Biosphere
The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium – Fall 2017
Friday Oct 06, 2-3pm, CR5125


Dr. David Gonzalez
(University of California, San Diego)

Nurturing the next generation of scientists

Dr. Steve Oppenheimer published letters in Science and Nature, strongly advocating for the training of the next generation of scientists, at all educational levels. In a letter to Science, Dr. Oppenheimer emphasized the crucial role that one-on-one mentoring has in driving overall student success, citing the example of an alumna who mostly appreciated the sense of focus and purpose that a research opportunity brought to her career. And our efforts should not be confined to CSUN, as Dr. Oppenheimer explained in a letter to Nature, in which he strongly advocated for university professors to reach out to K-12 students and teachers, allowing them an opportunity to experience research for themselves. “When national leaders see that scientists directly work with K-12 teachers and their students they will realize that science is not just for scientists. It's for us all”, he wrote, adding that science education must be supported to protect the security, health and welfare of nations.

An inspiring demonstration that the spirit of science outreach and advocacy remain strong in our school…

CSUN researchers reach out

...comes from Richard Rachman and Alexandra Cherroff, who earlier this week judged an Invention Convention at Burbank Boulevard Elementary and Gifted Global Learning Magnet, and had a great time discussing science with 3rd to 5th graders.
Positions available for PhD students in environmental sciences

Dr. Kai Zhu at UC Santa Cruz is recruiting 1-2 Ph.D. students to start in Fall 2018 in the Department of Environmental Studies. The Zhu Lab works on a broad range of questions in global ecology and quantitative environmental sciences, at the intersection of climate change, biodiversity, and ecosystem processes. Candidates should contact Dr. Kai Zhu in advance of the admission deadline (Dec 15, 2017) and provide the following information: (1) research experience, ideas, and questions; (2) motivations to pursue a Ph.D. in the Environmental Studies Department at UCSC; and (3) current CV, academic transcript, GRE/TOEFL scores (if