Welcome to our new lab technicians (see below) !!!

Lab Technicians

Gonzalo Cabrera is our Greenhouse Tech in the afternoons and all day Friday, and covers all of courses in the evening. He is also our night Microbiology technician. Gonzalo is a native Los Angeleno, growing up in the south bay. Gonzalo earned his B.S. in Zoology at Cal Poly Pomona.

Johnny Kurokawa is our Botany and Physiology technician. He also does some greenhouse work and is our Microbiology back-up tech. Johnny is another Los Angeleno. He earned a B.A. in liberal arts from the University of Pacific, Stockton and a second B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of California at Irvine, followed by some post-bac. work at Cal State University at Long Beach.

Deane Sherrill is our newest technician and will be our lead technician in charge of ordering/records. Deane's main duties will be our two largest offerings, Anatomy and Biology 3, as well as our Biotech courses. Deane comes to us from Redding, CA. He earned a B.S. in Biology from the University of Pacific, Stockton.

Things to do . . .

TUTORS NEEDED: Students who have successfully completed Life Science courses such as Biology 6, Biology 7, Botany, Microbiology, Zoology, Anatomy 1, Physiology 3, and Nutrition and are interested in teaching can be tutors. Contact faculty members in those disciplines for further information.

Professor Walt Sakai continues to band birds in Zuma Canyon in Malibu. Students interested in participating can contact him at ext. 9702 or by email.

Care - Extender Program at Santa Monica - UCLA Medical Center  Get Experience in Health Care! CALL 310-319-4398 to make a reservation for the next orientation.

CYBERSTUFF! Check it out!

A new media rich Website ON THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT (HGPlaunch3) has been developed by Dr. Alfred Buchanan and the Media Services and Academic Computing areas. http://homepage.smc.edu/hgp. Apple Quicktime 4 or higher is required for playback of all audio & video elements of the website. Free downloads are available at www.quicktime.apple.com
responsible for Zoology/Marine biology and the Vivarium.

**Student News**

**Shahab Mehizadeh**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 91 and Spring 92, finished medical school at the University of Rochester and is presently interning at Cedar Sinai Hospital here in Los Angeles.

**Robert Crawford**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 91 and Spring 92, has graduated from the Medical College of Virginia and will intern at Wayne State Medical Center, Department of Surgery. He plans to specialize in Surgical Trauma and Critical Care.

Robert also provided an update on some of his bumper crop colleagues from his Bio6-7 class. Lisa Swerling went to UCSF for medical school. Stephanie Fein went to UCI for medical school and believed to be doing her residency in internal medicine here in L.A. Leslie Avery went to Yale Medical School.

**Chris Andres** (Nomakchteinsky), another Biology 6-7 student during Fall 91 and Spring 92, earned his D.V.M. from (?) and is currently practicing in Cincinnati, OH.

**Abedi Gelareh**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 94 and Spring 95, completed her Baccalaureate at UCLA and is present at the University of Vermont Medical School.

**Giar-Ann Kung**, while trying to finish a biology degree at Cal Poly Pomona, has been on collecting expeditions to Costa Rica, Columbia, and Bolivia for her boss, Dr. Brian Brown, Curator of Entomology at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

The fruits of Giar-Ann's work have been two peer reviewed papers she co-authored with Dr. Brown. They are "Two new species of Coniceromyia (Diptera: Phoridae) from South America" in Studio Dipterologica, and "The


**Department NEWS**

We have done some reorganization of our courses. Biology 6, the first half of a year sequence of biology for majors covering cellular and molecular biology was split into two courses. Biology 6A covers Cell Biology and Evolution, and Biology 6B covers Genetics and Molecular Biology. Each class meets twice a week for lectures and one three hour lab. Biology 7 remains unchanged.

To add to the confusion, we have now renumbered the above courses. Biology 6A, 6B, and 7 are now Biology 21, 22, 23. AND to avoid any confusion, Biology 25, Human Biology, was renumbered Biology 2.

**Faculty and Staff NEWS**

We have added a number of new faculty members to our department over the last few years. Below are short biographies on each of them.

**Dr. Maria Dell** came on board in the Fall 1999 to teach in our Anatomy and Physiology program, as well as Human Biology. Although born in Chicago, she was raised in Puerto Rico. Both parents are Puertorican (emphasis hers). She earned a B.S. in Biology/Math at the University of Puerto Rico and her PhD at the University of Oklahoma, followed by a post-doc at the University of Florida. Before coming to SMC, she taught at Cleveland Chiropractic College. Her secondary interest has been in human reproductive physiology. Her primary interest, of course, are her husband (an attorney) and her two sons, Brent 11 years old, and John-Louis, 6 years old.

**Dr. Paul Wissman** came on board in the Fall 1999 to teach in our Anatomy and Physiology program, as well as Human Biology. A native Angeleno, Paul did his undergraduate at Occidental College and earned a Masters in Biomedical Engineering from USC. After a few years in the labor force, he returned to school to UCLA to earn
Patterned-Wing Species of Coniceromyia (Diptera: Phoridae)" in Contributions in Science No. 484, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

**Erik Haghjoo**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 98 and Spring 99 will be graduating from U.C. Berkeley this June and will go on to Yale University for a PhD in microbiology. He fondly recalls his Biology 7 research project at the Burns Reserve on *Pogonomyrmex californicus* as his first "real scientific research experience and loved it."

Saimal Jalal, Biology 6-7 during Fall 1995 and Spring 96 is finishing her second year at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago and preparing for the National Board exams.

Don't anthropomorphize computers. They hate that.

Students interested in a challenging Allied Health Career with good pay and excellent job outlook should check out the profession of **Respiratory Therapy**. SMC has an excellent program that offers students with a good background in Life Sciences a great career option. 100% of our graduates get local job placement! Students interested in getting information on our **Respiratory Therapy Program** should contact: Mel Welch, RRT, RCP, Professor, Resp. Therapy, Phone: 434.3463; email: melwelch@Prodigy.net. Office Hours: Mondays 8-noon at the Madison campus, Room 204B. Counseling appts available on Mondays at the Health Science Dept. on the Madison campus. Tours of UCLA Medical Center with a current RT student can be arranged to gain more insight into the profession and program.

Faculty Awards

**Professor Ruth Logan** and Peter Geltner were awarded the 2000 Award for Excellence in Institutional Planning from the Research and Planning Group for California Community Colleges for their paper on "The Influence of Session Length in Student Success."

**Professor Walter H. Sakai** was awarded $1000 from the Los Angeles Audubon Society and $500 from the Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society to start and operate a MAPS bird banding station (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) in Solstice Canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains. Further support for this station comes from Avinet, Inc., a company specializing in bird banding equipment and owned by a former SMC student.

"The beginning of wisdom is getting things by their right name." ancient Chinese proverb
Did you attend the Great Morro Bay Weekend May 2? Been on any field trips lately? Write about it and send it to the Life Science News!

Next LSD News will be published Summer, 2001. Submit entries by email or in writing to Walter H. Sakai. No voice mail submissions accepted.

The Life Science News is edited by Walter H. Sakai