

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology

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DEDB Officers & Representatives

Chris Lowe
Chair 2012-2014

Mark Martindale
Past Chair 2012-2014

Mike Shapiro
Secretary 2011-2013

Brad Davidson
Secretary-Elect 2012-2013

Patricia Hernandez
Program Officer 2010-2013

Louise Page
Program Officer-Elect 2012-2013

Jacob Musser
*Student/Postdoctoral Affairs
Committee Representative
2011-2014*

Message from the Chair

Chris Lowe, Chair.DEDB@sicb.org

As always, summer is over all too soon and we are all back to the serious business of the semester/quarter. I hope you all had a fun and productive time that allowed some time at the microscope with the diverse array of embryos we all are lucky enough to work on.

The build-up for our annual meeting has begun. Even if you didn't get your abstract in, you can still come and participate in the meeting; talk to colleagues, hear great science and take advantage of all the San Francisco has to offer. I have heard that registration numbers are high and suggests this meeting should not be missed! Start planning which talks and symposia you are going to attend. For those of you who are new to SICB, there is an orientation "How to Get the Most Out of Your SICB Meeting" on Thursday 1/3 at 5.30.

As members of DEDB, I would like to encourage you to attend the divisional meeting, to participate in the discussion and help shape the direction of DEDB for the future. The time and place will be indicated on the final program. Particularly important issues to discuss are the challenges of funding from NSF and navigating the new system that will have been through one complete cycle by the time of the meeting. As always, we will invite representatives of NSF Developmental Systems to this meeting, and it will be an excellent opportunity as a community to inform ourselves about funding and to have a frank exchange with our Program Officers about our concerns. In the run up to the meeting, please feel free to email me with comments/concerns/suggestions about the Division that could potentially be discussion points at our business meeting.

I want to remind you all about the early 2013 deadlines for EDEN research exchange grants (<http://edenrcn.com/>), which enable graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty to undertake research exchanges in the field of Evo-Devo-Eco, in order to develop or share techniques, protocols and tools for use with emerging model systems.

I wish you all a productive Fall and look forward to seeing many of you at in San Francisco early in the New Year.



Message from the Program Officer

Patricia Hernandez, DPO.DEDB@sicb.org

Hello All,

I just returned from a fast and furious program committee meeting in San Francisco. We are in for an incredible meeting with a total of 1656 oral and poster presentations, nearly 200 more than in Charleston! As expected we have shattered all previous records for abstract submissions. Our division had a total of 50 contributed talks and 42 posters, in addition to a number of symposium-related presentations. We have a total of 35 students competing for either best student poster or presentation.

Importantly, we have three symposia that should be of special interest to our membership: [Ecological Epigenetics](#) (scheduled for Friday, Jan. 4), [Understanding First Order Phenotypes: Transcriptomics for Emerging Model Systems](#) (scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 5), and [Vertebrate Land Invasions: Past, Present, and Future](#). We also have a number of interesting contributed talks related to these symposia. Please visit our website to learn more about these and other symposia.

Considering that we are in the middle of downtown San Francisco, the SICB Business Office (Burk & Associates, In.) were able to get us some incredibly low prices on rooms (\$125/night). Be sure to make reservations as soon as possible. While the downtown location and incredibly cheap hotel rooms are huge perks, there are some issues with being in the epicenter of the city. San Francisco is very expensive. This is especially true for food purchased at the hotel in association with our socials. To put these costs in perspective for you, during our coffee breaks one gallon of coffee costs over \$100. As you can imagine alcohol at our divisional social would be sold at a prohibitively high price. Thus, we have decided to have a deserts social without alcohol available. I would urge everyone to go out and get dinner and then come back for our social and some light desserts. On the up side the hotel is surrounded by reasonably priced ethnic food of every stripe. Get out there and enjoy the incredible diversity that only a city like San Francisco can provide!

Child care services will again be available at the San Francisco meeting. The SICB Business Office is still working out the final details.

While the number of abstracts certainly increased from previous years we are still nowhere near the number from many other divisions. We really need to go out and recruit more members. I often find students who do not know what a great meeting we are for evo-devo. Our business meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 4th, from 5:15-6:15pm. Please plan on attending so that we can get your input on important issues facing the division.

This will be my last newsletter as your loyal program officer. I now pass the torch to Louise Page. Please join me in welcoming her to this important job for our division.

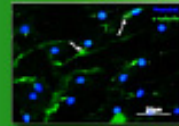
Message from the Secretary

Mike Shapiro, Secretary.DEDB@sicb.org

Happy Fall everyone. I hope the new academic year is treating you well. This is my last message to you as Secretary of DEDB as I prepare to hand the reins to Brad Davidson at our annual meeting in San Francisco. We also prepare to welcome Louise Page as our new Program Officer. On a related note, I hope you will join me in thanking Patricia Hernandez, our outgoing Program Officer, for her years of outstanding service to our division and society. Program Officer is a difficult and largely thankless job, and Patricia has been a tireless advocate for evo-devo in SICB. Please take a moment to thank her in person at the annual meeting as well.

New Division Chair-Elect

The results are in from our Spring 2012 election and we congratulate Sally Leys, our new Chair-Elect of DEDB. Sally will assume her new office after the 2014 annual meeting.



Free Money

Chris mentioned EDEN grants in his message above, and I'll elaborate a little here. The NSF-sponsored EDEN (Evo-Devo-Eco Network) Research Coordination Network, whose steering committee includes some DEDB members (full disclosure: I am one of them), is now in its third year of funding research exchanges for students and faculty. The goal of the program is to facilitate development and sharing of new research techniques for emerging model organisms. This program provides stipends of up to \$3000 for graduate students, postdocs, and faculty awardees to travel to other institutions. The next deadline for research exchange applications is April 30, 2013, and details are available at the EDEN website: <http://edenrcn.com/funding/index.html>. Please note that researchers at non-US institutions are now eligible to apply for funds to do research in US labs.

This network also funds undergraduate internships and provides a stipend of \$5000 for summer research in EDEN labs. Please encourage your top undergraduates to apply to the program by the March 11, 2013, deadline: http://edenrcn.com/funding/ugrad_internships.html.

Hey Students, Free Dinner!

SICB is a society that genuinely values the participation and contributions of our junior members. At last year's meeting, we instituted a new program to help encourage even more interaction between students and faculty. The evo-devo "Dinner Date" program paired approximately 40 student and 20 faculty members for informal conversation and a meal on the faculty members' dime. Faculty and student participants had a great time last year, so we plan to continue the program at the 2013 meeting in San Francisco as well. Jake Musser has a few more comments on the program in his message, below, and keep an eye out for an email from Jake or me with sign-up information as the annual meeting approaches.

A Field Guide to DEDB Officers

To help you recognize our officers and officers-elect at the upcoming meeting, and to help reduce awkward nametag-staring, we herewith provide images of our current and upcoming divisional leadership.

Current officers:



DEDB Chair Chris Lowe

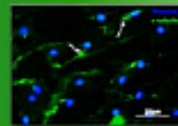
*DEDB Program Officer
Patricia Hernandez
with a stingray*



*DEDB Secretary Mike
Shapiro*

*DEDB SPDAC
Representative
Jake Musser*





Officers-elect:



DEDB Chair-Elect Sally P. Leys

*DEDB Program Officer-Elect
Louise Page*



*DEDB Secretary-Elect Brad
Davidson*



Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Jacob Musser

Hello students and postdocs,

I have a few brief updates for those that are heading to the conference in San Francisco this year. First, as some of you may remember, we began a new DEDB event at last year's conference: Evo-Devo Dinner Dates. It was a great success and many students were able to enjoy a free dinner while chatting with faculty about research, careers, etc. Given the positive response it received we plan to bring it back this year. How does it work? First, we sign up faculty who are willing to host a student or two for dinner. Then, we let students sign up on a first-come, first-served basis for a free dinner with the faculty of their choice. How can you beat that?

There will also be a number of events and activities at this year's conference hosted by the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC). We will again be running a workshop, with the focus this year on improving your 5-minute "elevator speech." This is the brief description of your research description you give to those you meet. It's a great opportunity to get someone excited about your research and, if you're like me, sometimes you get it right and sometimes you leave the person looking befuddled (and hopefully not too disoriented). Regardless, everyone could use a chance to hone their skills, and the workshop will include a panel of experts to help you do that.

In addition to the workshop, for the first time SPDAC will have a booth in the convention hall. This will be a place you can stop by, grab a coffee and a cookie, and chat with your fellow students/postdocs. Further, each day we will host a different faculty expert who will be on hand to discuss a variety of topics, including CV preparation, job interviews, and strategies for giving good talks.

As always, your comments and questions are welcome. If you are having difficulty navigating SICB or the convention please get in touch. I am happy to help.

