

Proposed Amendments to the SICB DEDE Bylaws

January, 2022

We are proposing several minor changes to update and simplify the bylaws:

- updating details regarding the composition of the nominating committee and the voting methods, to indicate that only electronic ballots will be used (article IV, Section 1. Elections),
- reducing the details included in the bylaws regarding the DEDE Best Student Presentation competitions, so that the judging criteria can be more easily updated and shared with BSP participants (article XIII),
- reducing the notice required for proposed bylaw changes from 60 to 30 days, to be in line with other SICB divisions (article XVI),
- editing out typos and redundancies and changing some wording to be more inclusive.

Proposed changes to the DEDE bylaws are indicated as follows:

Additions = **bold underline**

Deletions = strikethrough

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. Elections. Nominations for all offices shall be prepared by a Nominating Committee appointed by the Chair, **which must include the Chair-Elect (if one is in office) and two additional members**, in consultation with the Divisional Executive Committee. At least two candidates for each office ~~should~~**must** be named and all candidates must be members in good standing of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Election of officers shall be held by either appropriately secure electronic ballots or paper ballots. ~~The names of candidates for offices shall be published in advance of a mail ballot, and a~~ **A** brief biography of each candidate shall be made available on the ballot.

Article VII. Program Officer

The Program Officer shall arrange programs for meetings of the Division, which shall include coordination of joint or special programs and meetings with the Program Committee of the Society and with the officers or secretaries of other divisions or societies when desirable. The Program Officer will serve for a term of two years. The Program Officer shall be eligible for re-election for only one additional term.

Article IX. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep divisional records, coordinate the production of the Divisional newsletters, and conduct business affairs in consultation with the ~~Executive Director of the Society~~ **officers of the division**. The Secretary will serve a term of two years. The Secretary shall be eligible for re-election for only one additional term.

Article XIII. Awards

The DEDE Chair will appoint a DEDE member to Chair an Awards Committee, and in consultation with that member, will select two other divisional members to serve on the Award Committee. The Awards Committee shall be responsible for organizing a committee of judges to review the student presentations awards, and review and select candidates for the Robert Lochmiller Award.

Section 1. Best Student Presentation Awards.

Two awards will be given in the Best Student Presentation competition at the SICB Annual Meeting: one for the best oral presentation and one for the best poster presentation. In addition to a certificate, the winners will receive a cash prize and a journal subscription. Students must be members of SICB to enter the competition. Students who have not yet been awarded a Ph.D. are eligible for these awards, as are new Ph.D.'s who have received the degree no more than 12 months prior to the meeting and are presenting a paper on their graduate research. The work must be original and must have been carried out principally by the student presenting the paper or the poster. In order to be considered for either competition (oral or poster), the Best Student Presentation Program box MUST be checked on the SICB abstract submission form.

Best Student Oral Presentation Award

DEDE will group all the students competing for the Best Student Oral Presentation Award in a single oral session. By the time the SICB Program Committee convenes to assemble the meeting schedule, DEDE Division Officers must select up to eight students for the oral competition.

Each student in the competition will give a 15-minute talk, including 3 minutes for questions. The judging panel will attend all presentations and decide on a winner during the meeting.

Applicants not selected for the final oral competition will be contacted by the divisional Program Officer and given the option of giving an oral presentation during a regular session or presenting a poster and entering the Best Student Poster Presentation Competition.

Students entering the DEDE Best Student Oral Presentation Competition must submit a 1-page DEDE Competition Abstract (formatted as a pdf file) during the regular abstract submission process. This 1-page Competition Abstract is in addition to the normal abstract required to be submitted to SICB. To be considered for the Best Student Oral Presentation Award, students **MUST** submit both their presentation abstract (by standard registration practices on the SICB website) and their extended DEDE Competition Abstract by the posted society-wide deadline for abstracts. No late submissions will be accepted.

Guidelines for compiling the 1-page Competition Abstract:

- ~~Submit a title and your name and affiliation.~~
- ~~Use 12-point font with 1-inch margins.~~
- ~~One small figure may be embedded in the Competition Abstract.~~
- ~~The Competition Abstract must be saved as a pdf file and uploaded through the general abstract submission form.~~

Best Student Poster Presentation Award

To be considered for the DEDE Best Student Poster Presentation Award, students must submit their standard presentation abstract on the SICB website by the posted society-wide deadline for abstracts. No late submissions will be accepted.

Section 2. Robert Lochmiller Award.

An annual prize may be awarded to an early career ~~young~~ investigator for distinguished contributions to the fields of ecological immunology and disease ecology. The formal title for this award is "The Robert Lochmiller ~~Young Investigator~~ Award." Eligible candidates are those who are members of the SICB and who have completed their doctorate within the past ten years at the time of application. Candidates may apply directly or be nominated, but both types of candidates will be evaluated equivalently. Candidates shall submit to the Chair of the Awards Committee a short description of their work, two reprints of their strongest work, and a curriculum vitae; candidates should also have three letters of recommendation forwarded to the Awards Committee Chair. Nominators must arrange for these same materials (except that only two additional letters of recommendation are required) to be submitted to the Awards Committee. The Committee may recommend for approval one candidate to the Chair of the Division. The Chair of the Division may authorize reimbursement of appropriate expenses incurred by the winner in attending the meeting. The Chair of the Division may also authorize a cash prize. The awardee will be presented with a certificate signed by all current Divisional officers.

Article XVI. Amendments

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any annual meeting by two-thirds vote of those present or by at least two-thirds of the members responding to an ~~mail~~ or electronic ballot, provided that notice has been given to all members ~~sixty (60)~~ thirty (30) days in advance. In either case, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee of the Division to assure that opportunities for discussion, either verbal or written, occur before a ballot is taken.