



# BIOSPHERE

## The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 13 February 2015, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

### “Behavioral Ecology and Conservation of the Endangered Treefrog *Hyla suweonensis*”

Yikweon Jang, Ph.D.  
Ewha Woman’s University, Korea

### Show Your Support at the Student Research and Creative Works Symposium

The Research & Graduate Studies Office is hosting the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual CSUN Student Research and Creative Works Symposium. The event will be held on Friday, 13 February in the University Student Union. Once again Biology is dominating the event with 30 oral presentations and 30 posters! Please give your classmates and TAs an audience.

### Microbiologist Job Talk

Dr. Maude David is a candidate for the Prokaryotic Microbiologists position. Her job talk is Wednesday, 11 February at 10 am in CR 5114. The title is, “Multi-omics assessment of active microbial populations in soil contaminated by chlorinated solvents.” All are welcome. Send any impressions to Dr. [Larry Baresi](#), the chair of the search committee.

### New Publications

K. Gross and Dr. **Peter Edmunds** have a new paper out in *Ecology*, “Stability of Caribbean coral communities quantified by long-term monitoring and autoregression models.”

**Nora Zuhdi, Blanca Ortega, Dion Giovannone, Hannah Ra, Michelle Reyes, Viviana Asención, Ian McNicoll, Le Ma, and Dr. Maria Elena de Bellard** have a paper in *International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience*, “Slit molecules prevent entrance of trunk neural crest cells in developing gut.”

### Alumni News

**Gayane Weerasinghe**, once Dr. Steve Oppenheimer’s research student, passed the bar and is now a patent attorney.

## Undergrads: Apply for COAST Minigrant

The CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology (COAST) promotes research and education to advance our knowledge of California's natural marine and coastal resources. COAST faculty and students work in open and coastal ocean, coastal estuaries, beaches, and coastal watersheds to the extent that they ultimately articulate with the coast.

To encourage research by undergraduate students at CSUN, COAST provides funds to support undergraduate research with a COAST faculty member. Selected students will be awarded \$500–1000. See the Biology website for an [application](#), due by 23 February by emailing it to [coast.undergradaward@csun.edu](mailto:coast.undergradaward@csun.edu).

## At Conservation Conference

Three talks were given at this year's Conservation Conference of the California Native Plant Society:

- **Wendy Dunbarr** and Dr. **Paula Schiffman** presented, "Terrestrial arthropods as indicators of restoration success."
- Dr. **Paul Wilson** and **Nickte Mendez** presented, "The California moss eFlora."
- **Lena Coleman** presented, "Bryophyte species richness along a 3000 m elevation gradient."

## Registering for Research on Cell Adhesion, Cancer, Development

—Steve Oppenheimer

Because of limited university resources, enrollment this semester in my BIOL 495D Directed Undergraduate Research was capped and ongoing resource issues will continue to limit enrollments. If you want to enroll in 495D for fall 2015, fill out a 495D form now (available in the Biology office). Students enrolled in 495D this spring may not enroll this fall, so they should plan on spring 2016 if they wish another semester of research with me.

Students enrolled in a fall semester can work during the preceding summer. Students enrolled in the spring can work in the intersession. This practice enables students to do research when they are not hampered by a full course load, which improves research quality and makes the work more enjoyable.

My research involves yeast as a model system for identifying anti-clumping agents that may be developed into drugs with anti-cancer, anti-infection, anti-biofilm, and anti-thrombotic activities. The work leads to student coauthorship on abstracts and nationally presented posters.

Accomplishing substantial research as an undergraduate is almost required for admission to many professional and advanced degree programs.

### *Biosphere: The Weekly Bulletin of Biology*

Department of Biology

California State University, Northridge

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