



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 17 October 2014, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

“The Effects of Aging on Muscle Mechanics, Gait, and Posture”

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New Publications

Drs. **Peter Edmunds**, **Robert Carpenter**, and colleagues have a new paper in *PLOS ONE*, “Persistence and change in community composition of reef corals through past, present, and future climates.” This paper evolved from a national workshop in 2010.

Victor Lewis and Dr. **Ray Hong** have a paper in *EvoDevo*, “Conserved behavioral and genetic mechanisms in the pre-hatching molt of the nematode *Pristionchus pacificus*.”

Biologists at Ecology Meetings

Several of Chaparral Hall’s ecologists presented at this year’s Ecology Society of America (ESA) meetings:

- **Cassidy Adlof**: “How does harvesting impact White Sage as a cultural resource in southern California?”
- **Shannon Bayliss**: “Selection for size and flowering time drives invasion success in a non-native legume”

- **Erica Holdridge**: “Paradoxical response of density-dependence to resource limitation”
- **Dr. Casey terHorst**: “Quantifying non-additive selection on traits caused by indirect ecological effects among species”

Bayliss also won the Eco-Arts Award from the ESA for her entry using film that had been decomposed by bacteria.

NSF Backs More Ocean Acidification Research at CSUN

Drs. **Bob Carpenter** and **Peter Edmunds** have been notified that their NSF proposal, “Ocean acidification and coral reefs: scale dependence and adaptive capacity” has been funded to the tune of \$1.9 million. The grant will support research conducted in Moorea, French Polynesia, and will support a postdoctoral scholar, technician, and both graduate and undergraduate students over a four-year period.

Advancement to Graduate Education Conference

Please consider attending a conference on graduate programs and how to successfully apply to them. The conference is on Saturday, 18 October in the USU-Northridge Center from 9 am to 3 pm. The keynote speaker is Donald Asher. Featured workshops include:

- “Beginning with the End in Mind”
- “How to Finance your Graduate Education”
- “For Your Future: How to Compose a Successful Statement of Purpose”
- “Grad School: Crack the Test and Get in!”

Meet representatives from CSUN’s certificate, master’s, and doctoral programs. Tickets available at the Associated Students Ticket Office. The tickets are free, but you’ll need to show your CSUN ID.

Grad Takes 2nd Place in CSU-wide Research Competition

Mike Schram competed in the 28th annual CSU Student Research Competition held at Cal State East Bay in May. All 23 CSU campuses assembled teams of grads and undergrads, totaling 350–400 students from a collective CSU student body of nearly 450,000. Twenty-one sessions were held over two days. Of the CSUN presentations, Schram’s was one of two that took home awards. He won 2nd place in the graduate division of Biological and Agricultural Sciences for his talk, “Effects of simulated size-selective harvesting on a protogynous

temperate reef fish, *Rhinogobiops nicholsii*.” Says Schram, “Overall, the experience was great and the research and creative works taking place at CSU institutions statewide were very impressive.”

They’re Back... *Tomorrow’s Scientists Return to Campus*

No, your eyes are not deceiving you—there are **young** students on campus. Although college students seem to be getting younger and younger, these students are part of an after-school science program called *Tomorrow’s Scientist*. About 90 7th graders are on campus for this eight-week program run by Dr. **Gini Vandergon**’s Biological Concepts class. Funding for the buses to get these students from their local middle schools to the campus has been provided by Community Engagement grants, funding from the Provost’s Office, Liberal Studies, the College of Science and Mathematics, and the Department of Biology. The 7th graders enjoy hands-on, interactive life science lessons that are designed and implemented by the CSUN students. Please feel free to stop by the second floor of Chaparral Hall and observe the happenings on Monday or Wednesday afternoons for the next few weeks.

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Department of Biology

California State University, Northridge

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