



2007 Annual Report

Society for In Vitro Biology

President's Report

This marks the end of my term as President of the SIVB. I was blessed with an excellent and hard-working Board of Directors (BOD) that made the office of President an enjoyable experience. Your BOD accomplished much over the past 2 years. There was much discussion on proposals and when it came time to vote, all votes were unanimous. Imagine going 2 years without a single negative vote. The BOD worked together as a team. I want to also take this opportunity to once again thank our Managing Director, Marietta Wheaton Ellis, and her staff at New Beginnings Management for their dedication and hard work.

A major accomplishment over the past 2 years has been our financial success. David Altman, during his presidency, initiated changes to move the Society into solvency. When he took office the Society had a large debt and through the hard work of his BOD debt reduction started. By controlling expenditures and tight budget management our debt is now eliminated and the Society is now in the "black". I want to thank our Treasurer, Richard Heller, for an outstanding job. Through the efforts of Todd Jones and his Long Range Planning Committee, we now have an Endowment Fund with guidelines for its implementation.

A second major accomplishment was making us one Society. During David Altman's presidency, the numerous sections were reduced to two, Plant Biotechnology (PB) and In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences (IVACS). Through the hard work and dedication of the Section Chairs, Wayne Parrott (PB) and David Jayme (IVACS), we are functioning smoothly as one Society. At the 2007 Annual Meeting we had our first joint Social, which was a major success. They also worked together, along with the awards Committee, to reestablish the "Young Scientist Award" to recognize scientific excellence and active Society participation among this group of members. They worked together with the Awards and Student awards committees to develop Guidance for nominating and approving candidates for Section and Society awards.

Our Society was founded in 1946 to fill a need to educate scientists and to exchange knowledge in the areas of In Vitro Cell Biology. Elizabeth Roemer, Todd Murphy and the Education Subcommittee have worked closely with host cities to offer workshops for High School teachers at our annual meetings. An ad hoc student committee was formed and through the hard work of Pam Weathers and her Student Affairs Committee, Randy and Missy Santiano, Scott Stewart and others we are offering students and beginning scientists high caliber and pertinent symposia and workshops at our annual meetings. We have a job site link on our website and a list server on Yahoo for student members. The BOD also voted to co-sponsor with the ATCC and Corning free educational webinars. Examples of recent webinars are "Growing Happier Cells" and "Primary Cell Culture: Tips and Techniques for Getting Started". Look for the link on our website. Corning also has a link to the SIVB on their site.

In the area of Public Policy, the SIVB has taken steps to educate the scientific community on the major problem of cross-contaminated cell lines. A "white paper" by Roland Nardone is on our website. We are also stressing the problem through presentations at our annual meetings. Several SIVB members took part in an International conference call entitled "Export Forum on the Misidentification and Cross-Contamination of Cell Lines". The SIVB is a co-sponsor of this initiative.

We continue to have high quality annual meetings with outstanding keynote speakers. For this I thank the Section Chairs and their Program Committees, the local committees, Denis Laska, John Harbell, David Ellis, Mark Jordan and all of our other hard-working members and of course Marietta Wheaton Ellis and NBM. In recognition of the importance that Bob Lawrence has played in the success of our Society, we have named the key-note symposium in his honor. During the past year the Society lost a dedicated long-time member, Len Schiff. To honor his memory we have named one of this years sessions, the Leonard J. Schiff Memorial Symposium.

During David Altman's term as President, an agreement with Springer to publish our Journals was initiated. A smooth transition to Springer has required many hours by our Publication Committee Chair, Michael Horn, and his committee including members of NBM, Michele Schultz and Marietta Wheaton Ellis. I thank each of you for your accomplishments.

Last but not least we tried electronic balloting for the first time and it was a success.

Again, I would like to thank my hard-working and highly dedicated Executive Committee consisting of Todd Jones (President-Elect), John Harbell (Vice-President), Nancy Reichert (Secretary), Richard Heller (Treasurer) and David Altman (Past-President) and the rest of the BOD consisting of our Members at Large (Dan Brown, Dennis Laska, Guy Smagghe and David Ellis), Michael Horn (Publications) and Pam Weathers (Public Policy).

Plan to attend the 2009 annual meeting in beautiful Charleston, SC.



SIVB President Paul Price addresses the attendees of the 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting

Paul J. Price, President
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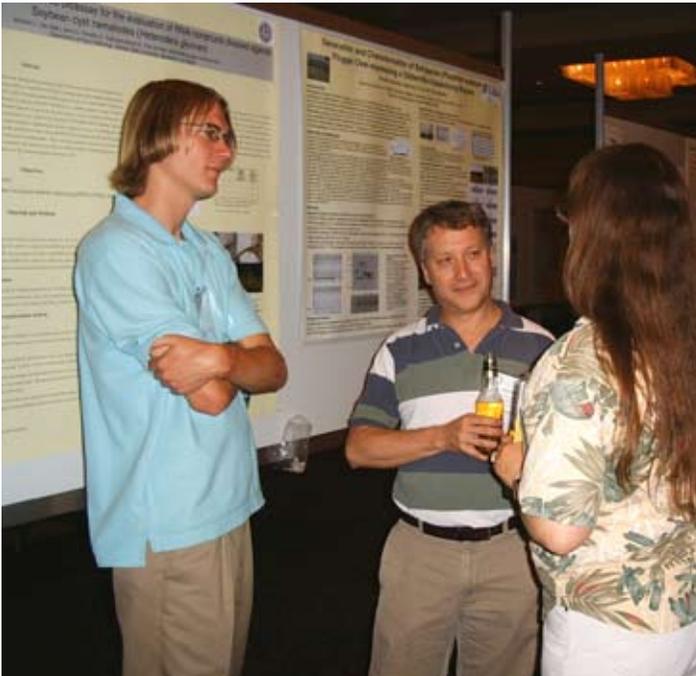
Secretary's Report

The Secretary's role is to provide a continuum of information to the Board, by producing a written record of the Board meetings. A related, crucial role is to also share this information with all SIVB members by having the Board meeting minutes posted on our website. Yet another role is to be part of the nomination/election process.

All the minutes from 2007 have been posted on the website for review by the SIVB membership.

Thank you to everyone who has been of such great assistance during my time as Secretary. I appreciate your help and support.

*Nancy Reichert, Secretary
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Poster sessions are an integral part of the Annual Meetings



The new Student Professional Development Symposia were a great success

Treasurer's Report

It is with great pleasure that I report to the Society that we have finished another year (3rd consecutive year) in the black for that individual year and I believe we ended 2007 on an extremely positive note. Technically, we finished 2007 in a slight cumulative deficit in our unrestricted accounts; however, I am confident that this will be completely resolved by the end of 2008. We started 2007 with a deficit net asset of \$53,039 (unrestricted accounts) and we ended the year with a deficit net asset of \$8,962 (unrestricted accounts). Over the past three years we have reduced our overall deficit by over \$175,000 and we have made tremendous strides in moving the Society in the right direction towards being on solid financial ground. As I have stated previously, this positive turnaround was made possible through the continued efforts of the past two Board of Directors, the Finance Committee, Development Committee (under David Songstad and John Harbell), Publications Committee (under Mike Horn) and the Business Office who all worked diligently to keep costs under control, stay within our budget and to have a successful fund raising effort. The positive financial outcome for 2007 was also helped by once again a positive financial outcome from the annual meeting, which was due to the tremendous efforts of our outstanding Program Committee and our dedicated members. All members of the Society have played some role in this turn around and we should all be proud of these efforts that have returned the Society to a more stable financial situation. As always, it is critical to maintain the efforts of the past few years to prevent any movement back to deficit budgets. As I have stated in previous year's reports, it will be critical to continue to increase our revenues through our membership, publications, and annual meeting and as such it is imperative that we all continue to work together to find ways to improve in these areas as well as continue to keep costs under control. I would be remiss to not also acknowledge and commend the efforts of the section chairs and their membership for their efforts in brining the Society together and moving us to a more stable future. This will be my last annual report as I will be stepping down from the treasurer position at the 2008 Annual Meeting. While things have not always gone smoothly during the past few years, it has been a privilege and honor to work with the membership, our board members, financial committee, members from various committees the officers of our sections as well as Marietta and her staff. The dedication to the Society shown by everyone and the willingness to work to improve our long-term survival has been tremendous. I thank everyone for their help and support and once again congratulate everyone for a job well done for bringing us from the point of financial to a more stable situation. The 2007 Annual Report includes a Treasurer's Summary Report consisting of a Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities for the year. The full report is available from the business office on request.

*Richard Heller, Treasurer
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Business Office Report

The Business Office activities focused on the 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting, publications, and membership. The 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting was held in Indianapolis, Indiana from June 9 – 13, 2007 at the Westin Indianapolis. The 2007 Meeting highlighted Dr. David A. Wolf, PhD, of National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He spoke on NASA Space Based Research: Challenges and Benefits for Tissue Engineering. Also during the Opening Ceremony, the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Drs. Indra and Vimla Vasil, PhD. These emeritus scientists were being honored for their years of exemplary research, achievements, and pioneering contributions to the field of cell culture.

The 2007 Fellow Awards were presented to Barbara B. Doonan, PhD, Todd J. Jones, PhD; J. Denry Sato, PhD; and Guy Smagge, PhD. All the Fellow Awards were presented during the Joint SIVB Sections' Social. Distinguished Service awards were presented to David Jayme, PhD; and Wayne Parrot, PhD.



Local Organizing Committee Member, Dennis Laska, welcomes David A. Wolf at the Keynote Symposium

Special events held during the meeting were: a professional tour of Dow AgroSciences on Saturday, June 9, 2007, a professional tour of Eli Lilly and Company on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, an Evening at the Indiana State Museum on June 12, 2007, and a silent auction which ended on Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Additionally, this was the first year that the In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences and Plant Biotechnology Sections combined for a Joint Social on Monday night, June 11, 2007. This was very well received and will continue in the future.

At the 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting, the attendance reached 360. There were 117 members, 8 non-members, 19 post docs, 5 emeritus, and 4 one-day registrants. Also, there were 66 student registrants, 8 volunteers, and 54 speakers. For the fourth year, SIVB offered all students free registration to the scientific sessions of the 2007 Meeting and free membership to the Society in 2008.

The 2008 World Congress on In Vitro Biology is an international congress that is held every four years. The Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort will be the site of the 2008 World Congress on In Vitro Biology. This luxury full-service Tucson hotel is set at the base of the Santa Catalina Mountain range in Northwest Tucson, AZ. The City of Tucson is the 32nd largest city in the United States. Surrounded by five mountain ranges; the Tucson, Santa Catalina, Rincon, Santa Rita, and Tortolita, Tucson is bordered by Catalina State Park, Coronado National Forest, Saguaro National Park East and Saguaro National Park West, and the Tohono O'odham Nation.



Some attendees visited the Indiana State Museum for a special dinner event

The 2008 World Congress on In Vitro Biology will highlight Professor M. S. Swaminathan, PhD, Chairman of the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs; UNESCO Chair in Ecotechnology at the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, India; and Chairman of the National Commission on



The 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting Volunteers: (L to R) Esther Uchendu, Carol Stiff, Xia Xu, Ahmad Omar, Jeanette Studer, Sylvia Mitchell, (Insert) Hesham Oraby, Diaa Al-Abed

Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security of India. He will be presenting, "Global Agriculture at the Crossroads: Pathway to an Era of Biohappiness." There will also be a presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award during the meeting to Dr. Jack Widholm, PhD. Michael E. Horn, PhD; and Arthur McIntosh are to receive the SIVB Fellow Award. There are a host of additional awards being presented at the Congress.

The 2008 Old Pueblo Silent Auction will begin during the Opening Reception on Saturday, June 14 and will end on Tuesday morning, June 17, 2008. Additionally, attendees will be invited to enjoy a special evening event on Tuesday, June 17, at Old Tucson Studios.

The Business Office's Publications Department had a very busy year with the continued transition of the In Vitro Journals to Springer throughout the year. The Business Office worked closely with Springer and the Publications Chair to facilitate the changes for the journals and the Publications Committee to assist in keeping the Committee abreast of the current state of the publications industry. To further increase visibility to the journals, In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology – Animal and – Plant's back history issues have been placed online with SpringerLink and JSTOR.

In its third full year participating in BioOne, the Plant journal showed an income of \$16,761.

In Vitro –Animal has shown additional online subscription income from BioOne for \$16,335.

With the transition to Springer, the Business Office has a new system for member access to the journals. Soon after each member's renewal has been processed, they are forwarded an email with a token provided by Springer. This token allows you to access the journal online anywhere in the world by using your email address and a password you set up for yourself. If you are a current member and do not have this information and wish to receive it, please contact the business office at sivb@sivb.org.

The *In Vitro Report* continues as a quarterly online publication. Carol Stiff and Michael Fay as Editors-in-Chief accept submissions. Forward materials to sivb@sivb.org

The SIVB website continued to show activity via bi-weekly changes to the site throughout the year. The greatest changes were found on the meetings section, updates of the rest of the approved board minutes to the website, Officer and Committee listings as affiliations changed, updates to the Awards section on the website, and the addition of the new Ad Hoc Student Committee and links for that section.

In 2007, the major change made regarding the meeting's abstract issue was that abstract issues were handed out at the meeting to all attendees. Those not attending were able to access the files online, but they were not sent hard copies of the issue. Since the meeting, the 2007 final program and abstracts were moved on the meeting site, where they are still available

as well as their permanent spot on SpringerLink. In addition, the 2008 Calls for abstracts are continuing to be published as part of the *In Vitro – Animal* and *– Plant* journals with regular updates being made biweekly on the website and prior to the publication of the Calls and the exhibitor's brochure.

The Business Office continued to assist the Society in its membership initiatives of encouraging new members and extending services to current members. In 2007, members received recognition for the number of years of continued SIVB membership, there has been more accessible information to membership with the extended use of broadcast emails sent to members about upcoming public policy issues as well as reminders of meeting deadlines and membership renewals. The Job Target site for classifieds continues to offer free or significantly discounted services to SIVB members with greater visibility through their entire site.

The Student Initiative Program continues to grow with the continuing offer of free student membership including online access to the journals for all students who register and attend the prior SIVB Annual Meeting. In addition, the Business Office has assisted membership in the creation of the mentoring program for the members of the Society.

In 2007, the Board decided to renew a 2-year contract with the management company, New Beginnings Management, Inc., to run the day-to-day operations of the Society. The Executive Committee, comprised of the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past President hold conference calls with the head of New Beginnings Management to review the status of the Society and its upcoming needs. Both myself and Michele Schultz, both long-standing past employees of SIVB, comprise the major staff of New Beginnings Management. We appreciate their continuing support of NBM's initiatives and look forward to working with the incoming Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Section Officers in the upcoming years.

Special thanks to those members whose efforts have been integral to the continuing health of the Society and its future endeavors. I would like to personally thank the Board of Directors, Committees, and Section Chairs for their support to the vision of the Society. Additionally, thank you to the volunteers at the 2007 Meeting for hours of service above and beyond their requirements. We value their efforts.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions in promoting and supporting the Society for in Vitro Biology. Contact us at sivb@sivb.org.

Marietta Wheaton Ellis
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In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section

The annual business meeting of the IVACS preceded a highly-enjoyable social activity, held jointly with the Plant Biotechnology (PB) Section.

Various areas of progress since the inception of the consolidated section in June 2006 were highlighted, coupled with on-going initiatives to expand and strengthen membership:

- Synergy with Plant Biotechnology – Key elements of this collaboration effort included designing an enjoyable and intellectually-stimulating scientific meeting, planning the joint social activity, advancing parallel organizational structures, and developing the young scientist award. Our unique membership composition and organizational structure facilitate trans-kingdom scientific parallels. PB Section Chair Wayne Parrott was recognized for his leadership support and cooperation.
- Awards – Lia Campbell (vice-chair) formally announced the following recipients of student and SIVB fellow awards:
 - 2007 Student Travel Awards:
 - Tejas Gawade (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - Phillip Claire (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - 2007 Honor B. Fell Award: Yusuke Fukuda (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - 2007 Hope E. Hopps Award: Phillip Claire (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - 2007 Cellular Toxicology Awards:
 - Yusuke Fukuda (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - Paloma Olvera-Caltzontzin (Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro)
 - Student Poster Awards (with appreciation to Caisson Laboratories & Kitchen Culture Kits for gifts and financial compensation):
 - First Place: Shruti Sevak (Western Michigan)
 - Second Place: Amber Gail Brannan (Rose-Hulman)
 - Honorable Mentions:
 - Yusuke Fukuda (SUNY Stony Brook)
 - Sandhya Nair (Western Michigan)
 - SIVB Fellows (formally recognized during the joint IVACS/PB social event):
 - Barbara B. Doonan (UST, Inc.)
 - Todd J. Jones (BASF Plant Sciences)



David Jayme, IVACS Section Chair addresses IVACS members during their section business meeting

- J. Denry Sato (Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory)
- Guy Smaghe (Ghent University)
- Two other award-related initiatives were discussed:
 - Nominations were solicited for the recently-designed Young Scientist Award to recognize outstanding intermediate level (details regarding eligibility and nomination are posted on the SIVB website).
 - The SIVB Board created a taskforce, with representation from IVACS and PB Sections and from members of the Awards and Student Awards committees. The taskforce presented its recommendations to streamline the nomination and approval process at a recent meeting of the Executive Board.
- 2008 program planning –
 - John Harbell was recognized for his outstanding efforts as 2007 Program Chair. He expressed his appreciation to all conveners of joint and sectional symposia, interactive posters and workshop session, and to members of the local organizing committee.
 - Financial contributors to the success of the 2007 scientific program were recognized with certificates of appreciation.

Distinguished Meeting Contributors included Dow AgroSciences, LLC, Indiana Department of Education, Monsanto Company, and UST, Inc. Meeting Contributors included BioSidus, The Humane Society Legislative Fund, Lonza Walkersville, Mays Chemical Company, and Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc. Contributors to specific Symposia or Workshops included Arborgen, LLC, Alternative Research and Development, BASF Plant Science, Colgate-Palmolive, Eli Lilly and Company, International Foundation for Ethical Research, Invitrogen, Johnson & Johnson, Mary Kay Inc., MatTek, Inc., National Anti-Vivisection Society, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Roche Applied Sciences, and Science Education Foundation of Indiana

- IVACS held its first annual program planning kick-off breakfast for the Tucson 2008 scientific program. The discussion generated great suggestions for joint and sectional symposia and many IVACS members volunteered to convene scientific sessions.
- Financial & membership review – We reviewed the critical financial and membership indicators for the IVACS Section. SIVB has continued its steady balance sheet improvement, as was reported in the SIVB annual meeting. IVACS section projected a post-meeting (30 June 2007) fund balance of ~ \$55,000. We noted that total SIVB



IVACS members reconnect during the meeting's socials

membership was over 500 members with membership approximately evenly split between IVACS and PB Sections.

- Chartering statement and organizational changes - Members of the IVACS charter development taskforce (Guido Caputo, Cynthia Goodman, David Jayme, Dennis Laska, Melissa Santiano and Randy Santiano) presented the operating charter and proposed organizational structure for discussion. These proposals were ratified by the IVACS membership during the 2007 election process. The operating principles and mechanisms is posted on the SIVB website. Organizational changes included an expansion to four sectional officers and a clarification of the duties of each officer, as now posted on the SIVB website and implemented during the 2008-2010 election process.
- The Nominating Committee proposed a slate of IVACS officers. The following officers were elected for the upcoming term and will be formally recognized at the 2008 IVACS business meeting:
 - Chair – Dennis Laska
 - Vice-chair (program) – Cynthia Goodman
 - Vice-chair (membership) – Richard Heller
 - Secretary – Guido Caputo
- Various Membership activities have been initiated to recruit and retain SIVB members. Retention initiatives included electronic member renewal notification and processing options, welcoming letters for new member letters and renewal discount, and membership term stickers to be applied to name badges. Recruitment initiatives include a Sponsor a buddy program, student-focused initiatives incorporated into the Education program, subsidized registration for students and postdoctoral fellows and expanded availability of awards for students and junior scientists
- On a personal note, I have appreciated the support of the SIVB administrative staff and of the entire SIVB Board under the leadership of Paul Price during my term of office as IVACS Chair. I sincerely appreciate the contributions of Lia Campbell and Kim O'Connor who served with me as Vice-Chair and as Secretary, respectively. Finally, I appreciate the enthusiastic volunteerism of so many of you who contributed in countless ways to our scientific and organizational success over the past two years. As I retire from the world of science to accept new responsibilities for the next three as a mission president in the Brazilian tropical rain forest, I offer sincere best wishes for continued growth, prosperity, good science, and good friendships over the coming years.

*David W. Jayme, In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Chair
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Plant Biotechnology Section

As I write this report, I come to realize what a busy and successful year the PBS section had. The PBS membership continued their tradition of having a strong presence at the annual meetings, and Indianapolis was no exception. The time and effort that the program chair, Baochun Li, put into planning was readily apparent.

In continue to be inspired the number of members who attend the Sunday 7 am program planning breakfast, chaired by this year's program chair, Heidi Kaeppler. Heidi's efforts have come together nicely for 2008. Not only does their commitment to the society come through, but I am convinced that such efforts play a vital role in ensuring that the program meets the members' needs and expectations.

It won't be long before Fredy Altpeter, our next program chair will start work on the 2009 program. While I hope to see as many of you as possible in Tucson, I realize everyone can't make the meetings every year. Nevertheless, even if you can't attend the meeting, please take the time and effort to send Fredy any ideas you might have for the 2009 meeting. His address is faltpeter@ifas.ufl.edu.



Members of the Plant Biotechnology Section take time to get reacquainted

The PBS business meeting was well attended as well. PBS members now accounting for 53% of the regular members and 83% of the student members. The latter bodes specially well for our future. In keeping with our current policy of fostering the professional growth and development, Fredy Altpeter announced the winners of our first-ever poster competition for graduate students. The winners were Sukhpreet Sandhu and Scott Stewart, both from the University of Florida. The program is being continued for 2008, and expanded to include postdoctoral fellows. Other student awardees were Mrinalini Agharkar, University of Florida (Wilton R. Earle Award); Mrinalini Agharkar, University of Florida, Sukhpreet Sandhu, University of Florida, and Patrick Ryan, Ohio State University (Student Travel Awards); Tanya Dhillon, Ohio State University (John S. Song Award), and Daniel Vail, Worcester Polytech. Institute (Philip White Award).

Todd Jones, the incoming SIVB President, received the Fellow Award, as did Barbara Doonan. Barbara had the unique distinction that Fellowship was sponsored by both the PBS and the IVACS sections. Last but not least, Drs. Indra and Vimla Vasil were honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award, and our opening symposium has been permanently named after long-time PBS member, Bob Lawrence.

Amendment of our bylaws was approved, and this should result in a more streamlined way to run PBS. Furthermore, our revised bylaws are very similar that of IVACS, which should help streamline management of SIVB as a whole.

I was specially pleased that both IVACS and PBS joined together for the traditional social after the meeting. Our long-time musicians Greg Philips, Jerry Ranch and Dann Adair were joined by two new vocalists, David Jayme (Chair, IVACS) and Nancy Reichert, our past chair.

So while the PBS has had a successful run, it faces many challenges in the future. The first challenge is the need to maintain a scientific program that fosters cutting-edge and relevant research among its members. At the same time, it will probably need to do so in an era of declining resources. Extramural funds obtained by the PBS section in 2007 were only \$20,500. While not our best or worst year, it continues to fall behind the cost of running a meeting. Several fiscal reforms were implemented during the past year to make our dollars go further, but there is no room left for additional cuts. As stated in the past two annual reports, "*Members, we will increasingly have to rely on your organizations, and you as contacts, to help us raise the funds necessary to put on the scientific programs in the future.*" I cannot emphasize enough the importance of this message.

Last but not least, the PBS officers are here to serve the membership. Do not hesitate to contact any of them with any question, comment, suggestion, or concern. Their email addresses are listed in the officers section of the SIVB website. For next year, the officers are: Chair: Peggy Ozias-Akins, Vice Chair: Valery Pence; Secretary: Michael Bosela; Program Chair: Fredy Altpeter; Sr. Program Co-Chair: T. Michael Spencer; Jr. Co-Chair (TBA).



Wayne Parrott, PBS Section Chair addresses PBS members during their section business meeting

On behalf of myself and the out-going officers (Mark Jordan, Vice-chair; and Carol Stiff, secretary), I want to thank all the membership for having given us the opportunity and privilege to serve you as PBS officers. We will all remain actively engaged in the society, and will continue to help out as best we can.

Wayne Parrott, Plant Biotechnology Section Chair
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History and Records

The History Society was established in 1979 at the Seattle Washington Tissue Culture Association (TCA) meeting as the Records and Historical Committee. The charge of the committee is to preserve historical information concerning the growth, maintenance and *in vitro* experimental use of cells, tissues and organs. The History Society, in conjunction with the Records and Historical Committee oversees contributions to the SIVB archives located in the main library of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD. This archived material is available to all that would like to acquaint themselves with the history of tissue culture and scientific application to *in vitro* biology. Members of the History Society and Records and Historical Committee include: Sandra L. Schneider (Chair), Research & Clinical Laboratory Systems; Gertrude C. Buehring (Co-Chair), University of California, Berkeley; June Bradlaw, International Foundation Ethical Research; Ian Freshney, University of Glasgow; Leonard Hayflick, University of California, San Francisco; Karl Maramorosch, Rutgers The State University of New Jersey; Wallace L. McKeenan, Center for Cancer & Stem Cell Biology Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBT) Texas A&M Health Science Center, Houston, TX; Jon Ryan, Abbott Laboratories; Yvonne Reid, American Type Culture Collection; J. Denry Sato, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory and Just Vlak, Wageningen University Plantenwetenschappen.

The Society For In Vitro Biology (SIVB) and the History Committee recognized the life and achievements of Dr. Leonard J. Schiff who passed away on September 13, 2007 at his home in Denver, Colorado (see *In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Animal*, 43:319-320, 2007). An active member of the Society since 1974, Dr. Schiff served on the TCA/SIVB Records and Historical Committee as Secretary 1994-1995, President-elect 1995-1996, and President 1996-2005. Dr. Schiff organized many History Society programs and events and in 1997 published the *History of the Society for In Vitro Biology*. To facilitate the preservation of SIVB records and documents, Dr. Schiff was instrumental in establishing the SIVB historical archives located in the main library of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD. The Leonard J. Schiff Memorial Symposium, "Current Status of Tissue-engineered Product Regulation: A Global View on the Relationship of Science and Practicality," will be held during the 2008 World Congress in Tucson, Arizona to recognize the contributions and work of our colleague and friend.

Dr. Len Hayflick notified the Committee that he has a series of 16mm films, demonstrating the behavior of infected adenovirus cell cultures, as well as cell culture artifacts and books of historical value. The films document experiments conducted during Hayflick's mid to late 1950's Galveston, Texas post-doc in the laboratory of Dr. Charles M. Pomerat. Dr. Hayflick noted that Pomerat, a significant mentor in training hundreds of cell culturist, was a founding member of the Tissue Culture Association (TCA) which originated as the Tissue Culture Club. Dr. Pomerat pioneered phase contract time lapse cinemicrophotography, in addition to the discovery of nuclear rotation. Dr. Pomerat's film collection was gifted to the Pasadena Foundation for Medical Research. The National Library of Medicine has requested Dr. Hayflick's personal papers, letters and photographs from his early pioneering tissue culture career. The Committee continues to explore options and venues to find institutions willing to protect and archive the historical artifacts and records of the pioneering founders of *in vitro* biology.

Sandra L. Schneider, History and Records Committee Chair
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STANDING COMMITTEES

Awards

In 2007, the Society for In Vitro Biology proudly recognized four distinguished members (Guy Smaghe, Barbara Doonan, J. Denry Sato and Todd Jones) with SIVB Fellow Awards. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented jointly to Indra and Vimla Vasil, who have shared *both* distinguished careers and lives together, and in many ways have helped chart the course for this Society from its early inception.

The 2007 SIVB Lifetime Achievement Award nomination was led by Dr. Trevor Thorpe, with contributions from colleagues Drs. Fredy Alpeter, Claudia Botti, and Edgar DaSilva. The presentation to Drs. Indra K. and Vimla Vasil was a tribute to their significant contributions to the emerging disciplines of plant biotechnology and in vitro biology. Vimla, working with Dr. A.C. Hildebrandt in the 60's, succeeded in demonstrating for the first time the totipotency of plant cells, when she regenerated plants from single tobacco cells. Indra was a pioneer in showing that plant species other than carrot were fully capable of producing somatic embryos in vitro. Together, this powerful team produced the first rigorously orchestrated embryogenic cultures of cereal crops, and were able to obtain transgenic wheat using biolistics. Their seminal contributions were pivotal to the nascent biotechnology industry, and helped propel the scientific advances of the entire industry forward.

Dr. J. Denry Sato was recognized as a 2007 SIVB Fellow in recognition of his significant contributions to development of therapeutic products and stem cell research. In collaboration with colleagues, he produced and characterized a neutralizing monoclonal antibody to the human EFG receptor that is now an FDA-approved therapeutic. His service to the SIVB has spanned numerous committees since the late 1980s, and he's currently Editor-in-Chief of *In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology—Animal*.

Dr. Barbara B. Doonan was awarded a 2007 Fellow honor for her exemplary contributions in both the 'science' and the 'business' realms of in vitro biology. She's a unique hybrid in the Society, as her expertise crosses over into cellular toxicology, in vitro animal sciences and plant biotechnology. As such, she's provided a much needed bridge between disciplines that has increasingly strengthened the Society's presence. Her valued contributions to the Society have included development effort, and promotion of young scientists in the field. Dr. Guy Smaghe's receipt of the 2007 SIVB Fellow recognition highlights a career of internationally recognized work on numerous fundamental and applied aspects of insect biochemistry and physiology, with an emphasis on the use of insect cell culture systems to assist in the solving of these problems. Dr. Smaghe's work has enabled researchers to have a much more complete understanding of how novel pesticides, such as insect growth regulators, interact with the insect endocrine system as well as other physiologically important systems. He's also been a dynamo as an advocate on behalf of the SIVB.

Dr. Todd Jones, 2007 SIVB Fellow, has served both the Plant Biotechnology section and the overall Society in numerous leadership roles. He's brought insights from his experiences with three different biotechnology companies into the SIVB programs, and has championed this organization as its representative in other organizations such as Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), and AAAS. His significant work in maize transformation and plant development has been at the forefront of the biotechnology industry.

Long-time member Dr. Robert H. Lawrence, Jr. received a very special recognition for his outstanding service and unwavering support for the Society over the past 35 years-- the SIVB Service Recognition & Keynote Symposium has been permanently renamed in his honor. As his nominator Nancy Reichert describes him, Bob is a particular advocate of young scientists, and tries to pass on the 'flash of light' (excitement in science) on to the next generation by highlighting and supporting innovative and exemplary research.



Nancy Reichert with Robert H. Lawrence, Jr., who was honored with the SIVB Service Recognition by having the Keynote Symposium of the Annual Meeting named after him



Lifetime Achievement Award Winners Indra and Vimla Vasil with Trevor Thorpe



Todd J. Jones, SIVB Fellow Award Winner



Barbara B. Doonan, SIVB Fellow Award Winner



Guy Smaghe, SIVB Fellow Award Winner



J. Denry Sato, SIVB Fellow Award Winner



Fredy Alpeter (center) with first and second place Plant Poster Winners Sukphreet Sandhu and Scott L. Stewart



2007 Student Award Winners: (L to R) Paloma Olvera-Caltzontzin, Yusuke Fukuda, Phillip G. Claire, Tejas Gawade, Daniel Vail, Mrinalini Agharkar, Patrick Ryan Arsenault, Sukhpreet Sandhu, and Tanya Dhillon

The Student Awards Committee this year consisted of Pamela Weathers (Chair), Craig Meyers, Suzanne Rogers, William Smith, and Elizabeth Roemer. The following awards were presented at the 2007 meeting: Mrinalini Agharkar - Agronomy Department, Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program, Genetics Institute, University of Florida - IFAS, Gainesville FL, was granted the Wilton R. Earle Award and an SIVB Travel Award for "Generation and Characterization of Bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum* Flugge) Over-expressing a Gibberellin-Catabolizing Enzyme." Tanya Dhillon – OARDC, The Ohio State University, 225A Williams Hall, 1680 Madison Avenue, Wooster, OH was granted the John S. Song Award for "Evaluation of Viral Suppressors of Silencing to Stabilize Transgene Expression." The Honor B. Fell Award was won by Yusuke Fukuda - Dept Pathology, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY for "In Vitro Evaluation of Reactive Oxygen Species Generation in Two Human Cell Lines Exposed to Hurricane Katrina Flood Sediment Samples Containing Varying Pyrite Content." Phillip G. Claire – State University of New York – Stony Brook, Dept Pathology, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY was awarded the Hope E. Hopps Award for "Inflammation of A549 Epithelial Cells- an In Vitro Comparison of Various Mineral Oxides' Relative Cytotoxicities and their Impact Upon ROS Release." There was a tie for the Cellular Toxicology Award which was presented to Yusuke Fukuda from Stony Brook who also received an SIVB Travel Award (see above), and Paloma Olvera-Caltzontzin - Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro, Facultad de Ciencias Naturales, Av. de las Ciencias s/n, Juriquilla, Queretaro, Queretaro 76230 MEXICO for "In Vitro Effect of Carotenoids on Breast Cancer Cells".

Other SIVB Student Travel Awards were presented to Patrick Ryan Arsenault- Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 100 Institute Rd., Worcester, MA for "Expression of a Pharmacologically Important Terpenoid Metabolic Pathway from *Artemisia annua* in *Solanum lycopersicon*", Tejas Gawade - SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY for "In Vitro Evaluation of Pertussis Toxin Composite Nanofibers as a Non-Invasive Whooping Cough Vaccine", and Sukhpreet Sandhu - Agronomy Department, PMCB, Genetics Institute, University of Florida - IFAS, Gainesville, FL for "Generation, Characterization, and Risk Assessment of Transgenic, Herbicide Resistant Forage and Turf Grass (*Paspalum notatum* Flugge)."

The 2007 Philip White Memorial Award went to Daniel Vail - Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Biology and Biotechnology Dept., Worcester, MA. Dan is a student of Drs. Kris Wobbe and Pam Weathers of Worcester

Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA and traveled to the Arkansas Bioscience Institute in Jonesboro, AR (ABI) to establish clonal shoot cultures of a high producing Chinese variety of *Artemisia annua* under the guidance of Dr. Chunzhao Liu of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Dan will use the cultures to study the level of transcription control in this clone in response to different developmental and cultural factors. *A. annua* produces artemisinin, the most effective cure available for treating malaria and a number of other diseases. The review committee was made up of Carol M. Stiff (Chair), Sylvia Mitchell, Nirmal Joshee, Ray Shillito and Esther Uchendu.

The Joseph F Morgan Award provides travel funds for Canadian students to attend the annual meeting; however, for three years now we have had no Canadian student applicants. **Canadian members are strongly urged to encourage their students to apply.**

The Awards Committee (Mary Ann Lila, David Jayme, and Wayne Parrott) in concert with the Student Affairs and Philip White Award Chairs (Pamela Weathers and Carol Stiff) also developed a new set of Standardized Operating Procedures (SOP) for issuing Awards, to streamline and clarify the sequence of nomination, submissions and selection processes. By compiling these guidelines, the committee aimed to clarify the purpose, timelines and criteria behind each award category, to specify and standardize the number of eligible awards from each sponsoring section, and to make the process even more 'user friendly' and visible to the full membership.

Mary Ann Lila, Awards Committee Chair
 imagemal@uiuc.edu

Pamela Weathers, Student Awards Committee Chair
 pweathers@astate.edu

Carol Stiff, Philip White Award Committee Chair
 kck@turbonet.com

Constitution and Bylaws

In February of 2007, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee received the following request from the SIVB Board (via Nancy Reichert) regarding an amendment to the SIVB Bylaws:

These changes to the SIVB Bylaws were approved at the February Board meeting. Please make the word changes in section 3.C.1.a. as directed. Please also have your committee go through the bylaws and correct the Section names, and decide the appropriate wording and placement to accomplish the last motion. Please also make sure that these changes do not conflict with the Constitution in any way. Thanks!

Nancy

“David Altman moved, and Dennis Laska seconded, that the bylaws be changed accordingly (below). David accepted a friendly amendment to correct the Section names in that bylaw, and throughout the SIVB Bylaws. **Bylaws text section 3. Governance of the Society, c. Committees. 1.a. “...In alternating elections the nominees for President-Elect will be 1) members of the Plant Section or 2) members of the Vertebrate, Toxicology or Invertebrate Sections. The Nominating Committee must submit the final slate of nominees for all positions to the Board of Directors at or before the fall meeting of the Board occurring in the year of an election. The Board must ratify the slate of nominees at the fall meeting.”** be changed to “...In alternating elections the nominees for President-Elect will be 1) members of the Plant Biotechnology Section or 2) members of the In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section. The Nominating Committee must submit the final slate of nominees for all positions to the Board of Directors at or before the fall meeting of the Board occurring in the year of an election. The Board must ratify the slate of nominees no later than at the fall meeting.” MOTION PASSED (10:0:0).

The members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee reviewed Bylaws Section 3. Governance of the Society, c. Committees. 1.a as amended. Because the amendment was duly approved by the Board as required by the SIVB Constitution and Bylaws and updates the Bylaws text with the current, duly approved sections' name changes we find the amendment acceptable and requested the change be incorporated into SIVB Bylaws documentation and documents posted on the SIVB website.

*Janis Demetrulias, Constitutions and Bylaws Committee Chair
janisd@technikos.com*

Development

The 2007 Development Committee consisted of the following members: Janis Demetrulias, Barbara Doonan, David Jayme, Linda Jacobson, Mark Jordan, Dennis Laska, Nancy Reichert, Elizabeth Roemer, Ray Shillito, David Songstad, Amy Wang, Allan Wenck and John Harbell (Chair). Fundraising for the 2007 meeting was successful in that \$102,400 was raised to support the general meeting or specific sections within the SIVB. The companies that contributed to the 2007 Annual Meeting were: Aborgen, Alternatives Research & Development, BASF Plant Science L.L.C., Bayer CropScience, Biorex, Colgate-Palmolive Company, Dow Agrosciences, Eli Lilly and Company, Humane Society of the United States, International Foundation for Ethical Research/National Antivivisection Society, Indiana Department of Education, Invitrogen, Johnson & Johnson, Lonza Walkersville, Mary Kay Inc., MatTek Corporation, Mays Chemical Company, Monsanto, Phyton Biotech, Pioneer Hi-Bred Int'l, Roche Applied Sciences, Science Education Foundation of Indiana, Syngenta, and UST. The amount listed above does not include the “in kind” contributions from invited speakers that were able to obtain funds to pay for their expenses while at the 2007 annual meeting. The Development Committee would like to express its thanks to all of these donors for it is these contributions that allow us to fund the program and the many initiatives during our annual meeting.

*John W. Harbell, Development Committee Chair
John.harbell@mkcorp.com*

Education

Education Committee activities in 2007 focused primarily on two areas. The first was a continuation of our long-term commitment to teacher education. Working in partnership with Todd Murphy's Biotechnology program at Ivy Tech Community College, we ran an intensive, week-long, multifaceted workshop. Thanks to the efforts of Dennis Laska, the majority of the workshop expenses were covered by a grant from the Indiana Department of Education, with supplemental support from the SIVB Education Committee and Ivy Tech. Generous donations of time and supplies were provided by Mike Kane, Scott Stewart, Nancy Philman, Bernadette Plair, and Pat Bossert. Additional in-kind support in the form of culture reagents and kits came from Phytotechnologies Laboratories, Kitchen Culture Kits and Connecticut Valley Biological Co., Inc. Fifteen high school and community college educators convened for two days of intensive hands-on work in the laboratories of Ivy Tech. The first day's activities revolved around plant tissue culture methods. Teachers were given experience in the micropropagation techniques for various types of plants, methods for field collection of plant tissues for micropropagation, and the production of synthetic “seeds”. The second day's program involved the cultivation of hydra and potential uses of this invertebrate species in high school education. Attendees then spent Monday and part of Tuesday attending sessions at the SIVB conference, including a networking lunch on Monday for both the teachers and SIVB members. Todd Murphy convened the lunch program: “The Academic Industry Partnership: Training Students to Fill a Need” which was presented by Jose Michael Hanquier from Eli Lilly. Wednesday's program was back at Ivy Tech, exploring how to increase biotechnology education in high school classrooms. During this final session a biotechnology working group was established and they created proposals that are currently awaiting funding from various agencies. With funding, this group of educators will be able to conduct summer curriculum development workshops and purchase equipment and supplies for the integration of emerging concepts in biotechnology into regional high school classrooms.

The second major area of activity for the Education Committee was our ongoing collaboration with our own SIVB student members. For several years now, SIVB's student members have been developing a stronger sense of identity and a need for a cohesive voice. Indianapolis was the site of the first official meeting for SIVB's new ad hoc Student Committee. During their meeting they decided on a committee structure, chose officers and began planning for student-run sessions for the 2008 meeting. The Education Committee will continue to support our students in their efforts, and has committed financial resources to their 2008 programs. At the 2007 meeting we funded the student professional development workshop: “Mentoring”, co-convened by Scott Stewart and Randy Santiano.

Other activities in 2007 included an Education Poster: “Modeling AgBiotechnology in Undergraduate and High School Classroom Using Tuskegee University's Transformation Paper Model Activities”, by C. A. Harrison of Booker T. Washington High School and M. Egnin, E. Powell, J. Scofield, and D. Mortley of Tuskegee University.

Finally, as outgoing Chair of the Education Committee, I ask you to join me in welcoming our new Chair, Todd Murphy. Todd brings a wealth of energy, experience and ideas to his new post, and I know that he is looking forward to working with the committee. I encourage anyone with a commitment to education to join Todd and attend the Education Committee meeting at the 2008 SIVB World Congress.

*Elizabeth Roemer, Education Committee Chair
eroemer@notes.cc.sunysb.edu*

Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee is a standing committee of the Society and is chaired by the President-Elect of the Society. The Long Range Planning Committee is charged, as the name implies, with developing strategies for the long-term vitality of the SIVB. Membership is by appointment and for 2007 consisted of:

- Todd Jones (chair)
- Liz Roemer
- David Jayme
- Annie McGill
- Scott Stewart
- Paul Price

During 2007, the LRPC has been focused on the establishment of a SIVB Foundation that will exist as a separate 501(c)(3) or 509(a)(3) entity to attract endowments, grants and other charitable contributions for the long-term support of SIVB.

A sub-committee of the LRPC (Todd Jones, David Jayme and Liz Roemer) drafted documents describing the Foundation Operating Policy and Foundation By-laws. Included in these documents is a flowchart illustrating the proposed make-up of the Foundation board and timing of board member turnover. These draft documents have been reviewed by the LRPC and by the SIVB Board of Directors. Prior to acceptance however, the draft documents were to be reviewed by independent legal counsel.

In March of 2008 Mr. Frank Gray of the law firm Jordan Price Wall Gray Jones PLLC, was contacted to review the draft foundation documents. In his reply, received, Mr. Gray noted that it may not be necessary for the SIVB to establish a separate Foundation and it may be possible to meet the long-term financial objectives of the Society by simply establishing an Endowment fund and a committee to oversee the activities.

This option will be explored further and the relative merits, compared to an SIVB Foundation will be evaluated. It is the plan of the LRPC to make a proposal for the establishment of either an SIVB Foundation or an Endowment Fund at the next Board of Directors meeting in Tucson this June.

*Todd Jones, Long Range Planning Committee Chair
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The SIVB Annual Meeting affords time for both large social events and intimate moments to talk with colleagues

Program

The 2007 In Vitro Biology Meeting was held at the Westin Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana from June 9-13. The meeting focused on a wide range of topics and issues of interest to both Plant Biotechnology and In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Sections of the Society. A total of 342 scientists from 15 countries attended the scientific meeting and interacted with exhibitor representatives. This year SIVB again offered free registration to Students and 65 took advantage of this opportunity. Continuing the successful format first started in 2005 each day began by a Society wide plenary session highlighting cross-disciplinary subjects of interest to all members. In 2007, these sessions included New Directions in Vaccine Development, Immune Signal Transduction Across Kingdoms, and Strategies to Circumvent Limitations for Commercialization in Animal and Plant System.



John Harbell, the 2007 Program Chair addressing the 2007 Meeting attendees.

Highlights of the first day were the opening ceremony with the presentation of awards and the Keynote Address given by Dr. David Wolf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He spoke on "NASA Space Based Research: Challenges and Benefits for Tissue Engineering". He gave a fascinating series of talks. He discussed the challenges of the manned space program, including the mission launched just days before. He then narrated the video taken during one of his missions to the manned space station that brought a focus on both the science performed under microgravity and the very personal side of life in space. By popular demand, he also included a short presentation on the terrestrial microgravity

chamber designed to allow cell growth under minimal influence of polarizing gravity and sheer forces. His time with us will not soon be forgotten. The keynote address was followed by the Opening Reception in the Exhibit Hall and was a great forum for participants to meet with the exhibitors and poster session presenters. We extend our thanks to the sections for their sponsorship of this event.

The Meeting Program consisted of 15 Symposia, 4 Contributed Paper sessions, and 4 Interactive Poster sessions. The sessions illustrated the wide range of interests and expertise of Society members covering such diverse research areas as biofuels, diabetes, characterization of eukaryotic cell cultures, micropropagation, stem cells transgenic crops and biosensors. Several new sessions, from the Student Initiative and Education Committee, built on their success at the 2006 meeting. The first session, Student Professional Development – Mentoring, focused on mentoring of students in the academic environment. The second, The Academic Industry Partnership: Training Students to Fill a Need, covered the importance of communication between academia and industry to successfully prepare students who will enter the scientific workforce outside of traditional academic roles.

Once again the Society demonstrated that it is not all work and no play with several entertaining evenings including an evening of dinner and drinks at the historical Indiana State Museum and an outstanding combined evening social for both sections. The social had not one but two bands. The close cooperation between the two sections was manifest in many ways but none finer than the singing duo of Nancy and David!

A special thanks is due to our Sponsors and Exhibitors. Their funding is essential to allow the society to present the plenary, keynote, and symposia

as well as maintain initiatives such as the free registration for students.

The SIVB is deeply indebted to a large list of individuals who put this program together. These individuals include: conveners, fund-raisers and corporate sponsors, presenters, moderators and exhibitors. As Meeting Chair, I would especially like to thank the Committee Chairs from each section and the Meeting Co-chair (Wayne Parrott, David Jayme, Baochun Li, and Heidi Kaeppler) as well as the Local Organizing Committee for putting together a stellar program. Special recognition is due to New Beginnings Management (Marietta, Michele, and Michelle) who pulled the meeting and programs, meeting facilities and events all together into a positive experience for all that attended. My thanks to all for making this meeting a great success and I look forward to seeing you all in Tucson in 2008.

*John W. Harbell, 2007 Program Committee Chair
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Membership

At the Membership Committee meeting in Indianapolis, we discussed prior initiatives for the Minneapolis meeting. The initiative to recognize/identify long-serving members, which was conceived at the 2005 Membership Committee meeting, was approved by the Board of Directors to identify the number of years of membership. This was implemented at the 2006 In Vitro Biology Meeting. Ribbons were provided to those attendees who have been members of SIVB to place on their meeting registration badge. They began with members who had been active for 5 years and went up in 5 year increments up to 35 years. The member was provided with the highest level of membership years they had completed. These members are the Society's jewels and should be recognized as such. They can also be wonderful resources to talk with non-members about the SIVB at our meetings. During the last committee meeting, there was discussion about adding more distinguishing levels of membership. Additionally, there was some concern about accuracy of the years listed on the ribbons which was addressed.

Also discussed by Randy Santiano was the Sciencenter project to create a web portal, which would be used to support any programs that were developed. Sciencenter discussed purchasing an online web-conference room w/ voice over internet and online presentation capabilities from Adobe to keep us all connected post conference. He gave a demonstration on how to use the portal at the booth. Sciencenter's plan was that this will be available for use to all SIVB members and future members. No future development of this project has been set.

*Nancy Reichert, Membership Committee Chair
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Laboratory Materials and Biosafety Committee

The Laboratory Materials and Biosafety Committee (LMBC) provides a mechanism within the Society for In Vitro Biology (SIVB) to promote laboratory standards, biotechnology practices, laboratory materials, safety equipment, and facilities that constitute biosafety levels 1-4 associated with *in vitro* and biotechnology methodology. The goals of the LMBC are: 1) to provide an educational process and format to distribute information regarding potential hazards and risk assessment associated with: the cell culture process, the use and handling of biological agents, quality control of biomaterials, and updates on federal regulation pertinent to research, industry and clinical biotechnology applications; 2) to recommend laboratory practice, operation, or materials based on risk assessment of the agent/or material and the laboratory activity involved; and 3) to promote the interaction of committee members with national and international scientists, professional groups, and manufacturers regarding the design, processing, and use of material for *in vitro* and biotechnology methodology.

The LMBC committee members represent government, university/academia, private industry and include: Linda B. Jacobsen (chair), Berit Biotech, LLC; Sandra L. Schneider (co-chair), Research and Clinical Laboratory Systems; June Bradlaw, International Foundation for Ethical Research; Walter Finkbeiner, University of California – San Francisco; Thomas Goodwin, Johnson Space Center, NASA; John Harbell, Mary Kay, Inc.; John Masters, University College London, Institute of Urology-UK; Colette Rudd, Rudd & Associates; Lynn Rutsky; The University of Texas Health Science Center Houston; William J. Smith, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Glyn N. Stacey, National Institute for Biological Standards and Control-UK; and Alda Vidrich, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center.

Contaminated and/or misidentified cell lines used in biological research and development of potential therapeutic biologics continues to plague the industry. The Science article Cases of Mistaken Identity, 16 February 2007 Vol 315:928-931, highlighted the work of Drs. Nelson Walter-Rees, Gertrude Buehring, John Masters, Yvonne Reid, Roland Nardone and other in the work on the identification and prevention of cell contamination. The Society for In Vitro Biology (SIVB), along with the European Tissue Culture Society and the American Society for Cell Biology was recognized as endorsing a white paper suggesting "that journals and funding agencies such as the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) should mandate authentication of cell lines." The SIVB continues to serve as a forum to lead the discussion on setting industry standards and guidelines for world-wide compliance of cell line authentication.

*Sandra L. Schneider, Laboratory and Biosafety Materials Co-Chair
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The Keynote Address by NASA Astronaut, David Wolf, was well attended

Nominating

Through the joint efforts of the Nominating Committee, chaired by David Altman and including Linda B. Jacobsen, David Jayme, Wayne Parrott, Paul J. Price, and Nancy A. Reichert, a slate was developed and presented to the membership for election of officers to serve from 2008 to 2010. The results of the election are:

SIVB Officers and Committee Chairs:

- President Elect: William J. Smith
- Vice President: Dwight Tomes
- Secretary: John Finer
- Treasurer: Barbara B. Doonan
- Member-at-Large: Mark C. Jordan

- Member-at-Large: Elizabeth J. Roemer
- Publications Chair: Barbara Reed
- Public Policy Chair: Pam Weathers
- Awards Chair: Maud Hinchee
- Education Chair: Todd Murphy
- Constitutions and Bylaws Chair: Amy Wang

In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Section Officers:

- Chair: Dennis Laska
- Vice Chair-Membership: Cynthia Goodman
- Vice Chair-Meeting: Richard Heller
- Secretary: Guido Caputo

The new In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Bylaws were approved.

Plant Biotechnology Section Officers:

- Chair: Peggy Ozias-Akins
- Vice Chair: Valerie C. Pence
- Secretary/Treasurer: Michael J. Bosela
- The Plant Biotechnology Section Bylaws updates were approved.

*David Altman, Nominating Committee Chair
iprconsulting@comcast.net*

Publications

As I conclude my 4 year tenure as SIVB Publications Chair I would like to thank the Editors-in-Chiefs, both old (Wallace McKeehan, Gregory Phillips) and new (J. Denry Sato and Dwight Tomes) for their dedicated service while I was Chair. I also wish to express my gratitude to Michele Schultz on staff with New Beginnings Management for her extraordinary efforts for Publications during my tenure. My good friend Barbara Reed will be taking over this post and I wish her all the best going forward.

In Vitro-Plant

Several transitions have occurred during the 2007 calendar year for *In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology - Plant* (IV-P). Springer took over as publisher of the journal as of January 2007. Springer provides Editorial Manager as the online manuscript submission and evaluation system for the journal, and all submissions and assessments are now handled online. Springer and its staff have been very responsive and helpful in managing the new manuscript handling system as well as the publication of the journal both online and in print. In addition, changes occurred within the editorial staff. Greg Phillips announced his intention to step down as



Exhibitors play an important role in the Annual Meetings allowing attendees hands on experience with the tools of the trade

Editor-in-Chief after 8 years of service in that role effective 2008, but will continue to serve as an Associate Editor for the journal and serve on the SIVB Publications Committee. A search committee to identify the new Editor-in-Chief was formed and chaired by Mike Horn (Chair of the SIVB Publications Committee). A number of excellent applicants were interviewed by the committee and Dr. Dwight Tomes was selected as the incoming Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Phillips and Dr. Tomes will utilize the first half of 2008 to effect a smooth transition. Dr. Nigel Taylor also commenced duties as Editor-in-Chief for the IAPB side of the journal as of January 1st 2007.

During 2007, IV-P SIVB division received 225 manuscript submissions, up significantly from 170 submissions in 2006. This number included seven invited review articles and one SIVB Symposium Proceeding. IV-P IAPB division received 117 manuscript submissions, also up significantly. Manuscripts were submitted from 49 countries around the world. The rejection rate was over 69%, an increase from 60% in 2006. Due to the higher stringency of review, the average number of articles per SIVB issue declined to 14.25 for 2007, and the number of articles per IAPB issue was 12. Our goal is to maintain approximately 15 articles per issue.

The most recent journal impact rating for IV-P was 0.607 based on year 2006 data, similar to 0.660 for 2005 data, up from 0.386 for 2004 data.

The Editors-in-Chief for SIVB and IAPB have implemented modifications to their respective manuscript evaluation procedures in order to make them more consistent and more stringent across issues. The two editorial boards have been expanded significantly to better represent the international plant biotechnology community, and have adopted a single list of Matrix Categories for all issues. The two editorial boards are in the process of developing a common list of Reviewing Editors, and developing a set of specific criteria for each Matrix Category. These strategies aimed intended to improve the journal impact factor for IV-P and establish IV-P as the leading journal in this discipline.

In Vitro-Animal

(For the year 3/1/07 through 2/29/08)

The journal experienced a significant increase (53%) in total submissions of new manuscripts over the comparable period last year (115 compared to 75 in 2006-2007). The number of submitted manuscripts for the past year compared to the prior year were: 85 regular papers (58 in 2006-2007), 24 Reports (13 in 2006-2007), 4 Reviews (1 in 2006-2007), 2 opinion Letters-to-the-Editor (2 in 2006-2007), plus 0 book reviews (2 in 2006-2007). Of the 115 submissions, 51(68.9%) were accepted, 23 (31.1%) were rejected, 1 was withdrawn, and 23 were still in review or revision.

In addition to the USA, 24 countries were represented in the submissions received in 2006/2007. Average time from receipt to first decision in the review process was 7.9 weeks compared to 6.9 weeks overall last year. While online submission and review began in November 2002, we switched systems in November 2006 and are now working with Editorial Manager. Nearly all of the new submissions were received through the online system.

The *In Vitro – Animal* journal published 10 issues combined in 6 mailings. While the initial issues were published behind schedule, the 2007 volume ended on schedule for the year. The 2006 impact factor for IVA was 0.735, and the estimated impact factor for 2007 is 0.810.

The 53% year-over-year increase in the number of submissions is very encouraging and likely results from the marketing efforts of Springer, who became our publisher in January 2007. The trend of increased submissions is continuing in 2008. The annualized number of submissions for 2008 based on the first quarter of the year is 144, which would represent a 92% increase in two years. A significant proportion of submissions came from outside the US so there is an awareness of and a market for In Vitro beyond the US research community.

In Vitro – Animal continues to publish papers in traditional areas such as cell line derivation and toxicology, but we are also receiving increasing numbers of submissions in the areas of adult and embryonic stem cell biology, tissue engineering, cell signaling, and methods development for cell line characterization. It is also encouraging to see increases in submissions characterizing invertebrate and non-mammalian vertebrate cell lines.

In 2007 there were several changes to the roster of Associate Editors of *In Vitro – Animal*. Dr. Jane Bottenstein, who has been an Associate Editor for many years, has stepped down as a move towards retirement. I thank Jane for her service to the journal and wish her well. I would also like to welcome Dr. Cynthia Goodman, an expert in insect cell culture and a long time member of the SIVB, and Dr. Dianqing (Dan) Wu, an expert in cell signaling pathways, to the editorial board.

In Vitro Report

The *In Vitro Report* is an official on-line publication of the Society for In Vitro Biology. Michael Fay and Carol Stiff continue to volunteer as co-editors for the *In Vitro Report* and represent the Plant Biotechnology and In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Sections, respectively. The co-editors work closely with Michele Schultz on staff with New Beginnings Management to facilitate the process of gathering, writing, and editing articles for the *In Vitro Report*. Four issues of the *In Vitro Report* are published annually. The *In Vitro Report* serves as a newsletter to disseminate information to the SIVB membership. The content of the *In Vitro Report* includes: A report from the SIVB President; News from the Plant Biotechnology and In Vitro Animal Cell Sciences Sections; Journal Highlights selected by the editors of *In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Plant* and *In Vitro Cellular & Developmental Biology-Animal*; Research & Education News; Grants, Fellowships and other funding opportunities; Information concerning the annual meeting; Articles welcoming new members to the SIVB; and Articles highlighting Award winners at the Annual Meeting. There have been some issues with getting requested materials submitted in a timely manner and as a result some of the issues have been published after the official deadlines. The co-editors would like to get the SIVB membership more involved in contributing information and articles to the *In Vitro Report*. The *In Vitro Report* also has the potential to serve as a resource for mentoring student members of the SIVB by providing information about different career options in the sciences and by providing advice on issues related to professional development.

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Michele G. Schultz, Publications Manager
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Public Policy

The Public Policy Committee is a standing committee of the Society and is designed to aid its members and the general public to obtain a more informed understanding of in vitro biology and its research process and progress. The Committee is charged to aid the Board of the SIVB in their dealings with members of Congress and other governmental officials for the purpose of giving advice on funding priorities and other relevant matters. With the assistance of other associations the Public Policy Committee's goal is to actively educate its members about current issues affecting the scientific community and society as a whole. To assist the Society in this mission it is currently a member of the following associations that work with legislators to effect national and international scientific policy: AIBS, American Institute of Biological Sciences provides a variety of public policy services for their members and the biological community at large; CAST, Council for Agricultural Science and Technology assembles and communicates science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally on fiber, food, natural and agricultural resources and environmental issues to its members including legislators, media, regulators, policy makers, private sector, and the general public; AAAS, America Association for the Advancement of Science examines science-related questions of concern to world citizens and their governments including human rights and ecosystem protection, federal spending, ethics, and equity; IFER, International Foundation for Ethical Research is a non-profit group that is dedicated to finding non-animal alternatives for scientific research. David Songstad is the society's CAST representative.

This past year the SIVB Public Policy Committee joined COPUS which is the Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science. This group was organized to "link universities, scientific societies, science centers and museums, government agencies, advocacy groups, media, educators, businesses, and industry in a peer network having as its goal a greater public understanding of the nature of science and its value to society. A key objective of COPUS is to build bridges among its participants, creating new forums for communication and developing new partnerships for engaging the public with science." Some of the things they are doing include posting job ads for the television industry to find real scientists to "defy the 'geeky scientist' stereotype... to reinvent the way that people think about science and scientists! We're interested in hearing from scientists of all backgrounds and specialties who would easily be mistaken for artists, rappers, models, or musicians." COPUS is also sponsoring the Year of Science 2009 to celebrate how we know what we know. The website is: <http://www.copusproject.org/index.php>

Follow-up on the Cell Authentication Issue started by Roland Nardone at Catholic University: Several SIVB members have been involved with this initiative including Ian Freshney, Paul Price, Gertrude Buehring, Linda Jacobsen, Glen Stacey and June Bradlaw. Roland launched a "Cell Authentication Global Awareness" month (May) through a web site <http://cellid.cua.edu/>. The aim is to serve as a host for an activity (webcast, lecture, seminar, discussion session, or teach-in) to address the many issues on the subject to rally support to address misidentified cultures, sources of authenticated cell lines and services, history, ethical implications and cell banking. The emphasis is on proper education and cell culture practices.

Pamela Weathers, Public Policy Committee Chair
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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SIVB

American Type Culture Collection

The issues of misidentification and cross-contamination of cell lines still remain a major concern of the ATCC Cell Biology Program and of the larger scientific community. We remain vigilant in the monitoring of cell lines to ensure that they are well characterized, authenticated and consequently, will provide reliable, consistent and reproducible scientific data.

Many cell lines in the ATCC Cell Biology Collection are widely used as reference materials in life science research and development. To support their use, the ATCC Cell Biology Program continues to spread the word about the importance of authenticated cell lines along with the ATCC Standards Program. In addition, the Cell Biology Program promotes knowledge of authentication through publications, seminars, and participation in scientific meetings.

In addition, ATCC has taken the initiative to remove all "HeLa" contaminated cell lines from its webpage. Investigators who request these cell lines will be asked to sign off on a sales permit before buying the cell line. ATCC strongly advises against the use of these cell lines as models of the original tissues.

Yvonne A. Reid, ATCC Collection Scientist
yreid@atcc.org

International Association of Plant Biotechnology

Plans are underway for the 2010 12th International Association for Plant Biotechnology World Congress. Dr. Roger Beachy, President of the Donald Danforth Plant Research Center in St. Louis, MO, as the new President of the IAPB for 2006-2010, will spearhead this congress which will be held in St. Louis, Missouri at the America's Center from June 6-11, 2010. A memorandum of understanding between the two societies has been agreed upon. The University of Missouri-Columbia's conference office will be the meeting organizer who will lead discussions and contract negotiations with the America's Center for meeting space and preliminary hotel guest room allocation for all participants, both SIVB and IAPB.

Anyone in the US wishing to join the IAPB can do so through me. Just send me an e-mail to the address above and you will be sent the application with instructions. Dues are only \$45 per year for which you receive the above-mentioned two issues per year of *In Vitro - Plant* and a newsletter planned to be published quarterly.

In my opinion, it is important that American plant scientists reach out to our colleagues around the world. One way to do this is to join an international society such as the IAPB where friendships can be cultivated across the seas and across our political divisions. **I urge all SIVB plant members to seriously consider joining the IAPB!**

*The International Association for Plant Biotechnology (IAPB) was founded in 1963. The primary activities of the IAPB have been to organize international congresses of plant tissue culture and biotechnology every four years, and to publish a newsletter/journal for its membership. The IAPB is the oldest and the largest international professional organization to represent plant biotechnology. It has more than 2,500 members in over 80 countries. Each year, members receive two issues of the journal *In Vitro - Plant*.*

Michael E. Horn, IAPB US Correspondent
mhorn@targetedgrowth.com

Save the Date!



TREASURER'S SUMMARY REPORT

SOCIETY FOR IN VITRO BIOLOGY

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

ASSETS

	December 31, <u>2007</u>	December 31, <u>2006</u>
<u>Current Assets:</u>		
Cash	\$ 131,935	\$ 113,281
Accounts Receivable	56,358	53,408
Prepaid Expense	<u>26,591</u>	<u>16,640</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>214,884</u>	<u>183,329</u>
<u>Property and Equipment:</u>		
Furniture and Fixtures	161,657	161,657
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(161,657)</u>	<u>(161,657)</u>
Total Property and Equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Other Assets:</u>		
Investments	118,423	100,306
Inventory	-	34
Deposits	<u>1,303</u>	<u>1,303</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>119,726</u>	<u>101,643</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 334,610</u>	<u>\$ 284,972</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<u>Current Liabilities:</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 9,573	\$ 7,167
Deferred dues and subscription	<u>84,900</u>	<u>86,619</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>94,473</u>	<u>93,786</u>
<u>Long-Term Liabilities:</u>		
Deferred dues - net of current	<u>1,821</u>	<u>2,444</u>
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>1,821</u>	<u>2,444</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>96,294</u>	<u>96,230</u>
<u>Net Assets:</u>		
Unrestricted	(8,962)	(53,039)
Temporarily restricted	<u>247,278</u>	<u>241,781</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>238,316</u>	<u>188,742</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u>\$ 334,610</u>	<u>\$ 284,972</u>

TREASURER'S SUMMARY REPORT

SOCIETY FOR IN VITRO BIOLOGY

**STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	December 31, 2006 <u>Total</u>
<u>Revenue:</u>				
In Vitro-Animal	\$ 65,832	\$ -	\$ 65,832	\$ 185,570
In Vitro-Plant	61,777		61,777	36,573
Newsletter	9,008	-	9,008	10,760
Meetings	139,021	71,115	210,136	204,202
Administrative	83,663	-	83,663	93,050
Other income	623	-	623	658
	<u>359,924</u>	<u>71,115</u>	<u>431,039</u>	<u>530,813</u>
<u>Program services:</u>				
In Vitro-Animal	28,514	-	28,514	112,845
In Vitro-Plant	15,240	-	15,240	11,067
Newsletter	607	-	607	116
Annual meeting	57,206	65,618	122,824	86,959
	<u>101,567</u>	<u>65,618</u>	<u>167,185</u>	<u>210,987</u>
<u>Supporting services:</u>				
Administrative	214,642	-	214,642	218,109
	<u>316,209</u>	<u>65,618</u>	<u>381,827</u>	<u>429,096</u>
Change in net assets before unrealized gain/(loss) on investments	43,715	5,497	49,212	101,717
Unrealized gain/(loss) in fair value of investments	362	-	362	(972)
Change in Net Assets	44,077	5,497	49,574	100,745
Net assets, January 1	<u>(53,039)</u>	<u>241,781</u>	<u>188,742</u>	<u>87,997</u>
Net assets, December 31	<u>\$ (8,962)</u>	<u>\$ 247,278</u>	<u>\$ 238,316</u>	<u>\$ 188,742</u>