"Science is built up of facts, as a house is built of stones; but an accumulation of facts is no more a science than a heap of stones is a house."

Jules-Henri Poincare

Student News

**Tamara Clinard** was a re-entry student who left the film industry and came to SMC in 1994. She started by taking Al Buchanan's BioBrightStart class. That led to a field biology class. Now hooked, she took the long road through chemistry, physics, and calculus to take Biology 6-7, 45W to graduate in June 1997. She graduated from UCSC in June 1999 with a BA in Environmental Study-Natural History Conservation Biology. An undergraduate internship with a water quality monitoring program for the Coastal Watershed Council led to a volunteer coordinator position to where she now runs this entire program with an Executive Directorship in the horizon!

Oh, along the way she got married in 2001 and changed her name to Doan. She says she interacts with students from UCSC Environmental Studies, Biology and Earth Sciences Depts, and is a career mentor with UCSC Career Center. Her program hosts interns from these departments and from CSU Monterey Bay.

She is quite busy but is willing to help SMC students, at least pointing them in the right direction.

Contact info: Tamara (Clinard) Doan, Program Manager, Coastal Watershed Council, POBox 1459, Santa Monica, CA 90406, 310.464.9200

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, Anatomy1 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!

You can find a plethora of great websites by going to the homepages of the various instructors in our department. For example, Evan Pepper, one of our Adjunct Faculty teaching Microbiology, has a variety of microbiology "links" that he has collected (click on his name). A great site on the Mohave Desert is www.digital-desert.com. It has maps, photographs, aerials, panoramas, etc.
Lauren Matsui, Zoo17, Bio 21,22,23, interned as a bird bander in the inventory & monitoring program in northern California during the summer. This was followed by a two month stint as a bander in Costa Rica at the Tortuguero field station banding resident and neotropic migrants. She is continuing her undergraduate studies at Humboldt State U.

Chris Andres (Nomakchteinsky), vintage early 1990's, returns to California after finishing vet school and practicing for several years in the Midwest. He now practices in the Westside.

Ramona Forelle, also vintage early 1990's, finished vet school at UCDavis and is practicing in Santa Monica.

Lisa Engelsen, vintage mid-1990's, is practicing veterinary medicine in Moorpark.

Daniel G. Mulcahy, vintage mid-1990's, published a paper in the Journal of Herpetology entitled Geographic Variation in the Baja California Nightsnake (Eridiphas slevini), with Comments on Taxonomy and Diet 37(3):566-571.

Kelly R. Zamudio, vintage early 1990's, was elevated to the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Cornell University.

Nine former majors biology student and their professor presented a paper at the 2004 Western Bird Banding Association meetings in Ashland, OR based on their semester projects looking at capture rates of birds using different colored mist nets. The abstract of the paper was recently published: Sakai, Walter H., Andres Aguilar, Ann Dusebout, Sara Engelsen, Jan Goerrissen, Anastasia Goncharko, Gil Hoftman, Lauren Matsui, Jay Park, and Francine Stroman 2004 A.

DONATING BLOOD?

To donate blood, call 1.800.GIVELIFE or 1.800.448.3543. Call between 8am to 9pm to 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 Health Center, where perks include a free cholesterol test, pair of free AMC theatre movie passes, and entry into a monthly drawing. Platelet donations, a process which takes about twice as long, earns more movie passes! Call 310.829.8025 for details and an appointment. There is also free valet parking for all donors.

Department NEWS

Meenaksha "Mini" Nagendran, an adjunct faculty member in our department for several years and wife of one of our full-time instructors, Jim Bland, has accepted a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in their Office of International Conservation, located in Fairfax, VA.

Faculty and Staff NEWS

Ruth Logan and her husband Barry spent two weeks during Winter Break in India. Some of her thoughts, insights, and pictures are found below (click here for text) and (click here for pictures).

Walter Sakai took the fall semester of using his banked hours to go to Costa Rica, where

Students interested in summer research programs such as the one above can go to the link provided by Aram Kim (Biology 23, Spring 2004) at http://www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/reu/start.htm
http://www.yale.edu/necuse/>
http://www.the-aps.org/education/ugsrf/SumResLINKs.html
http://research.berkeley.edu

he spent two months in Tortuguero banding birds. A summary of his field work can be found below (click here for text) and (click here for pictures).

Garen Baghdasarian spent the winter in Australia.

John Moss, adjunct professor in zoology and biology, and his wife went Patagonia during the winter.