



Weekly Announcements for September 28-October 4, 2008

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

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

Biological Sciences Faculty Meeting will be held **Tuesday, September 30, 2008**, in the **Speech Pathology Building #68** in room **SPA 315** at **noon**.

Seminars

Dr. Michael Walter, University of Northern Iowa, will present his seminar, “**Bacillus Anthracis Soil Bacteriophage Species Richness Drives Applied Research**,” **Thursday, October 2, 2008**, at **4:00 PM** in the **Lecture Center Room 10**.

Publications

Suding K. N., Ashton I. W., **Bechtold H. A.**, Bowman W. D., Mobley M. L., Winkleman, R. 2008. Plant and microbe contribution to community resilience in a directionally changing environment. *Ecological Monographs* 78(3): 313-329.

Presentations

Dr. Colden Baxter and Ph.D. student, **Joseph Benjamin**, traveled to Ottawa, Canada, August 18-22, 2008, for the 138th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. The following papers were presented at the meeting:

- **Baxter, C. V.** “Stream fish in communities revisited: consequences of reciprocal land-water linkages and organism movement for community theory.” Invited presentation to special session entitled, “Community Ecology of Stream Fishes: Concepts, Approaches, and Techniques.”
- **Benjamin, J. R.**, F. A. Lepori, **C. V. Baxter**, K. D. Fausch. “Food web effects of a nonnative fish: Initial results of a large-scale field experiment.”
- Owens, D., **J. R. Benjamin**, **C. V. Baxter**, F. A. Lepori, and K. D. Fausch. “Effects of population density on feeding behavior by brook and cutthroat trout in an Idaho stream.” Poster presentation.

Dr. Colden Baxter was coauthor on an invited paper presented to The Inaugural Freshwater Biology Summit, September 1-4, 2008, Windermere, Cumbria, UK. The paper, coauthored by Kurt Fausch (Colorado State University) and Masashi Murakami (Hokkaido University, Japan) was a presentation to Freshwater Biological Association Conference in Aquatic Biology on, “Multiple stressors in Freshwater Ecosystems,” and was titled, “Multiple stressors in north temperate streams: lessons from linked forest-stream ecosystems in northern Japan.”

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.