



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 11 October 2013, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

“Coordinating the Stress Response: Signaling Pathways Regulating Cortisol Production”

Marion B. Sewer, Ph.D.
Skaggs School of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
UC San Diego

Biology Undergraduate Education Studied by American Association for the Advancement of Science

Dr. **MariaElena Zavala** has been working at the national level to envision what a biology major ought to look like in the coming decades. At present, this involves serving on the advisory board that has organized an upcoming conference, *Vision and change in biology undergraduate education: chronicling change, inspiring the future*.

New Publications

Drs. **Peter Edmunds**, **Vivian Cumbo**, and **Tung-Yung Fan** have a paper in *Journal Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*, “Metabolic costs of larval settlement and metamorphosis in the coral *Seriatopora caliendrum* under ambient and elevated pCO₂.”

Dr. **Dave Gray** and colleagues from the National Evolutionary Synthesis Center have a new publication in

Ecology Letters, “Diversification under sexual selection: the relative roles of mate preference strength and the degree of divergence in mate preferences.”

New Funding

Dr. **Chhandak Basu** received a grant from the USDA for, “Developing a sustainable bioenergy system: *Paulownia* production for fuel, chemicals, and materials.” This is a collaborative project with researchers from Fort Valley State University (Georgia), USDA-Agricultural Research Service (Illinois), State University of New York, Syracuse, and Auburn University (Alabama). The CSUN portion of the award is \$70,000.

Making the Murray Lab Proud

Graduate student **Shannon Wood** received the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Young Investigator Award. Her abstract was selected out of thousands for an oral presentation to hundreds of attendees at the ASM General Meeting in Denver, Colorado. The title of her talk was, "(p)ppGpp-mediated *ctrA* transcription integrates lipid biosynthesis with bacterial cell cycle progression." Because of the high impact of her CSUN thesis work, the ASM even asked Wood to write a press release.

Alumni News

Wyndee Guzman (*née* Haley, BA '06, MS '10) was appointed to a tenure-track full-time position at Pierce Community College.

Dr. **Lut Hang (Alex) Li** has accepted a full-time appointment as test prep trainer working for the Princeton Review in Hong Kong.

Edmunds Research Featured in Popular Science Press

Science Daily recently featured the NSF-supported [work](#) of Dr. **Peter Edmunds** on gorgonian (soft) corals in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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