



Division of Invertebrate Zoologists

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DIZ Officers & Representatives

James McClintock
Chair 2012-2013

Erika Iyengar
Secretary 2010-2013

John Zardus
Program Officer 2011-2014

Kit Yu Karen Chan
Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative 2011-2014

Jennifer Burnaford
Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship Committee Chair



*Jim McClintock -
near Palmer Station,
Antarctica*

Message from the Chair

James McClintock (Chair.DIZ@sicb.org)

Dear Invertebrate Zoologists – Friends and Colleagues:

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to make my first newsletter entry as the new Chair of DIZ. I have very big shoes to fill having taken the reins from Dianna Padilla, who will no doubt continue to serve SICB in a variety of beneficial ways. I know you all join me in thanking Dianna for her outstanding service as Chair. I am delighted to serve alongside John Zardus, our Program Officer, and Erika Iyengar, our Secretary. Erika, who has also done an outstanding job for DIZ, is rotating off her three-year term after the upcoming annual meetings in San Francisco. At that time, Jonathan Allen from the College of William and Mary will be assuming the important role of Secretary. Please remember to thank Erika and welcome Jon when you see them in San Francisco.

Thanks to the efforts of Dianna, all the SICB divisions once again have a discretionary budget. As such, I would encourage you to think about ideas for expenditures that would benefit DIZ and either email them to me (Chair.DIZ@sicb.org) or bring your ideas to the DIZ business meeting in San Francisco. While the funds can be expended at the discretion of the Chair, I prefer that they be allocated with the input and support of those that attend the business meeting. A resolution was passed at the last DIZ business meeting to allocate any unspent funds each year to the Libbie Hyman Fund. So even if we do not need to spend all the funds in a particular year, there is a happy outcome!

San Francisco is looming! John Zardus has just returned from a successful Program Officer site planning meeting and



has informed me the location is wonderful. Moreover, the society as a whole has set an all time record for numbers of abstracts for oral and poster presentations (1,641!). DIZ will be co-sponsoring six symposia in San Francisco including one that is society-wide (see John's letter below for a listing of the symposium titles and organizers).

I am delighted to remind everyone that San Francisco will also play host to our next Libbie Hyman Fund Auction. Each year financial support for the award is allocated by the Libbie Hyman Award Committee to support a student's participation in a course or a research experience at a field station. Please consider making a donation(s) of items to the auction to insure that we raise as many dollars as possible to support this worthwhile effort (did a field experience help trigger your career?). Your donation may be as simple as a t-shirt or a book or as glamorous as a weekend at your favorite beach house or mountain cabin. My goal as Chair is to ensure you have a great evening and to challenge you to help us break our past record of funds generated by this great event. For those of you who have auction items to donate— please let Erika Iyengar, our DIZ Secretary, know what your item is so we can plan ahead and add to a growing list. You can e-mail Erika at iyengar@muhlenberg.edu. At this time, if you prefer to not have to hand-carry your auction items to San Francisco you may ship them to:

Dr. Rich Mooi
RE: Libbie Hyman Auction
Dept. of IZ&G
California Academy of Sciences
55 Music Concourse Drive
San Francisco, CA 94118

Want to serve DIZ and read about interesting proposed student work?

Before leaving the topic of the Libbie Hyman Award, John Zardus will be rotating off the award review committee after a three-year stint, and I am seeking someone to replace him. Please let me know if you are interested in being considered. Additionally, on another front, Elizabeth Davis-Berg will be rotating off as coordinator of the student awards made each year at our annual conference following the San Francisco meeting, and Anne Boettger has agreed to take on this role.

It is time to think ahead to the Austin, Texas meeting in January 2014. John reports that the Program Officers have selected 10 of the 12 symposium proposals that were submitted for consideration for the 2014 meeting. Four of these will be co-sponsored by DIZ. More information on the meetings in Austin will be forthcoming in the spring 2013 newsletter.

Goodness, even January 2015 can be seen on the horizon! Like John Zardus, I urge you to consider hosting a symposium for the 2015 West Palm Beach meetings. I have hosted three SICB symposia over the years and found the experience tremendously rewarding. You will make new colleagues, advance the field, seed collaborations, publish papers in a top journal, and maybe even develop that relationship with a program director at NSF that you have been seeking. Please try and develop the constructs of your symposium proposal within the framework of the Grand Challenges questions and issues formulated by members of our society and flushed out in a series of excellent publications in *ICB*. It is imperative that we keep the momentum up with our Grand Challenges as the leadership of SICB continues to provide the National Science Foundation a vision to grow their support of research in organismal biology.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in San Francisco!



Want to own this cool t-shirt? Come bid on it at the Libbie Hyman Auction at the San Fran meeting!

Steel crab art piece that will be available at the Libbie Hyman auction. Diameter of the piece is two feet.



Message from the Program Officer

John Zardus (DPO.DIZ@sicb.org)



John Zardus



The breath-taking view from our upcoming meeting

San Francisco here we come! The annual meeting in January is another record breaker with a total of 1,641 abstracts submitted. The program will open Thursday, 3 January at 7:30 PM with a plenary speech by SICB Past President Rich Satterlie, *Altering Rhythmicity: Slow Dance, Fast Dance, Hither and Yon*, followed by a society-wide welcome reception at 8:30 PM. During the following four full days of the meeting there will be 15 concurrent presentation sessions from 8:00 AM until 3:30 PM. On three of those days there will also be a poster session in the late afternoon. Some presentations will be part of 11 different symposia, six of which have DIZ sponsorship: the society-wide *Phenotypic Plasticity and the Evolution of Gender Roles* (Janet Leonard); *Keeping Time During Animal Evolution: Conservation and Innovation of the Circadian Clock* (Adam Reitzel & Ann Tarrant); *Physiological Responses to Simultaneous Shifts in Multiple Environmental Stressors: Relevance in a Changing World* (Anne Todgham); *Understanding First Order Phenotypes: Transcriptomics for Emerging Model Systems* (Suzy Renn); *Integrating Genomics with Comparative Vision Research of the Invertebrates* (Jeanne Serb & Todd Oakley); and *Assembling the Poriferan Tree of Life* (Robert Thacker). There will also be stiff competition in DIZ among 59 applicants for the Best Student Presentation award.

At the Program Officers meeting in September we looked over the venue which is the Hilton

Hotel at Union Square (333 O'Farrell St., near the Financial District). The conference space is split between two floors but roomy and convenient and all inside the hotel. The 1,908-room hotel is built around three towers with the conference area between the lower levels of the towers. Despite being large, the hotel will likely not hold all attendees so book early if this is where you want to stay. If you book online through the SICB website the room rate is \$125/night (a screamin' deal for the area). There are a number of other hotels nearby ranging vastly in quality. High-speed internet connections are available in the rooms at the Hilton for \$12.95 day. This could come in handy for the new option this year of downloading your presentation directly to the ready-room from your hotel room (or elsewhere) up to 24 hours before your scheduled presentation time.

An event to plan on for Sunday, 6 January starting at 6:30 PM, is the *DIZ Social* which will be held jointly with the Division of Ecology and Evolution, the American Microscopical Society, and The Crustacean Society. The centerpiece of the social will be the DIZ auction at 7:30 PM which promises to offer a large number of items for bid — some fantastic, some funky, but all fun and for a fine cause. Funds from the auction directly support student research and training at field stations through the Libbie H. Hyman *Memorial Scholarship Fund*. I also highly recommend stopping by the *Broadening Participation Social* (open to all) on Sunday starting at 8:00 PM in the 46th floor City Scape room which has magnificent views all-around of San Francisco and the Bay (see photo). San Francisco, a world-class location, comes with world-class prices. You don't necessarily need to bring your own Doritos™ but with \$9-beers and coffee at \$100/gallon, socials will be somewhat elemental this time around. The trade-off for the society is getting cheap rooms in a premier location. For (relatively) cheap beer and wine, make a stop at the nearby Walgreens.

There is a really great selection of restaurants for all budgets within easy reach of the hotel. A Starbucks in the hotel lobby will get you going in the morning and the highly rated in-house gastropub, Urban Tavern, serves fine meals from 6:30 AM until 10:00 PM and a generous pub menu



until midnight. For the adventuresome, take a 10-minute walk to sample dim sum in Chinatown. An eight-minute walk will take you to *Smitten* (432 Octavia St.) which serves top quality ice cream made to order in 60 seconds using liquid nitrogen. Walking with purpose, Fisherman's Wharf can be reached in 20 minutes. Keep in mind that San Francisco is a hilly and chilly city. Taxis abound and historic cable cars run daily 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM with a station on Powell Street near the hotel. While limited to just the northeastern sector of the city, cable cars will get you from the hotel to Fisherman's Wharf or Ghiradelli Square without you having to huff and puff up and over Nob Hill.

The San Francisco airport (SFO) is close to downtown but plan on a 30-60 minute transit time (depending on peak traffic times) regardless of your mode of travel. A shared-ride Super Shuttle is available to and from the airport with or without reservation for about \$17 and the BART "subway" system runs from the airport to the Powell Street station, a five minute or less walk from the hotel, for \$8.25. Visit <http://www.bart.gov> to see schedules and stations. Be sure to check out the [Notes from the Underground](#) section of the SICB website for further local knowledge.

It's also not too soon to be thinking ahead to Austin, TX, in 2014 and even to West Palm Beach, FL, in 2015. The deadline for submitting symposium proposals for West Palm Beach will be sometime in August 2013, so you have a little less than a year to contact colleagues, develop your ideas, and work with me on your plans. The number of symposia per meeting is limited to 10 to 12 and it often happens that more proposals are submitted than can be accommodated. So, it pays to plan early and get feedback along the way to improve your chances.

I look forward to learning of your inspired ideas and to seeing you in January in the City by the Bay. Happy travels!

Looking out from the Pearse house across the cove toward a fleet of squid fishing boats



Want to stay here (with Vicki and John Pearse)? Bid on it at the Libbie Hyman Auction! Aerial view of Hopkins Marine Station to the left, the little cove on the west side of Hopkins, and the Pearse house (the dark brown one) across from the cove. (Bed & Breakfast for 1 or 2 guests. Includes full hot breakfast of Vicki's Specials, plus the use of 2 guest cards to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, only steps away! Walk to a diversity of Cannery Row or downtown Pacific Grove restaurants.) Image submitted by John Pearse.

Looking across the cove on Hopkins property, toward the Pearse house (the brown one, center-left). Stay at the ocean-front historic former home of Ralph & Mildred Buchsbaum, biologists and friends of Libbie Hyman. Conditional on hosts being at home at the desired time, to be mutually arranged with Buyer. Double bed. No smoking, no pets. Gift good for 1 year; expires January 2014. Estimated Value: \$250-\$300; Suggested Starting Bid: \$200). Note the harbor seals on the beach, a popular local attraction.



Message from the Secretary

Erika Iyengar (Secretary.DIZ@sicb.org)

Hello and happy fall! I am looking forward to seeing you all in January in San Fran (one of my old stomping grounds). One of the exciting DIZ-sponsored events at this year's meeting will be the Libbie Hyman auction. Come, and bring your friends from other Divisions, as the auction items are attractive to all--and we would love to get as much money as possible for the student scholarships. There will be a wide array of amazing items on the auction block, from big to small pieces, something for everyone! Some of the items we know about so far include: a weekend get-away at the Pearse home in Monterey, lots of amazing knitted invertebrates, larval sculptures, fused glass items, a two-foot-diameter steel crab art piece, a full set of Libbie Hyman's *The Invertebrates*, and (amazingly) a signed, framed Christmas card that Gunnar Thorson sent to Alister Hardy in 1957. We thought it would be a good idea to highlight some of the amazing invertebrate-themed "loot" that will be available for bidding, so check out the various pictures in this newsletter to get excited about the options!

What do you have that could become a treasure for someone? You do not need to send in anything ahead of time to donate items, you can just bring them with you to the meeting. We will also be posting some of the images on the SICB website, so if you have any particularly unusual/ attractive items that you will be contributing (both small and large ticket items), please send me a very brief description and ideally a picture (Secretary.DIZ@sicb.org). The night of the auction there will be smaller items on a table with a silent auction (sheets where people write down their bid, can see other bids, and can bid each other up until the closing time), as well as the typical auctioneer-mediated, raucous rabble-rousing auction for other items. So, any cool invertebrate item, whether it would likely go for \$2 or \$2000 will be welcomed and will find a happy home somewhere! All proceeds go to supporting the next generation of invertebrate sleuths and protectors (aka aspiring stellar students).

As Jim noted above, I am finishing my term as Division Secretary at the end of the next meeting, and Jon Allen has graciously stepped forward to take over. So, please congratulate Jon on his new position and send all sorts of great pictures of your animals, you doing research, and any you take during the January meeting to him for inclusion in the spring newsletter!

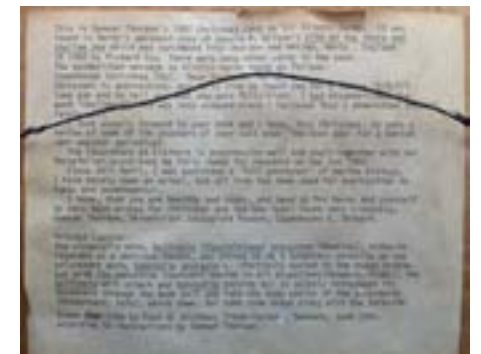
Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

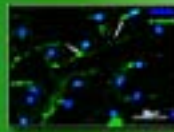
Signed, framed Christmas card that Gunnar Thorson sent to Alister Hardy in 1957. This will be available at the Libbie Hyman auction.



The pen and ink drawing is of *Golfingia* by Poul Winther according to instructions by Thorson in 1956 and is the front of the card.

The handwritten text of Thorson's message to Hardy is inside the card and thus is not visible because of the framing. A typewritten copy of the text is affixed to the back of the frame. The provenance through which Richard Fox (the person donating the card) came to be in possession of the card is included also on the back.





Message from the Student/ Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Kit Yu Karen Chan (Karen Chan)



The most-creative graduation cake I have ever seen. What is better than anatomically correct sand dollars and plutei, my focal organism? Photo Submitted by: Karen Chan

You can take this knitted sea slug home at the upcoming auction at the Annual Meeting for the Hyman Fund. You can also express your creativity and care for other students by contributing to the auction. Knitted by: Karen Chan



Greetings! I hope you have enjoyed a productive (and maybe relaxing) summer. For me, this past summer was an important, exciting, happy, yet stressful one because I defended my doctoral dissertation in August. Armed with a new degree, I am embarking on my postdoc journey at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. I look forward to sharing with you more about my new research on the effects of climate change on early life stages of marine invertebrates at the future SICB meetings.

Another exciting Annual Meeting of SICB is coming, and I hope you have marked your calendars for Jan 3 -7, 2013. With three special sessions honoring various scientists, three society-wide symposiums, and five other DIZ-sponsored symposia, the meeting in San Francisco will be a great time to learn about the latest trends in biology, reconnect with friends, and make new connections. The Students and Postdoc Affairs Committee will be organizing a workshop on giving a memorable elevator speech on Jan 6 at 6:30 PM.

In addition to these awards and programs, the DIZ has been offering the Libbie H. Hyman

Memorial Scholarship for advanced undergraduates and early graduate students to take courses or carry out research at field stations. We are going to host an auction this year to raise money for this fund and we need your support. You can contribute items for auction (items can be big or small, e.g., I am knitting marine invertebrates) AND buy something at the auction. There will be something for you, invertebrate lovers, which will fit your budget and desires. If you would like to contribute an item for auction, please contact our Secretary Erika Iyengar at Secretary.DIZ@sicb.org.

Good luck with your research and I look forward to seeing you all in San Francisco.

Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair

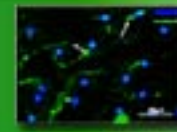
Beth Davis-Berg

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 San Francisco 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.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in 2013!



I get a warm fuzzy feeling just looking at this one. What a great favorite animal for a child (or a child at heart)! Knitted by: Abby Cahill

More amazing knitted sea creatures! Knitted by: Abby Cahill



And cool land animals. . . or is it a marine snail? Knitted by: Abby Cahill

No nematocysts here, but you can see that it is extruding eggs! (or am I reading too much into that?) Knitted by: Abby Cahill



You'll have to outbid Erika Iyengar for this one, since one of her kids says his favorite animal is Pycnopsidia. Knitted by: Abby Cahill

Message from the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Selection Committee Chair

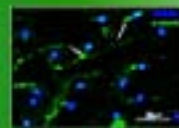
Jennifer Burnaford

Our 2012 Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship recipient, Sonia Singhal, used the \$1311 award to support attendance at the 5-week summer "Ecology of Infectious Marine Disease" course at the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Laboratories. Sonia is a Ph.D. student at the University of Washington working with Dr. Ben Kerr. She had this to say about her experience at FHL:

"I was excited to take 'Ecology of Infectious Marine Disease' to find out about pathogens of marine organisms, but this ended up being only a small part of what I learned. We covered a broad range of methods, from field sampling to histology to bioinformatics. I gained good knowledge and experience working with marine invertebrates, a completely new system for me. Not only did we discuss the anatomy and immune systems of each phylum, but we also ran experiments to test transmission of disease in sand dollars; the effects of ocean acidification on disease susceptibility of oyster larvae; and vectoring capabilities of sea slugs and snails in eelgrass beds. The hands-on nature of the course greatly appealed to me, and it gave me a strong feel for how to experimentally address questions that involve invertebrates.

Friday Harbor seems to be one of those ideal places for doing research: it has a wonderful, congenial, and collaborative atmosphere. Everyone there does such interesting work, and they are always willing to share their research and hear about others'. My class had become close-knit by the end of the summer session, and we intend to stay in touch with one another. I look forward to hearing about how their research projects progress!"

This is exactly the type of experience that the Libbie Hyman Scholarship is intended to support. We encourage contributions to the Scholarship Fund to allow us to continue to support these



transformative experiences for students. 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. In addition, we hope you will participate in the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Auction at the upcoming annual meeting in San Francisco! (Auction information is provided throughout the newsletter.)

As always, I thank Will Jaeckle and John Zardus for their service on the committee, and Ruedi Birenheide for making the web-based application process work smoothly. Applications in 2013 will be due on February 15, so mark your calendars! 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). Please encourage your best students to apply!



Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship recipient Sonia Singhal explores the marine environment during a break from the "Ecology of Infectious Marine Disease" course at Friday Har-