



Society for Developmental Biology

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Dear SDB Members,

In 2009 we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the SDB (originally called Society for the Study of Development and Growth but changed in 1965). In addition, it is the 50th anniversary of the society's official journal, *Developmental Biology*.

To celebrate these important events, this year's annual meeting, to be held in San Francisco from July 23 to 27, will feature special symposia. To highlight the history of our field, the meeting will include a symposium focused on the *History of Developmental Biology* to give context on how the subject matter has evolved and changed over the past 200 years. To commemorate the journal, there will be a *DB* sponsored symposium on *Evolution of Developmental Regulatory Systems* that parallels a new section of the journal with this focus. Other sessions in the program include: *History of SDB* with the society's role on social issues; Education Symposium *Talking about Science to another Bus Rider*, *Postdoctoral Symposium*, *Awards Lectures* and writing tutorials. In addition, past and present *DB* journal editors will actively participate in many aspects of the program. There will be two satellite symposia: *Ectodermal Placodes and Derivatives* and *Plant Development in a Changing World*.

We will also offer "specials" to celebrate the double anniversaries in the form of additional discounts to the annual meeting registration fees for students and postdocs who are SDB members in good standing. Remember that it takes at least 2 working days after you submit online payment to have your membership updated in the database. If your name is not in the database, the automated registration system will make you pay the higher non-member rate. Act now and renew your membership! Of course, application for the travel awards for students, postdocs and teaching faculty who are SDB members in good standing, and the competitive Latin American-Caribbean Scholarships will be available as usual.

One new pre-meeting activity will be introduced this year: the "Re-Boot Camp for Mid-Career Faculty," organized by Karen Bennett, co-chair of SDB's Professional Development and Education Committee. It follows the format of the very successful "Boot Camp for New Faculty" but aimed at the more experienced faculty who are interested: i) in honing their leadership skills to **control** their very research and teaching obligations, ii) in exploring **alternate** directions and iii) in considering ways to **delete** and prioritize the many tasks in their professional life. This may be an opportunity for you to rejuvenate aspects of your career.

I personally invite you and your colleagues to join us this year for these festive celebrations. Details, forms and deadlines are found on the meeting website: <http://www.sdbonline.org/2009Mtg/Webpage.htm>.

I want to thank Nadia Rosenthal for the beautiful poster artwork and challenge the students and postdocs to identify the organisms represented on the body. The printed poster will be in the mail to your lab soon. My appreciation also goes to Marnie Halpern for the modified SDB logo in honor of the 70th anniversary.

See you in San Francisco!

Marianne Bronner-Fraser, PhD
SDB President

W: www.sdbonline.org

SDB 68th Annual Meeting: July 23-27, 2009, San Francisco, CA

Celebrating SDB 70th Birthday and

Development Biology 50th Year of Publication