

CSB/SJU Biology Department Newsletter

Volume 1 Number 4

May 14, 1998

1. Message from the Chair (Dr. SG Saupe).

Do you like to eat seafood? If so, before you chow down on a swordfish steak, you may want to check out the most recent issue of Audubon (May-June 1998). It describes the environmental costs of common culinary fishes. An interesting tidbit I learned is that many of nations top chefs have removed swordfish from their menus because populations of this species are in serious decline. So...think twice before you grill fish this summer.

Also, Peter Benchley, (Mr. Jaws) had a good article about sharks in the same issue. As an interesting trivia factoid, he reports that the *International Shark Attack File* estimates that for every human being killed by a shark, 10 million sharks are killed in return. That'll learn 'em.

You've probably noticed that the Biology Department is getting serious about packing. As you likely know, the current Science Center will be renovated this summer. There will be lots of changes including moving the herbarium to SC326, installing men's and women's restrooms on 3rd floor, and creating a shared research space for faculty and students in the area now occupied by the small series of research rooms (across from Dr. Jensen's office). The last change is most exciting because it supports a collaborative model for research in the sciences. We apologize for any inconveniences that you experience as we pack up. But, in order for the renovations to be completed by the start of the fall semester, the contractors plan to start work the *day after Memorial Day*. Thus, we need to get moving.

Well, I'd better get back to packing. Have a great weekend and I hope that you get lots of studying done for your finals. See ya next week.

2. Achievements.

No submissions this issue. Please send me information to include in future issues (i.e, have you been accepted to Medical, PT or graduate school, etc.; job after graduation; summer job or internship?).

3. Faculty News.

Dr. William Lamberts has been hired to fill the biology department's tenure-track position in Aquatic Ecology. Bill will be teaching Aquatic Ecology, Plant Kingdom, and introductory biology.

Dr. Michael Reagan has been hired to fill the tenure-track position in Molecular Biology. In addition to introductory biology courses, Mike will be teaching Molecular Biology.

4. Curriculum News.

No submissions.

5. Biology Club News.

The first "Ultimate Concept" Biology Club Frisbee game with faculty and students will take place at 4:00ish PM on Friday the 15th at the "Seminary Softball Field" south of Emmaus Hall next to lake Sag. If it's pouring rain, we'll cross that bridge if we come to it.

6. Calendar of Events.

May 14 Environmental Studies Presentations; Engel 330; 7-1000 p.m.
May 23 Reception for 1998 Graduates in the Natural Sciences (4-5:30 p.m., following the CSB Commencement; in Ardolf Science Center).
Oct 6 Virology – Nobel Conference, Gustavus Adolphus College

7. Internships/Scholarships/Jobs.

NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES - The Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) is a conservation-based AmeriCorps program within the MN Department of Natural Resources. MCC is currently soliciting applications for full-time, one-year positions throughout Minnesota (see below, asterisk* indicates site with free housing available) beginning in late August. If you are 18-25 years old, a Minnesota resident, interested in natural resources, and a team player, please contact one of the staff listed below for application information. MCC participants receive a living allowance of \$824/month, health insurance, child care reimbursement, student loan deferment, paid training, and a post-service education award of \$4,725 that may be used for college expenses or to repay qualified student loans. Many sites may also have openings for crew supervisors, have no age limit, offer similar benefits, and include a stipend of \$1,291/month. For more information and an application, visit our website @ www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/mcc. Otherwise, call or write: Miles Wiegand, DNR/MCC, 1601 Minnesota Drive, Brainerd, Minnesota 56401, (218) 372-3183.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY IN MONTANA - The botany program of the Fortine Ranger District of the Kootenai National Forest in northwest Montana, U.S.A., is conducting an outreach for selection of a college/university student interested in assisting as a trainee with forest community classification in northwest Montana. Theoretical or preferably applied knowledge of hysociology, coniferous forest vegetation and its ecology, bryology, lichenology and vascular plant identification skills. Send curriculum vitae and at least two references by 15 May 1998 to: Toby Spribille, tspribile/r1_kootenai@fs.fed.us; ph. 1 + 406.758.5304; fax 1 + 406.882.4835 Kootenai National Forest, Fortine Ranger District, P.O. Box 116, Fortine, MT 59918 U.S.A.

Horticulture Education Intern – Como Zoo and Conservatory - Student will gain formal and informal teaching experience in both non-traditional and classroom settings, assist in developing curriculum in the natural sciences, particularly horticulture and will oversee youth in planting and maintenance of gardens. Applicants must be interested in teaching K-6 and adults and be pursuing a bachelor's degree in horticulture, plant biology, botany, or a related field. A minimum of 10 hours per week and three month duration; \$6.50 per hour. For more information or to apply contact: Lori Klinker, Education Programmer-Horticulture (612-487-8276) or Career Resource Centers at CSB and SJU.

Domestic Fisheries Observers - Alaskan Observers, Inc is certified by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to provide observers for domestic fisheries. Persons hired attend training in either Seattle, WA or Anchorage, AK. Following training, observers spend three to four months in the field gathering management data for the Government, living and working aboard U.S. flagged commercial fishing vessels operating

in the Bering Sea, North Pacific, and Gulf of Alaska. Compensation is \$2,700.00 - \$4,050.00 per month depending on experience, plus room, board and travel to and from job site. A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in fisheries biology, marine biology, general biology, zoology or a related natural science is required. For information and Application contact: David Edick, Alaskan Observers, Inc., 130 Nicherson, Suite 206, Seattle WA 98109. Via phone and e-mail: 1-800-483-7310, aostaff@alaskanobservers.com. No closing date for applications, positions are offered year round.

Administrative Asst. to DR. FRED HERMANSON, COSMETIC & PREVENTATIVE, RESTORATIVE DENTAL PRACTICE - 40 hours per week/ \$9.00 per hour Summer. Hands-on participation in administrative and clinical areas of dentistry. Pre-dental background preferred. Candidate needs excellent computer and communication skills. Send cover letter and resume or telephone: Tonia Helgeson, Office Manager, Dr. Fred Hermanson, Cosmetic Dentistry, 7300 West 147th Street suite 302, Apple Valley, MN 55124 Phone: (612) 432-9155 Fax: (320) 431-3155 **Deadline May 22nd.**

8. Seminars/Lectures/Symposia.

Environmental Studies Practicum Presentations – Thursday, May 14, Engel 330

Kelly Davis: *Bureaucrats, chickens, and the cell from hell*

John Deutsch: *Asbestos removal: procedures and challenges*

Eric Kraus: *Fisheries management in MN*

Heather Laflin: *Agroecology: competition between soybeans and ragweed*

David Radabaugh: *Biological control of the European Corn Borer using parasitic wasps*

Matt Strobl: *Development of sustainable communities*

Janelle Ziwiscky: *Composting strategies for sustainable development.*

Virology is the theme of Nobel Conference XXXIV that will be held at Gustavus Adolphus College, October 6 & 7, 1998. Mark your calendars.

Shellie Kieke, CSB '95, visited the department last week and presented a great seminar on new immunotherapy strategies that she is studying for her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois – Champaign (*PS – the greatest graduate school in the universe*). She just published a paper about this work ["Isolation of anti-T cell receptor scFv mutants by yeast surface display". Protein Engineering 10: 1303-1310 (1997)].

9. Miscellaneous.

Check out the abstracts of the papers of the senior honors students at http://www.users.csbsju.edu/~mcook/1998_abstracts.html

Don't forget about the Biology Department's Career Information website. You can access it from the department's homepage (<http://www.users.ccbsju.edu/~biology>).

Stolen Computer Equipment – apparently someone rather familiar with our computing facilities broke into one of the computer sciences labs and stole UNIX workstations and other equipment. Be on the lookout for the thieves.

10. Frequently Asked Questions.

How do I get a job in the Biology Department? *The department hires many students during the year. With rare exception, you will need a work-study award. You can apply for this from the Student Employment Offices. Positions will be posted through the Student Employment Offices. Ms. Carol Jansky coordinates the hiring of all student workers in the department. Unfortunately, we are through hiring for next year, but keep checking because positions may become available. And, start looking for a position in early February.*

For more information contact:

*Dr. Stephen G. Saupe
Chair & Professor
Biology Department
College of St. Benedict/St. John's University
Collegeville, MN 56321
(320) 363-2782; (320) 363-3202 (fax); ssaupe@csbsju.edu)*