Welcome to our new faculty members (see below) !!!

Student News

**Willow Yoo**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 97 and Fall 98, and one of our long-time student help as our Animal Caretaker, reports doing well at UC Berkeley.

**Dahra Perkins**, Biology 6-7 during Fall 98 and Spring 99, was accepted to MCP Hahnemann in Philadelphia; VCU in Richmond, VA; Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee; and USC Medical School. In spite of the fact her mother is a die-hard UCLA fan and alumna, Dahra will stay close to home to attend USC.

**Thuc-Quyen Thai Nguyen**, Biology 7 during Spring 95 completed a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry at UCLA, and continued on to receive a Doctorate in Chemistry from UCLA this June, 2001. The title of her thesis was "Controlling Interchain Interactions in Conjugated Polymers: Studies of the Physical and Electronic Properties for Application in Plastic Light-Emitting Diodes," for which she was given the Physical Chemistry Graduate Student Award.

Our students attending NIH: **Belinda Ting** just returned from the National Institute of Health; she worked on two studies (the only time a student achieved this goal according to NIH). One was on Neuropharmacology (NINDS)-Parkinson's Disease using rat models on D3 receptor proteins, and the second was in the

Department NEWS

We have done some reorganization of our courses and course numbers. 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 the same.

To add to this confusion, we have now renumbered these courses. Biology 61, 6B, and 7 are now Biology 21, 22, and 23. AND TO avoid (or add to) any confusion, Biology 25, Human Biology, was renumbered Biology 2.

Professor Peggy Cline of the Physical Sciences Department took the following shot at SMC's 2001 Commencement Exercises. Two our own were in attendance, our Chairperson, Dr. Mary Colavito, and Walter H. Sakai (his first)... /Walt_Fran_Mary.jpg. In the middle is Fran Manion of the Mathematics Department.

Summer Science Institute - this is a new program designed for high school students who are interested in science careers. We have 16 students in the dual-enrollment program this summer; they take a special section of Human Development 20 in the morning, and then have Biology 81 in the afternoon. The three core instructors of this program are Nancy Curry
Physical Therapy  Rehab Medicine unit on an actual patient with neurofibromatosis Type I (NF1-autosomal dominant genetic disorder). She worked in the Biomechanics lab using 3D computerized gait analysis modeling, and then had the opportunity to help make the artificial prosthesis for the patient and teach how to use the prosthesis.  **Yun Kim**, Bio 6-7 Fall 1999, Spring 2000, will be going out to NIH in August to do research.

**Eva Granzow (Legler)** is attending Medical School at UCDavis.

**Mark Lawrence** graduated from Chicago this past spring. Mark just finished two rotations at Stanford Medical School

**Larry Lyon** is the lead supervising physician in the Kern County medical program near Bakersfield.

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Allied Health Career

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 its graduates get local job placement! Students interested in getting information on our Respiratory Therapy Program should contact:  Mel Welch, RRT, RC, Professor, Reps. 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.

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Things to do.....

(School-to-Career Coordinator), Jeff Miller (Human Development and Counseling) and  **Kirkwood Land** (Life Sciences)

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**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 two of them.

**Dr. Lyle Nichols** earned his Bachelor's and Masters at California State University at Northridge and went on to ear his PhD in behavioral ecology at the Department of Zoology at Arizona State university.  His dissertation research examined the evolution of dispersal in small mammals.  Lyle has broad interests in behavioral population ecology, and conservation biology of mammals and birds.  He has done field work on a variety of hapless animals in the wilds of Wyoming, Arizona, Tibet, and California.  He currently maintains a field research program on Pikas in the eastern Sierra near Mono Lake.  Lyle came to SMC in the fall of 1999 to teach in the General Biology, Zoology and Field Studies programs.  He previously taught at Pierce College, CSUN, and Arizona State.

**Dr. Thomas T. Chen** was born in China, earned his BS at Juen University, and then came to the U.S. to study animal physiology at the University of Florida at Gainesville, where he earned his M.S. and PhD.  His dissertation research was on the isolation, purification, and biological characterization of a protein from the pig.  He did post-doc work at the University of Colorado and at NIH before joining the faculty at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.  He was promoted to Professor in the Dept of Biochemistry, and Cellular and Molecular Biology in 1990.  He is also professor of OB/GYN and studies fertility-infertility-related problems.  Tom came to SMC in 2000 to teach non-majors biology but maintains his research
TUTORS NEEDED: Students who have successfully completed Life Science Dept courses such as Biology 21-22-23 (formerly Biology 6A-B, 7), Botany, Microbiology, Zoology 5, Anatomy 1 and 2, Physiology 3 and are interested in teaching can be tutors. Contact faculty members in those disciplines for further information.

Care-Extender Program at Santa Monica-UCLA Center. Get experience in Health Care! CALL 310.319.4398

CYBERSTUFF! Check it out!

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

The National Library of Medicine has reviewed and organized a top-notched set of medical resources, from drug facts to clinical trial updates. http://www.medlineplus.gov

Your Cancer Risk - here, you can find out your risk of getting 12 different kinds of cancer based on your lifestyle, along with information on methods to lower your risk factor. http://www.yourcancerrisk.harvard.edu

SOME QUOTES TO THINK ABOUT.

"Only after the last tree has been cut down, Only after the last river has been poisoned, Only after the last fish has been caught, Only then will you find money can not be eaten." Cree Indian Prophecy.

"Bugs are not going to inherit the earth. They

interests. He is on the editorial board of the Biology of Reproduction and on the minority affairs committee of the Endocrine Society. He is married to Diane, a registered dietitian and has three grown children, all college graduates :) Tom says he enjoys various sports and outdoor activities (except yard work) and various theatrical performances.

Faculty Awards

Professor Douglas Allan was awarded the Ayala Communication and Anixter, Inc. Chair of Excellence for the Life Sciences Department at the Santa Monica College Commencement. The three year tenure in this Chair includes $5000 per year. Doug has taught at SMC for 24 years. He has taught non-majors biology, human ecology, field zoology, botany, field botany, and field studies courses and has been an innovator in collaborative learning. He has been active in the California Native Plant Society, a docent trainer in the Santa Monica Mountains, and has been the driving force behind the native plant garden that is found in from of the home of the Center for Environmental Studies at SMC.

Professor Ruth Logan and Peter Geltner were presented the 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, part of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Further support has been provided by AVINET, Inc, a company specializing in bird banding equipment and owned by a former SMC student.
May 2001

own it now. So we might as well make peace with the landlords." Tom Eisner, Cornell University.