

# Proposed Amendments to the SICB DIZ Bylaws

February 2022

## **Rationale:**

At the request of the SICB Executive Committee, we are proposing several minor changes to update and simplify the bylaws:

- changing pronoun usage to be more inclusive,
- updating the voting methods, to indicate that only electronic ballots will be used (Article XI),
- Changing the timing of when candidates may be nominated for election to allow sufficient time between nomination and the election to collect biographical material (Article X)
- Changing reference of 'papers' to 'oral presentations' to clarify the meaning of student award language (Article XVI)

## **Proposed changes to the DIZ bylaws are indicated as follows:**

Additions = **bold underline**

Deletions = ~~strikethrough~~



The Society for  
Integrative &  
Comparative  
Biology

# DIVISION OF INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY BYLAWS

*Revised 1966, 1973, 1982, 1986, December 1993, December 1995, December 1996, January 2003, June 2009, January 2017*

## **Article I. Name**

The name of the Division shall be “The Division of Invertebrate Zoology of The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology”.

## **Article II. Organization**

The Division of Invertebrate Zoology shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

## **Article III. Membership**

Any member of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology may become a member of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology by selecting this divisional affiliation on the online registration form. A member may withdraw from the roll of the Division at any time by notifying the Secretary of the Division and/or the Executive Director of the Society.

## **Article IV. Purpose**

The Division shall advance, coordinate and assist teaching and research in the field of Invertebrate Zoology and facilitate communication among invertebrate zoologists.

## **Article V. Officers**

The Officers of the Division shall be: Chair, Past Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, Past Secretary, Program Officer and Past Program Officer. The Chair-Elect shall be elected triennially. The Chair-Elect should attend the annual meeting that follows ~~her/his~~ **their** election. At the end of this annual meeting, the Chair-Elect shall automatically become Chair for three years. ~~They~~ **They** ~~He/She~~ shall serve as Past Chair during the succeeding two years. The Secretary and the Program Officer shall be elected triennially and shall hold office for three years. The expiration date of the terms of the Chair, Secretary and the Program Officer shall be arranged so that only one of them need be elected in any one year. The officers shall assume their duties at the end of the second SICB Executive Committee meeting at the next Annual Meeting following their election.

The above officers shall constitute an Executive Committee and be responsible for the affairs of the Division.

## **Article VI. Chair**

The Chair shall preside at the business meetings of the Division and the meetings of the Executive Committee. ~~They~~ **They** ~~He/She~~ shall represent the Division on the Executive Committee of the Society. Each year, ~~they~~ **they** ~~he/she~~ shall appoint a nominating committee of three members of the Division (**Article X**) and other Committees as required to promote the affairs of the Division. ~~They~~ **They** ~~He/She~~ shall sign all proposals to federal granting agencies on behalf of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology.

## **Article VII. Chair-Elect and Past Chair**

The Chair-Elect or Past Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair whenever the latter cannot perform them.

## **Article VIII. Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep the records of the Division and perform other duties as may be assigned by the Chair. The Secretary shall be responsible for at least two Division Newsletters

per year. The Past Secretary shall serve for one year as a member of the Executive Committee of the Division.

## **Article IX. Program Officer**

The Program Officer shall arrange all meetings of the Division. ~~They~~ He/She shall coordinate special programs with the Program Officer of the Society and of related Societies when desirable. The Past Program Officer shall serve for one year as a member of the Executive Committee of the Division.

## **Article X. Nominating Committee**

The Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three members who shall submit to the Secretary by March 1 a list containing not less than two candidates for each office to be filled. The Nominating Committee must certify to the Secretary that each candidate has declared a willingness to run for office and serve, if elected. The candidates shall be announced in the next Newsletter of the Division. Additional nominations for any office may be made in writing to the Secretary by any ten members of the Division not later than ~~March~~ April 1.

## **Article XI. Elections**

Elections of officers shall be held by ~~both paper and~~ appropriately secure electronic ballots. A brief biographical sketch for each candidate shall accompany the ballots. The DIZ Secretary shall make certain that ballots are made available to the entire membership of the Society and allow one month for their return, the due date being stated on the ballot. The Society-wide Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the counting, tabulation, and recording of the votes and shall notify the candidates of the results of the election. In the event that a vote results in a tie, the members of the DIZ Executive Committee shall vote to resolve the tie.

## **Article XII. Finances**

The expenses of the Division shall be paid from the treasury of the Society, within the limits allotted for that purpose. The Chair of the Division shall authorize all disbursements of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology funds, and coordinate financial procedures with the SICB Business Manager.

## **Article XIII. Meetings**

The time of the subsequent annual business meetings of the Division shall be determined at each annual business meeting of the Division. Other meetings of the Division may be held at other times and places on call of the Executive Committee and 10 members of the Division. Notice of meetings shall be sent to each member of the Division at least 60 days in advance of any meeting.

## **Article XIV. Annual Reports**

An Annual Report of the Division and its official notices shall be included in the reports of the Society.

## **Article XV. Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of DIZ members returning ballots in the Society's annual elections or a special ballot called for the purpose of amending the bylaws, provided that the text of the proposed amendment has been communicated to the membership at least one month prior to voting. 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. Members wishing to propose amendments are encouraged to work with the Executive Committee of the Division to put the proposal on the agenda for discussion at the annual DIZ business meeting preceding the election in which the vote will be held.

## **Article XVI. Student Presentation Awards**

### Section 1.

At each annual meeting of the SICB, the Division of Invertebrate Zoology may give awards for best **oral presentations** papers and posters contributed by students. A first and second prize may be awarded in both papers and posters categories. Each award will be accompanied by a certificate of achievement. The student must be sole author or senior author of the paper/poster and, as such, have conceived of and executed a substantial share of the reported research. A student who applies to be considered must be a registered student or must have received a Ph. D. within 12 months immediately prior to the meeting. Among those students competing for "Best Student Paper Award" and "Best Student Poster Award," one may be designated to receive the "Adrian M. Wenner Strong Inference Award" as specified in Section 2 below.

### Section 2.

The selection of the paper or poster to receive the “Adrian M. Wenner Strong Inference Award” shall be on the basis of how well and explicitly it meets the standards of the strong inference or multiple working hypotheses approach, as described in any one of the following papers:

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- Chamberline, T.C. 1890 (reprinted in 1965). The method of multiple working hypotheses. *Science* 148: 754-759.
  - Platt, J.R. 1964. Strong Inference. *Science* 146: 347-353.
  - Wenner, A.M. 1989. Concept-centered versus organism-centered biology. *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 29: 1179-1199.
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*To be considered for the strong inference award, the paper or poster must explicitly apply the following steps:*

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1. Clearly state an initial hypothesis.
  2. Explicitly designate alternate hypothesis(es).
  3. Devise crucial experiment(s) with alternative possible outcomes that will as nearly as possible exclude one or more of the alternative hypotheses.
  4. Execute the experiment cleanly.
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### Section 3.

A committee of **at least** three judges will be appointed by the Chair to organize the judging of papers and posters at each annual meeting. A student can not win the same award twice.

### **Article XVII.**

In the circumstance where an elected DIZ officer is unable to complete **their** ~~his or her~~ term of office, the following provisions are made: If the office of Secretary or Program Officer is vacated early, the DIZ Chair, in consultation with the DIZ Executive Committee and the SICB President, will appoint someone to serve until elections can be held to fill the position. If the office of Division Chair is vacant, the DIZ Executive Committee, in consultation with the SICB President, will appoint someone to be the interim Chair until an election is held.

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