



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Evolution for All: Wednesday, 6 May 2015, 4:00 pm in Sequoia 104

“New Phylogenetic Approaches to Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation”

Brent Mishler, Ph.D.
Jepson Herbarium
UC Berkeley

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 8 May 2015, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

“The Neuronal and Genetic Basis of Food Choice Behavior in *C. elegans*”

Elizabeth Glater, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience
Pomona College

Job Seminars by Cell Biology Candidates

Candidates for a new position as Assistant Professor in the area of Cell Biology are visiting this week. Students are especially encouraged to attend their talks and to provide feedback to the search committee.

- Dr. Michael Does, UC San Diego: Monday, 4 May from 11 am–12 noon, in CR 5122: *Special Delivery: Linking Lysosomal Degradation and Cellular Communication.*
- Dr. Gary Philips, New York University: Wednesday, 6 May from 2–3 pm in CR 5126: *Memory Formation Across Repeated Experiences: Molecular and Cellular Insights from *Aplysia californica*.*
- Dr. Crystal Rogers, Cal Tech: Thursday, 7 May from 9:30–10:30 am in CR 5122: *Cell Adhesion in Migrating Neural Crest Stem Cells.*
- Dr. Jenifer Hernandez, UC San Diego: Friday, 8 May from 11 am–12 noon in CR 5126: *The CREB/CRTC2 Pathway Modulates Autoimmune Disease by Promoting Th17 Differentiation.*

Please send your opinions to Dr. [Mary-Pat Stein](#).

MS Thesis Defense

Joseph Algiers will defend his thesis at 1:15 pm on Thursday, 7 May in CR 5201. His title is, "Resisting re-establishment of invasive plant species in fuels-reduction areas." All are welcome to attend.

Tropical Biology Semester to be offered in Spring 2016

Once again the Department of Biology will offer the Tropical Biology Semester in Ecuador. Students enroll in 16 units of coursework, receive instruction at CSUN, and then spend about 7 weeks in Ecuador at sites ranging from Andean cloud forests, to the Amazon Basin, to the Galápagos Islands. While in Ecuador students conduct original research projects and learn about tropical organisms and their ecology. After returning to campus, papers are written and projects are presented in a poster session. This is an amazing opportunity for students, especially those interested in ecology and evolution. The program is open to both graduate and upper division undergraduate Biology majors. For more information, see the program [website](#), and email either Dr. [Fritz Hertel](#) or Dr. [Dave Gray](#).

New Publications

Dr. **Sean Murray** and international collaborators have a paper in *Federation of European Microbiological Societies Microbiology Reviews*: "Versatility of global transcriptional regulators in alpha-Proteobacteria: from essential cell cycle control to ancillary functions."

Stephanie Benseman is excited. Her first paper appeared in the *Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences*: "A young-of-the-year Giant Sea Bass buries itself in sandy bottom: a possible predator avoidance mechanism."

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Department of Biology

California State University, Northridge

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