



Weekly Announcements for May 3-9, 2009

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

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

Biological Sciences Faculty Meeting will be held **Tuesday, May 5, 2009**, in **Biological Sciences Conference Room, LS 229**, at **noon**.

Upcoming Events

The **Department of Biological Sciences Graduating Senior Reception** honoring the graduating classes of Summer 2008, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009, is **Friday, May 8, 2009**, at **2:00 PM**. **Group picture will be at 2:30 PM**.

The **College of Arts and Sciences Spring Celebration** will be **Friday, May 8, 2009**, from **4:00-6:00 PM**. Those being recognized from our department are as follows: **Whitney Call Pollard** received Outstanding Student Achievement Award; **Dr. William Akersten** is retiring; **Dr. Shawn Bearden** promotion to Associate Professor; **Dr. Linda DeVeaux** received tenure; **Dr. Ernest Keeley** promotion to Professor; **Dr. Scot Kelchner** promotion to Associate Professor; and **Dr. Rosemary Smith** promotion to Professor.

Seminars

Sharee Anderson, DA graduate student with **Dr. Trent Stephens**, will present her Defense seminar, "Selection of Nest Site to Maintain the Sex Ratio in the Leopard Gecko, *Eublepharis macularius*," **Tuesday, May 12, 2009**, at **1:00 PM** in **LC 10**.

Publications

Lawrence K. Duffy, Michael W. Oehler, Sr., **R. Terry Bowyer** and Vernon C. Bleich. 2009. Mountain Sheep: An Environmental Epidemiological Survey of Variation in Metal Exposure and Physiological Biomarkers Following Mine Development. *American Journal of Environmental Sciences* 5 (3): 296-303.

Whiting, J. C., **R. T. Bowyer**, and J. T. Flinders. 2009. Annual Use of Water Sources by Reintroduced Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep *Ovis canadensis*: Effects of Season and Drought. *Acta Theriologica* 54:127-136.

Ryan A. Long, Janet L. Rachlow, and **John G. Kie**. 2009. Sex-Specific Responses of North American Elk to Habitat Manipulation. *Journal of Mammalogy* 90(2):423-432.

Grants Awarded

R. Terry Bowyer, **John G. Kie**, **Rosemary J. Smith**, and **Ryan A. Long** were awarded \$98,692 from Stoller, Inc., for "A Proposal to Study the Distribution, Abundance, and Movements of Mammals on the Idaho National Laboratory."

Awards

Awards were given to several staff members in our Department at the **Employee Recognition Reception** held Thursday, April 23, 2009, in the Performing Arts Center. Five year awards were presented to **Barry Lyon** (Main Floor Custodian), **Brad Thomas** (Lab Materials Supervisor for CERE), **Luobin Yang** (Bioinformatics Programmer), and a 25 year award was presented to **Sandy Mitchell**, Office Services Supervisor.

Presentations

Dr. Matt Germino and his students presented three invited symposium talks at the International Association for Landscape Ecology Meetings in Snowbird, Utah, on April 15, 2009.

- D. Debinski, **M. Germino**, D. Demshar. "Effects of Experimental Snow Removal on Soil Moisture and Plant Communities in Montane Meadows."
- **M. Germino**, K. Reinhardt, T. Kelley, S. Bansal. "Landscape Effects on Tree Seedling Responses to Climate Warming At Treeline."
- L. Kueppers, J. Harte, J. Mitton, M. Torn, **M. Germino**. "Can Experiments Help Us Determine Species Range Shifts With Climate Change?"

Dr. Curt Anderson was the keynote address speaker for an undergraduate research conference at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, April 23-25, 2009. His talk was entitled, "The Curious Brain: the Beauty and Diversity of the Data Point." Dr. Maureen Brandon, Dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, sends her best to the department.

M. Paul Atwood, Pete Zager, Joshua J. Millspaugh, Marjorie D. Matocq, **R. Terry Bowyer**, and **John G. Kie** gave a presentation entitled, "Fecal Indices in Mule Deer Wintering in Close Proximity to Elk," at the 8th Western States and Provinces Deer and Elk Workshop in Spokane, Washington on April 27-30, 2009.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the May 2009 Doctor of Arts in Biology graduates and their future successes. **Dr. Noah Anderson**, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin, Baraboo; **Dr. Kelsey Metzger**, post-doctoral position, University of Minnesota, Rochester; and **Dr. Erin Naegle**, Assistant Professor, Grand Valley State University, Michigan. **Sandhya Baviskar** will defend in May and has been offered an Assistant Professor of Biology position at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. **Sharee Anderson** will also defend in May and has been offered an Assistant Professor position at the Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Congratulations to **Dr. Sheel Bansal**, former PhD student with **Dr. Matt Germino**, who received a post-doctoral position at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Job Opportunities

Portage, Inc. is looking for a Field/Forest Technician to provide help with a forest survey. **Education:** Preference is a College Undergraduate Student. **Closing Date:** 6/1/2009. **Requirements:** Must be in good physical condition. Need to have basic skills in math, earth science, map reading, with some computer literacy. The job requires working in remote areas of Southeastern Idaho, so camping skills and equipment are a must. A forestry background and/or the ability to perform general forest measurements is preferred. **Description:** Shall perform a Forest and Fuel Inventory. The Inventory will include fieldwork which shall include vegetation cruise and fuels plot data collection. Inventory data collection will be completed with plot data, walkthrough data, and photo interpretation. Data to be collected for the Inventory will include; tree, shrub, grass and forb species identification commonly found in Southeastern Idaho, plot information

from the habitat cruise, disease and infestations, and age of trees. Data will be entered into hand held data loggers while in the field. Successful applicants will participate in general training for use of related instruments (Relescope, Trimble GPS, increment borers) needed to perform the tasks required. The job will be full time/temporary summer position with the likelihood of continuing over additional years. **If anyone is interested**, e-mail your resume for consideration to John Beller, jbeller@portageinc.com. Phone number is 208-419-4103.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Idaho Chapter of The American Fisheries Society has a website where biologists from across the state will post fisheries sampling activities beginning in April and continuing through the fall, 2009. The site is interactive with space for biologists to list the date, location and type of field work and space for students to list their availability by date and location. **The intention of this program** is to provide students with the opportunity to gain some field experience in fisheries research and management activities and get to know fishery professionals. Conversely, biologists will get to know students entering the profession. **To access the website**, go to: <http://idahoafs.org/> and then select the volunteer link (second from the bottom on left hand side of the page). The next step is to sign in which requires you to provide an email address and a password (please record your password as this will determine your future access to the site). Next, build a profile including name, address, and phone number. Then enter your availability by date and location under "my posted availability". **The final step** will be for both biologists and volunteers to periodically check the site for available matches as the field season progresses. **Hopefully, this will provide you with opportunities** to gain experience in fisheries field work and meet new folks in the profession. **Questions?** Please email Steve Elle at steve.elle@idfg.idaho.gov.

Payroll Information

Our **pay period ended May 2**. Please be sure to **submit your time by Monday, May 4 at 12 NOON**. This gives **your approver time to approve your time card and fix any problems by May 5** when time cards are due to Payroll. If you have employees working for you, you need to make sure they are submitting their hours and that you are approving their time cards on time. Time cards need to be submitted and approved on time for everyone to get their pay checks when they expect them. In the past late time cards were accepted, but with the new system they are not. If you have **questions about Web Time Entry**, go to the following link for answers. <http://www.isu.edu/tigeri/training/bengalweb/FAQs.shtml#WebTimeEntry>.