Life Sciences News

News and Information for and about students, staff, and faculty in the Life Science Department at Santa Monica College

Student News

Denise Cavener reports that John Caceres (Anat 2, Spr 1992; Bio 6, Fall 1994; Bio 7, 45W, Phys 3, Spr 1995) and Eva Granzow (now married to each other) (Anat 1, Fall 1992; Bio 6, Fall 1994; Bio 7, 45W, Phys 3, Spr 1995) are at UC Davis. Eva is finishing her 2nd year at Medical School, and John is working toward becoming a teacher (cc. level). They said their best learning experiences were here at SMC.

Denise also reports that Mark Lawrence graduated from Univ. of Chicago School of Medicine and is now practicing in Chicago area. He is now married with a beautiful daughter.

Larry Lyon is an M.D. in the Seattle area in General Practice looking for a niche.

Felicia Song has been accepted to the USC School of Pharmacy.

Yun Kim (Bio 6, Fall 1999; Bio 7, Bio 45W, Spring, 2000) finished his project at the National Institute of Health (NIH) and has been hired there on a full-time basis, while applying to medical schools. He came back to SMC last fall to give a seminar on his work.

Paul Wissmann reports that Jennifer Fringer Pittman (Anat 1, Su 1998; Anat 2, Fall 1999; Bio 6G, Win, 2000) moved to NC and is preparing to apply to grad/med schools. She has started her

CYBERSTUFF! Check it out!

A biology 23 student pointed out a great website called the Tree of Life at http://tolweb.org/tree/phylogeny.html. Starting with Domains, one can surf to more and more specific taxonomic rankings. The "phylogenetic tree" is ongoing work, as experts from around the world are submitting cutting interpretations on the relationships of lineages. Photographs of organisms, literature, and characteristics of taxa.

A student found this neat graph paper printer online. You can design all styles of grid and lined paper at http://perso.easynet.fr/~philimar/graphpapeng.htm

A website on the Northwest salmon can be found at http://www.oneworldjourneys.com/salmon

The site goes over the life cycle of the salmon and has maps, pictures, and movies. Lesson plans for K-12 are available.

NEED INFORMATION ON DONATING BLOOD?

To donate blood, call 1.800.GIVELIFE or 1.800.448.3543. Call between 8am to 9pm to
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own graphics design company. Check it out at http://www.jumpfishcreative.com/

Linda Lyon, Zoo17, and several Bio45 classes, has been working at the National Museum of Natural History on bird strikes (birds hitting objects like buildings & planes) as well bird banding and field surveys with the Manomet field project.

Peter Pyrko (Bio 6G win, 1999) completed a Masters in Pathology at USC; Peter is presently one of five students in the MD/Ph.D. program at USC, supported by a very sizable scholarship. Peter earned a B.A. in Acting in an university in Poland, so ALL of his science preparation was completed at SMC.

Sahar Naghibi (Bio 6G, Spr 1996) transferred to UCLS after SMC; she will be attending the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry starting fall 2002.

A student, Paul D'Avirro, out of Ruth Logan's past, circa 1986, emailed her in a belated thank you for turning him on to biology and to strive to work at his highest potential. The message was precipitated when a colleague asked what person most influenced his life and his career. Ruth Logan! Paul now works at Amgen designing and managing human drug trials.

Deepak Malhotra (Biology 22 in Fall 2001) will be participating in the Community College Initiative program at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. This is a ten-week summer research program. He will be working with Dr. William Stringfellow of the Earth Sciences Division and Center for Environmental Biotechnology on a project addressing biodegradation of MTBE in groundwater.

Dr. Shahab Mehizadeh, Biology 6-7 during Fall 91 and Spring 92, is completing his second year residence at Cedar Sinai Hospital in Internal Medicine, specializing in gastroenterology.

Jeff Cole (Biology 6-7 in Spring 96 and Fall 96)

schedule an appointment.

American Red Cross of Santa Monica, 1450 Eleventh Street at Broadway, Santa Monica. 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, except holidays, 9:30am - 4pm.

American Red Cross of Greater Los Angeles, West District Office, 11355 Ohio Avenue, West Los Angeles (enter from Sawtelle entrance at V.A. Facility) 12pm to 7pm. 2nd and 4th Saturday of each, except holidays, 7am to 1:30pm.

A real deal is donating blood at St. John's Hospital, where perks include a pair of free movie passes. Platelet donations, a process which takes about twice as long, earns more movie passes! Call Constance Courage, the blood donor recruiter, for details on parking (Valet), room number and times @ 310.829.8942.

Department NEWS

Lucy Kluckhohn, our Microbiologist and Campus Ombudsperson, and her husband Don took a trip to about as far south as one can go... to Antarctica.

Upon her return, Lucy displayed her toughness, as she had an appendicitis attack. It was undetected for maybe a week due to a low WBC count and other factors (including age, see below). It finally burst. By the time she had surgery, the surgeons had to remove portions of her GI tract on either side of the rupture. Lucy came to campus a week later to return exams!

About the same time, Ed Tarvyd was diagnosed with pneumonia. He had been feeling poorly since February. Antibiotics were not doing the trick, so surgery was done on 15 April to remove an abscess. The surgeons then found a bacteria, Streptococcus milleri. The bacterial colony had grown to such an extent it had formed a thick mucus
is a local southern California expert on dragonflies, and has recently organized and cataloged this order of insects, the Odonata, housed in the Entomology Section of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Janet Kempf (variety of field courses) is one of the lead people in the first 2002 Los Angeles Spider Survey. This first-ever southern California survey is a "citizen scientist" effort. People are being asked to find and bring to the museum spiders they find across southern California. Spiders have long been neglected by both scientists and lay people. Part of the reason may be arachnophobia, but Janet is helping to dispel this fear.

Things to do.....

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

layer in his pleural cavity. His right lung was essentially not working, and they had to remove the right medial lobe. The initial 10 cm incision had grown to a 30 cm incision with the removal of one rib. Oddly enough, Mike Dolan, Ed's student help from 30 years ago, was one of the surgery room technicians.

Ed is presently at home recuperating, trying to gain back some 25 pounds he lost during his illness. He plans to return to teaching this summer.

Faculty and Staff NEWS

Ruth Logan, Tom Chen, Bill Price, and Walt Sakai visited the new California State University of the Channel Islands in Camarillo, CA., the former site of the famous mental hospital. The campus is set to accept students for the fall classes. If you would like further information on their offerings, please contact one of the above faculty members.