



# BIOSPHERE

## The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 30 November 2012, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

### “You can’t go home again: Polymorphism as an evolutionary ratchet”

Stan Metzenberg, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology, CSUN

### Forthcoming Interviews by Field Ecologist Candidates

The Department is interviewing three job candidates for a new position in Field Ecology. All three evolutionary ecologists. Their seminars will be at 8 am in CR 5125 as follows:

- **Dr. Ben Hirsch** on Wednesday, 28 November, “Small rodents fill an ecological niche of extinct megafauna using multistage seed dispersal.”
- **Dr. Margaret Metz** on Wednesday, 5 December, “Pathogens, global change, and the maintenance of forest diversity.”
- **Dr. Casey terHorst** on Monday, 10 December, “Ecology and evolution interact to shape species interactions.”

Students are encouraged to attend the talks. Additionally, there is an hour on each day when students

can meet the candidate: 4:30–5:30 pm in CR 5102. Cookies served!

Those who wish to file an opinion with the search committee may email that opinion to [paul.wilson@csun.edu](mailto:paul.wilson@csun.edu) by 2 pm on Tuesday, 11 December.

### MS Thesis Defense

**Almog “Allan” Harell** will be defending his MS thesis on Thursday, 29 November at 3:30 pm in CR 5201. The title is “Comparative ecomorphology among cormorants in three Mediterranean-climate regions.”

### Schiffman Published in Magazine

Dr. **Polly Schiffman** recently wrote an invited article in the magazine *Fremontia* titled: “Understanding California grassland ecology.”

## **TA/GA/PLF Applications Due**

Applications for TA, GA, and PLF positions are now being accepted. They are due by **7 December**. The application form is on the Department [WEBSITE](#).

## **Grads Awarded In-House Grants**

The following grad students were awarded Thesis Support Grants from CSUN's Office of Graduate Studies: **Georgina Aguilar-Portillo, Lauren Conroy, Maryn Cook, Jouliana Davoudi Chegani, Sean Dunagan, Justin Hackitt, Homa Hemmati, Heather Hillard, Wendy Horn, Diana Jacinto, Alex Johnson, Hurig Katchikian, Edwin Leung, Mark Oliva, Corinne Paterson, Darren Sarte, Jacquelyn Saunders, Joshua Sausner, Michael Schram, Tiffany Smith, John Samuel Sukumar Palukuri, Lauren Valentino, and Sylvia Zamudio.** Quite a take: congratulations!

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

Department of Biology  
California State University, Northridge  
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