LIFE SCIENCE NEWS
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March 24, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearty congratulations to all the UAF students who swept the student paper awards at the 13th Alaska Bird Conference (3-7 March 2008):

Best Student Paper Awards
First place - Steffen Oppel
Second place - Travis Booms
Third place - River Gates

Best Student Poster Awards
First place - Steffen Oppel
Second place - Brian Guzzetti
Third place - Caroline Van Hemert

3rd annual Pre-Med Summit
Saturday, March 29, 2008
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Butrovich Bldg. #109, UAF - Fairbanks
(Videoconference)
Rasmuson Hall, UAA - Anchorage
Egan Bldg. #115, UAS - Juneau (Videoconference)

For High School Students, Counselors, & Parents
Undergraduate Students, College Advisors & Non-traditional Students

Hear pre-medical undergraduates, current medical students, medical school graduates in residency training, and practicing physicians describe their experiences. Learn how to apply to US medical schools, including WWAMI – Alaska’s Medical School. Participate in a mock medical school interview.

Keynote Speaker: Jay Butler, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Special Guest: Steven Barkley, Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) Division, AAMC

Register by Friday, March 21, 2008 to ensure a mock interview opportunity.
Registration form available at: http://biomed.uaa.alaska.edu/pre_med_summit.html

Presented by WWAMI – Alaska’s Medical School

MONDAY, MARCH 24
10:00 a.m. - 401 IARC
Ecology & Ecosystem M.S. Thesis Defense
“Structure and Dynamics of Black Oystercatchers on an Isolated Island”
Brian M. Guzzetti, B&W Graduate Student
Information: ftbmg@uaf.edu

1:00 p.m. - Elvey Globe Room
Wildlife Graduate M.S. Thesis Defense
“Effect of Military Overflights on Habitat Use and Selection by Female Dall’s Sheep, Yukon-Tanana Uplands, Alaska”
Brad Wendling, B&W Graduate Student
Information: ftbwr@uaf.edu

2:00 p.m. - Elvey Auditorium - 214 Elvey Building
Natural Resource Management M.S. Thesis Defense
“The Impacts of Invasive Sweetclover in Early-Successional Floodplain Habitats of Alaska”
Blaine Spellman, SNRAS Graduate Student
Information: fsbts5@uaf.edu

LIFE SCIENCES SEMINAR
“IPY’s Real Legacy: The Circumpolar Arctic as One Protected Park?”
Falk Huettrmann
Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks
3:30 p.m., Friday, March 28, 2008
Elvey Auditorium, 214 Elvey Building
**TUESDAY, MARCH 25**

1:00 p.m. - 401 IARC  
Genetics & Evolutionary Biology M.S. Thesis Defense  
“Geographic Distribution of Genetic Variation in Ten Species of North American Forest Birds: Island Endemism and Transcontinental Ranges”  
**Carrie M. Topp**, B&W Graduate Student  
Information: [fscmm@uaf.edu](mailto:fscmm@uaf.edu)

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**NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The North Pacific Research Board welcomes applications for 5 Graduate Student Research Awards of $20,000 each. **Deadline to apply is April 1, 2008.** See [www.nprb.org](http://www.nprb.org) for application forms and details.

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**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26**

8:30 a.m. - 109 Butrovich Building (Regents’ Conference Room)  
Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Annual Research Review  
Talks and posters by Unit students and researchers.  
See [http://www.akcfwru.uaf.edu](http://www.akcfwru.uaf.edu) for agenda.  
Contact: [fnkrp@uaf.edu](mailto:fnkrp@uaf.edu)

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**THURSDAY, MARCH 27**

8:30 a.m. - 201 Irving 1  
Ecology & Ecosystem Graduate Thesis Defense  
“The Impact of Fire Severity on the Community Composition and Species Traits of Black Spruce Forests in Interior Alaska”  
**Emily Bernhardt**  
Information: [fselb7@uaf.edu](mailto:fselb7@uaf.edu)

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**FRIDAY, MARCH 28**

1:00 p.m. - 138 Irving II  
Physiology Seminar  
“D-serine/L-glutamate Neurotransmitters and their Significance in Relation to Ischemia”  
**Daniel Kirschner**  
Contact: Barbara Taylor, [ffbet@uaf.edu](mailto:ffbet@uaf.edu)

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**$$ GRANTS AND AWARDS $$**

**Abby Powell**  
Ecology of Smith's Longspurs in Northern Alaska  
$11,750  
CESU National Park Service