportunities – just ask for more information from a registration desk attendant.
- The message board, also in this area. It is there for you to leave messages, announcements, etc. for other attendees.
- Child care: SICB will have childcare available again. Make sure to indicate your interest when registering for the meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions/concerns/suggestions/etc. (rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu)