



LIFE SCIENCE NEWS

Published by the Institute of Arctic Biology in cooperation with the Department of Biology & Wildlife, College of Natural Science and Mathematics.

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 Huettmann

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: fscmn@uaf.edu

7:00 p.m. - Gold Room Fairbanks, Westmark Hotel

International Polar Year (IPY) Public Presentation
“Mutiny, Murder and Cannibalism: the Tragic Tale of
A.W. Greely, the Man Who Connected Nome to the
Outside World”

Terrence Cole, Director, Office of Public History, UAF

Information: www.ipy.alaska.edu

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> for agenda.

Contact: fnkrp@uaf.edu

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

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

Brad Griffith

Wetland Systems RWO 161

\$17,531

USGS

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 for application forms and details.

TRAVEL

→ **Todd Brinkman**, 2/28-5/27, Klawock, AK, fieldwork

→ **Dave Gustine**, 3/26-4/23, Tok, Nome, and Kotzebue, AK, collect samples

Quote of the week:

“Life consists not in holding good cards but in playing those you hold well.”

- Josh Billings

\$\$ GRANTS AND AWARDS \$\$

Abby Powell

Ecology of Smith's Longspurs in Northern Alaska

\$11,750

CESU National Park Service