



LIFE SCIENCE NEWS

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

November 17, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the Undergraduate Biology and Wildlife
Advising Center!

Carolyn Chapin, Advising Coordinator

305 B Bunnell, 474-5548

November Office Hours:

Monday 17th - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 18th - out of office at training sessions

Wednesday 19th - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday 20th - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday 21st - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Monday 24th - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 25th - 9 a.m. - noon

Wednesday 26th - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday and Friday - Thanksgiving Holiday

Dana Nossov, M.S. candidate

Information: fsdrn1@uaf.edu

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - IAB Library

Hazardous Waste Management Training

There will be a Hazardous Waste Management training offered on Thursday, November 20 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the IAB Library, 311 Irving I. This training 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. If you would like to attend, please contact Jami Warrick at x5455 or at jami.warrick@alaska.edu.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:30 a.m. - 215 Elvey Building (Globe Room)

Biology & Wildlife Dissertation Defense

“King Eider Migration and Seasonal Interactions at the Individual Level”

Steffen Oppel, Ph.D. candidate

Information: stephen.oppel@gmail.com

NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowship

program is accepting applications for their year-long assignments in Congressional offices or federal agencies until **Dec. 15, 2008**. Fellowships offer an opportunity to apply your knowledge and skills to national and international issues in the federal policy realm, while learning first-hand about establishing and implementing policy. Stipends are approximately \$69,000-\$90,000. To be considered for a fellowship, applicants must hold a doctoral-level degree. For complete eligibility criteria and information: www.fellowships.aaas.org.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

2:00 p.m. - Elvey Auditorium

Biology & Wildlife Thesis Defense

“Balancing the Conservation of Wildlife Habitat with Road Access for Subsistence Hunting in Yakutat, Alaska”

Colin Shanley, M.S. candidate

Information: colin.shanley@uaf.edu

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

2:00 p.m. - 201 Irving I

Biology & Wildlife Thesis Defense

“Community, Population and Growth Dynamics of Thinleaf Alder: Implications for Nutrient Cycling on an Interior Alaskan Floodplain”

LIFE SCIENCES SEMINAR

Friday, November 21, 2008

“Does the Loss of Sea Ice Affect Tundra and those who Depend on it?”

Donald (Skip) Walker

Institute of Arctic Biology, Alaska Geobotany Center, Dept. of Biology and Wildlife

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

The Christine Stevens Wildlife Award

Funding for innovative research in humane, non-lethal wildlife management and research.

Deadline: December 19, 2008

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) is now accepting applications for its 2008 Christine Stevens Wildlife Award program. This award program, named after the organization's founder, provides \$10,000 grants to award recipients to help defray the costs of innovative and creative research on humane, non-lethal tools and techniques for wildlife management and research. Additional information about the Christine Stevens Wildlife Award can be found at <http://www.awionline.org/wildlife/csaward.htm>.

Alaska EPSCoR Phase IV Call for Concept Papers

Deadline: December 22, 2008

Background - The Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) is a university-based federal-state partnership to build scientific research capacity. EPSCoR operates on the principle that aiding researchers and institutions in securing federal research and development funding will enhance a state's research infrastructure and advance economic growth. Funding provided by EPSCoR is used for building the capacity to do research, rather than for specific research projects. The core of state-centered EPSCoR programs is a strong partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Phase IV - Alaska became an EPSCoR state in 2000. We will submit a new proposal to NSF for a Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) award as phase IV of Alaska EPSCoR in approximately October 2009. An RII award from NSF would allow Alaska EPSCoR to continue to strengthen Alaska's academic science and engineering research. Central to this call is the use of transformative and interdisciplinary approaches that prepare Alaska for the challenges ahead. This next RII competition will be for a five-year award, with up to \$4 million a year from NSF plus a 50% mandatory cost share from non-federal sources.

Our new proposal to NSF must be competitive. In order to make the strongest case, we must exercise due diligence, review many potential instate themes competitively, and focus on the most productive targets for investment. EPSCoR must build infrastructure that provides a platform for transformative research that will be self-sustaining after the period of EPSCoR support. Wherever possible, we want to identify compelling disciplinary and/or interdisciplinary themes that are already primed at UA and that will accelerate sharply after a catalytic infusion of EPSCoR funds.

Our phase IV proposal to NSF can be a progression of our successful phase III (please see www.alaska.edu/epscor). Under the broad theme of phase III, it would consist of several interdisciplinary topics that integrate social, biological and physical sciences and are key to Alaska's future, such as energy, water, food systems and mobility. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the research should employ emerging approaches, such as cyber-enabled tools. Some examples include agent-based modeling, scenario development, information technologies (including bioinformatics and GIS), or remote sensing. Alternatively, our phase IV proposal to NSF could be composed under a different theme that builds on and integrates the aforementioned and/or other developing strengths and disciplines in the University of Alaska and, like phase III, is connected to the specific strengths and needs of Alaska and is sufficiently broad to engage a critical mass of faculty across the UA system.

When we submit our phase IV proposal for up to \$4 million per year to NSF, it must also identify up to \$2 million per year of guaranteed non-federal match funding. One million dollars of that yearly match is already provided by the continuing state general funds assigned to UA for EPSCoR. We need your help in identifying commitments for the second \$1 million for activities that integrate with the federally funded EPSCoR initiatives.

Call for concept papers - We are now calling for four-to-five-page concept papers that describe potential new or continuing themes that are appropriate for NSF support. As we noted above, the concept papers might reflect continuation of the present themes or might propose new themes. The anticipated support level for a particular research theme is \$0.5 to 1 million per year for five years. Researchers preparing concept papers should review the EPSCoR specific review criteria on pp 12-13 of <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08587/nsf08587.pdf>

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Mark Lindberg

Developing a Long-term Monitoring Protocol
for Marine Predators
NPS
\$92,292

Sasha Kitaysky

BSIERP Patch Dynamics Study - Year 2
North Pacific Research Board
\$146,894

Sasha Kitaysky
Bogoslof Patch Dynamics Study - Year 2
North Pacific Research Board
\$202,664

TRAVEL

Quote of the Week:

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."

~ Aristotle

- **Jim Allen**, 11/16-20, YK region and Bethel, dissemination and Yup'ik Regional Coordinating Council meeting
- **Deb Alstrom**, 11/10-20, YK region, dissemination and Yup'ik Regional Coordinating Council meeting
- **Todd Brinkman**, 11/12-17, Prince of Wales, UK, present at the Deer Celebration and Meeting
- **Diana Campbell**, 11/18-20, Bethel, Yup'ik Regional Coordinating Council meeting
- **Dixie Dayo**, 10/29-11/24, Old Crow, Inuvik, and Dawson, RAP International Internship fieldwork
- **Gunnar Ebbesson**, 11/16-21, Yk region, dissemination and data collection
- **Carlotta Fok**, 11/16-20, YK region and Bethel, dissemination and Yup'ik Regional Coordinating Council meeting
- **Erich Follmann**, 11/14-23, Prudhoe Bay, AK, fieldwork
- **Jason Garron**, 7/1/08-4/30/09, Bonanza Creek, site visit
- **Scarlett Hopkins**, YK region, dissemination and data collection
- **Phillip Loring**, 9/18-5/1/09, Arizona and Mexico, RAP Internship, Sonoram Institute
- **Gerald Mohatt**, 11/16-20, YK region and Bethel, dissemination and Yup'ik Regional Coordinating Council meeting
- **Tonie Quaintance**, 11/16-23, YK region, dissemination and data collection
- **Inna Rivkin**, 11/16-23, YK region, dissemination and data collection
- **Rhonda Swor**, 11/14-23, Prudhoe Bay, AK, fieldwork
- **Spencer Audie**
- **Cord Brundage**
- **Andrea Corcoran**
- **Lawrence Duffy**
- **Michael Harris**
- **Megan Hoffman**
- **Yilong Ma**
- **Mary Van Muelken**
- **Marvin Schulte**
- **Barbara Taylor**
11/14-19, Washington DC, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting