



ISU Newsletter



Weekly Announcements for Nov 12- Nov 18, 2006

Please submit newsletter information to Susan at rittsusa@isu.edu

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

There will be a **Biological Sciences Faculty Meeting** on **Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at noon** in the **Speech Pathology Building in Room 315**.

Seminars

Dr. David Liberles, University of Wyoming, "Towards an understanding of genome evolution," Thursday, **November 17, 2006 at 4pm** in the **Plant Sciences Lecture Hall, #114**.

Publications

David E. Cummings, Scott Fendorf, Nathan Singh, Rajesh K. Sani, Brent M. Peyton, and **Timothy S. Magnuson**. 2006. Reduction of Cr (VI) under acidic conditions by the facultative Fe (III)-reducing bacterium *Acidiphilium cryptum*. Environmental Science and Technology, In Press.

Awards

Dr. Timothy S. Magnuson and Carrick Eggleston (University of Wyoming). 2006. Redox Interactions of Cytochromes and Bacteria with Oxide Surfaces: Probing Redox-linked Conformational Change. U.S. Department of Energy, \$271,468.

Proposals

Nancy Glenn and **Dr. Matt Germino**. Fusion of remotely sensed data sources for modeling eolian soil transport in heterogeneous terrain. DEPSCoR. \$543,000/3 years.

Presentations

Dr. Chuck Peterson was the organizer of Idaho Herpetological Society's 2006 Annual Meeting held in Boise, ID on November 4, 2006. The following people from ISU presented their work:

Sarah Bruer, graduate student with **Drs. St. Hilaire and Peterson**, presented "Investigation chytridiomycosis in the boreal toad (*Bufo boreas boreas*). **David Hilliard**, graduate student with **Dr. Peterson**, presented "Modeling and Mapping Reptile Distributions on the Idaho National Laboratory. **Chris Jenkins**, graduate student with **Dr. Peterson**, presented "Wildlife Conservation Society and Global Conservation of Reptiles and Amphibians." **Dr. Peter Murphy** presented "Battle of the sexes, leptodactylus style: Does site quality outweigh male quality at lekking sites?" **Jason Jones**, graduate student with **Dr. Peterson**,

presented “Abundance and Age Class Distribution of Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog Larvae in Two Stream Systems”, with **Drs. Peterson and Baxter**.

Travel

Dr. Mike Thomas attended the Sigma Xi national meeting as the ISU chapter delegate. The meeting was in Detroit, MI on November 2-4, 2006.

Events

TV series to spotlight ISU saber-toothed-cat expert

A National Geographic Channel TV production crew visited the Idaho Museum of Natural History October 31 to film **Dr. Bill Akersten**, the museum’s curator of vertebrate paleontology and an authority on the extinct saber-toothed cat. The interview is scheduled to be part of a three-episode series next spring about late-Pleistocene carnivores. One episode will focus on the saber-toothed cat, while the others will showcase the short-faced bear and the Dire wolf. **Dr. Akersten** was selected for the series because of his 15 years’ experience at Los Angeles’ Rancho La Brea Tar Pits, famous for its wealth of ice-age fossils.

Research Opportunities

Become an INBRE Fellow 2007 Summer Research

The Idaho INBRE Program is offering a 10-week fellowship for students interested in biomedical research. The Program pays \$5,000 to each awarded student to work full-time in an established faculty laboratory for the summer. In addition to doing guided research, students will attend weekly training and seminar presentations and attend the Annual INBRE Research Conference to present their work in a professional setting.

If you are interested in applying for the fellowship contact INBRE at 208.885.5373 or at: inbre@uidaho.edu. Online information and form at: www.sci.uidaho.edu/inbre

Pre-application Deadline is Friday, December 1, 2006 at 12:00 pm (pst).

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (GSRSC) CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Spring 2007

Call for Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Committee Proposals. Graduate students can get up to \$1,000 for research. Go to www.isu.edu/research/gsrsc.shtml for information on the application process. Please contact Amanda Fisher, the Biological Sciences representative for questions or more information.

Proposals are due **November 20, 2006 at 5:00 pm.**

Notices

The Wildlife Conservation Society is pleased to announce a Request for Proposals (RFP) for grants under its newly created Wildlife Action Opportunities <http://www.wcs.org/wildlifeopportunity> Fund. Made possible through the generosity of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Wildlife Action Opportunities Fund will distribute \$2 million over the next two years to support 501 (c)(3) nonprofit

organizations working to implement State Wildlife Action Plans in any of the 50 states or six U.S. territories. A second RFP for year two of the program will be announced in 2007.

A full outline of the RFP process and the grant making priorities of the Wildlife Action Opportunities Fund is available at the program's web site

<http://www.wcs.org/wildlifeopportunity>. The deadline for pre-proposals is **November 17, 2006 at 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time**.

All questions regarding this program or the RFP process should be directed to Wildlife Conservation Society Grants Program Officer Darren Long (<<mailto:dlong@wcs.org>> dlong@wcs.org) at 406-522-9333 x103 or Craig Groves (<<mailto:cgroves@wcs.org>> cgroves@wcs.org) at 406-522-9333 x109.

Call For Nominations For The ISU Distinguished Researcher Award Of 2007

Announcing the call for nominations for the Distinguished Researcher Award of 2007. This award will honor a faculty member who has contributed significantly to the research effort at Idaho State University. This person is honored at the commencement exercises as the Distinguished Researcher and will be given a cash award of \$2,500. The Faculty Research Committee will select a maximum of five (5) Outstanding Researchers from the nominees. The

Distinguished Researcher will be selected from that group. To implement the selection process, the Faculty Research Committee invites anyone who is familiar with a faculty member's research efforts to nominate that person for this award. Any full-time faculty member (tenured or not) who has made a significant, original/creative contribution to advancing the frontiers of knowledge in his or her field may be nominated. Please send a detailed letter of nomination, which addresses the selection criteria below to the Chief Research Officer, Mail Stop 8130, Idaho State University, by **Friday, November 17, 2006**.

1. Significance of the research in relation to the frontiers of knowledge in that field.
 2. Publication of research findings in peer reviewed national or international journals or juried/invitational show, exhibits, or performances.
 3. Papers, showings, or related public presentations of research findings and their application and use by the discipline involved.
 4. Evidence of extended, intentional development of the topic of research that resulted in a significant contribution.
 5. Any other evidence of the outstanding nature of the research activity that may be relevant.
- Only one nomination letter per person is necessary to provide the detail required in the selection process. General letters of support from others are not used in the selection process. We wish to encourage the development of excellence in research at ISU and honor those who have accomplished it. We also use this to publicize the fact that a significant amount of research is being done at our institution.

Department News

The Biology Graduate Student Halloween party raised \$270 to benefit Kim Gilliland's fight against cancer. It was a great party with an incredible turnout by the Biology students and others. The biology student's generosity will be greatly appreciated and thanks to the many others who donated to the fund. The money will go to help with the costs of child care, travel for treatments and lodging for Kim.