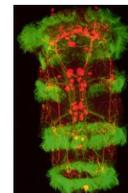




# Newsletter



Biannual Newsletter

Editor: John D. Zardus

Fall 2011

## Contents

List of Executive Officers	page 1
Message from the President	page 1
Message from the Editor-in-Chief	page 3
Message from the Program Officer	page 4
News and Announcements	page 5
SICB Annual Meeting Items	page 6

## Members of the Executive Committee

President: Kathy Coates	kcoates@transact.bm
President-Elect: Patrick Reynolds	preynold@hamilton.edu
Past-President: Vicki Martin	martinvj@appstate.edu
Secretary: John Zardus	john.zardus@citadel.edu
Editor-in-Chief of <i>IB</i> : Bruno Pernet	bpernet@csulb.edu
Program Officer: Sara Lindsay	slindsay@maine.edu
Treasurer: Bruce Conn	bconn@berry.edu
Website Coordinator: Amy Johnson	ajohnson@bowdoin.edu
Member-at-Large: Elizabeth Walsh	ewalsh@utep.edu
Member-at-Large: Rick Hochberg	rick_hochberg@uml.edu
Member-at-Large: Sally Leys	sleys@ualberta.ca
Student Representative: Shanna Hanes	hanessd@auburn.edu

## Message from the President — Kathy Coates



Greetings from Bermuda; it is now the season for dodging hurricanes and tropical storms so that we, again, have strong winds and prevailing grey skies. Nonetheless, we have had enough calm seas to complete our summer field work under optimal conditions and have truly dodged any really destructive weather.

The executive and the several committees they form have been working toward achieving the many goals that were mentioned in the spring Newsletter and which grew out of the 2011 executive and business meetings.

I hope to see many of you in Charleston, South Carolina, (January 3 to 7, 2012). As reported here by the AMS Program Officer, Sara Lindsay, there is a full and exciting program of AMS and AMS-related activities. The details of the primary AMS symposium and two others supported by AMS (*Dispersal of Marine Organisms* – a society wide symposium; *Barnacle Biology: Essential Aspects and Contemporary Approaches*; and *Poecilogony as a Window on Larval Evolution: Polymorphism of Developmental Mode within Marine Invertebrate Species*) will soon be accessible online at the SICB website so that you can put them on your personal meeting schedule of activities.

Early in the summer, Sara took on a central role in the organization of the *Dispersal of Marine Organisms* symposium and has secured substantial NSF funding for this. Her contributions have been invaluable to the organization of the whole Symposium.

There will be complementing sessions and a diversity of social activities related to the dispersal symposium and which will celebrate the contributions of Dr. Mary Rice to the field of marine larval development and dispersal. The AMS Keynote speaker will be Dr. Kevin Eckelbarger, rather than Dr. Vicki Martin, our Past-president, but we expect that we will have Vicki addressing us in 2013.

Continuing on topics related to the upcoming annual meeting, an AMS Annual Best Contributed Paper Award has been established. The general description of the award and requirements for eligibility are noted below, and the award is fully described on the AMS website.

*A certificate and monetary prize will be awarded for the Best Contributed Paper presented orally by a student at the Annual Meeting (SICB/AMS). Current students or graduates who have received a degree not more than 12 months prior to the meeting are eligible to compete for the awards. The work presented must be original and must be carried out principally by the student presenting the paper. Membership in AMS is not a requirement.*

We received 12 applications in this first year of the award and will be looking for reviewers to attend these oral or poster presentations.

There is also some late-breaking news about the AMS Student Member Travel Awards for SICB 2012. *Award amounts have been increased by 50%! The amount of each of the six available awards has been increased from \$100 to \$150.* If you are a student presenter of either an oral or poster session at SICB, Charleston, January 3-7, 2012, check [http://amicros.org/?page\\_id=415](http://amicros.org/?page_id=415) for application instructions.

### **AMS Summer Student Research Fellowships 2011**

As announced in an earlier e-mail message from the AMS Secretary, John Zardus, the recipients of the 2011 Summer Research Awards were:

Caroline Harper, Brown University - Project title: The Morphology of the Brush-Like Papillae in a Nectar-Feeding Bat, *Glossophaga soricina*;

Fredrick Larabee, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign - Project title: Comparative Study of Ant Mandible Mechanical Properties and Performance;

And Nathan Farrar, University of Alberta - Project title: Visualizing the Structure of Primary Cilia in the Osculum of the Demosponge, *Ephydatia muelleri*.

Congratulations to all these students. There will be brief reports on their projects displayed at the AMS booth during the SICB/AMS annual meetings and these will also be on the AMS website and published in the Spring 2012 newsletter.

There has been considerable activity within several of the AMS executive committees, as described in the AMS Spring Newsletter of 2011, and many of these are reported here. In particular, the Nominating, Website and Journal Committees have been busy with various ongoing and intermittent Society activities.

With best regards and until January 2012,  
Kathy Coates  
AMS President 2011-2013

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief of *IB* — Bruno Pernet



The past year has gone quite smoothly at *Invertebrate Biology*. The number of submissions is slightly down from the previous two years – more on that below – but the journal's editors (Mike Hart, Louise Page, Heather Proctor, Greg Rouse, Nora Terwilliger, and Bob Thacker) have been doing their usual extremely diligent job in handling incoming manuscripts, and the Wiley-Blackwell production team has been working hard to get accepted manuscripts online and in print as efficiently as possible. Their efforts mean that we continue to do well in terms of our vital statistics, with relatively speedy times from submission to first decision, and from final acceptance to online publication. Thanks to all of the above for their essential contributions to the journal.

We are also doing well in terms of impact factor, which many authors consider when deciding where to submit a manuscript. In 2010 the journal's IF increased for the third year in a row, to 1.5. Impact factor, of course, is just one indicator of a journal's quality or stature. It is driven by citations of recently-published work, and that, of course, is driven by the quality and importance of the manuscripts that we publish.

This brings me back to my initial comment about submissions – as of September, our 2011 submissions are slightly down relative to those in the previous two years. This is not a major prob-

lem, but we certainly don't want declining submissions to become a trend. Thus I strongly encourage AMS members to support the journal either directly, by submitting their own best work to IB, or indirectly, by encouraging their colleagues to do the same. Likewise, if you see a great oral or poster presentation on any aspect of invertebrate biology at the upcoming AMS/SICB meetings, or at any other meetings that you attend, please encourage the authors to consider IB as a venue for publication! Besides being an obvious place to publish work on invertebrate biology (as indicated by its title!), IB has lots of other selling points, among them efficient manuscript handling, high-quality image reproduction (including color), and no page charges. I'm happy to discuss advantages of publishing in the journal with any potential author, so please have them contact me.

Cheers,  
Bruno

### Message from the Program Officer — Sara Lindsay



I hope that you are planning to attend the annual meeting with SICB this January 3-7 in Charleston, SC because it promises to be a full and exciting program. More than 1450 abstracts were submitted, and there are great symposia offered on each day of the meeting. The meeting sessions will be held in the Charleston Convention Center, near the airport, and complimentary shuttle buses will be available to tour/dine in the downtown historical district from 6-11:30 pm on Jan 4-6. Look for more information on the buses and a "Notes from the Underground" in the coming months on the SICB meeting website. AMS will have a booth in the exhibit hall, featuring entries for the Ralph and Mildred Buchsbaum Prize for Excellence in Photomicrography, information for students, and other society materials. I look forward to seeing many AMS members at the meeting and invite you all to drop by our booth, vote for your favorite photomicrograph, renew acquaintances and Society memberships, and to participate in our events. As you plan your travel, note that the meeting extends **through** Saturday afternoon, January 7<sup>th</sup>, with a closing reception from 4:00 to 6:00 PM.

For members attending the meeting who plan on bringing children, please fill out the babysitting survey form (on the registration form) when you register if you are interested in having that service available during the meeting. In early November, the SICB Executive Committee will decide if that service will be available during the meeting based on the results of the survey.

#### Here are some highlights of the annual meeting to plan for:

AMS is the primary sponsor of the "Dispersal of Marine Organisms" symposium (Jan 5<sup>th</sup>) at the 2012 SICB meeting. To comply with rules associated with NSF support of the symposium, the title no longer refers to Dr. Mary Rice, but this symposium features a diverse group of speakers whose contributions follow in the path of Mary's excellent contributions to larval biology. Mary herself is a co-author on some of the presentations. AMS is co-sponsoring two additional symposia:

“Poecilogony as a window on larval evolution: Polymorphism of developmental mode within marine invertebrate species” (Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, organized by K. Emily Knott and Damhnait McHugh) and “Barnacle Biology: Essential Aspects & Contemporary Approaches (Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, organized by AMS Secretary John Zardus).

Kevin Eckelbarger will deliver the AMS Keynote Lecture, *A Tribute to Dr. Mary E. Rice: From Neanderthals to Naples - A Brief History of Marine Biology from Antiquity to 1900* (Thursday, Jan 5, 7:30-8:30 PM).

The AMS Luncheon (12:00-1:00 PM), followed by the annual Business Meeting (1:00-2:00 PM) will be on Thursday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> in the Convention Center. Once again this year we will have a selection of box lunches to choose from for lunch, and student tickets are discounted as an incentive to encourage their participation in the Society. Winners of the Buchsbaum Photomicrography contest will be announced at the Luncheon. We will be celebrating Dr. Mary Rice’s contributions to AMS as well. Lunch tickets are required and may be purchased through the meeting registration page at the SICB website ([www.sicb.org](http://www.sicb.org)).

Finally, AMS will join The Crustacean Society and SICB Divisions of Invertebrate Zoology, Ecology & Evolution, and Systematics & Evolutionary Biology for a joint social on Friday evening (Jan. 6) in the Convention Center.

See you in January!  
- Sara Lindsay

## News and Announcements

### Elections

Elections will be held in November for three offices on the AMS Executive Committee to begin terms January 2012.

**Program Officer** (three-year term of office, beginning Jan. 2012 and ending Jan. 2015 with an additional six-month consultation period to provide advice to the incoming P.O.)

**Secretary** (three-year term of office, beginning Jan. 2012 and ending Jan. 2015)

**Member-at-Large** (three-year term of office, beginning Jan. 2012 and ending Jan. 2015)

The following individuals have been nominated and have consented to run as follows:

Bob Thacker for Program Officer, Megan Schwartz for Secretary, and Elizabeth Davis-Berg for Member-at-Large. Look for their biographical sketches on the upcoming ballot. Nominations will continue to be accepted until balloting begins in November. There will be space for write-in candidates on the ballot as well.

## Ballot Item

As mentioned in the spring newsletter a discrepancy occurred in last year's balloting regarding the term of service for the President-Elect. The President's term of service was extended to two years but the term for President-Elect was kept at one year. However, the ballot that was distributed stated the President-Elect would serve for two years. To clarify the issue and adhere to the wishes of the AMS membership a ballot item will be presented along with the elections asking for a vote to have the President-Elect serve for one year.

## Annual Meeting Items

### Student Travel Awards SICB 2012, Charleston, SC

The American Microscopical Society is offering awards to student members who will be presenting at the annual meeting.

Applicants must

- Be a member of AMS
- Be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program
- Give either an oral or poster presentation at the next AMS/SICB annual meeting
- Use microscopy in the research presented at that annual meeting
- Demonstrate financial need for AMS support of travel to the annual meeting

Amount of individual award: \$150.00 US.

Applications should include (and be limited to):

- Applicant's name and academic affiliation
- Applicant's contact information (email, telephone, mailing address)
- Title and authors of SICB presentation
- Statement of membership in AMS
- Paragraph describing the use of microscopy in the research to be presented at the annual meeting ( $\leq 200$  words)
- Statement of financial need, including a budget where appropriate ( $\leq 200$  words)

Applicants should not send full CVs, letters of recommendation, reprints, or other documents.

Send electronic applications by email no later than Nov. 15, 2011 to:  
Kathy Coates at [kcoates@transact.bm](mailto:kcoates@transact.bm).

Award winners will be selected on the basis of financial need from among those applicants who fulfill the criteria above.

## Ralph and Mildred Buchsbaum Prize for Excellence in Photomicrography

If your research requires the use of microscopy, or you just love photographs of small things (or small parts of big things), then we encourage you to consider submitting your photomicrographs to the 2012 Buchsbaum Photomicrography Contest at the upcoming SICB conference in Charleston!

The 2012 contest, sponsored by the American Microscopical Society, will be held during the SICB meeting in Charleston, SC from January 3-7. The contest is a memorial to Ralph Buchsbaum, pioneer in cell and tissue culture of animals and champion of photomicrography, and its aim is to encourage microscopical-biological photography.

Micrographs can be of any biological specimen and use any form of microscopy (e.g., CLSM, TEM, SEM, DIC, etc). The contest is open to all SICB participants, 3 entries per participant. Micrographs will be displayed at the AMS booth and voting will be open to all SICB attendees.

Submissions can be color or B&W and must be hardcopy prints up to 8 x 10 inches. All photographs should be unlabeled, unsigned and mounted on poster board or printed on heavy-duty paper. A single line of information identifying the subject (e.g., "Cilia of a trochophore") and microscopical technique ("Tubulin stain, CLSM") should be below the photograph. The deadline for submissions is noon on the first full day of the meetings (January 4, 2011). Voting begins that afternoon. Details can be found on the American Microscopical Society's website: <http://amicros.org/>.

Winning entries in the color and B&W categories each receive a cash award, a book on photomicrography, a ticket to the AMS luncheon at the following year's SICB conference, and the envy of all your peers.

## Dispersal Symposium 2012



A society wide symposium "Dispersal of Marine Organisms" in honor of Dr. Mary Rice will be held at SICB in Charleston 2012 on January 5.

Mary has had a distinguished career in studying the life histories of marine invertebrates and is a renowned expert on sipunculans. Come learn of history and advances in the field from one of its leaders.

## AMS Student Research Fellowships for 2012

The American Microscopical Society (AMS) Student Research Fellowship funds are designated for summer support of research projects involving microscopy. Two fellowships of \$ 700 each are available. The funds may be used for short term support of any research project involving microscopy. Any undergraduate or graduate student member of AMS is eligible to apply, with the exception of past fellowship recipients. Applications from undergraduates and those from graduates are assessed independently.

We look forward to your applications. Please remember to encourage your fellow students or students under your supervision to both join AMS and to apply for this and our other awards.  
Kathy Coates, Bermuda

### **How to Apply**

Applicants must submit a brief proposal online application through the Society's website beginning early next year. Specific submission procedures and deadlines for the summer awards of 2012 will be announced in January. In general, applications are due in mid-March and awards will be made by the end of April 2012. If you have questions about submission procedures or proposal content, please contact Dr. Kathryn Coates [kcoates@transact.bm](mailto:kcoates@transact.bm), President, AMS.

### **Proposal Guidelines**

The proposal should consist of the applicant's Curriculum Vitae, a separate budget page, and a short description of the research project; the description should be a maximum of 3 pages, double-spaced, 11 pt type minimum. The budget page should clearly explain or show how the fellowship funds will be used and detail any current support of the project. Funds can be used for supplies, fees or other charges for equipment use, and travel to field sites. Costs for travel to meetings and courses, tuition fees, and publication are not supported. The proposal should be accompanied by a supporting letter from the applicant's research advisor.

A successful proposal description will include an introduction, objectives, methodology, expected significance of results and literature cited; and a well-justified budget. The role of microscopy is a major component of proposal evaluation. Provide concise details of the microscopic approaches to be taken in the proposed research and show their appropriateness to the objectives of the project. If the microscopy research for which you are requesting funding is part of a broader thesis or dissertation topic, you should write your proposal only for the microscopy portion of the research. The proposal to AMS can be linked to your broader research objectives via the introduction and significance of results sections. If you have preliminary results or evidence that support the likelihood of the project's success these should be noted.