



Weekly Announcements for October 5-11, 2008

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

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

There will NOT be a Biological Sciences Faculty meeting the next two Tuesdays, October 7 or October 14, 2008.

Seminars

Dr. Simon Rhodes, Department of Physiology, Indiana University, School of Medicine, will present his seminar, "Molecular Genetic Studies of Pituitary Development: Applications in Pediatric Growth Disorders," **Tuesday, October 7, 2008, at 4:00 PM in the Lecture Center Room 10.**

Presentations

Dr. Amanda Loftis attended the **VI International Conference on Ticks and Tick-Borne Pathogens** September 21-25, 2008, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and gave an oral presentation: "Panola Mountain *Ehrlichia*: A novel tick-transmitted pathogen in the USA closely related to *Ehrlichia ruminantium*, causal agent of heartwater disease in ruminants" A. Loftis, T. Mixson-Hayden, E. Stromdahl, S. Mahan, M. Yabsley, L. Garrison, W. Reeves, P. Williamson, R. Fitak, M. Levin.

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

The **Idaho Department of Fish and Game** has the **Staff Biologist – Wildlife position** in **Pocatello, Idaho**, on open competitive announcement until **October 9, 2008**. The announcement is located at the following link: http://dhr.idaho.gov/dhrapp/stateJobs/jobannouncement.aspx?announcement_no=00836080957. Applications will only be accepted through this website.

The **Idaho Department of Fish and Game** has the **Regional Wildlife Biologist – Habitat position in Bonners Ferry and Idaho Falls** on open competitive announcement until **October 22, 2008**. The announcement is located at the following link:

http://dhr.idaho.gov/dhrapp/stateJobs/jobannouncement.aspx?announcement_no=00835019618.

Applications will only be accepted through this website.