



Weekly Announcements for August 31-September 6, 2008

Please submit newsletter information to Pam at chripame@isu.edu

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

Biological Sciences Faculty Meeting will be held **Tuesday, September 2, 2008**, in the **Speech Pathology Building #68 in room SPA 315 at noon.**

Grants Awarded

Dr. Jeff Meldrum received a \$130,000 grant from the Mayfield Foundation for the North American Ape Project, 2008.

Publications

Meldrum, D. J. and **T.D. Stephens.** 2008. Who Are the Children of Lehi? In: D.C. Peterson (ed.) The Book of Mormon and DNA Research. Provo, Utah, Brigham Young University: The Neal A Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship, pp. 157-183.

Presentations

Dr. Jeff Meldrum gave a presentation, "Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science," for the Royal Alberta Museum in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on August 17, 2008.

Dr. Scot Kelchner and **Amanda Fisher**, Ph.D. candidate presented three papers at the Fourth International Conference on the Comparative Biology of the Monocotyledons held in Copenhagen, Denmark from August 11-15, 2008. The five-day scientific program occurs every five years and brings together plant biologists from around the world to discuss monocot evolution and diversity.

Travel

Dr. Matt Germino will travel to the Army Corp of Engineers Topographic Engineering Center, Alexandria, VA, for the Joint ARO-ERDC Review of the DOD Terrestrial Science Program from September 10-12, 2008. Dr. Germino and coauthors, Joel Sankey, **Amber Hoover**, and Nancy Glenn, will present, "Eolian Transport in Heterogeneous Terrain: Characterizing Erosion Patterns Following Fire in Cold Desert."

Graduate Student Opportunities

PhD and MS graduate student assistantships in ecology of invasive plant species. Available at Utah State University, Logan to study plant-soil feedbacks following cheatgrass invasion of big sagebrush ecosystems. The research will use a combination of long-term (25-y-old) field plots, greenhouse and laboratory approaches to examine the role of plant-soil feedbacks related to nutrient cycling, allelopathy and shifts in microbial community structure in promoting stable cheatgrass communities. As part of the project, molecular tools will be used to examine shifts in community structure of mycorrhizal fungi, nitrifying bacteria, and other microbial populations. Stable isotope techniques will be used to examine biogeochemical changes following cheatgrass invasion. Degree programs available in Biology, Soil Science or Ecology, depending on student background and interests. Support includes a generous stipend, health

insurance, and tuition waivers (for PhD programs). For more information contact Dr. John Stark (jstark@biology.usu.edu) or Dr. Jeanette Norton (jennyn@cc.usu.edu).

Job Opportunities

Watershed Resources Specialist

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Watershed Resources/Northern Aqueduct

Annual Salary: \$68,857-\$107,532

Deadline: Thursday, September 4, 2008

For more information go to:

http://personline.lacity.org/job_list/index.cfm?FuseAction=Showspec&CC=7862

Applications and Training and Experience Questionnaires WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ON-LINE at

https://personline.lacity.org/job_app/

The **Coconino National Forest** will soon be advertising a GS-0454-5/7/9, **Rangeland Management Specialist**, with responsibilities on the Peaks and Mormon Lake Ranger Districts. This position is a permanent, full time position and is located in Flagstaff, Arizona. Anyone interested in further information should contact Gary Hase, Jr., at 928-527-8262 or ghase@fs.fed.us.