



Division of Phylogenetics and Comparative Biology

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Message from the Chair

Kerin Claeson, chair.dpcb@sicb.org

SICB is a melting pot of disciplines, and the 2017 New Orleans Meeting proved to be one of the best I ever attended. Given the lineup of symposium topics for San Francisco, I expect another great assembly of minds and collaborations. What would make it better is getting more attendance at the DPCB business meeting. The mission of our division is a commonality among so many other divisions at SICB and there are so many possibilities for us to work together.

While in New Orleans, Haley O'Brien (who was elected to start as Secretary-Elect in January 2018) began a proposal for a manual on Phylogenetic Comparative Methods that would be hosted on the SICB website. We have identified several fabulous colleagues from around the world, each with a special set of expertise, who will prepare lessons with these manuals. Our goal is to conduct a workshop at the Tampa Meeting in 2019 – barring any unexpected hiccups. So, save the date – 2019 DPCB Workshop! What's more, should the workshop take place, we propose sister platform and poster sessions at the 2020 meetings in Austin, Texas. Anybody who attends the 2019 workshop and/or benefits from the workshop materials will be eligible to request inclusion in the session.

Please attend the 2018 DPCB Wake session for Best Student Presentation awards to get a sense of some of the important questions that can be answered with the aid of Phylogenetic and Comparative Methods.

Finally, I am indebted to DPCB Secretary David Blackburn, who was elected Chair-Elect starting in January 2018, for carrying the division so much this year. DPCB has strong leadership, and I cannot wait to see what new ideas move forward.

Message from the Secretary

David Blackburn, secretary.dpcb@sicb.org

Get ready for another great SICB meeting in San Francisco! We are excited to have another great line-up of student talks and posters for the Marvalee and David Wake Award. We will soon begin recruiting judges...if you're interested, please let me know by email.

We recently revamped the DPCB "Careers" page on the SICB website (check it out here: <http://www.sicb.org/careers/systematic.php3>). Rather than have a single person answer all of the questions, we opted to have these answered individually by a group of DPCB members representing our breadth in terms of expertise, career stage, and type of institution. SICB, including DPCB, is a diverse community and we hope to foster that more within DPCB within the coming years.

DPCB Officers & Representatives

Kerin Claeson

Chair 2016-2018

Todd Oakley

Program Officer 2015-2018

David Blackburn

Secretary 2016-2019

Ryan Felice

Student/Postdoc Representative 2015-2018



This fall, DPCB also sponsored attendance by undergraduate and graduate students at the Southwestern Organismal Biology regional meeting for SICB, held at the Claremont Colleges in southern California in October. These regional meetings are excellent opportunities for community-building and giving students further opportunities to practice presentation skills and meet potential mentors.

We are also interested to celebrate awards, accomplishments, and new projects of general interest to our community. Please share these with our community using DPCB's social media. Stay connected with your DPCB community!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SICBDPCB

Twitter: twitter.com/sicb_dpcb

Instagram: www.instagram.com/sicb_dpcb

Looking forward to seeing many of you soon at the annual meeting.

Message from the Incoming Secretary-Elect

Haley O'Brien

Happy Fall, DPCB members! I am excited to assume my post as Secretary-Elect at the meeting in San Francisco. I am looking forward to using this position not only to document the happenings of our division, but also to leverage the resources available through SICB for documenting the latest phylogenetic and comparative methods. As these fields continue to grow rapidly, it is important to establish a centralized resource for methodological best practices, including assembly of comprehensive tutorials. To this end, please reach out by e-mail, on the SICB DPCB Facebook page, or in person at the annual meeting with any phylogenetic or comparative methods that you use frequently or would like to learn!

