University of Nebraska - Lincoln
DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Newsletter of the American Society of Parasitologists | Parasitology, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of

7-1-2002

American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 24, no. 2, July 2002

Scott Lyell Gardner
University of Nebraska - Lincoln, slg@unl.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/parasitologynews

Part of the Parasitology Commons

Gardner, Scott Lyell, "American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 24, no. 2, July 2002" (2002). *Newsletter of the American Society of Parasitologists.* Paper 27.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/parasitologynews/27

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Parasitology, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsletter of the American Society of Parasitologists by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Supplement to *THE JOURNAL OF PARASITOLOGY*

Volume 24, No. 2 **July 2002**

American Society of Parasitologists

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter:

Released on the ASP web-server [http://asp.unl.edu]
July 24, 2002

From the *Editor* of the Newsletter

The ASP newsletter accepts information and news of a parasitological nature from all disciplines. Please assist me in making the content of the ASP newsletter highly relevant. We will be posting material on the web as they are generated by you, the **reader** and **contributor**.
See you at ICOPA!

Scott L. Gardner, Curator
Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
University of Nebraska State Museum

Second Announcement of a pre-ICOPA symposium: "The impacts of myxozoan parasites in wild and farmed finfish." July 31 - August 2, 2002, The Coast Bastion Inn, Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada.

Recent research on myxozoan parasites has focussed on diverse aspects of their biology, including taxonomy, systematics, pathogenesis, life history, epidemiology and community ecology. This pre-ICOPA symposium will focus on new developments in our understanding of the host-parasite biology of myxozoan parasites of finfish. It features three plenary speakers: Hiroshi Yokoyama, Stephen Feist and Michael Kent. The

Contents

From the Editor 1

Pre-ICOPA Symposium . . 1

Special Announcement . . 3

Online Journal of Parasitology Manuscript Submission 4

Conference: Molecular and Cellular Biology of Helminth Parasites 5

RMCP Report 5

Proposed changes in review of NIH grant applications 7

New SPARC Publication 9

Cain Letter 10

Positions Open 10

Poetry 13

Editor

Scott Lyell Gardner, Ph.D.
Curator of Parasitology
The Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
W-529 Nebraska Hall
The University of Nebraska State Museum
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0514
Tel: 402-472-3334
Fax: 402-472-8949
e-mail: slg@unl.edu

Associate Editors

George D. Cain, Secretary-Treasurer
American Society of Parasitologists
Department of Cellular Biology
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
Tel: 706-542-5017
Fax: 706-542-1695
e-mail: gcain@cb.uga.edu

Michael W. Kemp, VP and CEO
Texas A&M University
Galveston, Texas 77553
Tel: 409-740-4403
Fax 409-740-4407
e-mail: kemp@tamug.tamu.edu

George A. Conder
Industrial Liason for ASP
Clinical Project Manager
Animal Health Product Development
Central Research Division
Pfizer, Inc.
Eastern Point road
Groton, CT 06340
Tel: 203-441-4576
Fax: 203-441-4786

symposium will be held in a spectacular location overlooking the Strait of Georgia in Nanaimo, British Columbia on Vancouver Island. Other features include low registration costs and a unique West Coast salmon banquet!

For complete details see our website at: http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/aqua/english/symposium.htm

or by contacting the local organizers directly:
Simon Jones (Joness@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca) (http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/aqua/profiles/jones.htm
Tim Goater (goatert@mala.bc.ca) (http://www.mala.bc.ca/www/discover/biol/tgoater2.htm).

REMINDER: The Annual ASP Auction will be held during the ICOPA meeting. This fun-filled event and reception has raised over $100,000 for the student travel endowment since its inception. Please bring your arts and crafts items, photographs, paintings, classic parasitology publications, parasitological memorabilia, new teaching aids, etc. for the silent and live auctions. Items should be left at the ICOPA registration desk with your name and address, a short description of the item and an estimated value. See the ICOPA web site for additional details.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You can contribute items even if you don't attend ICOPA X. If you would like to make a contribution, please notify George Cain (phone and address below), and we will determine the best way to get your item to Vancouver.

Special Announcement — Act Now!

Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Parasitology (ICOPA-X)

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
4-9 August 2002

The **American Society of Parasitologists** (ASP) is proud to announce that the *Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Parasitology* (ICOPA-X) will be published as a Special Issue of the *Journal of Parasitology*. Some 50 participants in the plenary and sub-plenary sessions will contribute to this volume. The anticipated date of publication will be April of 2003. Although this is a Special Issue, it will not disrupt the publication schedule of the *Journal*. In other words, these papers from ICOPA-X will not supercede any manuscripts in the normal publication stream for Volume 89 (2003) of the *Journal*.

The *Proceedings* are **not** included as part of the registration fee charged for ICOPA-X. Members of the ASP who wish to purchase the Special Issue will be charged $(US) 15 + $5 for handling and mailing. All others will be charged $(US) 25 + $5 for handling and mailing. It is not the intention of the ASP to make a profit on printing and mailing of the *Proceedings*, but simply to recoup as much of the printing, handling, and mailing costs as possible.

Purchase of the *Proceedings* may be made at the ICOPA-X meetings in Vancouver, or by contacting Sabrina Mowry, Allen Press, 810 East 10th Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Phone 1-800-627-0629 x222, FAX: 785-843-1274, or email: smowry@allenpress.com

Include a check or money order made out to the American Society of Parasitologists. You also may choose to pay by Visa or MasterCard. If you use the latter method, complete the following information:

Print your name:

Card number:

Visa: MasterCard: Date of card's expiration:

Your signature:

Whether you pay by credit card or not, we will need a mailing address, so please include it.

Name:

Mailing address:

For the Journal of Parasitology!

For Future Manuscript Submissions

Online Manuscript Submission and Peer Review

On 1 January 2002, The *Journal of Parasitology* began accepting papers online via our AllenTrack arrangement with Allen Press. Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts from ANY Internet-connected computer, with any operating system, and any platform, anywhere in the world, day or night. In preparing your manuscript for submission, please use the guidelines printed in the February issue of the *Journal of Parasitology* each year. The system will allow authors to check the status of their manuscript and add updated files at a later date. The only software required is the Adobe Acrobat Reader (available for free from www.adobe.com). Authors not wishing to submit via the AllenTrack system may continue to submit hard copies to the Editorial Office by ordinary mail or courier service.

Like all submissions, papers submitted electronically are strictly controlled by login and user privileges, thus assuring authors that their papers are secure and inaccessible to anyone except the Editor o his designee.

To submit a paper via the Internet, the following procedure should be used:

(1) Go to http://jparasitology.allentrack.net
(2) The first time you use the system, you will register for an account. You will use your account login and password when you return to the site to check on the status of your paper.
(3) The first time you log on, you will have two choices: (a) Submit a Paper; or (b) Author Guidelines. (Please examine the Guidelines carefully—they will save you time and help you make the best use of the system.) After you submit the paper, you will have a third option that links you to information on your submission.
(4) Once your files are uploaded to the database, they are converted as needed to PDF files that can be viewed, downloaded, and printed. Most word-processing files, e.g., Word, WordPerfect, text, Postscript, and rich format, are convertible. Figures can be uploaded in JPEG, TIFF, GIF, EPS, PDF, or Postscript formats.
(5) The system will ask you to confirm that the files have been converted correctly, i.e., check your files to make sure the system converted each element properly. (Even if you submit your manuscript as a PDF file, you should still check to be sure that the files open properly.) Your paper will be considered as officially submitted only after the system receives your confirmation.
(6) As you go through the steps, watch for the red arrows. These tell you that you need to take action on something.
(7) Converting your files should take just a few minutes, but occasionally they will take longer. Conversion time may vary with your connection. In any case, you are no longer required to make multiple copies of your text and figures, or package your manuscript, or ship it via regular mail service to the Editorial Office. Most importantly, it will be delivered instantaneously!
(8) When the paper is in the system, we will assign it a tracking number and an Associate Editor to whom it will be transferred electronically from our Office. Once the Associate Editor has it, the manuscript will be sent immediately, by electronic means, to appropriate referees.
(9) Finally, $25 will be charged for each manuscript sent out for review. This fee is paid to Allen Press for their services and does not represent a handling charge by the American Society of Parasitologists or the Editorial Office.

We hope our authors will use the new system. We are confident it will work and, in the long run, that it will save the Society substantially in terms of postage and other costs. We are absolutely confident that it will save in terms of one of the most valuable assets that any of us possess, time.

Good luck! If you have any questions, you may contact us at: esch@wfu.edu
Telephone: (336) 758-4487 or (336) 758-5566. FAX: (336) 758-6008.

Other Meetings

Molecular and Cellular Biology of Helminth Parasites
14-19 September 2002
Hydra, Greece

The conference will deal with recent rapid advances in molecular and cell biology of helminth parasites, the nematodes, cestodes and trematodes. It builds on 2 previous meetings held in Edinburgh (in 1997 and 1999) with a mixed format of invited speakers, selected submitted presentations, poster sessions and work-shops. The Conference combines broad areas of helminth research ranging from applied aspects such as chemotherapy, drug resistance and immunoprophylaxis, through to areas of basic science such as immunology, develop-mental biology, neurobiology and functional genomics. Attendance will be limited to 100 delegates.

Invited Speakers include:

John Dalton (Dublin, Ireland)
Richard Grencis (Manchester, UK)
Peter Hotez (Washington DC, USA)
Jonathan Hodgkin (Oxford, UK)
David Knox (Edinburgh, UK)
Marshall Lightowlers (Melbourne, Australia)
Jim McKerrow (San Francisco, USA)
Els Meeusen (Melbourne, Australia)

Organizing committee:

Murray Selkirk, Imperial College
Rick Maizels, University of Edinburgh
Malcolm Kennedy, University of Glasgow
Kleoniki Gounaris, Imperial College

website: http://helios.bto.ed.ac.uk/icapb/maizels/hydra.html

e-mail: k.lainson@ed.ac.uk

Any affiliate Societies of the ASP wishing to include their secretary's report please send the report to Scott via e-mail. Use the format as below. Thank you.
Scott Gardner, Editor

Reports from Affiliate Societies

Rocky Mountain Conference
of Parasitologists (RMCP)
Metropolitan State College
Denver, Colorado: May 2-4, 2002

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2001 – 2002

The 33rd annual meeting for RMCP, 2002, was held at Metropolitan State College (Denver, Colorado) from May 2 to 4, under the direction of Dr. Cindy Church (President RMCP and Committee Chair). Skip Sterner and Gary McCallister helped with the planning for the annual meeting. Skip Sterner is the past President of RMCP. Thirty-one registered for the meeting while others, including guests, listened to the presentations. An informal social was held on Thursday evening (May 2) at the Student Center for Metropolitan State College (Tivoli 444, Auraria Campus) at which time registration was completed and meeting abstracts distributed.

On Friday, May 3, after a continental break-fast and placement of posters, greetings and announcements were expressed from Dr. Cindy Church (President and Chair for the Organizing Committee) and Dr. Jim Platt, Chair for the Department of Biology, Metro State College. The first session, which was chaired by Dr. Omar Amin and Skip Sterner consisted of 11 papers. After lunch, the afternoon sessions consisted of 9 papers which were chaired by Dr. Ron Hathaway and Dr. Mary Lou Pritchard. The evening of May 3rd the annual banquet was held at the Tivoli Student Center Room 444 and Dr. Ferron Andersen gave the

Gerald D. Schmidt honorary lecture entitled, "History of Cooperative Research Efforts on Cystic Hydatid Disease in Western United States, China and Morocco." Seven posters (demonstrations) were on display representing graduate and undergraduate research.

Saturday morning (May 4) following a continental breakfast the last paper session was chaired by Dr. Gary McCallister which consisted of 4 papers. After the morning break the business meeting was conducted by Skip Sterner and Cindy Church. The minutes and financial reports were presented by Dr. Richard Heckmann (Secretary/Treasurer RMCP) and approved. For the finances of RMCP, there are both named and anonymous donors that benefit our conference and help defray the expenses providing plaques and stipends. ASP activities were discussed including meeting locations, membership, International meetings, awards, student papers and grants for student travel. The emphasis was stressed for High School biology teacher and student involvement. An e-mail was read from Dr. Robin Overstreet about the importance of Parasitology Regional Conferences.

The awards committee for RMCP 2002 announced the winners for our meeting. The Datus M. Hammond awards for the best presentation and poster were given to:

1. Poster:
   27. *Nemesis lamna lamna* and *Nemesis lamna vermi* or *Nemesis lamna*?
   Susan M. Dippenaar: University of North, South Africa
2. Presentation:
   9. The Role of Second Intermediate Arthropod Hosts in the Transmission of Frog Lung Flukes
   M.G. Bolek: University of Nebraska

Each awardee received a plaque and $100.00 in part due to the generous contribution of the Dr. Albert W. Grundmann family.

The Presidents awards for the best presentation and poster were given to:

1. Poster:
   25. Investigating the Course of Major Koi Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) fish die-off at a Commercial Fish Farm in Central Utah and Identifying Ectoparasites Present on *Cyprinus carpio*.
   Oliver Berrett: Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
2. Presentation:
   12. Biological Characteristics and Range Extension of *Rhabdochona paxmani* (Maggenti, Abdel Rahman, and Cid del Prada 1992) Infecting Cutthroat Trout, *Oncorhynchus clarki* (Richardson 1839) of Little Cottonwood Creek, Utah.
   Oliver Berrett: Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

Each awardee received a plaque and $75.00 in part due to a generous contribution of the Dr. Albert W. Grundmann family.

Officers for 2002 – 2003 are: Dr. Richard Spall, President; Cindy Cordery, ASP Representative to Council; and Dr. Richard Heckmann, Secretary/Treasurer. The 2003 meeting will be held at Mesa State College, Grand Junction, Colorado, May 2-4, 2003. President C. Church was thanked for organizing and hosting the meetings this year at Metro State College. Drive safely, use seat belts.

Richard Heckmann
RMCP Secretary/Treasurer

The following was prepared by former ASP President, Phil LoVerde. It warrants your most serious consideration:

Dear ASP Members:

Your attention is urgently requested to proposed changes in the review of NIH grant applications for research on host immune response to infectious disease pathogens. If adopted, these changes will substantively affect the future evaluation of some grants currently assigned to the Tropical Medicine and Parasitology study section. As many of our members have access to NIH funding to support their research, this reorganization may have profound consequences. It may start out in the area of immunology but will soon move to other disciplines and if we are not careful could result in the Tropical Medicine and Parasitology Study Section and the Ad Hoc vector study section becoming absorbed into other larger study sections. The negative consequences of this for ASP and the ASP membership are obvious.

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Center for Scientific Review (CSR) has announced that the proposed guidelines for revised study sections in the Immunology (IMM) Integrated Review Group (IRG) are available for public comment on CSR's Web page from now until August 1, 2002.

The proposed Immunology IRG guidelines are posted at http://www.csr.nih.gov/PSBR/IMM/IMM_Guidelines.pdf. In particular, address your attention to Section 2, describing a new Immunity and Host Defense (IHD) study section that would review applications dealing with host immune response and host-pathogen interaction.

At the request of ASP President Sharon Patton, a response drafted by the ASM and ASTMH to these proposed changes, describing the potential impact on parasite research has been modified for your consideration. The following letter expresses our concerns. It can be modified to suit your style or used verbatim,. The final recommendation is to leave things pretty much as they currently are but that is only one of several possible scenarios.
By making you aware of this proposed change it is our hope that you will be moved to action before it is too late (i.e. the results of the change are in your summary statement). The letter, with places for changes, reads:

"As a member of the American Society of Parasitologists [list other relevant societies], I am taking this opportunity to respond to your call for comments on the proposed guidelines for the reorganized Immunology (IMM) Integrated Review Group.

My comments relate to the proposed formation and scope of a new Immunity and Host Defense (IHD) Study Section. As stated in the IMM IRG guidelines, this new study section would review applications dealing with host-pathogen interactions where the primary focus is on host immune response. I wish to register the following concerns and comments:
1) I am concerned that the expected volume and scope of applications dealing with innate and acquired host immune response to all pathogenic and commensal organisms, and their products, will not be manageable by a single study section. I refer here not only to numbers of applications but also to the range of expertise required of the membership of such a study section. With regard to numbers of applications, this is already an extremely active area of research throughout microbiology and parasitology. In addition, it must be borne in mind that this area is likely to increase dramatically as a result of the new NIH emphasis on biodefense research. With regard to required expertise, it is important to remember that in the study of host-pathogen interaction, knowledge of the pathogen is of equal importance to knowledge of the host (immune response). In a study section environment, the expertise of individual members can and does bias the discussion and skew the scoring. Have the IMM study section boundaries team and CSR carefully considered the requirement for balanced study section membership to avoid this pitfall, and the range of microbiologic expertise that will be necessary? The potential complexity is staggering. Induction and manifestation of the host's immune response (in terms of immune effector mechanisms, immunopathogenesis, and immune evasion) can be qualitatively and quantitatively quite different to Gram positive vs. Gram negative bacteria vs. DNA viruses vs. RNA viruses vs. protozoa vs. helminths, to intracellular vs. extracellular pathogens, to enterics vs. organisms that dwell in the skin, blood, lymphatics, brain, etc., and to prokaryotic vs. complicated eukaryotic organisms with multiple life cycle stages. The unbalanced placement of several individuals with knowledge of one particular pathogen class on this study section, as may reasonably be expected to occur in order to even out workload, could have devastating consequences for future research on less well-represented pathogens. While it may be hoped that study section members with broad microbiologic/parasitologic expertise will be available, we know that in reality senior scientists with that level of experience are usually over-

burdened with other responsibilities, are relatively remote from the daily conduct of research, and have already served on study section and thus are reluctant to serve again. Moreover, such broad expertise does not reflect the way that scientists in these disciplines are trained in this current age of specialization.

2) *We are concerned that preclinical development of vaccines is to be included in the scope of the proposed IHD study section, to be prioritized alongside very basic studies such as those on innate immunity and molecular immunopathogenesis.*

Preclinical vaccine development research includes issues of antigen identification and purification, of optimizing formulation and immunization scheduling, and of identification of immune correlates of protection. We have seen time and again that such research is not considered to be "hypothesis-driven" or creative by basic scientists, and fares poorly in review. Nonetheless, such research is absolutely essential to the development of new methods to prevent or intervene against infectious diseases, which is an important goal of our Society and of infectious disease research in general.

Moreover, this type of research will also be vulnerable to the inherent bias of study section members with regard to which diseases are "most important" and thus which vaccines are most worthy of development. The singling out in the guidelines of mucosal immunity as a specific area of coverage for the IHD study section, especially with regard to vaccine development, already betrays a bias which may be reflected in future study section membership. As scientists devoted to understanding and controlling parasites and the diseases that largely affect the impoverished and disenfranchised inhabitants of developing countries, we wish to register the greatest concern about this potential for bias in prioritization.

3) I am concerned about the lack of regard for clinical field-based immunologic studies reflected in the proposed IHD guidelines.

Whereas general concern has been expressed in recent years about the prioritization of clinical vs. basic laboratory research within NIH study sections, I wish to raise the particular and unusual concerns that will affect **[me or some of our membership]** on this subject. Issues such as the genetic epidemiology of host response, the development of acquired immunity, and immunopathogenesis are integral to the understanding of parasitic diseases and, as I understand the proposed guidelines, applications on these topics (including clinical research) would be reviewed by IHD. Clinical tropical medicine and parasitology research must by necessity be conducted in the "tropics"; usually this means in the context of developing countries. Such studies must overcome a number of challenges not met in the laboratory or even in the clinical research environments encountered in US medical institutions or US neighborhood clinics. These include challenges such as: unexpected changes in disease incidence (e.g. many tropical diseases are vector- or waterborne and thus subject to environ-mental conditions such as drought); transient and illiterate patient populations; poorly equipped local medical facilities; poorly trained local collaborators; and even obstacles such as political revolution and guerilla warfare. Such challenges tend to increase the difficulty of protocol planning, introducing several unknowns, increase the expense of the proposed studies, and decrease the rate of progress reflected in project renewal applications. Reviewers unfamiliar with or unsympathetic to these unusual challenges fail to take them into account in the evaluation process, holding such projects to the same standards they apply to laboratory-based research in terms of feasibility, progress, and budget. Thus, in this area again, I express the greatest concern with regard to the need to balance study section membership to avoid bias. Indeed, I wish to register my grave concern as to whether this will be possible under the proposed IHD mechanism, where clinical tropical medicine research will be evaluated alongside basic studies such as those on "G-protein coupled receptors, Toll-like receptors, NK cell activation and inhibitory receptors" etc.

In addition, the separation of HIV-related research into an AIDS and Related Research IRG is of concern for clinical tropical medicine. Since AIDS is a significant problem in most countries where tropical diseases are studied, absence of expertise on clinical HIV research will also prove problematic.

4) I am concerned that the precedent set by the proposed changes will soon affect other disciplines of research and will result in the dissolution of Study Sections like Tropical Medicine and Parasitology. These study sections have a panel of experts capable of evaluating field and laboratory proposals that involve parasite biology (genetics, genomics, physiology, and biochemistry); protective immunity, immunopathogenesis, evasion of host responses; clinical and epidemiologic studies of the natural history of tropical and parasitic diseases; research and development of vaccines, drugs, immunotherapeutics, and diagnostics; and vector biology and control, mechanisms of pathogen transmission.

NIAID has a long tradition of supporting research on parasitic and other infectious diseases that predominantly affect populations living in developing countries but also are of global importance. The National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993 formally added "tropical diseases" to NIAID's

mission statement. This action recognized that NIAID is the primary source of funding for U.S. civilian investigators conducting research in areas relevant to tropical medicine. The homogenization of Study Sections as proposed will represent a threat to this area of research and one of the missions of NIAID. **[If you have any experience serving on NIH study section as an ad hoc or regular member, a NIH grantee or NIH study section chair, please say so here.]**

I strongly recommend that applications dealing with immune response to pathogenic organisms remain assigned to the Infectious Disease and Microbiology IRG (IRG 11), where study sections will reflect the pathogen-related expertise to appropriately evaluate these applications. If CSR is concerned that more immunologic expertise is necessary, it will be far more straightforward to instruct IRG 11 study sections to obtain additional opinions from immunologists expert in the pertinent aspects of immune response than it will be to put together a group immunologists capable of making informed and impartial value judgments on the broad range of experimental systems proposed to be covered by a new IHD study section.
Sincerely,
George
—
****
Prof. George D. Cain, Secretary-Treasurer
American Society of Parasitologists
Division of Biological Sciences
Biological Sciences Bldg.
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
706-542-5017
706-542-1695 fax
****
ASP web page: http://asp.unl.edu
Check out “A Pictorial Presentation of Parasites”
http://parasitepics.biosci.uga.edu

Washington, DC - SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) has launched **Gaining Independence: A Manual for Planning the Launch of a Nonprofit Electronic Publishing Venture.** This new publication, available on the SPARC website free of charge at http://www.arl.org/sparc/GI, is a detailed, step-by-step guide leading readers through the creation of a business plan for start-up and early-stage electronic publishing ventures, including digital repositories and journals.

Gaining Independence will help universities, libraries, societies and others conceive, plan and implement alternatives to commercially published scholarly and scientific information. It provides background on relevant electronic publishing models and focuses especially on areas of business planning that may be unfamiliar to those considering new communications initiatives. The manual includes sections on: Situational Assessment and Strategic Response; Technology and Technical Considerations; Markets, Marketing and Sales; Organization; Finances; and the Financial Plan and Operating Plan. A detailed appendix links readers to pertinent resources.

For more information, contact: Alison Buckholtz, 202-296-2296 x115, alison@arl.org

SPARC is a coalition of research universities and libraries supporting increased competition in scholarly publishing. Its membership currently numbers approximately 200 institutions and library consortia in North America, Australia, New Zealand and Asia. SPARC Europe, a regionally focused initiative, is being launched in 2002. SPARC is also affiliated with major library organizations in Canada, the U.K. and Ireland, Denmark, Australia and the USA. SPARC is located on the web at http://www.arl.org/sparc; SPARC Europe is located on the web at http://www.sparceurope.org. SPARC partners with AIBS on the BioOne (www.BioOne.org) online journal project.

Dear Colleagues,

In an effort to bring some sense of regularity to the Society's scheduling of its various awards, I am attaching my suggestion as to how we might plan these awards for the near future.

I have included the past history of certain awards/lectureships, to the best of the information available to me. (There are some question marks in the table—if any of you can provide the correct information for these years, please let me know) At the top of each column I've included the present balances in the accounts that support these awards, in addition to the amounts available per year to spend on these awards (assuming 5% return on the principle). Finally, I've included the cost of each award, as stipulated by our By-Laws and/or Handbook.

Not included in this list are the "automatic yearly awards," i.e. the Henry Baldwin Ward Medal, C.P. Read Mentor Award, and Ashton Cuckler New Investigator Award. Costs for the HBW include the medal (several already on hand) and some incidentals. We provide a small plaque for the latter two, and the cash amount for the Cuckler is easily covered by a $100,000 endowment from the Cuckler family.

At the bottom of the attached spreadsheet, I've suggested a schedule for these awards that should preserve the principle in the respective accounts (Note that Stoll-Stunkard and Eminent Parasitologist are both funded from the Stoll-Stunkard endowment). A minor problem is that the McGhee award does not have a specific fund to support it.

Anyway, all this is for your consideration and comment. I'm especially anxious to hear from the chairs of these award committees. If this seems like a good plan to you, I will submit it to Council for more formal approval.

Thanks for your input,

George

PS. If I have any of the award committee chairs wrong, please let me know ASAP.

****

Prof. George D. Cain, Secretary-Treasurer
American Society of Parasitologists
Division of Biological Sciences
Biological Sciences Bldg.
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
706-542-5017
706-542-1695 fax

****

Positions Open

Post doctoral position

Oregon State University

Cell-molecular level studies of innate immunity and pathogen/parasite counter-defense in an invertebrate host-parasite system. The ideal candidate for this position will have published research carried out on animal cells, experience using cell- and molecular genetic protocols, and a genuine interest in comparative immunology. Research will address questions concerning the basis for compatibility and incompatibility in molluscan schistosomiasis. In this model, the snail host utilizes both oxygen-dependent and –independent mechanisms to kill the parasite. Counter-defenses of the trematode parasite likely include mechanisms of protection against oxidative damage. The Linus Pauling Institute at Oregon State University comprises a rich

resource of expertise in this area.

The research will take advantage of timely accumulation of genomic data, and recent developments in proteome analysis – an area of expertise in the OSU Environmental Health Sciences Center. Orientation to the topic can be obtained by reading:

Bayne, C.J., Hahn, U.K. and Bender, R.C. 2001. Mechanisms of molluscan host resistance and parasite escapes. *Parasitology* 123. Supplement: Flukes and Snails Revisited, edited by D. Rollinson; co-ordinating editor L.H. Chappell. S159 – S167.

Timeline. While wishing to explore your interests as soon as you are ready, we anticipate that the appointment will begin between September and November 2002.

CONTACT. Christopher J. Bayne,
Department of Zoology,
Oregon State University,
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

TEL: 541-737-5352 FAX: 541-737-0501
e-mail: baynec@bcc.orst.edu
WEB: http://www.ehsc.orst.edu/investigators/bayne.htm
http://www.cgrb.orst.edu/mcb/faculty/bayne/index.html

Nematode Ecology Research Scientist

The Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA, is seeking a Research Scientist I. Research projects focus on elucidating the role of soil biodiversity in ecosystem functioning, with emphasis on soil nematodes, in managed and unmanaged ecosystems (for example, Antarctic dry valleys, grasslands, deserts and agricultural systems). Ph.D. required in plant nematology, nematode ecology, plant pathology, soil ecology, microbial ecology, plant pathology, or a related field. Background in soil ecology and nematology. Proven ability to write and publish manuscripts.

Job description:
We require a research scientist to work on various projects. One project, the McMurdo Dry Valley LTER in Antarctica, focuses on the distribution, abundance and community structure of nematodes and other biota. Other projects include identifying ecosystem controls on soil nematode diversity at US grassland sites, and collaborations with scientists working in Africa
and Costa Rica. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to scientific leadership for these projects, in conjunction with the PIs and project manager.

Responsibilities include:
* Establishment and maintenance of field and laboratory experiments, in addition to:
* Supervision of research associates and student workers
* Collecting and processing soil samples to determine biotic, chemical and physical properties
* Nematode and/or soil microbial extraction
* Identification and enumeration of free-living and plant parasitic nematodes
* Coordination of data entry
* Participation in preparing research proposals and papers
* Statistical analysis and summaries of data
* Utilization of computer software for spreadsheet analysis, word processing, routine statistical analysis, graphics, and communications

It is essential that the candidate possess interpersonal and communication skills for working with other members of the laboratory in a team effort.

Additional preferred skills include experience in any of the following:

* GIS
* Isolation, purification, and maintenance of laboratory microbial cultures.
* Biogeochemical soil analysis.
* Molecular applications in soil ecology

Salary range: $29,000-$32,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Funding secured for 12 months, other grants pending. Starting date August 1st 2002.

Applications: Submit letter of interest, CV, and contact information for three references postmarked by July 26th 2002, to:

Natalie Lucero
Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1499
FAX: +1 (970) 491-1965.

Electronic submission is acceptable, natalie@nrel.colostate.edu

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, veteran status or disability, or handicap. The University complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, related Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veteranıs Readjustment Act of 1974, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, American Disabilities Act of 1990, and all civil rights laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, equal opportunity for employment and admission shall be extended to all persons and the University shall promote equal opportunity and treatment through a positive and continuing affirmative action program. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. In order to assist Colorado State University in meeting its affirmative action responsibilities, ethnic minorities, women, and other protected class members are encouraged to apply and to so identify themselves.

Staff Research Associate

An ecological parasitology group headed by Dr Armand Kuris at the University of California, Santa Barbara is seeking a Staff Research Associate. The Staff Research Associate will coordinate and perform field collections and parasitological analyses on estuarine animals, and will also develop and manage a database for parasites and hosts and the internal computer network and for the lab group.

A B.A. or B.S. in Biology or related field is required as well as experience with both PC and Mac based computing platforms and database management skills. Applicant must be physically able to participate in field sampling (e.g. pull seine through channels, walk through mud, etc...).

Interested applicants should see the job description and application information at: http://hr.ucsb.edu/Employment/jb.shtml#SL
Job Number 2002-05-037

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Todd C. Huspeni, Ph.D.
Assistant Research Biologist
Marine Science Institute
University of California at Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
(805) 893-8083 (Office)
(805) 893-3998 (Lab)
(805) 893-8062 (Fax)

The life of *H. diminuta* as told from its own view

a.k.a.
Yo ho ho and a pile of dung.

I start as an egg in a pile of crap,
where beetles scrounge in search of a scrap,
I sit and I wait so patiently,
in hopes that a beetle will soon eat me.
Closer and closer my future home comes,
crunching and munching on remnant crumbs.
They see me and cry "What a wonderful treat",
I'm a fanciful feast of proglottid meat.
I'm eaten and rejoice, life begins again,
I now live in beetle muscle organ.
I sit and I sleep encased in a cyst,
the lump I began with will not be missed.
As I move to the next stage in my life,
no, not a career or even a wife.
A rat is truly what I hold dear,
I hope and I pray that one is near.
At once I awake to a terrible shake,
at last, a rat is eating bug steak.
I giggle and snort and sprout a huge grin,
as I make my way to the rat's intestine.
I hatch and I feed to grow longer and longer,
the food that I steal makes me feel stronger.
At last, at last my eggs are mature,
I send them along on a trip down the sewer.
Good bye my children! I shout with glee,
more beetles and rats will propegate thee.

Steve Braswell
The Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology

Affiliates

Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists
Helminthological Society of Washington
New England Association of Parasitologists
New Jersey Society for Parasitology
Northern California society of Parasitologists
Parasitology Section, Canadian Society of Zoologists
Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists
Southeastern Society of Parasitologists
Southern California Society of Parasitologists
Southwestern Association of Parasitologists

Note to Members

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories and articles. Please send your text electronically to Scott Gardner as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word 6.0 document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message.

Scott Lyell Gardner
Editor, ASP Newsletter
slg@unl.edu