



# *Biosphere*

## The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

### Biology Colloquium (Friday 2 PM in CR 5125)

Dr. Cheryl Courtney-Hogue, CSUN

*“Interactions Between Parasites and Pollutants  
in Aquatic Environments”*

- **BEER Club Hosts Guest Speaker**—Dr. Nina Overgaard Therkildsen (Cornell University) will be on campus Tuesday, 26 April to meet with students and faculty and give a special presentation (title, time, and room TBD). Her research focuses on how contemporary environmental change and human impacts shape demographic, ecological, and microevolutionary processes within marine species (for more info visit: <http://dnr.cals.cornell.edu/people/nina-therkildsen>).
- **New Publications**—Dr. Chhandak Basu edited a book titled *PCR Primer Design*, which was published by Humana Press as part of Springer’s Methods in Molecular Biology series. He published the following papers as well: with former grad Homa Hemmati: Transcriptional analyses of an ethanol inducible promoter in *Escherichia coli* and tobacco for production of cellulase and green fluorescent protein in *Biotechnology and Biotechnological Equipment*; with Hemmati and undergrads Asada Satidkit and Tigran Gezalian and colleagues: Field and genetic studies to assay biofuel potentials of *Paulownia elongata* in *Bioethanol*; and with Hemmati and colleagues: Leaf proteome analysis reveals prospective drought and heat stress response mechanisms in soybean in *BioMed Research International*.
- **Presentations**—Dr. Steve Oppenheimer, 39 CSUN students, and local K–12 teacher Greg Zem presented two posters at the *Experimental Biology* meeting in San Diego titled, “Concentration effects in identifying unclumping reagents” and “Statistical analysis of kinetic profiles of anti-clumping agents.” The students received their research experiences via Dr. Oppenheimer’s BIOL 495D course.