

Division of Ecology & Evolution

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Michael Dillon
Secretary-Elect 2014-2015

Donald Miles
Program Officer 2014-2016

Eric Riddell
*Student/Postdoc Representative
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From the Chair

Michael W. Sears, ChairElect.DEE@sicb.org

Hi all,

First things first. As the incoming Chair, I would like to thank Mike Angilletta for his fine job as Chair of DEE over the past few years. Over Mike's and Art Wood's tenure, this division has seen incredible growth. Although numbers of members have always been relatively high, participation had been rather low, whether it was through poor attendance at business meetings and socials or through few symposia sponsored by the division at our annual meeting. That has changed. We now regularly sponsor several symposia and host the Huey Award and Beer for Brains. I look forward to continue these new traditions as well as move our society further in other areas, such as mentoring programs for students at the annual meetings. Feel free to send me your ideas as well as any suggestions that you might have with regards to these our existing initiatives.

That said, the officers here at DEE are hard at work to help make our Annual Meeting in West Palm Beach a success. The division is sponsoring three symposia this year: "Towards a General Framework for Predicting Animal Movement Speeds in Nature" organized by Robbie Wilson, "Integrative Biology of the Crocodylia" organized by Valentine Lance, and "Thinking About Change: An Integrative Approach for Examining Cognition in a Changing World" organized by Tim Roth and Zoltan Nemeth. (And remember, it's not too soon to be thinking about symposia for our 2017 meeting in New Orleans!). Soon, we should be announcing the Huey Award Finalists as well as providing the details for the second annual Beer for Brains. Be sure to mark all of these events, as well as the business meeting and social, on your meeting schedule!

See you in West Palm Beach!





From the Program Officer

Donald B. Miles, DPO.DEE@sicb.org

Greetings from sunny Florida!

I am writing from the Marriot Hotel where we just completed planning the program for SICB 2015 to be held in West Palm Beach. The program officers met the challenge of organizing over 1500 abstracts into a diverse array of oral and poster sessions. After reviewing the abstracts I must admit this is going to be an exciting meeting! Our venue is the West Palm Beach convention center, which is located a few minutes from many of the hotels and a short walk to restaurants and nightlife. The convention center is an excellent venue for the meeting. The sessions will be held in spacious rooms with ample seating. Also, there are comfortable areas adjacent to the talks that are conducive for catching up with friends and to meet new colleagues.

The large number of abstracts for papers and posters includes participation by a substantial number of DEE students (both undergraduate and graduate students) and postdoctoral fellows. We have a large contingent of young investigators presenting their work this year. In addition to a fantastic slate of presentations this year, we also have 12 symposia that include an eclectic slate of speakers. Three symposia should be of interest to DEE members and sponsored by our division. Robbie Wilson and Jerry Husak have organized the symposium [**Towards a General Framework for Predicting Animal Movement Speeds in Nature**](#). Movement ecology is a burgeoning field. This symposium highlights how movement patterns are determined by extrinsic factors, the ecological and fitness consequences of movement behaviors, and the integration of morphology, physiology, and behavior to develop a framework for predicting variation in movement patterns. Next, there is an abundance of evidence showing a rapid rate of climate change arising from the emission of greenhouse gases. Timothy Roth II and Zoltan Nemeth organized the symposium [**Thinking About Change: An Integrative Approach for Examining Cognition in a Changing World**](#), which includes a series of talks that examine how various facets of cognition may enhance or constrain the ability of species to meet the challenges of rapidly changing environments. Finally, there is the symposium on the [**Integrative Biology of the Crocodilia**](#) organized by Valentine Lance. The talks span a variety of hierarchical levels in biology and provide insights into the diversity in Crocodylians, from the perspective of different disciplines including sys-

tematics, morphology, biomechanics, neurobiology, population ecology and behavior. Look for some crocodylians in the canals that are part of the south Florida landscape. All of these symposia have an amazing set of speakers who will summarize research projects of interest to DEE members. West Palm Beach provides a fantastic setting to enjoy food, music, and nature. We will have two opportunities for meeting with fellow DEE members. First, make a point to attend the DEE social. Also, there will be the chance for graduate students to pick the brains of established DEE member during our 2nd annual Brains and Beer social.

Be sure to encourage your students, post-docs and colleagues to participate in, what promises to be, an amazing meeting.

From the Secretary

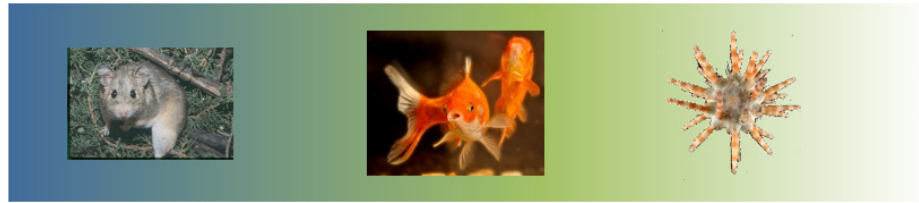
Aaron R. Krochmal, Secretary.DEE@sicb.org

2014 was another B-I-G year for the DEE, with new programmatic changes being, particularly in the way we mentor and provide for our students and postdocs.

The division rolled out the Raymond B. Huey Best Student Presentation Competition in 2013. In this new format, now in its second year, students submit 1-page abstracts, which are reviewed by committee and from 6 finalists for each category (oral and poster) are chosen. During the meeting, finalists are grouped into a single session (oral or poster) allowing the DEE to prominently showcase out best and brightest at the meeting. Judging occurs during the sessions, and winners are announced the DEE social. Keep your eyes out for these special sessions and be sure to attend them and support the best and brightest students the DEE has to offer.

The first student competition of its kind in SICB, the DEE Raymond B. Huey Best Student Presentation Competition, met with huge success at the 2013 meeting and has inspired many other divisions to overhaul their own student presentation competitions. The novel structure first seen in the DEE Raymond B. Huey Best Student Presentation Competition is now the standard for most student presentation competitions across SICB. Just another example of DEE's trend-setting programming!

Expanding the division's emphasis on student mentoring, we rolled out a new program in at the 2014 meeting in Austin – DEE's Beer and Brains. An SICB meeting is a great place graduate students and postdocs



to meet the prominent players in the field. Of course, these people are often difficult to get one-on-one because they've got a litany of friends and collaborators to see during the meeting, manuscripts to write, and generally, are plenty busy. That's where DEE's Beer and Brains comes in. The DEE rounds up a collection of household names in your field, whisks them away to a nearby bar, and invites divisional students and postdocs to join them in an evening of unhurried conversation. Just another way DEE is striving to provide its students and postdocs with career-changing opportunities!

The Austin event was an overwhelming success, and we look forward to the 2015 Beer and Brains.

Students and postdocs, keep your eyes peeled for an email advertising this unique event.

Finally, The DEE officers have been busy updating and managing the DEE Researcher Database which we maintain to promote our division and the work of our members. If you've not checked out the database, go [here](#) to get a feel for the strength and breadth of our members and their work. To add your research profile to the DEE page, or to update an existing file, send text files (.doc, .docx or .txt), images (.tif, .jpg, .png, or .gif), or movies (.avi or .mpeg) to Secretary.DEE@sicb.org.

With your help – and only with your help – can the DEE continue to support existing programs and develop new ones, so please contribute to and support these initiatives...and suggest new ones!

Researcher in Focus

"Geography is destiny." The quote, as recited by his father, rang often in the young ears of Dr. Nathan Putman. Perhaps it is not surprising, then, that a common thread linking Dr. Putman's varied interests is the philosophy that to understand biological processes one must thoroughly understand the dynamics of the environment in which they operate. Dr. Putman is from Birmingham, Alabama and graduated with a B.S. from the University of Alabama, summa cum laude, double majoring in Marine Science and Biology. During his Ph.D. work at the University of North Carolina he examined the roles of magnetic navigation and ocean currents on the migrations and spatial ecology of sea turtles. As an inaugural Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow in North Carolina State University's Initiative for Biological Complexity he refined techniques to study sea turtle movement within ocean circulation models. He spent a year and a half at Oregon State University studying magnetic navigation in salmon and maintains a close relationship with OSU's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife as Affiliate Faculty. Dr. Putman is currently a Research Associate with the National Academy of Science's National Research Council and is working in the Protected Resources Division of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Southeast Fisheries Science Center in Miami, Florida.



Dr. Nathan Putman

A central theme across his work is to mechanistically relate marine animal movement to ecological and evolutionary processes, and thus better inform conservation and management efforts. Some of his notable achievements include: the first demonstration that animals can use Earth's magnetic field to perceive longitude, demonstrating the existence of bicoordinate magnetic maps in loggerhead sea turtles and Chinook salmon, relating drift of Earth's magnetic field to variation in salmon migratory routes, identifying the influence of ocean currents and the hatchling migration on spatial variation in sea turtle nest abundance, and producing the first ocean basin-scale hypothesis of juvenile sea turtle distribution and abundance.



2015 Annual Meeting Information

The 2015 SICB Annual Meeting and Exhibition will be held 3-7 January 2015 at the Marriot West Palm Beach in West Palm Beach, FL. As was the case with recent meetings, 7 January will be a full day– with presentations lasting until 4pm – and meeting attendees should make their travel plans accordingly.

The full meeting website can be found [here](#). Click [here](#) for the full meeting brochure including paper registration form)

Registration

Registration for the 2015 SICB Annual Meeting and Exhibition is now open!

There are three ways to register for the meeting:

1. Register online by clicking [here](#).
2. Register by fax: Fax your completed form (found [here](#)) with credit card information (Visa, MasterCard or American Express) to (703) 790-2672.
3. Mail your completed form (found [here](#)) with payment to:

SICB Business Office
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402
McLean, VA 22101

To qualify for discounted early registration, forms and payment must be received at the SICB Business Office by Friday, December 2, 2014.

Lodging

The SICB Annual Meeting hotel is the Marriot West Palm Beach (1001 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach, FL 33401, 561-833-1234)

Group rate is \$130/night available 31 December-January 10, subject to availability. To receive this rate, you MUST make your reservation through [this](#) link.

Visitors' Information

For information on touring and food and drink options in West Palm Beach, click [here](#).

SEE YOU IN WEST PALM BEACH!



*From the Researchers Database
Steven Cooke
A mechanistic approach to
understanding mortality of upriver
migrating Pacific salmon*