



**Canadian Society of Zoologists
Business Meeting of Comparative Morphology & Development Section
Wednesday, May 23 2007
McGill University - Montreal**

Rich Palmer, outgoing Chair of CMD, distributed an agenda for the meeting and extended a welcome to all attending the business meeting. He reported on five issues:

1) Membership

CMD now has over 125 members, which places the section as the 3rd largest of the 4 CSZ sections. We must continue to actively encourage our colleagues and students to become members of CSZ and to join the CMD section.

2) Fundraising:

The Chair reported that the CMD still has funds left-over from contributions to the Section from the University of Alberta and University of Calgary for last year's symposium in Edmonton. These funds will help fund future Symposia.

The Chair congratulated and thanked Tamara Franz-Odenaal for procuring a contribution (\$500) from the journal, *Developmental Dynamics*, to help fund the student-organized satellite symposium at the McGill meeting.

The Chair reminded us that proceeds from the Silent Auction will go to CMD for the first three years after its inauguration. We therefore received proceeds from the 2006 Edmonton meeting, which was highly successful, and will also receive proceeds from the 2007 McGill meeting. The Chair urged us to bring lots of items for the silent auction at the 2008 meeting in Mount St. Vincent, as this will be the last of the 3 auctions targeted to CMD during its initial existence. After 2008, Silent Auction proceeds will cycle between the four divisions of CSZ, so the CMD section will not receive funds from the Silent Auction until 2012. An email reminder will be sent to section members as the 2008 CSZ meeting approaches.

3) Satellite Symposia

The McGill meeting included three symposia organized by CMD members:

Plenary Symposium: Appendages and Body Plans: Development, Morphology and Evolution (organized by Richard Palmer, University of Alberta)

Satellite Symposium #2: Craniofacial Development and Evolution (organized by graduate student Kyle Martin, University of Ottawa)

Satellite Symposium #3: Developmental Biology and Evolutionary Transformations (organized by Hans Larsson, McGill)

The organization of these symposia went well and attendance was very good.

The Chair asked attendees at the meeting if CMD ought to continue hosting 2 satellite symposia at each annual meeting of CSZ. There was enthusiastic agreement that this should continue.

Finally, the Chair encouraged all student members to submit a proposal for the 2008 CSZ meeting at Mount St. Vincent. Information about how to submit a proposal can be accessed by a link to the CMD website contained within the CSZ website. CMD will pay travel, accommodation, and registration costs up to \$1500 for one distinguished speaker at the student-organized symposium, as well as registration fees for the graduate student speakers.

4) Nominations for the Section and Society Awards

The Chair reported that one of the three committee members of the Cameron Award Committee has finished his term and that CMD should have representation on this committee. The Cameron Award Committee reviews applications for the best PhD dissertation by a CSZ student member. Robert Shadwick (UBC) graciously agreed to represent CMD on this committee for a three year term.

It was noted that the registration form for the McGill meeting failed to ask student registrants if they wished to be considered for the various awards, including the CMD's Hall Award. Thus, the number of applicants for these awards was lower than it should have been. CSZ Council is aware of this oversight and will ensure that it doesn't happen in future.

5) Other Business

Rich Palmer indicated to the attendees at the meeting that he will become Past Chair of CMD for 2007-08, Louise Page will be Chair, and Hans Larsson will be Vice Chair. This succession of positions was agreed to at the 2006 meeting in Edmonton.

Sally Leys thanked Richard Palmer for his strenuous and extremely effective efforts to successfully launch the CMD section. The attendees underlined this gratitude with an enthusiastic round of applause.