

# Conservation Biology Graduate Program Weekly Newsletter

05 February 2007

A weekly newsletter of the Conservation  
Biology Graduate Program

<http://www.consbio.umn.edu/newsletter/>

Submissions to [coop0162@umn.edu](mailto:coop0162@umn.edu)



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## Editor's Corner

I hope you're enjoying Minnesota's winter at its finest. I'm officially tired of wearing long underwear and three coats to campus everyday; however, conducting research in the aquaculture lab is like taking a daily tropical vacation. Well, it isn't exactly a *vacation*, but it is humid, hot, and teeming with tropical fishes! So, here's to everyone's winter respite. Check out the sauna in the St. Paul Gym, take a walk through the green houses, or browse the getaway selection at [www.hobbittravel.com](http://www.hobbittravel.com). All are sure to chase even the worst winter blues away.

Ciao.

*Anne Cooper*

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## Lectures/seminars on campus

### Conservation Biology Seminar

Date and time: 05 February (Monday) 4:00-5:00pm

Location: Please note that the location for seminar has changed again this semester: we will be meeting Mondays from 4-5 in 335 Borlaug.

Presenter: Dr. Steven M. Manson, Department of Geography

Topic: Conservation in Human-Dominated Landscapes: Actors, Institutions, and the Environment on the New Mexican Frontier

Notes: Humans have long altered the land by clearing forests, farming, and building settlements. The extent of these activities in many places has become environmentally and socially unsustainable. Yet, we know surprisingly little about the nature, causes, and impacts of our changing landscapes. I combine empirical research with computer modeling to advance theory and develop practical knowledge on how this land change is caused by interactions among individuals, organizations, and broader social and environmental systems. I use this approach to conduct comparative research on deforestation in the Southern Yucatán of Mexico.

### Genetic insights into the evolution of humans and chimpanzees

Date and time: 05 Feb., 2:30-5:00pm with reception to follow

Location: Blegen Hall 125

Presenter: Dr. Katy Gonder, Department of Biology, University of Maryland

Notes: Genetic studies of human and chimpanzee demographic histories have blossomed recently. These studies have tested among increasingly complex demographic models to investigate the evolutionary processes that have generated different patterns of diversity in both species. My primary research interest concerns illuminating the genetic history of chimpanzees, particularly in the Gulf of Guinea region. Chimpanzees inhabiting this African region are not well understood, but appear to have experienced a complex demographic history. It is only among chimpanzees inhabiting the Gulf of Guinea region where (1) two distinct population clusters, or subspecies, occur and (2) major phylogeographic breaks have been identified with both genetic and immunological data. My current research focuses on (1) understanding the genetic history of chimpanzees and (2) documenting the key role that populations in the Gulf of Guinea region have played in shaping patterns of genetic diversity in this species. This research has implications for understanding the differences in the evolutionary histories of chimpanzees and humans, documenting the natural history of SIVcpz (the progenitor of HIV-1) and guiding conservation efforts.

Paleobiological and archeological evidence suggest that modern humans originated in eastern Africa, but the genetic history of humans residing in the region remains largely unknown. For example, peoples speaking languages belonging to all four African linguistic families reside in Tanzania. Little is known about how these populations' genetic histories coincide with their linguistic heritage. My recent research suggests that Tanzanians have levels of genetic diversity comparable to that observed across Africa; and that click-speaking populations of Tanzania and southern Africa share an ancient, unique genetic connection. These observations indicate that Tanzania has played a continuing role in the dispersion of modern humans within and outside of Africa. My current research involves understanding the role that East Africa has played in human migrations and correlations between linguistic and genetic diversity in Tanzanians.

Candidate for a position with the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station in Grand Rapids, MN

Date and time: Wed, February 7 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: 203 Green Hall

Title: Linking aquatic ecosystems to landscape processes: Hydrological and biogeochemical processes that control surface water chemistry in catchments

Presenter: Stephen D. Sebestyen, Research Hydrologist Candidate for a Position with the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Ecology and Management of Riparian Aquatic Ecosystems in Grand Rapids, MN, Visiting Graduate Researcher: University of California, Berkeley, CA, Home Institution: State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY

Notes: Although the variation of stream water chemistry over events and seasons is well documented, we still lack a comprehensive understanding of the ways that ecosystem processes interact to control stream nutrient concentrations. Using a set of high-frequency stream water samples, I quantified the variation of nutrients during key events and seasons when coupled hydrological and biogeochemical processes affected nutrient availability and transport. I measured multiple hydrological, chemical, and isotopic tracers of water and solutes at the Sleepers River Research Watershed, an upland catchment in northeastern Vermont, USA. Isotopic signatures and end-member mixing analysis revealed when nitrogen (predominantly in the forms of nitrate and dissolved organic nitrogen, DON) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) entered the stream from distinct sources in the forested landscape and that the sources were linked to the stream by preferential shallow subsurface and overland flowpaths during

storm flow. During autumn leaf fall, interactions of the water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles controlled baseflow nutrient fluxes because DOC inputs stimulated biogeochemical transformations that affected the forms, concentrations, and mobility of nitrogen. As a function of sources, transformations, and hydrological transport processes, high concentrations of stream nitrate during storm flow were attributable to flushing from terrestrial sources as well as inputs from atmospheric sources. For example, the highest concentrations of stream nitrate occurred during snowmelt when atmospheric sources were transported via melting snow and rainfall to streams. Although flushing of shallow soil sources is an important control on stream nitrogen variation, the finding of isotopically distinct atmospheric nitrate in streams during snowmelt and other specific storm flow events indicated that atmospheric sources may bypass biogeochemical processes in the landscape that typically retain nitrogen. In terms of ecosystem studies, the high-frequency hydrochemical data provided key insights to open the blackbox of processes that influence stream nutrient variation over time. Overall, this work points to a unifying conceptual approach to investigate complex processes that link sources of water and solutes in upland and riparian areas to surface waters.

#### Water Resources Sciences

Date and time: 09 February, 3pm

Location: 375 Borlaug Hall

Presenter: Omid Mohseni, St. Anthony Falls Hydraulics Lab

Topic: Stream temperature monitoring in the Twin Cities

Refreshments: 2:30pm

#### Ecology, Evolution and Behavior

Date and time: 06 February, 3:30 p.m.

Location: 335 Borlaug

Presenter: Dr. James Thomson, Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Toronto

Title: "Evolutionary transitions from insect to bird pollination"

Notes: Please contact Patrice Myers ([pmyers@UMN.EDU](mailto:pmyers@UMN.EDU), 625-1234) if you are interested in meeting with James Thomson during his visit to our campus.

Host: Dr. George Weiblen

Coffee, Tea and Cookies will be served outside of 100 Ecology at 3:30.

#### EEB

Date and time: Wednesday, February 7, 2007, 4 p.m.

Location: 335 Borlaug Hall

Title: Ecology and Evolution of multicellular development in social bacterium *M. Xanthus*

Presenter: Dr. Supriya Kadam

Notes: The social bacterium *Myxococcus xanthus* develops into multi-cellular fruiting bodies in response to starvation. A developmentally-defective cheating genotype of *M. xanthus* (OC) requires the presence of the wild-type to produce spores. This cheater re-evolved the ability to sporulate independently during a mixed competition with the wild type in a selective environment where social development is required for survival of the mixed population. The evolved descendent of OC ('PX' for *P*heonix) not only sporulates independently, but is competitively dominant over the original wild type. The evolutionary transition from OC to PX is a result of a single mutation. Using modern approaches such as quantitative real-time PCR analysis of five genes essential for development in the standard lab strain as well as whole genome transcriptome

analysis we compared the transcriptional patterns of WT, OC and PX. The restoration of a major cooperative trait by a single compensatory mutation was accompanied by a novel transcriptome phenotype across a large number and wide variety of genes, rather than by a large-scale return to ancestral patterns of developmental gene transcription. These patterns highlight the ability of organisms to evolve complex and socially adaptive traits by a variety of transcriptome profiles.

Host: Ford Denison

Coffee, Tea and Cookies outside 100 Ecology at 3:30

Job talks on biological anthropology

Date and time: Monday, February 5, 2007, 2:30pm

Location: Blegan 125, West Bank

Presenter: Mary Katherine Gonder (Katy), Ph.D. 2000 – City University of New York

Title: Genetic insights into the evolution of humans and chimpanzees

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## **Announcements**

Annual FWCB Winter Party/Potluck

Sunday, February 11, beginning at 4:30pm.

Anne Kapuscinski has once again graciously offered to have the party at her home in St. Anthony Park. The department will provide beverages and since this is a potluck, we'll have a sign-up sheet in the office for main dishes, desserts, appetizers, etc. The food is always terrific so don't forget to mark your calendars!

More details will be coming shortly.

Thanks!

*Nancy*

Environmental Career and Internship Fair

Just a reminder that the Environmental Career and Internship Fair is next week:

Tuesday, February 6 from 10:00 - 2:30 in the Northstar Ballroom of the St. Paul Campus Student Center. 50 employers are currently registered (a 47% increase over last year!). Now we just need the students, so please encourage them to attend! An employer panel will describe environmental career opportunities at 12:45 (free pizza).

Finally, please stop by to greet our employer guests if you have time that day.

Employers enjoy meeting faculty to learn more about our academic programs.

Thanks for all your help in making this a successful event for our students.

*Sara Nagel Newberg*

At the Bell: Project Art

Seventeen artists from Minnesota and Wisconsin take inspiration from the region's increasingly splintered wild places in "Project Art for Nature: Presence, Essence, Absence," opening February 10 at the [Bell Museum of Natural History](#). Through a wide variety of media, Project Art for Nature artists explore changes in the natural environment -- including habitat degradation and restoration -- caused by weather, climate and human activity. Working in teams of two and three, the artists focused on locations ranging from Wisconsin's Kinnickinnic River and Crex Meadows Wildlife Area to the Mississippi River Gorge in Minneapolis and Mankato's Kasota Prairie.

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## Date Saver

### Job talks on biological anthropology

Date and Time: Friday, February 15, 2007, 2:30pm

Location: HHH 15, West Bank

Presenter: Cara Wall-Scheffler, PhD. 2005 – University of Cambridge, UK

Title: Costs of being Hominin: Interactions and Innovations

Date and Time: Monday, February 19, 2007, 2:30pm

Location: BlegH 125, West Bank

Presenter: Kieran McNulty, Ph.D. 2003 – City University of New York

Title: Geometric and paleontological perspectives on ape and human evolution

Date and time: Friday, February 23, 2007, 2:30

Location: HHH 15, West Bank

Presenter: Jason Organ\*, Ph.D. candidate (expected 7/7) Johns Hopkins  
School of Medicine

Title: Unraveling the 'tale of tales': reconstructing primate behavior and biology  
from the fossil record

Date and time: Monday, February 26, 2007, 2:30pm

Location: Blegan Hall, West Bank

Presenter: Karen L. Baab\*, Ph.D. candidate (anticipated 2007) City University  
of New York

Title: The implications of cranial shape for the taxonomy and evolution of /Homo  
erectus/: A 3D geometric morphometrics approach

### Ag Issues Roundtable

Date and time: Thursday, Feb. 15, noon

Location: Four Points Sheraton hotel, Minneapolis

Presenter and notes: Professor Kent Olson of the [Department of Applied Economics](#) will  
speak on "The New Farm Bill: Impacts on Minnesota Farms." The event is the second  
in a series this academic year and will be at the Four Points Sheraton hotel. Cost is  
\$30; [pre-registration is necessary.](#)

### Ada Comstock Distinguished Women Scholars Lecture

Presenter: Professor Catherine French, Civil Engineering

Title: "Shake, Rattle, and Roll: Testing Structures to Their Limits"

Date, time and location: March 22, 2007, 7:30 p.m., Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H.  
Humphrey Center

Reception follows lecture.

FREE. RSVP: 612-625-9837 or [women@umn.edu](mailto:women@umn.edu)

This program is co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice President and Provost for  
Academic Affairs, the Office for University Women in the Office of the Vice President  
and Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity, The Graduate School, and University  
Libraries

### What's for Dinner?' features author Michael Pollan

Date and location: Thursday, April 19, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: MacMillan Auditorium

Keynote: Michael Pollan, author and journalist

Conference: \$100 member / non-member (conference includes keynote, panel and special luncheon discussion)

Morning Session only: \$35 member / non-member

Co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Program on Agricultural, Food and Environmental Ethics and the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture (MISA)

Notes: The University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum presents What's for Dinner? The Ethics and Aesthetics of Eating, featuring Michael Pollan, author of "The Omnivore's Dilemma." Pollan will present the keynote address, followed by a panel discussion including Allen Levine, CFANS dean, as well as regional experts, growers and distributors. The event is presented by the arboretum's Public Policy Program and sponsored by the [University of Minnesota's Program on Agriculture, Food and Environmental Ethics](#) and the [Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture](#). For more information and to register, call the Arboretum's Education Office at 952-443-1422 or go to <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/education/adult/publicpolicy.htm>.

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## Conferences and Meetings

### 2007 MN SCB ANNUAL MEETING & RETREAT: FEB 23-24, 2007

Greetings MNSCB members and friends -

We are excited to see you at the annual meeting this February! This year we will be flying solo (without AFS, TWS etc), and meeting at a smaller venue: the Audubon Center of the North Woods in Sandstone Minnesota. Our theme will be Conservation and Working Lands. Instead of having contributed paper sessions, we will have 4 sessions in which we hear from critical thinkers, but spend at least 1/2 the time in discussion of the topics (see below). We hope to use this time to deepen our chapter's capacity to take action on issues of critical concern. If you have ideas about these sessions, please contact Julia right away, and she will put you in touch with the organizers. We especially need contributions of papers and discussion items for a session on water.

We are also excited to introduce what we call "fireside papers", an opportunity for our members to do short presentations on their research questions and then get feedback from or work on networking with other professionals. Unlike traditional contributed papers, the focus will be on deepening the conversation about issues that you are working on.

On Saturday we will continue to discuss the role of MN SCB in advocacy work and hold a series of facilitated conversations on our strategic role in MN conservation efforts. Please open and complete the registration form with a check made out to MN SCB and mail it back by **February 9th** to:

Julia Nerbonne  
HECUA  
2233 University Ave. W. #210  
St. Paul, MN 55114

*Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you in Sandstone.  
Julia Frost Nerbonne, Erika Rivers, and Brian Stenquist  
Conference Organizers*

### American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

We invite you to California as the American Fisheries Society (AFS) convenes its 137th Annual Meeting at the Marriott Hotel in downtown San Francisco September 2-6, 2007. The theme of the meeting is "Thinking Downstream and Downcurrent: Addressing Uncertainty and Unintended Consequences in Fish and Fisheries." At the interface between the Sacramento-San Joaquin River drainage and the Pacific Ocean, San Francisco provides an outstanding venue to think about managing whole ecosystems, advance your professional networking, and to keep current on emerging ideas in fisheries science and management. San Francisco also provides a world class location for a personal or family vacation. Dozens of must-see cultural, historic, and natural points of interest are located only minutes away from the Marriott. Experience a wide array of outdoor activities both locally and within a few hours drive from the "The City". Climb aboard a cable car to visit Fisherman's Wharf, take a ferry to Alcatraz, or walk along the bayside Embarcadero. Drive across the Golden Gate Bridge to hike through giant redwood groves, meander up the Pacific Coast Highway, or discover the delights of the Napa/Sonoma wine country. Cast a line for salmon, rockfish, and halibut or fly fish for trout in the myriad Sierra Nevada streams from Lake Tahoe to Yosemite. We hope you join us in San Francisco to stimulate scientific thinking and let the Golden State stir your senses.

#### Deadlines

09 February 2007 - Deadline for contributed presentations and posters

23 February 2007 - Final list of confirmed symposium speakers

02 March 2007 - Deadline for symposium presentation abstracts

### Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 2007 Annual Meeting Call For Papers

The meeting will be on March 19-21, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, St. Cloud. Get your abstracts in to Dan Isermann by January 29, 2007. For details on submitting your abstract, see the December RYBA.

Are you a student member? We have a new process for allotting Student Travel Awards for the annual meeting. Don't be shy - the Minnesota Chapter strongly supports student attendance, for both graduate and undergraduate students.

### Managing Incidental Findings in Human Subjects Research: From Imaging to Genomics

This full-day conference is sponsored by the University of Minnesota in partnership with the Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences. This conference is supported in part by a grant from the National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health, grant #1R01HG003178-01A1.

Tuesday, May 1, 2007 . Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center . University of Minnesota

Register at [www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/if.php](http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/if.php) or email [lawvalue@umn.edu](mailto:lawvalue@umn.edu).

This conference will present the recommendations from an NIH-funded project developing standards for the management of incidental findings identified during research with human subjects. Incidental findings are defined as unexpected findings beyond the domain of key interest in the research that have potential clinical significance. Presentations will focus on obtaining feedback from the public, researchers, research subjects, and regulatory bodies such as IRBs on a position paper outlining consent form language and IRB protocols. Featured Speakers include:

Bernard Schwetz, DVM, PhD-Office for Human Research Protections, Department of Health and Human Services

Elizabeth Thomson, PhD, RN-National Human Genome Research Institute

Prof. Mildred Cho, PhD--Stanford University  
Prof. Ellen Wright Clayton, MD, JD-Vanderbilt University  
Prof. Judy Illes, PhD--Stanford University  
Prof. Henry Richardson, PhD-Georgetown University  
Franklin Miller, PhD-National Institutes of Health  
Alan Milstein, JD, MS-Sherman, Silverstein, Kohl, Rose & Podolsky  
Susan Wolf, JD-University of Minnesota  
Jeffrey Kahn, PhD-University of Minnesota

Featured Topics:

Understanding Incidental Findings in the Context of Genetics & Genomics, Archival Genomic Research and Incidental Findings, Neuroimaging and Incidental Findings, CT Colonography and Incidental Findings, Incidental Findings in Children, Do Researchers Have a Duty of Care Regarding Incidental Findings?

Panel on the Legal & Regulatory Issues Raised by Incidental Findings

Panel Response to Working Group Consensus Paper

For more information, visit our conference website:  
<http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/conferences/if.php> Or contact the Consortium office at: Email: [lawvalue@umn.edu](mailto:lawvalue@umn.edu), Telephone: 612-625-0055

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## Funding opportunities

There are a number of important fellowship opportunities and deadlines coming up soon

**Fellowships through the Office of International Programs.** The Conservation Biology grad program will likely have several applicants for this fellowship that is due on March 9. These require a nomination letter from the DGS although we are not limited in the number of students from the program that can apply. Because this due date coincides with the Grad School's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship deadline, I need enough time to prepare at least 8 nomination letters (the count so far). To be a CB nominee for an OIP fellowship, I need a copy of your proposal and your advisor's letter of support (sent via email directly to me) by Friday, **February 23**. I won't be able to provide a CB nomination letter if this information isn't available to me on Feb 23.

**Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships** - We are nominating 5 students for this Graduate School competition this year (Anne Cooper, Kelly Paulson, Michelle Wieland, Tony Gamble, Olivia LeDee). **Your information is due to the CB office on February 16** (as per previous email).

**CB Summer Fellowships** - The CB program will provide summer support for at least 5 first or second year students (first year students are the higher priority). You can only receive this award once. First year students must have convened their committee and have received program approval for their degree program to be eligible; second year students must have a degree program approved by the Grad School. Also, note that if you are on a GS Fellowship, MacArthur, or other award where this support was part of your offer letter at admission, you still need to submit a proposal (and have your degree program submitted). **Due Monday March 19** (see details below).

**Global and Environmental Change Graduate Fellowship**- This is a new opportunity available to students in the 5 environment-related graduate programs in CFANS (note- your advisor does not need to be in CFANS-all CB students are eligible). The priority students for this fellowship are mid-program PhD Students (i.e., those who will be at the right stage to apply for a Doctoral Dissertation fellowship a year from now). **Due Date: March 1. Send me an email by Feb. 16** if you plan to apply.

*Let Sue know if you have any questions- lots of great opportunities!*

### Graduate Fellows and Environmental Biology, an NSF-funded GK-12 Project

To: Graduate Students in Ecology, Evolution & Behavior; Entomology; Natural Resources Science & Management; Plant Biology; Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology; and Water Resources Science

From: Drs. Lesa Covington Clarkson (Curriculum and Instruction), Scott Lanyon (Bell Museum of Natural History and EEB), Karen Oberhauser (FWCB), Susan Weller (Entomology and Bell Museum); and Kevin Williams (Bell Museum)

Re: 12-month graduate fellowship opportunity (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008).

Join fellow Environmental Biology graduate students in this NSF-funded project! Work with K-12 teachers and UM faculty and staff engaged in K-12 activities as you translate your research expertise into a K-12 learning environment. The goal of this project is to encourage science graduate students to connect with K-12 teachers and students throughout their careers. Benefits include experience in inquiry-based pedagogy that will be effective in university teaching, working with graduate students and faculty from across the University, and helping young students become engaged in science.

Fellows will engage in summer workshops, work in Minneapolis and St. Paul Schools, and on campus activities

**To apply: by February 28** fill out the on-line form at [www.gk12.umn.edu](http://www.gk12.umn.edu) and ask your advisor to fill out the recommender's form at [www.gk12.umn.edu](http://www.gk12.umn.edu)

### Udall Fellowship

The Udall Foundation is currently accepting applications for the 2007 Environmental Public Policy & Conflict Resolution Dissertation Fellowship. We hope that you will forward this information to qualified Ph.D. students. The application deadline is **February 21, 2007**. The Udall Foundation awards two one-year fellowships of up to \$24,000 to doctoral candidates whose research concerns U.S. environmental public policy and/or environmental conflict resolution and who are entering their final year of writing the dissertation. Previous fellows' fields of study include political science; economics; government; environmental science, policy and management; ecology; environmental justice; regional planning; geography; natural resource policy; and environmental analysis and design. Interdisciplinary projects are particularly welcome. Fellows must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals or U.S. permanent residents, and their dissertation research must pertain to U.S. environmental policy.

Program details, information and applications are available at <http://www.udall.gov>. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jane Curlin at [curlin@udall.gov](mailto:curlin@udall.gov).

**Deadline: Feb. 21, 2007**

Thank you for your help in recruiting outstanding Udall Fellows.

*Jane Curlin, Ph.D.*

[curlin@udall.gov](mailto:curlin@udall.gov)

### New Funding for International Scholarly Activities

The following are new funding programs to promote a global network of scholarship and engagement and encourage interdisciplinary and transnational partnerships. The programs are administered and funded by the Office of International Programs. Guidelines and application materials:

<http://www.international.umn.edu/funding/strategic.html> Questions: Karen Brown, 612-624-0832 or [kbt@umn.edu](mailto:kbt@umn.edu)

### Funding for Faculty, Staff, and Colleges/Departments

• Interdisciplinary International Institutional Partnership Grants Deadline noon on Jan. 29, 2007

- Interdisciplinary International Research Circle Grants Deadline noon on **Jan. 29, 2007**

#### Funding for Graduate and Professional Degree Students

- OIP Doctoral Fellowships for International Research and Writing Deadline noon on **March 9, 2007**

- OIP International Pre-Dissertation and Small Grants Competition

Deadline noon on **Jan. 29, 2007**

OIP International Internship Awards Deadline noon on **Jan. 29, 2007**

More information on guidelines and application forms is available at:  
<http://www.international.umn.edu/funding/strategic.html>

#### President's Student Leadership and Service Awards

Each year, this award honors the accomplishments of outstanding students and their invaluable contributions of leadership and service to the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus and the community. All administrators, faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to nominate current University students for this prestigious award that is given out annually to one-half percent of all University students.

Undergraduate recipients of the President's Student Leadership and Service Award may also be considered for the Donald R. Zander Award for Outstanding Student Leadership (a \$1,000 scholarship is given to two recipients) and the University of Minnesota Alumni Association Student Leadership Award (a \$500 scholarship is given to eight recipients). Graduate and professional student recipients of the President's Student Leadership and Service Award may also be considered for the Mary A. McEvoy Award for Public Engagement and Leadership (a \$1,000 scholarship is given to one graduate and one professional student).

I am looking forward to presenting all of these awards at the annual President's Awards banquet scheduled for Thursday, May 3, 2007.

Please join me in celebrating the contributions made by outstanding student leaders by nominating deserving students for the President's Student Leadership and Service Awards. The deadline for submitting applications is Wednesday, **February 14, 2007**.

For more information and to access online nomination forms, please visit the Student Activities Office website at <http://www.sao.umn.edu/Awards/> or telephone the Student Activities Office at 612-626-6919.

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Please be aware that **February 19th** is the deadline for the following fellowships offered through the Bell Museum and Ecology, Evolution and Behavior.

<http://www.cbs.umn.edu/eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml>

#### The Florence Rothman Fellowship

[/eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml](http://www.cbs.umn.edu/eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml) provides support for students working with Bell Museum faculty or doing field work in EEB (deadline: **February 19, 2007**).

#### The \*Huempfner Ruffed Grouse

[/eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml](http://www.cbs.umn.edu/eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml)\* fund supports graduate students researching ruffed grouse and their habitat (deadline: **February 19, 2007**).

The \*Dayton and Wilkie Natural History Funds\*

</eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml> is administered by the Bell Museum of Natural History. Funds can be used for laboratory supplies and equipment to support field studies that are directly related to the student thesis project (deadline: February 19, 2007).

The Frank McKinney\*Fellowship

</eeb/graduateprogram/fellowships/daytonwilkie.shtml> provides support for students working in Avian Behavior (deadline: February 19, 2007)

\*If you have questions, feel free to contact Bob Zink ([zinkx003@umn.edu](mailto:zinkx003@umn.edu)).

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The Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences

is accepting proposals for projects addressing the broad societal implications of problems in health, environment, or the life sciences. University of Minnesota graduate and professional students should apply now for stipends for research, funding for research supplies, or funding for events in Summer 2007 or academic year 2007-08. Maximum award is \$7000.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) may be found at

<http://www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/rfps/>

Proposals must be received by 4pm on Monday, February 19. If you have questions concerning this RFP, please contact Audrey Boyle at [boyle032@umn.edu](mailto:boyle032@umn.edu) or 612.626.5624.

Graduate Fellows and Environmental Biology, an NSF-funded GK-12 Project

Join fellow Environmental Biology graduate students in this NSF-funded project! Work with K-12 teachers and UM faculty and staff engaged in K-12 activities as you translate your research expertise into a K-12 learning environment. The goal of this project is to encourage science graduate students to connect with K-12 teachers and students throughout their careers. Benefits include experience in inquiry-based pedagogy that will be effective in university teaching, working with graduate students and faculty from across the University, and helping young students become engaged in science.

**Apply by February 28**

- Fill out the on-line form at [www.gk12.umn.edu](http://www.gk12.umn.edu)
- Ask your advisor to fill out the recommender's form at [www.gk12.umn.edu](http://www.gk12.umn.edu)

Please contact Karen Oberhauser with questions or comments: [oberh001@umn.edu](mailto:oberh001@umn.edu)

Torske Klubben (The Cod Club) Fellowship for Minnesota Residents

Students currently registered for credit in the University of Minnesota Graduate School who are official state-of-Minnesota residents may apply. The award is open to individuals who have an interest in or connection with Norway and/or its culture. Applicants should have a strong, mature, and clearly defined career interest in a specific field, with a sound research or study plan. Applicants must be able to demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and high academic achievement. Preference will be given to students who earned their undergraduate degrees from a Minnesota college or university, or from a college founded by or associated with Norwegian-Americans, such as Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A stipend of \$10,000 for the academic year. For recipients without another source of tuition support, such as an assistantship, the Graduate School Fellowship Office will provide a Tuition Scholarship for full-time study for the academic year. Torske Klubben is interested in supporting students of high academic

achievement who show great promise of becoming leaders in their chosen profession and/or in the Norwegian- American community, who have a deep and abiding cultural and/or professional interest in Norway (in a historical or present-day context), and who convey a sensitivity to the future of Norway and Norway-America relationships. Need may be taken into account, all other factors being equal. Complete Fellowship description, application form, and instructions are available on the web at [http://www.grad.umn.edu/fellowships/forms/tk\\_mn\\_residents.pdf](http://www.grad.umn.edu/fellowships/forms/tk_mn_residents.pdf) or from the Graduate School Fellowship Office [gsfellow@tc.umn.edu](mailto:gsfellow@tc.umn.edu) Deadline: **March 1, 2005**

#### National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial

#### **Scholarship Program-Deadline: April 13, 2007**

In honor of the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial, the Walt Disney Company (<http://www.disney.com/>), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service <http://www.fws.gov/>, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation <http://www.nfwf.org/> are supporting the 2007 National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Scholarship Program. The NWRS Centennial Scholarship Program seeks to support students whose research will contribute toward improved management and understanding of the diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources found on National Wildlife Refuges <http://refuges.fws.gov/>. Under this competitive scholarship program, a minimum of ten one-year scholarships will be awarded to support students' research expenses, tuition, fees, books, and room and board.

Undergraduate, master's, and juris doctorate students are eligible to receive a one-time award of \$5,000; Ph.D. and D.V.M. students are eligible to receive a one-time award of \$15,000.

To be eligible, a student must be a U.S. citizen or legal resident enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education in the U.S. pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree (sophomores and juniors in the current academic year only) in environmental science, natural resource management, biology, public policy, education, geography, political science, or related disciplines. Only those students working on a National Wildlife Refuge or whose work is directly applicable to resource management on a National Wildlife Refuge(s) are eligible. Visit the NFWF Web site for complete program details and application instructions.

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