
BIOLOGUE

Volume 2-05

Department of Biological Sciences, Wright State University

Spring Quarter, 2005

The *BioLogue* is a quarterly student newsletter that contains important dates and information for students in the Department of Biological Sciences. It is available online at <http://www.wright.edu/biology>



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Need advising?? Please contact the following people:

Degrees in Biological Sciences

Jacqui Neal, 219 BH 775-2859
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Laura L. Buerschen 217 BH 775-2427
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Degrees in Environmental Health

Hunting Brown 064 BL 775-2201
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Degrees in Clinical Laboratory Science

Bev Schieltz, 259 BH 775-2712
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A Note from the Chair.....

Looking ahead to summer? One of the pleasures of summer is to catch up on all that reading you didn't have time for during the school year. Here are a few suggestions for summer reading on biological themes, chosen to cover a broad range of styles and areas of biology (and simply because I enjoyed them myself). Read one a week and get through the whole list with time left over for the latest from Stephen King!

Sand County Almanac (Outdoor Essays and Reflections) by Aldo Leopold. A classic collection by the father of the "land ethic." Leopold recounts some of the personal encounters that shaped his thinking.

Silent Spring by Rachel Carson. Still a must read, this is the 1962 book that launched the environmental movement, documenting in eloquent prose the effects of pesticides and other pollutants on the environment.

The Monkey Wrench Gang by Edward Abbey. A rollicking ride with the original ecoterrorists (and the archival document for the group Earth First!). If you want more serious writing, try Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*.

Collapse by Jared Diamond. Ever wonder what happened to the people who built the giant statues on Easter Island, or to the inhabitants of the Mesa Verde cliff dwellings? Diamond argues that through history a number of societies have collapsed from over-exploitation of ecological resources—and that we should pay attention to that message today. (I have to admit that I haven't read this one yet; but it's on my own summer reading list.)

Encounters with the Archdruid by John McPhee. Narratives with David Brower, environmental activist and founder of Friends of the Earth, and his encounters with adversaries, including a miner, a developer, and a Secretary of the Interior.

The Selfish Gene by Richard Dawkins. A compelling presentation of ideas in evolutionary biology.

The Man who Mistook his Wife for a Hat, and also *An Anthropologist on Mars*, both by Oliver Sacks. Essays on the amazing capabilities and variants of the human mind, told from a most humane perspective by Sacks (who you might know as the character portrayed by Robin Williams in the film *Awakenings*, based on another of Sacks' books).

Complications by Atul Gawande. Thinking of becoming a doctor? Here a surgeon considers issues in surgery and medicine in a serious but engaging way. Who should decide between treatment options, doctor or patient? Why do doctors make mistakes? What are the roles of science and intuition in medicine?

Genome by Matt Ridley. In 23 chapters, Ridley uses products of each chromosome as a basis for discussing all sorts of issues in human biology at levels ranging from molecular to whole person. Excellent writing.

Spring Quarter Calendar of Events

Mar 28	Spring quarter classes begin
Apr 1	Partners in Conservation Seminar (1:30 pm)
Apr 3	Last day: to register or add classes
Apr 15	Last day for ALL students to drop a class without a grade
May 13	Last day for ALL students to drop a class with a grade of "W".
Mar 25	Last day to apply for August 2005 graduation
May 30	Memorial Day – University CLOSED
Jun 4	Last day of spring quarter classes
Jun 6-11	Final Exams
Jun 11	Graduation
Jun 13	Summer quarter begins

FUTURE DATES:

A-term Summer quarter	Jun 13 – Jul 14, 2005
B-term Summer quarter	Jul 18 – Aug 18, 2005
C-term Summer quarter	Jun 13 – Aug 18, 2005
Fall Quarter, 2005	Sept 6 – Nov. 19 2005

Department Logo Needed.....

Are you creative? The Biology Department is looking for suggestions for a new logo. If you have some great ideas (either in your head or on paper) please bring them by the office (235A BH) and share them with the staff. *FYI: We love frogs!*



Congratulations Kristin Watts!

Kristin Watts, a Bio Sci major who works for Environmental Health & Safety, has been named this year's *Student Employee of the Year!*

Scholarships available:

Miami Soil and Water Conservation District is offering two \$750 scholarship awards to Miami County, OH residents who are majoring in Agriculture or Natural Resources. Contact Jacqui Neal if you are interested in applying. Hurry! Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2005.

Department News

The Exercise Biology Laboratory has just acquired the BOD POD. With this new equipment we will be able to measure body composition (percent fat and muscle mass). Your percent fat and muscle mass reflect the results of physical activity and diet. Increases in percent body fat increase your risk for cancer, diabetes, and heart disease. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has now declared obesity an epidemic, with 61% of adult Americans either overweight or obese (having excess body fat).



The BOD POD is based upon the same principle as hydrostatic weighing (dunk tank), is just as accurate, and you don't have to get wet! It is fast, too. Each test takes about 5 minutes. Children, elderly, wheelchair athletes, and Sumo wrestlers are all easily accommodated with this new technology.

Only by measuring body composition accurately will you learn the amount of fat and lean tissue that makes up your weight, enabling sensible decisions regarding nutrition and exercise programs. It's the best way to get the "whole picture" of what's really going on in your body.

Stop by the lab and visit. It is our goal to offer body composition evaluations to students, staff, and community for a very reasonable cost very soon. As C. Everett Koop (Former Surgeon General) will tell you, "Body fat percentage will become a new standard for health in adults."

Biology Shirts for sale:

The Biology Club is selling long-sleeve T-shirts to raise money for the club. A sample shirt is on display across from 217 BH. If you are interested in purchasing one, please drop off your order form and money to Jacqui in room 219 BH. Prices are \$12 per shirt (sizes over XL are an additional \$1 per size). *Support the Biology Club.....buy a shirt!*

Faculty Spotlight

Roberta L. Pohlman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Ph.D., 1982, The Ohio State University

Research Interests

As an Exercise Physiologist, I am interested in the human adaptability to acute and chronic exercise across the lifespan, identification of physiological mechanisms underlying physical activity, the comprehensive delivery of treatment services concerned with the analysis, improvement, and maintenance of health and fitness, rehabilitation of heart disease and other chronic diseases and/or disabilities, and the professional guidance and counsel of undergraduate and graduate professionals.



Featured Alumni



Vicki Reed received her B.S. in Biology at Wright State University in 1992. While at WSU, Vicki worked as a laboratory research assistant, including a summer as a Pew Fellow at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory in Maine. Vicki continued at Wright State for medical school, then went on to residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Bethesda Hospital in Cincinnati, where she was named Resident of the Year. Vicki left Ohio for several years to pursue private practice in Silver Spring, MD. Recently, though, she returned to the state to join the staff of the Cleveland Clinic.

Upcoming Seminar

Partners in Conservation

April 1st at 1:30 pm; room

Charlene Jendry and Debbie Elder, from Partners in Conservation, have been invited to speak at WSU. Charlene is a co-founder of this organization, which is supported by the Columbus Zoo and works in Rwanda to support conservation of the mountain gorillas by working with local Rwandans. PIC does both conservation and humanitarian work in the country. Both speakers were keepers in the Great Ape/African Forest section of the Columbus Zoo for many years. The Biology Department will be co-sponsoring this event with Anthropology. All students are welcome to attend!

Check out other seminars sponsored by our Department on our website:

www.wright.edu/biology

Biology Students Give Back to the Community....

During Winter quarter, we had a lot of students volunteer to help with community service. The Department thanks you for your dedication and hard work! Your representation of our Department, as well as our University, is appreciated.

COSI on Wheels, St. Luke Schools
Trisha Bachelder
Jaffe Daus
Sarah Ramsey
Brooke DeWeese
Carrie Thompson
Stefanie Ward

Brookville Science Fair
Brittany Boyd

Mary Help Science Fair
Dawn Sanders

Centerville Science Fair
Jaffe Daus

Tech Fest, Sinclair College
Mike Hess
Matt Dean
Stephanie Neuroth
Stephanie Enright
Jonathan Stamper
Brandon Witters
Annie Slonaker



SUMMER QUARTER – Sneak Peeks

Schedule for BIO 492:

Section B01: Dr. Krane: Forensic DNA typing

Section C01: Dr. Runkle: Organisms & Habitats

Schedule for BIO 800:

Section B01: Dr. Krane: Forensic DNA Typing

Section C01: Dr. Hull: Cell-Cell interactions

Quote for the Quarter:

"The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing."

---Stephen Covey

Winter 2005 Graduates

Undergraduate Students

Rachel Baum

Elizabeth Gumbert

Heidi McMinn

Jennifer Sofia

Gretchen Baumle

Sياما Khan

Amal Oudeh

Barbara Springer

Jessica Brown

Heather Kaiser

Amy Peterson

Shelley Thompson

Jackie Coleman

Jeanne Mbagwu

Beth Rohler

Kristin Watts

Ameeya Gipson

Melissa McClure

Courtney Smith

Catherine Wilt

Graduate Students

Shannon Hunt Romer

Rahul Kapoor

Sara Weber



USABRIO Exchange

BIO 401 (4 cr), Summer '05

*Translational Physiology: From
Benchtop to Bedside (U.S.-Brazil
Scientific Exchange)*

July 23-August 6

This will include lectures from basic and clinical scientists, visits to clinics and laboratories and meetings with local students. The location is the University of Sao Paulo in Ribeirao Preto, a beautiful, rural campus about four hours from Sao Paulo. AIRFARE AND HOUSING PAID! Application is required.

To apply go to

www.med.wright.edu/usabrio/

Join the Biology Club!

Are you looking to meet new friends? Or take part in extracurricular activities? Maybe even volunteering for community service? If so, the Biology Club is a great way to achieve all of those goals. The Biology Club is an opportunity for students to become members of an organization that will foster an enhanced interest in science through informational seminars, fund raisers, faculty-student relationships and various social activities. Membership is easy! All you have to do is fill out an application form and pay your membership dues (\$5/quarter). During Spring quarter, we will be hosting a number of meetings, presentations, social activities and more! *Come join us at our next meeting.....*

Biology Club Meeting

Spring quarter Meet -n- Greet

Wednesday, April 13th

4:30 - 6:00 pm

204 BH

.....we will be reviewing the Spring quarter agenda, meeting new members (as well as existing members), and posting sign-up sheets for next years officers. Don't miss out.....food and drinks will be provided!

INTRAMURAL SPORTS: If you would like to be part of a Biology Club intramural team for spring quarter, the sign-up sheets are posted outside room 219 BH. Intramural sports for spring include Softball, Soccer, Sand Volleyball and Tennis. Details are posted on the sign up sheet. Teams must be submitted by Friday, April 1st so make sure you are signed up by Friday morning!