

Conservation Biology Graduate Program Weekly Newsletter

05 March 2007

A weekly newsletter of the Conservation
Biology Graduate Program

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

Submissions to coop0162@umn.edu



Editor's Corner

Welcome to Seminar Extravaganza Week! I've included those that look the most relevant to CB folks. Many are going on today so I'm sending out the newsletter earlier than normal so that people can plan their day accordingly. Next week is Spring Break so don't expect a newsletter—I'll be eating my way through the Portuguese countryside. Other than that, enjoy the snow while it's here—the ski trails at Como Park are groomed and waiting!

Anne Cooper

Lectures/seminars on campus

Conservation Biology Seminar

Date and time: 05 March 4:00-5:00pm

Location: 335 Borlaug

Title: Roving Bandits, Sequential Exploitation and Adaptive Co-management

Presenter: Fikret Berkes, University of Manitoba, Canada

Abstract: A critical aspect of marine overharvesting involves mobile resource exploiters and buyers ("roving bandits") who can deplete stocks faster than regulatory agencies can respond. Roving banditry is different from the classical "tragedy of the commons" in that it reflects a new dynamic that has arisen in the human-dominated, globalized world: markets for new marine products can develop so rapidly that the speed of resource exploitation overwhelms the ability of local and national institutions to respond. This dynamic typically results in sequential exploitation: the spatially expanding depletion of harvested species over time, in which the serial depletions of local stocks are masked by ever-expanding geographic expansion of the harvest area. We have documented such a pattern for sea urchins harvested for the global sushi trade. Roving bandits and sequential exploitation are not isolated phenomena but symptoms of globalization characterized by rapid, systemic change and the collapse of space and time scales. This is commons as complexity. Global and regional agencies are too clumsy to monitor at the relevant scale and react in a timely fashion; local institutions are often overwhelmed by surprise. The problem must be addressed at multiple scales using multiple tools. But solutions ultimately depend on changed behavior at the local level, building conserving feedback to create stewardship

incentives and adaptive governance. These include establishing community property rights (and in some cases individual rights); fostering co-management regimes that can learn from experience (adaptive co-management); using the local and traditional knowledge of fishers; building community-based monitoring; and developing multi-level governance institutions that can learn and innovate.

Upcoming CB Seminar—Related Opportunities

Monday March 5th, the conservation biology seminar series will be hosting our outside speaker, Dr. Fikret Berkes. He will be here all day and evening on Monday and will be available to meet with interested students and faculty. I have attached a brief summary of his talk and his biography and research interests, along with some publications that I believe do a good job summarizing his orientation towards environmental and conservation issues. The MacArthur program will be sponsoring a breakfast with Dr. Berkes on the West bank and the CB program will be hosting a graduate student lunch that day. If you are interested in meeting with Dr. Berkes in some capacity during his visit, please contact me at: richm051@umn.edu

U. Minnesota Center for Community Genetics Seminar

Date and time: Monday, March 5, 1:30 PM

Location: Ecology 505

Presenter: Dr. Douglas Taylor, Department of Biology, University of Virginia

Title: History, Chance, and Adaptation in Two Invasive Species

Forest Resources

Date and time: Monday, March 5, 2007, 2:30 p.m.

Location: 203 Green Hall, St Paul Campus

Title: "Measuring and Reporting Carbon Stocks for the United States"

Presenters: Charles (Hobie) Perry, Barry (Ty) Wilson and Christopher Woodall, Northern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service St. Paul, Minnesota

Notes: The U.S. Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program conducts an annual forest inventory which includes the forest health indicators of down woody material (DWM) and soil quality. The inventory is conducted on an extensive systematic nation-wide array of plots. The major challenge facing the FIA program is converting plot data into estimates of carbon stocks for international reporting. The goal of this presentation is to facilitate collegial interactions between the FIA program and the campus community. To that end, we present a brief overview of the FIA program and discuss the estimation and mapping of carbon stored in standing live trees, DVM, and surface soils.

EEB Weekly Seminar

Date and time: Please note the time: TUESDAY, March 6, 3:30 pm

Location: 335 Borlaug Hall

Presenter: Dr. Anthony H. D. Brown CSIRO Australia

Title: "Measuring, collecting and conserving plant genetic resources"

Notes: Tony Brown's scientific career has produced highly influential accomplishments in the fields of plant population genetics, plant breeding, conservation genetics, evolution and molecular systematics. He has authored over 200 research papers and reviews, and has edited five volumes and one monograph (with OH Frankel and JJ Burdon) "The Conservation of Plant Biodiversity". He has participated in numerous plant collecting missions for wild relatives of crops (two for wild barley in Israel and Iran, and six for wild soybean and cotton in Australia), and was curator of the Australian Plant Genetics Resources Centre for indigenous wild relatives of crops.

Currently, he is an Honorary Research Fellow of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI, Rome) and Technical Advisor on IPGRI's global project developing the scientific basis of In Situ conservation on-farm. Working in collaboration with IPGRI, he has developed the theory and methodology of core collections for plant germplasm collections and their worldwide implementation.

Host: Plant Biological Sciences graduate program & Ecology, Evolution and Behavior
Refreshments will be served outside of 335 Borlaug at 3:30.

Environmental and Resource Economics Seminar

Date and time: Monday, March 5 from 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Location: Room 230 Classroom Office Building

Presenter: Paul Ferraro, Georgia State University

Title: "How Effective are Regulations in Slowing Land Use Change? An evaluation of protected area networks"

Notes: Societies frequently implement policies to manage land cover change. Common examples include restrictions on resource extraction or development (e.g. zoning in urban areas). In the field of land use policy, two important questions remain unresolved and are the subjects of ongoing debates. First, how effective are land use regulations? Secondly, how do land use regulations affect social welfare? In answering these questions, existing evaluations fail to account for the selection bias and spatial interactions associated with land use regulations. We integrate insights from the literatures on program evaluation and spatial econometrics to develop a methodology for evaluating land use regulations. We show how matching estimators can be used to detect spatial spillovers and to estimate treatment effects from land use regulations.

In this paper, we apply our methods to estimate the effect of protected areas on deforestation in Costa Rica from 1960 to 1997. Preliminary results indicate that the failure to jointly account for selection bias and spatial spillovers biases estimates of the effectiveness of Costa Rica's protected areas. Our results imply that protection resulted in avoided deforestation both inside and outside of the protected areas, but that traditional methods overestimate the amount of avoided deforestation. Furthermore, we demonstrate that spatial sampling, a common technique to control for spatial spillovers, may fail to establish a valid counterfactual for regulated land units. We thus develop an alternative approach that directly adjusts the sample to reflect the detected spatial spillovers. This same approach can also be applied in situations where the most appropriate counterfactuals are regulated prior to the final observation on the outcome.

If you are interested in meeting with Paul please let Elaine Reber know and she will get your name on a schedule. Or, let her know if you would like to go to lunch with him.

Ph.D. Thesis Seminar

Date and time: 12pm Friday, March 9, 2007

Location: 150 Ecology Building

Presenter: Dan MacNulty

Title: "Development, senescence, and cooperation in the predatory behavior of a social carnivore"

Notes: The development of hunting ability is often attributed to learning, but few studies have considered the relative influence of physical growth. Size-related improvements in hunting ability may in fact underlie the evolution of large body size in carnivores, though direct tests of the effect of body size on hunting success are lacking. Likewise, little is known about the effects of aging on hunter ability, and whether physical senescence reduces hunting performance. Game-theoretical models predict that

unequal hunting abilities among members of a social group will limit the evolution of cooperative hunting. However, the effects of unequal hunting ability on group hunting success remain largely unexplored in social predators. I will address these issues using long-term data on the hunting behavior of 92 individually-known wolves that were members or descendents of a population reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park in the mid-1990's.

Coffee and refreshments are available before the seminar

Announcements

Weekly Happy Hour for FWCB and neighboring departments!!!

When: Wednesdays (starting this week)

Where: Ol' Mexico Restaurant & Cantina (1754 Lexington Ave N.)

What Time: Happy Hour!

Who: Anybody who would like to come. We would like to use this to meet more people in the department, and in other departments. Spouses, friends, and significant others welcome.

***Happy hour at Ol' Mexico Restaurant & Cantina is from 4-6:30 and includes a *complimentary taco bar* and *reduced prices on tap beers*!

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources Agenda

Friday, March 9, 2007

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

New Awards for CEHD Students

The following awards are being offered this spring and CEHD students are eligible for each award. The due date for nominations is **March 21** at 4 PM.

The awards are:

David L. Giese Service Award

Excellence in Academic Advising

Excellence in Discovery Award

Multicultural Recognition Award

Multicultural Recognition Award for Undergraduate Students

Outstanding Student Award

For more information on these awards please see:

<http://intranet.education.umn.edu/Committees/HAC/awards-HAV.html>

We're here to help

CV/RESUME BUILDING AND FORMATING FOR ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY

Date and time: Tuesday, **March 6**, 2007, 2:00-4:00 p. m.

Location: 3-115 Electrical Engineering, East Bank

Map: <http://onestop.umn.edu/Maps/EECS/EECSmap.html>

Presenters: Dr. Deborah Wingert, Instructor, Center for Teaching and Learning; Terri Spillers, Counselor, Office of Human Resources

This workshop is for graduate students and postdocs, at all stages of their programs or careers, planning to seek faculty positions or careers in industry and private organizations. The presentation will cover the difference between CV/résumé writing

and building; what employers are looking for; essential components of a CV/résumé and competitively packaging your skills.

Click to register: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/career/workshops/register.asp?id=133>

EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING SKILLS FOR JOBS IN INDUSTRY

Date and time: Wednesday, **March 7**, 2007, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Location: 140 Nolte Center, East Bank

Map: <http://www.onestop.umn.edu/Maps/NCCE/NCCE-map.html>

Presenter: Patty Bales, Counselor, Office of Human Resources

The presentation will cover how companies determine who to interview; how to prepare for an interview; handling difficult questions and different interview formats.

Click to register: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/career/workshops/register.asp?id=144>

GETTING WHAT YOU WANT: TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

Date and time: Tuesday, **March 27**, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Location: 231 Smith Hall, East Bank

Map: <http://onestop.umn.edu/Maps/SmithH/SmithH-map.html>

Presenter: Dr. Kathryn Hirsh, Co-founder of Hirshworks, a consulting company that specializes in career development and coaching for the past 19 years.

Notes: The goals of this workshop are to share a model of personality, based in the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®, that will help inform your approach to informational interviewing and to offer strategies for attacking the informational interview process that are tailored to your personality preferences. By becoming more aware of your own preferences - your style of interacting, making decisions, gathering information, and structuring your environment - you will be able to ask better questions and receive needed feedback in your quest to discover the career path that uniquely suits you.

Click to register: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/career/workshops/register.asp?id=138>

WRITING FUNDABLE GRANT PROPOSALS--ALL DISCIPLINES

Date and time: Thursday, **March 29**, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Location: 102 Fraser Hall, East Bank

Map: <http://onestop.umn.edu/Maps/FraserH/FraserH-map.html>

Presenter: Dr. Jeanine Ferguson, Grants Coordinator, Office of the Executive Vice President for System Academic Administration

Notes: This presentation is aimed at graduate students and postdoctoral associates/fellows planning to apply for research grants or fellowship funding in all disciplines. Strategies for developing successful grant proposals will be highlighted, along with an overview of resources for prospecting grant sources within federal, state, private and University funding pools. Dr. Ferguson has been teaching grant writing at the U of MN for 20 years. She opened two research/sponsored project development offices in CLA and CEHD and assisted in securing over \$40 million in external funding for projects.

Click to register: <http://www.grad.umn.edu/career/workshops/register.asp?id=141>

News You Can Use

Check out carbon dioxide emission levels by country at <http://www.breathingearth.net/>.

Women with Vision 2007

This March, the Walker Art Center presents Women with Vision 2007: Mirror Image. Identity, history, memory, and experience are at the core of the films that make up the 14th annual international festival by women directors. These women reflect on our complex world and give us new ways to see ourselves within it through cinematic explorations of war, longing for love, motherhood, and boxing. See below for details or visit [filmvideo.walkerart.org/www](http://www.filmvideo.walkerart.org/www) <<http://www.filmvideo.walkerart.org/www>>.

We are also offering special ticket rates for groups of 10 or more—for more information, please contact me at 612.375.7593 or brianne.whitcraft@walkerart.org.

For the entire schedule for Women with Vision 2007: Mirror Image or other upcoming events, please visit walkerart.org

<<https://10.1.5.50/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://www.walkerart.org/>>. We also offer group rates for other films and performances.

GAPSA news

- 1) First All-Campus Election for the GAPSA President
- 2) Graduate and Professional Student Speed Dating Event
- 3) Law School Musical- Frankenlaw
- 4) Support UpWard Bound!

First All-Campus Election for the GAPSA President: Get Involved! For the first time ever, all graduate and professional students will have the opportunity to run for and elect the GAPSA President for the 2007-2008 academic year. A description of the responsibilities of the GAPSA President will be posted in the next few days to our website, www.gapsa.umn.edu.

In order to run for GAPSA President, you must declare your candidacy with the All-Campus Election Commission (ACEC) by March 9, at 4:30 pm. A packet with candidacy information and instructions is located on their website, <http://www.sua.umn.edu/events/vote/?PHPSESSID=3d588c237df8bcc970f411546f63b243>)

All registered graduate and professional students will be eligible to vote in the election, which will take place online April 16-18. Instructions on how to vote will be sent closer to the election dates.

If you are interested in participating on the GAPSA executive board, but not as President, there are seven other positions that will be contested in April. The candidates for those positions will be appointed by a majority vote of the Assembly members at the April 25 meeting. Descriptions of the available positions are located on our website.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail gapsa@umn.edu, or the chair of the All-Campus Election Commission, Chao Yang, at acec@umn.edu.

Graduate Student Speed Dating, this Friday, presented by the Law School's Asylum Law Project:

Blarney's Pub and Grill from 6 p.m.- 9 p.m.

More Info and Registration is available at speeddateumn.googlepages.com.

Tickets are \$10 at the door/\$8 in advance

All donations go directly to the Asylum Law Project, in support of its pro bono immigration work.

The Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (T.O.R.T.) at the Law School presents Frankenlaw, the tale of one law professor's quest for the "perfect" law student. Shows are March 2 & 3, 7 p.m., at the Pantages Theatre in downtown Minneapolis. For ticket information, including student discounts, please see the website: <http://www.tc.umn.edu/~tort>. Partially sponsored by GAPSA.

Support Upward Bound: Support U of M Upward Bound by shopping at Barnes & Noble in Roseville, MN. On Saturday, March 3, from opening at 9 AM to closing at 11 PM, Barnes & Noble will donate a percentage of every sale made with a special Bookfair voucher to U of M Upward Bound Tutoring Program!

Vouchers are available online at <http://www.mntrio.org/new/events.html> or by emailing rese0009@umn.edu and in hard copy at U of M Upward Bound, 128 Pleasant St SE, Minneapolis (Appleby Room 2).

You can support Upward Bound 3 ways:

- 1) Download the attached voucher and visit Barnes and Noble in Roseville, 2100 N Snelling Ave, March 3rd to purchase any book, magazine, newspaper, CD, DVD, or gift item.
- 2) Email or download the attached voucher to the people that you know and encourage them to support Upward Bound on March 3rd.
- 3) Give a donation (cash or check made out to Upward Bound) to Anna Resele or mail to Upward Bound, Appleby 2, 128 Pleasant St SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55455, and we will purchase wish list items March 3rd at Barnes and Noble in Roseville.

Date Saver

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

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

Water Resources Science Seminar

Friday, **March 23**, 2007 @ 3:00._

Martin Saar from the Department of Geology & Geophysics will be the speaker.*

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>.

Jobs

CATT

The Center for Aquatic Technology Transfer (CATT) has several summer technician positions open for application. Our summer technicians are based in Blacksburg, VA but spend most of their summer traveling throughout the Southern Region in support of a variety of fisheries related projects. Technicians work as members of teams led by Forest Service biologists and consisting of other college students. Technicians can gain a variety of skills including surveying techniques, stream habitat inventories, and fish sampling while working with Forest Service biologists, scientists, and graduate students. We hire students of all experience levels and a from variety of natural resource related backgrounds.

The attached document details the available positions and application process. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks for your help.

Craig Roghair

Fisheries Biologist, USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station

Center for Aquatic Technology Transfer (CATT)

1650 Ramble Rd. Blacksburg, VA 24060

phone: 540 951-1045

fax: 540 951-0941

<http://www.trout.forprod.vt.edu/>

MNDNR-LAKE SUPERIOR FISHERIES

The purpose of this position is to assist the Lake Superior management team in the sampling and analysis of fisheries data collected from stocks in Lake Superior and its tributary streams.

Position duties include but are not limited to:

1. Assist with assessment netting for lake trout, herring, smelt, Pacific salmon, and a variety of other coldwater species in Lake Superior.
2. Assist with data collected from fish in Lake Superior and tributary streams, which may include: length, weight, sex, bony structures, lamprey wounds, stomach contents, etc.
3. Organize, clean, press and conduct preliminary aging of scale samples that will be used for age and growth analysis.
4. Organize, proof, and enter field data into computerized data base systems.
5. Maintenance and repair of vehicles and a variety of field and lab equipment.

Desired qualifications:

The applicant must be enrolled in a formal degree program. The applicant should have course work and experience in the fields of aquatic biology, fisheries management,

ichthyology, limnology, and human relations. Experience with various aging techniques, growth analysis, desktop computers, Excel, Access, Word, Power Point and statistical software is desirable. The ability to operate gill nets, trap nets, and seines; trucks with and without trailers, large boats and outboard motors is required. The applicant should have experience working on a large body of water in rough conditions with no adverse effects and should have experience launching and landing large boats. The applicant must have a Class D Minnesota driver's license.

Preferred work dates: Work is full time (8 hours/day, 5 days/week). Interns must be available for at least 16 weeks. Preferred starting date is April 1, but anytime before May 15 would be considered. Preference may be given to applicants who are available to start on the preferred date or that can work through the entire month of September. There is a possibility that the work period may be extended beyond 16 weeks. Applicants with work-study or some type of cost share program available may be given preference. Wages will range from \$8.00 - \$10.00/hour dependent on experience.

Housing and Transportation: No housing will be provided and public transportation to Area Headquarters does not exist. Therefore, the intern is required to provide his/her own housing and personal transportation to and from the French River complex.

If interested please submit a letter of intent, current resume, transcript copy, and three references to: MN-DNR, Lake Superior Area Fisheries, 5351 North Shore Drive, Duluth, MN 55804.

All material must be received by March 19, 2007. If you have any questions, please call 218-525-0853 X203.

Conferences and Meetings

North American Section of the Society for Conservation Biology

The North American Section of the Society for Conservation Biology will be meeting jointly with the International Conference on Ecology & Transportation for their 2007 meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, May 20-25. This meeting offers a wonderful opportunity for SCB members and Chapter members in North America to get together. The topic of road ecology, which dominates the conference, is very pertinent to conservation biology.

We invite NA Section members - and all members of SCB and SCB Chapters in North America - to attend this conference. We view this joint meeting as a way to "phase in" meetings of the North American Section in years when the SCB Global annual meeting is held outside the United States (i.e., as this year, in South Africa). The 2007 ICOET meeting will feature a half-day SCB-organized symposium, on May 24, on key topics in conservation biology that relate to roads, as well as a membership/business meeting of the North American Section and Chapters.

Among other items of business, we plan to discuss policy priorities for SCB in North America with SCB's new Policy Director, John Fitzgerald. The symposium program can be found at <http://www.conbio.org/Sections/NAmerica/AgendaforICOET.pdf>

For more information, and to register for the conference, see the ICOET website: <http://www.icoet.net/ICOET2007.asp>

I look forward to seeing many of you there! Best regards,

Reed Noss

President, North American Section

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. 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.

The American Society of Naturalists (ASN)

The annual meetings of The American Society of Naturalists (ASN) <http://www.amnat.org/>, Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB) <http://systbiol.org/>, and the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE) <http://www.evolutionarysociety.org> are scheduled to be held June 16-20, 2007 at the Christchurch Convention Centre, Christchurch, New Zealand. Saturday June 16 is the arrival day (pre-conference tours, council meetings and opening reception), Sunday June 17 through Wednesday June 20 (scientific sessions) with closing awards banquet scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, June 20. Thursday June 21 is departure day. Full details on this combined meeting are available at the Evolution 2007 web site, www.evolution2007.com On line conference registration and talk/poster registration is now available at this site. Delegates intending to present a talk or display a poster at Evolution 2007, must first register through the on line registration process.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES For submission of talk/poster titles- **April 15, 2007** For early bird discounted registration rates - **March 31, 2007** Delegates can register early and submit titles no later than the deadline above. Information on travel to New Zealand and accommodation options for the conference can be found on the conference web site.

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

02 March 2007 - Deadline for symposium presentation abstracts

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 or email 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.

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, Telephone: 612-625-0055

Funding opportunities

Bell Fellowship in Avian Conservation

The Bell Museum announces a competition for a research fellowship in the general field of avian conservation for graduate students currently enrolled at the University of Minnesota. The project ideally would involve a field component, and must be directed at some aspect of avian conservation. Projects designed to assist avian conservation efforts through an improved understanding of bird biology will be given preference. Please follow guidelines given below. Send your application (hard copy or email) by April 6 2007 to: Robert M. Zink, Bell Museum 100 Ecology Bldg. Univ. of Minnesota St. Paul, MN 55108 zinkx003@umn.edu

Guidelines for Bell Fellowship in Avian Conservation

Length: Maximum 5 pages single-spaced 12 pt type (excluding Lit. Cited). Three tables and three figures maximum. Tables, figures and budget do not count in the page limit.

The proposal should include a general overview of the research, and why it is significant to the field of bird conservation. This must be clear to a general reader. Have a graduate student colleague in a different field read your proposal to determine that it is clear to a scientist outside of your immediate area.

Emphasize the specific hypotheses, or observations you will make. Stress the feasibility and demonstrate that you have thought about how you will actually do the research. Is your project high risk or are you fairly certain that you can do it?

Exactly what is the nature of the data to be gathered, and how will they be analyzed?

What sample sizes are needed to answer the questions posed? Imagine that you have gathered your data. How will you analyze them? What statistical tests are to be used?

Can you actually falsify your hypotheses with your study design?

What have you done on this project to date? How is it relevant to this proposal?

If your work involves specimens, state that you have or will have proper collecting permits, and where your voucher specimens will be deposited. We expect students in all fields to preserve voucher specimens in the appropriate U of MN repository.

Budget: Include an explicit budget, one with totals in all relevant columns. Awards will not exceed \$10,000.00 (the amount of this award will fluctuate annually). Field travel

will be funded at the rate of 35 cents per mile. Funds cannot be used for student stipends. If you purchase equipment for amounts of \$100 or more, it becomes property of the Bell Museum upon completion of your project. Do not make requests for items such as raincoats or other personal items. If other proposals for the research are pending, list the funding agencies and when you expect to hear; we retain the option to withhold funding until these proposals are acted upon.

Include a current CV and a brief statement of the student's background (not part of the page limit).

Be sure your advisor has submitted a separate letter of recommendation; it can be emailed to zinkx003@umn.edu.

Compton Graduate Fellowships

I serve on the committee that awards graduate fellowships for the MacArthur Program, aka the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change. Our committee is interested in recruiting more students in the area of environment, natural resources, and agriculture. There are two fellowships that stand open for students from Africa and Latin America through the Compton Fellowships and preference will be given to "St. Paul campus" students.

The Compton Fellowships are for students from Africa or Latin America who intend to return to work in Africa or Latin America upon finishing their degrees. The fellows' area of interest should have interdisciplinary dimensions and fall broadly under the topic of human security, including food and natural resources.

Please contact Karen Brown, Phone: 612-624-0255, kbt@umn.edu for additional information and to submit applicants for the Compton Fellowship.

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

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).

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

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

Funding for Graduate and Professional Degree Students

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

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

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.
