



LIFE SCIENCE NEWS

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

September 8, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with great sadness that we share with you the news that Leslie Viereck passed away this past Sunday. Les was an extraordinary botanist and ecologist whose contributions to our understanding of Alaskan ecosystems are unsurpassed.

There will be a memorial service for Les at the Georgeson Botanical Garden on Saturday, September 6, at 3 pm.

Les' commitment to science extended far outside of classrooms and journals; he believed passionately that scientists had the obligation to ensure that their data was used and interpreted correctly when used to make societal decisions.

Climbers will recognize him as one of the members of the team that first successfully climbed the South Buttress of Denali in 1954, an event remembered as much for the loss of one team member and an extraordinary rescue of another. Les was passionate about this commitment to the protection of natural areas.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. - 201 Irving I
IAB and B&W Faculty meeting

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. - IAB Library, 311 Irving I
Hazardous Waste Training

This class is required for all people that work in a laboratory environment and have not previously had this training, or anyone that might have specific concerns about disposal of waste materials in their lab. Please RSVP to [Jami Warrick](mailto:jami.warrick@alaska.edu) (x5455) if you plan to attend.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00 a.m. - 417 Akasofu Building (IARC)

Department of Biology and Wildlife Thesis Defense

“Gene by environment interactions between three candidate genes for obesity and omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids”

Renee Pasker, M.S. Candidate

Information: renee.pasker@gmail.com

6:00 p.m. - Irving I second floor sheltered entrance and lawn

Annual IAB and B&W Welcome BBQ for new faculty and graduate students.

All IAB/B&W faculty, post-docs, staff, and students are invited. Bring your favorite potluck dish, your family, your dog, your frisbee and football. Let's have FUN! Meat, veggie burgers, and condiments will be provided by IAB and B&W.

NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Alaska Humanities Forum announces October 1 General Grant Deadline - The Alaska Humanities Forum is currently accepting grant proposals for projects that enrich the civic, intellectual and cultural life of all Alaskans. **General Grant Program proposals are accepted just one time per year and must be submitted by October 1st.**

Nonprofit organizations or institutions, individual scholars, or ad-hoc groups may apply for grants to fund proposals that promote the humanities in Alaska. The humanities are the study of human values, traditions, ideals, thoughts and actions.

The Forum's grant program makes a variety of projects possible, including publications, films and other media, lectures, exhibits, public meetings, oral history, and

LIFE SCIENCES SEMINAR

Friday, September 12, 2008

3:30 p.m. - Elvey Auditorium, 214 Elvey Building

“Genetics of Common Diseases: Ethics and Policy”

Wylie Burke

Department of Medical History & Ethics, University of Washington

humanities based research. The Forum awards approximately \$120,000 in grants annually. The majority of grant awards range from \$1,000 to \$10,000, with the average award of just over \$5,000.

The online deadline for acceptance of proposals is **October 1 at 10:00 p.m.** For more information, including grant guidelines, instructions, and online application visit the Forum's web site at www.akhf.org or contact the Forum's grants office at 272-5373.

The **University of Alaska Coastal Marine Institute (CMI)**, established by a cooperative agreement among the University of Alaska, the State of Alaska and the Minerals Management Service is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for Federal Fiscal Year 2009. The purpose of CMI is to provide matching MMS funding for research in Alaska on coastal, marine and human environmental issues pertaining to offshore mineral exploration and extraction. Up to \$750,000 per year is available. Regions of interest include the Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, or North Aleutian Basin as well as laboratory and other studies informing MMS management of Alaska's offshore oil and gas efforts. **Deadline for initial proposals is October 13, 2009.** Please visit the CMI website for more information <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/cmi/admin/2009/>

ANGUS GAVIN MIGRATORY BIRD RESEARCH GRANT - Proposal Deadline: November 17, 2008

The UA Foundation is pleased to announce the availability of the Angus Gavin Memorial Bird Research Grant for the 2009 field season (\$14,000 maximum award). Proposals for the grant will be accepted from scientists within the University system, which includes graduate students and faculty members. <http://www.alaska.edu/foundation/grantsandawards>

More information in the IAB Director's Office.

NEW GRANTS

Rebecca Young and Alexandra Kitaysky
\$20,000

North Pacific Research Board

"Development of Molecular Techniques for Monitoring Demographic Structure of Bering Sea Seabirds"

PUBLICATIONS

2507. Woshner, V., **K. Knott**, R. Wells, C. Willetto, **R. Swor**, and **T. O'Hara**. 2008. Mercury and Selenium in

Blood and Epidermis of Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) for Sarasota Bay, FL: Interaction and Relevance to Life History and Hematologic Parameters. *EcoHealth*: 1-11.

2508. Cairns, D.K., A.J. Gaston, and **F. Huettmann**. 2008. Endothermy, ectothermy and the global structure of marine vertebrate communities. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 356: 239-50.

2509. Knapp, Alan K., J.M. Briggs, S.C. Collins, S.R. Archers, **M.S. Bret-Harte**, B.E. Ewers, D.P. Peters, D.R. Young, G.R. Shaver, E. Pendall, and M.B. Cleary. 2008. Shrub Encroachment in North American Grasslands: Shifts in Growth Form Dominance Rapidly Alters Control of Ecosystem Carbon Inputs. *Global Change Biology* 14: 615-23.

2510. **Huettmann, F.** 2007. Marine Conservation and Sustainability of the Sea of Okhotsk in the Russian Far East: An Overview of Cumulative Impacts, Compiled Public Data, a Proposal for a UNESCO World Heritage Site. *Ocean Year Book* 22. M. Nijhoff, 353-74.

2511. **Huettmann, F.** 2007. The digital teaching legacy of the International Polar Year (IPY): Details of a present to the global village for achieving sustainability. *Proceedings 18th International Workshop on Database and Expert Systems Applications (DEXA)*. M. Tjoa, and R. R. Wagner, 673-77.

2512. **Huettmann, F.** 2007. Constraints, suggested solutions and an outlook towards a new digital culture for the oceans and beyond: Experiences from five predictive GIS models that contribute to global management, conservation and study of marine wildlife and habitat. *Proceedings of 'Ocean Biodiversity Informatics': An International Conference on Marine Biodiversity Data Management*. E. Vanden Berghe, 49-61. Vol. 202.

2513. Burek, K.A., F.M.D. Gulland, and **T.M. O'Hara**. 2008. Effects of climate change on arctic marine mammal health. *Ecological Applications* 18, no. 2: S126-S134.

2514. Metcalf, V. and **M. Robards**. 2008. Sustaining a healthy human-walrus relationship in a dynamic environment: Challenges for comanagement. *Ecological Applications* 18, no. 2: S148-S156.

2515. Dugan, V.G., R. Chen, D.J. Spiro, N. Sengamalay, J. Zaborsky, E. Ghedin, J. Nolting, D.E. Swayne, **J.A. Runstadler**, **G.M. Happ**, D. Senne8, R. Wang, R.D. Slemons, E.C. Holmes, and J.K. Taubenberger1. 2008. The Evolutionary Genetics and Emergence of Avian Influenza Viruses in Wild Birds. *PLoS Pathogens* 4, no. 5: 1-9.

2516. Wang, R., L. Soll, V. Dugan, **J.A. Runstadler, G.M. Happ**, R.D. Slemons, and J.K. Taubenberger. 2008. Examining the hemagglutinin subtype diversity among wild duck-origin influenza A viruses using ethanol-fixed cloacal swabs and a novel RT-PCR method. *Virology* 375: 182-89.

TRAVEL

- **Claire Alix**, 9/3-8, FAI-Caribou Crossing RNA, field work
- **Donie Bret-Harte**, 9/10-13, Vancouver, BC, attend Monitoring Arctic Biodiversity workshop
- **József Geml**, 8/10-9/20, Moscow, Yamal Peninsula, Russia, Yamal field work
- **Jason Garron**, 7/1/08-4/30/09, Bonanza Creek, site visit
- **Jeremy Jones**, 6/1-9/15, various field sites in Alaska for research
- **Glenn Juday**, 9/3-8, FAI-Caribou Crossing RNA, field work
- **Meagan Krupa**, 9/10-13, Anchorage, AK, attend XVI Society for Human Ecology Conference
- **Trixie Lee**, 9/1-11, Turin, Italy, International Marmot Conference
- **Dave McGuire**, 9/4-6, FAI-Tok, field work
- **Sarah Renteria**, 6/1-9/15, various field sites in Alaska for research
- **Amanda Rinehart**, 6/1-9/15, various field sites in Alaska for research
- **Jun Yan**, 9/4-29, traveling from Shanghai, China to Fairbanks, Alaska for collaboration on hibernation genomics
- **Margaret Zimmer**, 6/1-9/15, various field sites in Alaska for research

Quote of the Week:

“Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure.”

~ Edward Eggleston