

Conservation Biology Graduate Program Weekly Newsletter

30 April 2007

A weekly newsletter of the Conservation
Biology Graduate Program

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

Submissions to coop0162@umn.edu



Editor's Corner

Good morning!

Take a close look at the newsletter today—there are several funding and conference deadlines for April 30th. Also, there are several new short courses, summer courses, and exciting offerings for September.

Anne Cooper

Lectures/seminars on campus

Conservation Biology Seminar

Date and time: **30 April** 4-5pm

Location: Room 335 Borlaug Hall

Title: "Biology, risk, security: biological life as a problem for political reason"

Presenter: Bruce Braun, University of Minnesota Geography Department

Notes: This paper takes up recent calls in geography and environmental studies to attend to the 'waywardness' of matter as part of efforts to displace the substance-form dualism found in much Western metaphysics. Drawing upon concerns over avian flu, I first explore the ways in which biological life has come to be figured within scientific and political discourse in terms of 'emergence'. I then examine how this has posed new problems for political reason. I focus specifically on the relation between the framing of biological life at the molecular scale in terms of unspecifiable and catastrophic futures, and the spatial strategies currently being devised by agencies such as the CDC, USAID and WHO, in their efforts to pre-empt certain biological futures in favor of others.

EEB Weekly Seminar

Date, time and location: Wednesday, **May 2**, 4:00 pm, Borlaug Hall 335

Presenter: Dr. Mike Kaspari, Dept. of Zoology, University of Oklahoma

Title: "Toward a biogeography of brown food webs"

Notes: HSS helped create the science of plant-herbivore interactions. It did little, however, to spur similar excitement among population biologists for the microbes, microbivores and predators that make up the brown food web. This is a pity, as the BFW is a tractable system for experimental and comparative ecology. It also differs in basic ways from the green food webs of plants and their herbivores. I review recent studies that integrate metabolic,

stoichiometric, and trophic approaches to predict patterns of abundance and activity in the brown food web.

Host: Dr. Jennifer Powers

Coffee/cookies served in EEB lobby at 3:30

Forest Resources Department Ph.D. Seminar

Presenter 1: Brennan Pierce, Graduate Student, Forest Resources Department

Title 1: How to win the fight against soil erosion and influence water quality!

Date, time and location: Monday, April 30, 2:30 and 3 p.m., 203 Green Hall

Presenter 2: Grant L. Wilson, Graduate Student, Forest Resources Department

Title 2: ATV Use on Private Lands; How Focus Groups will Inform Survey Design

Notes: The focus group is a misunderstood and often misused tool for academic, community, and nonprofit research. The questions of what it should be used for, what it should not be used for, and its appropriate role as a method are often overlooked or misinterpreted. If used the right way, the focus group can be an invaluable tool for both qualitative and quantitative research. This presentation will give a brief overview of focus group methodology, how it can be used in conjunction with quantitative methods, and a preview of how it will be used to inform a survey this summer of private landowner attitudes concerning ATV use on their lands.

Environmental and Resource Economics Seminar

Date, time and location: Monday, April 30, 12:00-1:30 p.m., Room 230 Classroom Office Building

Presenter: Kshama Harpankar, Department of Applied Economics, U of M

Title: "Dynamic reserve selection in the presence of economic feedback effects "

Notes: One of the important reasons for biodiversity loss is the loss of habitats which occurs due to increasing human activities. Managing landscapes simultaneously for both human productivity and biodiversity is a challenge to ensure a sustainable coexistence of both. Setting aside land for biodiversity conservation or for provision of open space does not occur in a vacuum, but these decisions unfold on a landscape where often multiple demands compete for land. This paper incorporates the economic feedback effects that can occur on a landscape via the planner's decision to buy land for conservation. Specifically this paper asks the following questions: 1. how is the conservation outcome affected by inclusion of feedback effects? 2. What is the optimal strategy for the planner in response to the feedback effects? Along with the feedback effects, this paper explores the trade offs involved in a dynamic reserve selection process. It is shown that conservation outcome measured without accounting for feedback effects is biased when sites outside of reserves contribute to biodiversity as long as they are not developed.

2007 Phillip C. Hamm Memorial Lecture

Title: "Steroid Signaling in Plants: The First Decade"

Presenter: Dr. Joanne Chory, Professor and Director, Plant Biology Laboratory, The Salk Institute for Biological Studies, The Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Date, time and location: Monday, April 30, 2007, 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Awards, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Lecture, 105 Cargill Building, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Reception Atrium, Cargill Building

St. Paul Campus, University of Minnesota

EVERYONE WELCOME

Biofuels: Economic Prospects and Environmental Implications

The College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences invites you to attend the first in a series of symposia. On May 1, two of the nation's leading experts in biofuels will present their views in a symposium titled: Biofuels: Economic Prospects and Environmental Implications. The event is free and open to the public. Biofuels: Economic Prospects and

Environmental Implications 1:00-3:30 p.m., May 1, 2007 335 Borlaug Hall, St. Paul Campus
http://www.cfans.umn.edu/Solution-Driven_Science_Symposium.html

The symposium will include Bruce Babcock, director of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development at Iowa State University, and Wally Wilhelm, a plant physiologist with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service. Responding to their presentations will be U of M economist Steve Taff and soil scientist Gyles Randall.

The afternoon will focus on how increased renewable energy production from bio-resources will significantly increase competition for agricultural and natural resources. It also will intensify land use issues among food, fuel, fiber, urbanization, and environmental services. These complex changes will produce global economic and environmental impacts that will not be universally beneficial.

This is the first Solution-Driven Science Symposium organized by the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. The goal of the symposia is to highlight topics that are relevant to CFANS' strategic initiatives. The format of these symposia offers the St. Paul campus community an opportunity to listen to experts and get engaged in the conversation through an extended questions & answer panel discussion.

Symposium in honor of Regents Professor Emeritus G. Edward Schuh: "Toward a Global Food and Agricultural Policy for an Open International Economy"

On* **May 2 and 3**,* the University of Minnesota will host a symposium to honor the lifetime contributions of Regents Professor Emeritus G. Edward Schuh. Ed served on the faculty for more than 25 years and in such public sector roles as member of the President's Council of Economic Advisors and Undersecretary of Agriculture. He also was dean of the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and head of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

A special rate of \$20 for students/\$40 for U of M faculty members and staff *will cover the cost of the meals to be served during the symposium.* Registration and further information about the symposium, including further information about the presenters and titles of the papers, can be found at

www.hhh.umn.edu/schuh_symposium <http://www.hhh.umn.edu/schuh_symposium>.

Stormwater: the University community's annual public meeting on stormwater management planning

Date, time and location: Thursday, **May 3**, 2007, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Cargill Building, room 105, 1500 Gortner Avenue, St. Paul Campus

Featuring:

- remarks by Vice President Kathleen O'Brien
- student presentations on stormwater design projects and Sarita restoration
- update on the University's progress on its stormwater plans

Refreshments will be served!

For more info: <http://wrc.umn.edu>.

Sponsored by the Water Resources Center and the Stormwater Linkage Committee

Courses

Short course on changes in seasonality of climate and phenology in the past, present, and future

The course will include lecture, discussion, and playing with computer models and software. We are very pleased to have Dr. Eric Grimm and Dr. Masaki Hayashi as our main speakers. We think it may be of interest to you, your colleagues, and your students. The course is free, non-credit and open to everyone. The course will be May 8-11th at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus.

It is hosted by the University of Minnesota Quaternary Paleorecords Group (QP), a graduate minor program at the University.

For registration or more information, please contact Avery Shinneman (cook0311@umn.edu) or Anna Henderson (ahenderson@gmail.com). Please indicate if you intend to come for the whole course or just a particular day.

PFF Retreat

The Center for Teaching and Learning Services is again offering the "Preparing Future Faculty Retreat"

WHO: Grad students, teaching assts, or post-docs who have NOT yet participated in GRAD 8101, Teaching in Higher Education

WHERE: 525 Science Classroom Bldg, East Bank

WHEN: Wednesday, May 16, 2007 - 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

COST: \$10.00 registration fee includes workshops, refreshments, and lunch

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **May 9**, 2007

To register, please visit: <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/pff/retreat.html>

KSU Aquaculture: Principles of Aquaculture

A Video-Based Online Course In Summer and Fall 2007

Course Available at Graduate and Undergraduate Levels

This three-credit-hour online course is different than most Internet courses. Each class will include video lectures, combined with PowerPoint presentations, in short subject-specific modules. The course also contains online tests, external links to Internet resources, discussion boards and other tools for interaction between instructor and students, as well as among students themselves.

The course will be taught by Dr. Jim Tidwell, Chair of the KSU Division of Aquaculture. Dr. Tidwell has over 90 publications in refereed journals on a number of different species, and is a Past President of the World Aquaculture Society.

The undergraduate course is cross listed as both a Biology course (BIO 422) and an Aquaculture course (AQU 422). A student should choose the course prefix that is appropriate for his/her transcript requirements. The graduate course (AQU 522) is intended for students who already have a bachelor's (or higher) degree.

What about tuition and fees?

Tuition - Undergraduate, (BIO 422 or AQU 422) \$720.00

Tuition - Graduate, (AQU 522) \$900.00

No additional fees.

Summer classes begin June 1 and extend through July 27. Fall classes will start about August 20. Consult the KSU Web site (www.kysu.edu) for details.

Prospective students are encouraged to contact Ms. Barbara Wilhelm (barbara.wilhelm@kysu.edu) to discuss course specifics and receive registration information for the course. A working e-mail address is required for each student.

For more information on Kentucky State University's Aquaculture Program, check our Web site at www.ksuaquaculture.org.

ESPM 4242/5242: Methods for environmental and natural resource policy analysis

T/Th, 10:15 - 11:30 am, 203 Green Hall

Instructors: Dennis Becker, Forest Resources, drbecker@umn.edu, Mike Kilgore, Forest Resources, mkilgore@umn.edu

Course Description: A fundamental skill for those involved in the management and use of natural resources is the ability to analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of our policies and programs. Through readings, lectures, discussions and case analyses, this course will introduce graduate and advanced undergraduate students to the methods and processes

used to analyze environmental and natural resource policies and programs. The practical application of policy analysis tools to address contemporary problems will be emphasized, recognizing the politically-charged environment within which decisions over the use, management, and protection of these resources occurs.

Course prerequisites include familiarity with economic concepts and principles applied to environmental and natural resource management problems, as well as an understanding of the process by which policy is developed and implemented. Students who have taken ESPM 3261/5261 (Economics of Natural Resources Management) and ESPM 3241W/5241 (Natural Resource and Environmental Policy), or comparable courses will have sufficient background to be successful.

Please feel free to contact the instructors with questions about the course!

FW8465: Fish habitats and restoration

Fall 2007, 3 cr.

10:15 - 11:30 T-Th, 19 Green Hall

Instructor: Bruce Vondracek

Office: 318 Hodson Hall

Phone: 624-8748

e-mail: bvondrac@umn.edu

Course Description: Examination of abiotic and biotic factors underlying physiology, behavior, and ecology that shape fish assemblages with an emphasis on north temperate habitats and current techniques and planning procedures for restoration of streams with a watershed perspective.

Objectives: This course is designed to give a broad overview of fish ecology in stream and lake habitats and stream habitat restoration. Sufficient detail and a reliance on primary literature will provide a knowledge base and background of recent concepts to aid students in research and to make informed management decisions.

Philosophy: The course covers a diversity of current topics in fish ecology with a focus on fish-habitat and fish-fish interactions, to provide an understanding of ecological mechanisms in aquatic systems. The course builds on fish-habitat interactions to cover a larger landscape perspective using stream rehabilitation with the watershed as the focus. A landscape perspective also provides for an introduction of natural resource management in a socio-economic context. The course also provides knowledge of how to develop a plan of action, using stream rehabilitation as the focus, but the basic approach is widely applicable to teaching, research, and management.

CBIO8201: How to excel in graduate school

Fall 2007, 1 credit

3:00-4:15 PM, Wednesdays, 19 Green Hall

Instructor: Bruce Vondracek

Office: 318 Hodson Hall

Phone: 624-8748

e-mail: bvondrac@umn.edu

Course Description: An overview of the history and philosophy of science to provide a framework for writing a thesis or dissertation, how to conduct research, and time management during graduate school to become a successful scientist. This seminar is designed to provide students with some tools to complete a graduate degree efficiently and in a timely fashion.

Objectives: Cover a number of topics in sufficient depth to provide a brief discussion of the history and philosophy of science and information on time management during graduate school, tips on how to write a thesis or dissertation, and how to conduct research.

Philosophy: The course covers a limited number of topics focusing on the spectrum of duties and responsibilities of a graduate student and methods to balance those duties and

responsibilities. Further the seminar explores how science is conducted, the development of the scientific approach, and the philosophy that underlies the enterprise of science.

Risk Analysis for Science and Technology Policy Fall 2007 PA 8790

1.5 credits

12:45 p.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays, HHH 20 (West Bank)

Instructor: Prof. Jennifer Kuzma

Contact: 612-625-6337, or kuzma007@umn.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:30-4:00 p.m. (it will be announced in class if there is a cancellation)

SCOPE: This class will focus on the interplay between risk analysis, government decision making, and policy for societal issues involving human, environmental, and ecological health and well-being. The role of S&T in risk analysis, either as the subjects or the tools, will be explored. A mix of readings, discussions, and group projects will be used to facilitate understanding of technical risk assessment methods, risk management, role of uncertainty, risk communication, and risk perception. The embedded scientific, technical, social, political, and ethical issues for select case studies will be discussed. The class will also touch upon how to formulate questions for policy research in this and other areas. Please note, however, that this is not a class to learn "how to do" public policy research or risk assessments. We will discuss the methods and techniques only at a general level.

PFF

The Preparing Future Faculty Program (PFF) offers graduate students and post-doctoral fellows opportunities to develop teaching skills, understand ways in which students learn, explore faculty roles in higher education, and prepare job search plans and documents with supportive colleagues and mentors.

Read on to discover how our Retreats and Courses might help you prepare for your future career -- and increase effectiveness in your current teaching and learning roles on campus.

Retreat: May 16, 2007

Workshops focus on The Academic Job Search, Using PowerPoint for Active Learning, Active Learning in Lecture Settings, with a lunch time panel addressing the process of Finding an Academic Position that Fits.

A \$10 registration fee includes food and workshop materials. Your early registration allows us to prepare materials for a smooth retreat -- and to assure you a seat at the retreat.

For Retreat Registration:

<http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/pff/retreat/index.html>.

Fall 2007 Courses:

You'll find a time schedule for each of the PFF courses below. For

fuller descriptions of the courses, see

<http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/pff/index.html>.

****GRAD 8101: Teaching in Higher Education (3 credits)****

Participants discuss engaged learning theories, link strategies to their own teaching philosophy, practice teaching and draft the essential documents of a teaching portfolio -- CV, teaching philosophy and course syllabus.

Fall 2007

Mondays 2:30-5:30 / Minneapolis

Tuesdays 2:30-5:30 pm / Minneapolis

Thursdays 5-8 pm / Minneapolis

Fridays 9:05-12:05 / St. Paul

****GRAD 8102: Practicum for Future Faculty****

(3 credits, prerequisite GRAD 8101 or equivalent department teaching course; e-mail pff@umn.edu for equivalent courses and/or permission number) As future faculty and

administrators, participants will examine a variety of institutional contexts in higher education and work also with a faculty mentor they select. In this course, students gain valuable teaching experience at a host institution, explore faculty life beyond the classroom, analyze contemporary academic issues, and create a targeted job search portfolio.

Fall 2007

Tuesdays 2:30-5:30 pm / Minneapolis

Thursdays 5-8 pm / Minneapolis

****GRAD 8200: Teaching and Learning Topics in Higher Education**** (1 credit; may be repeated).

These course can be taken independent of other PFF courses, in conjunction with them.

Also, completing 3 sections of GRAD 8200 is an equivalent of taking the GRAD 8101 course.

Fall 2007

On Line. Teaching For Learning: A Course for New TAs.

Mondays Beyond the Academy: Practical Job Search Strategies for Ph.Ds. / 2:30-5:30 pm.

Course meets five times.

Wednesdays. Active Learning & Course Design in the Sciences. / 2:30-4:30 pm. Course meets six times.

Best,

Ilene D. Alexander, PhD

PFF Program Coordinator

<http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/teachlearn/pff/index.html>

Teaching with Writing

The Center for Writing is now accepting registrations for its two annual pre-fall Teaching with Writing seminars! These fill quickly, so plan ahead.

Teaching with Writing: A five-day seminar for faculty (9 AM-12:30 PM August 20-24, 2007)
Fireplace Room (135 Nicholson), Cap: 25

This faculty seminar presents a chance for busy instructors to focus exclusively on the ways they want to integrate writing into the specific courses they teach. Participants begin by considering the kinds of writing that are appropriate to their teaching contexts and then spend the rest of the week discussing and experimenting with an array of practical strategies. By week's end, each will have... discussed successful and unsuccessful writing assignments, designed brief in-class writing activities, devised (or revised) lengthier, formal writing assignments, practiced a variety of strategies for writing comments that will encourage revision, used and created assignment-specific grading schemes that ensure fair assessment, experimented with methods for increasing efficiency.

For descriptive flyer, please see <http://writing.umn.edu/prefallseminar/>

Registration: <http://writing.umn.edu/register-prefallsem.htm>

Commenting on and Grading Student Writing: A two-day seminar for TAs (9 AM -12:30 PM
August 27-28) Nicholson 35, Cap: 90

In this seminar, new and seasoned teaching assistants will have opportunities to...learn some of the ways novice and experienced writers draft and revise their writing, discuss course and discipline-appropriate writing expectations, practice a variety of strategies for writing comments that will encourage revision, use and create assignment-specific grading schemes that ensure fair assessment, experiment with methods for increasing efficiency.

For descriptive flyer, please see <http://writing.umn.edu/taseminar/>

Registration: <http://writing.umn.edu/taseminar/TAreregister.htm>

Announcements

Sustainability Film Contest

MAY 3rd AT THE BELL!! <http://www.sustainability.umn.edu/greenshorts/index.html> The new Sustainability Studies Minor invites you to create a short (< 5 min) film expressing your thoughts on a sustainable and environmentally friendly world. This contest is open to all undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota. Top films will be screened and judged at the Bell Museum on Thursday, May 3, 2007. Winning filmmakers will receive prizes including an Apple iPod. Check out our website to see our own Green Short!!!

Weekly Happy Hour for FWCB and neighboring departments!!!

When: Wednesdays

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

Jobs

National Park Service Summer Jobs

The National Park Service is looking for 2-3 undergraduate students to hire as biotechnicians to help with a variety of tasks throughout the summer starting mid-May. The pay is approximately \$12/hour.

Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach and Monitoring Biological Science Technician
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, Summer Seasonal Position (GS-404-05) 2007

The National Park Service (NPS) conducts a variety of resource management activities to protect habitat, water quality, fish and wildlife, and other natural resources of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. The technician will have opportunity to participate in a broad range of management activities, working alongside National Park Service (NPS) staff. This position involves extensive field work throughout a 252-mile corridor of the St. Croix and Namekagon rivers to survey, inventory or /and monitor zebra mussel populations and other native and invasive freshwater species (AIS). The work also involves intense contact with the public, providing information outreach and ensuring compliance with Riverway AIS rules.

The primary objective of the position is to contact boaters at landings, assist in field monitoring of zebra mussel samplers, provide support to on-river checkpoint operations and collect visitor use data. The technician may also assist NPS staff with habitat restoration projects, water quality gathering, invasive species control and other Riverway management activities. Work will take place primarily in the field, via canoe, motorboat or foot travel and in the lab (an old schoolhouse modified as a water resource space). NPS staff with expertise in aquatic biology and familiar with a variety of management techniques will provide supervision and the necessary training/equipment for the position. This position provides an excellent opportunity for hands-on experience with one of the nation's premier public land management agencies. Through their work, the technician will make a meaningful contribution to Riverway protection while gaining exposure to an array of disciplines and management activities. The position is located at Riverway headquarters in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Work described takes place in late spring, summer and early fall. The exact work schedule can be negotiated to meet employee/NPS management needs, but some weekend and evening work will be required. Transportation arrangements, via carpooling may be possible. Housing is not available in the Park.

Some suggestions of types of skills and experiences that would help someone in the job:
knowledge of the Riverway

- experience with river systems

- previous knowledge or experience (educational or otherwise) with AIS

- experience with a canoe, kayak, or motorboat

given that the Riverway is 252 miles, there will be a lot of driving, and time on the river

- experience/comfort with addressing the public regarding controversial issues

- ability to recognize AIS

- experience working in partnerships with other agencies

the person should be comfortable approaching and initiating contact with people at boat landings and other public forums, even when they do not appear to be welcome

availability: the person needs to be available from mid-May to Labor Day.

Previous experience database entry

The applicant should be prepared to work outside in all sorts of weather conditions

The applicant must be willing to do detailed examinations of numerous river bottom samples in a laboratory and compile the data in a manner that presents the information gathered in a pertinent, readable manner.

For more information, contact: Byron Karns 715-483-2281 or byron_karns@nps.gov

401 Hamilton Street

St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

Audubon Minnesota Summer 2007 Internship

Important Bird Area Program Assistant

Location: St. Paul – Woodbury, MN

Background: Founded in 1905, The National Audubon Society, “Audubon,” is a national nonprofit conservation organization with 450,000 members, nearly 700 staff, and close to 500 local chapters throughout the Americas. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats, for the benefit of humanity and the earth’s biological diversity. Focusing on birds as an indicator of overall environmental quality, Audubon employs a range of integrated strategies to engage people in conservation including science, policy, education and on-the-ground conservation to achieve this mission.

National Audubon operates offices in 25 states. There are “Important Bird Area” programs in approximately 46 states, including Minnesota, that are identifying key habitat for protection. Through its Important Bird Areas (IBA) program, Audubon implements conservation projects at the site level. Increasingly Audubon is providing leadership to the Important Bird Area effort throughout the hemisphere working through the BirdLife International Partnership.

Position Summary: The Important Bird Areas Program Assistant will have responsibility for researching and preparing nominations for IBAs in Minnesota to our Technical Team of scientists. The position will include researching potential sites, their bird populations, and threat factors. Preparing nominations will include presenting data in a clear and concise fashion, documenting sources, preparing GIS maps, and communicating with land owners/managers, and natural resource specialists. The Program Assistant will work collaboratively with colleagues in government agencies, academia, and other nongovernmental organizations, including, but not limited to, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, The Minnesota Ornithologists’ Union, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The position will also assist Audubon with other conservation and education tasks as needs arise.

This is not a field research position. Rather, most of the time of the assistant will be spent researching existing data, communicating with colleagues, and writing from our Woodbury, MN office.

Preferred Education: Educational background in conservation, environmental science, natural resource management, land use planning, or similar field.

Student pursuing an advanced degree such as a Masters or Doctorate, or a college senior with a strong interest in natural resource work.

Qualifications

Is strongly committed to maximizing, and communicating, the potential of grassroots conservation and citizen science as vital tools for achieving bird and biodiversity conservation in the 21st century

Recognizes the power of birds as indicators of environmental health in educating the public and policy makers of conservation issues and priorities, and in aligning and leveraging Audubon's conservation efforts with those of the global conservation community

Strong research and writing skills and the ability to document and organize information accurately and in a timely fashion, with attention to detail.

PC computer skills, including familiarity with maps and training/experience with GPS and GIS

Excellent organizational skills with the ability to work independently and meet deadlines.

Reporting Relationships: This position reports to Audubon Minnesota's Director of Bird Conservation.

Timeline: 400 Hours, (Full time June through August; specific work schedule and dates will be negotiated with supervisor)

Salary: \$4,200

About the James Ford Bell Foundation and this Program:

The James Ford Bell Foundation originally designed its Summer Internship Program to promote the education, mentoring and development of future nonprofit leaders, and to provide supplemental assistance to many nonprofits with which the Foundation has a partnership or relationship, the internship program has now placed a total of 72 interns with 23 nonprofits and institutions in our community and beyond.

The James Ford Bell Foundation Summer Internship Program is consistently viewed by both the hosting organizations and the interns themselves as a tremendously valued experience. By orchestrating the program annually, the foundation continues to "build capacity" of local not-for-profits, while leveraging small grants across a spectrum of organizations.

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to the James Ford Bell Foundation no later than April 30, 2007 to be considered for the 2007 program.

Email: jeneen@fpadvisors.com

fax: (612) 377-8407

or mail: Jeneen Hartley Sago, Program Officer

The James Ford Bell Foundation

1818 Oliver Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55405

We're here to help

Workshops at Magrath Library – Spring 2007

Attend a hands-on session to enhance your information-gathering skills Register at <http://www.lib.umn.edu/registration>

RefWorks Basics –5/3, 5/16, Keeping Current In the Sciences –Grant resources: Locating Grants in your Field –5/15

Date Saver

Continuing Education Course

The Continuing Education Committee of the MN Chapter of AFS is giving a "head's up" on a 4-day workshop entitled: "Lake Habitat Protection and Restoration in Agricultural Landscapes" to be held at Cabelas in Owatonna and Waseca during **Aug. 20 - 23 2007** (see below). This is a "save the date" memo for those of you who might be interested and need to work this into their field schedule. We are not taking any reservations yet and will formally announce the workshop later in May.

This year we will focus on lake and watershed issues in agricultural landscapes. In 2008, we are planning a similar workshop focused on Urban/Forest landscapes.

The CE committee looks forward to putting on this timely (if not overdue) workshop and are thankful for the experienced instructors we were able enroll.

Cheers,

Ray

Continuing Education Co-chair

MN Chapter of The American Fisheries Society

Course Title: Lake Habitat Protection and Restoration in Agricultural Landscapes

Date and location: Aug 20th-23rd 2007, Owatonna, MN

Day 1: Watershed assessment and diagnosis of condition (Joe Magner, Greg Johnson, Pat Baskfield PCA)

- Hydrology 101

- Effects of tiles and ditches on distribution of water and water quality

- Field trip

Day 2: Strategies for Protection and Restoration – Identifying the battle front and identifying all resources available to win battles

- Collaborative and Educational Strategies for mitigation or restoration: Community involvement & essential relationships – From Regional coordination to sitting at the kitchen table with Farmer Brown (Beth Knudsen - DNR)

- State and Federal strategies for mitigation or restoration

- Federal Farm Bill and the CRP program (Wayne Edgerton – DNR)

- Emerging issue – Ethanol and biofuels

- Land Acquisition and Easements (Mike Halverson - DNR) – AMA's, WMA's, WPA's, RIM

- TMDL process (Tim Larson - PCA)

- Local Strategies

- Goings on with the Brown Nicollet Water Quality Board (Kevin Kuehner)

- Goings on with the Fairbault Co. Soil and Water Conservation District (Michele Stindman)

- Wrap-up: Are things getting better or worse in the Western Corn Belt and Plains? Challenges Ahead (Tim Larson - PCA).

Days 3&4: Shoreline restoration, Clear Lake, Waseca – John Hiebert (DNR Shoreland Habitat Mgr) and Leilani Peterson (DNR Shoreline Habitat Spec.).

Ray Valley

Fisheries Research Biologist

MN Dept. Natural Resources

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St. Paul, MN, 55106

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Phone: 651-793-6539

Fax: 651-772-7974

Conferences and Meetings

Minnesota Water Resources Conference

October 23-24, 2007

Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota

You are invited to submit a proposal for presentation or poster session at the Minnesota Water Resources Conference scheduled October 23-24, 2007 at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota.

Topics for submission include but are not limited to:

- Agriculture Water Quality and Quantity Management
- Surface- and Ground Water Supplies and Adequacy, Threats
- Stream or River Ecology and Restoration, Geomorphology and Bank Stabilization
- Storm Water Management – BMPs, Runoff, Reuse and Reduction, Non-Degradation
- Water Resources Construction, Operation and Maintenance
- Wetlands – Regulations, Issues, Approaches, and Lessons Learned
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- Preventing and Managing Emerging Contaminants of Concern
- National/International/World Projects and Issues
- Lakes, Lake Management, and Lake Restoration
- New Water Demands, Availability, Scarcity, and Reuse
- Education and Citizen Involvement in Water Resources
- Designs That Have Made a Difference
- Applied Hydraulic Design

The deadline for abstract submission has been extended to **April 30**, 2007. Abstracts can be submitted at the following web site: <http://www.cce.umn.edu/waterresources/submit/>.

Contact Electra Sylva at conferences5@cce.umn.edu or 612-624-3708 with any questions.

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

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

Funding and award opportunities

Distinguished Diversity and Inclusion Award

The Distinguished Diversity and Inclusion Award is an annual award that recognizes outstanding effort on the part of members of the College to deepen our commitment to the land grant mission while building upon and sustaining access to the richness of our community. See *attached document for more information*.

Enhancing our capacity to fully embrace diversity and excellence as core values of the College is essential. We are best served and most effective when all voices are represented as we work to realize the President's goal of becoming one of the top three research institutions. This is well stated in the CFANS diversity plan:

Knowledge and understanding are at the core of the public research university mission. Diversity in *what* is known, *how* we know and those *who* know serve as powerful catalysts for innovation in research, educational programs and outreach. In this way, an increased commitment to diversity ties directly to institutional quality, and a lack of diversity to institutional costs.

Embracing diversity enhances the performance of all University work. Committing to greater cross-cultural competency must be undertaken by acknowledging that diversity fosters excellence and abundance--offering all a chance for personal growth and CFANS an occasion to pursue increased innovation. A multicultural environment encourages innovation and fosters creativity. (http://www.cfans.umn.edu/Statement_on_Diversity.html)

Please assist us in recognizing the work of our faculty, and staff supporting diversity, inclusion, multiculturalism and cultural pluralism for this inaugural year. **The deadline for submitting nominations is April 30.** If you have any questions concerning the award or nomination process, please contact Karl Lorenz (klorenz@umn.edu, 624-9299).

Carol E. Macpherson Memorial Scholarship Funds for 2007-08

These are one-time awards of \$1,000-4,000 designed to provide financial support for non-traditional aged women returning to higher education after a break of 5 or more consecutive years in their pursuit of higher education. See eligibility requirements below and download application materials at <http://www.umn.edu/women/scholar.htm> Deadline: **April 30**, 2007

SUBMIT TO:

OFFICE FOR UNIVERSITY WOMEN

185 Klaeber Court

320 16th Avenue SE Mpls. MN 55455

(Campus Delivery Code 3013) Phone: 612.625.9837

Eligibility Requirements:

- * Women students (28 years or older) who have had five-year or longer consecutive break in their post-secondary education
- * Demonstrated Financial Need
- * Admission or pending admission to undergraduate or graduate/professional degree or credit certificate program at any U of M campus
- * Meet half-time enrollment status minimum
- * Provide academic transcripts of all college/post-secondary enrollment
- * Complete 2007-08 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit the Student Aid Report with your scholarship application
- * Good academic standing at the University of Minnesota
- * Submit support letters from 2 references who have known student & her educational goals

Additionally, applicant selection is "weighted" by the following characteristics:

- * First generation in family to attend college
- * First undergraduate degree (though graduate students are still eligible to apply)

Review Criteria:

Evidence of academic achievement, strength of applicant's personal statement, reference letters indicating educational goals and academic promise, financial need, and special circumstances. Completed application and ALL required materials must be submitted by the April 30, 2007 deadline.

2007 John E. Skinner Memorial Fund Award

The John E. Skinner Memorial Fund was established in memory of John Skinner, former Chapter and Western Division American Fisheries Society President. The fund provides monetary travel awards for deserving graduate students or exceptional undergraduate students to attend the American Fisheries Society (AFS) annual meeting. The 2007 meeting will be held in San Francisco, California from September 2 to 6.

Any student who is active in fisheries or related aquatic disciplines is eligible to apply. Awardees are chosen by a committee of the AFS Education Section. Selection is based on academic qualifications, professional service, and reasons for attending the meeting. Travel support (up to \$800 per award) will be made available to successful applicants. Award winners will also receive a one year paid membership to the American Fisheries Society.

Completed applications must be received no later than **May 11, 2007**. Limit all answers to the space provided. Additional material will not be considered in evaluating applicants.

The application form can be found at:

<http://www.fisheries.org/afs/awards/skinner2007.rtf>

Link to award announcement (click on John E. Skinner Memorial Fund Award):

<http://www.fisheries.org/afs/awards.html>

Izaak Walton League of America

The Minnesota Division of the Izaak Walton League of America will award a scholarship(s) of not more than \$1000.00 to assist a person(s) who enter or continue in an education program in Environmental Education, Environmental Law, Wildlife Management, or some other conservation-oriented program. The application form is attached. The deadline for applications is **May 15, 2007**.

Thank you and please call or email if you have questions.

Noreen Tyler

Office Administrator Minnesota Division

Izaak Walton League of America

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