WELCOME

New Distance Masters Students:
Spring 2010: James Dienes, Budd Lake, NJ; Andrea McKern, Ames, IA; Nona Ramirez Merrick, Walcott, IA; Ashley Stephens, Virginia Beach, VA; Adriane Tambasco, Homestead, FL

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Shripat Kamble has been named an Honorary Member of the Entomological Society of America. Honorary membership acknowledges those who have been significantly involved in the ESA for at least 20 years. The award will be presented at the ESA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN, which will be December 13-17, 2009.

Tim Husen will receive the ESA Student Certification Award, which recognizes outstanding entomology graduate students with interest in the mission of the group’s certification program. Tim will be presented the award at the ESA Annual Meeting also. Tim is a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of Dr. Shripat Kamble.

Amanda Fujikawa, and her husband, Marc, are the proud parents of a little girl, Elsa Grace, born November 9, 2009. Elsa weighed 6 lbs., 4 oz., and was 19.5 inches long. Amanda is a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of Drs. David Carter and Leon Higley. Elsa paid us a visit, and her picture does not do her justice!

Dr. Doug Golick and his wife, Erinn, are the proud parents of a little boy, Braden Douglas, who was born October 1, 2009. He weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz., and was 21 inches long. Doug received his M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction with a minor in Entomology from UNL in 2001 and his Ph.D. degree in Educational Studies from UNL in 2005. He is a Developmental Instructor and Design Coordinator at the University of Kansas and co-teaches a distance course, Insects as Educational Tools, with Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss.

GRANTS

David Carter
• Department of Justice ........................................................................................ $142,475
  "Developing a High Throughput Protocol for Using Soil Molecular Biology as Trace Evidence"

John Foster
• USDA-ARS.......................................................................................................... $40,000
  "Molecular Markers for Determining Population Difference in Screwworms Originating from Different Geographic Areas"

Shripat Kamble
• DuPont Corporation. ........................................................................................ $25,200
  "Cockroach II"
• DuPont Corporation ............................................................................................ $2,500
  "Urban Research"
MEET AN OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT

Off-Campus M.S. Student – Bethany Teeters

It’s fair to say that entomology has always been my destiny, although I didn’t always know it. I was missing for most of my childhood, sitting quietly in a far-off field watching bumblebees bounce about on clover for hours at a time, only faintly registering, and ultimately ignoring my mother shouting “Bethany Sue…Where are you!” in the distance.

Having grown up in the woods of northern Wisconsin, nature has always been my favorite companion. It’s not surprising, therefore, that I decided to pursue a degree in the natural sciences, earning my bachelor of science in biology and environmental science from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in 2006. While working on a research project assessing the effects of earthworm abundance on arthropod diversity in northern hardwood forests, I gained a greater appreciation for the ecosystem services insects provide, as well as their use as indicator species for the health of the environment. I was able to explore these interests further as a field tech with the University of South Dakota monitoring the endangered Hine’s emerald dragonfly in Door County, Wisconsin and the Joliet area of Illinois.

The distance MS program at UNL was the perfect opportunity for me to pursue my passion for pollinators (inspired by my early observations of bees), and satisfy my desire for further education without resorting to the weekend relationship with my husband. I would not be surprised if I pursued a PhD or second master’s degree in the future, since learning seems to be my favorite hobby. In the meantime, however, I’m enjoying the flexibility that UNL offers and feel that my experience thus far has been well-rounded and rewarding.

PUBLICATIONS


**STUDENT NEWS**

Ana Maria Vélez was awarded continued graduate fellowship funding of $5,000 from the Mary and Charles C. Cooper/Emma I. Sharpless Fellowship Fund. Ana is a Ph.D. student under the supervision of Dr. Blair Siegfried.

Sean Putnam’s dissertation defense seminar was held on Monday, November 23, 2009. His title was “The Chemistry of Lipid Signal Molecules in Insects.” Sean’s co-advisors are Drs. David Stanley and Paul Staswick.

Abby Stilwell presented her dissertation defense seminar on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. Her title was “Remote sensing to detect the movement of wheat curl mites through the spatial spread of virus symptoms and identification of thrips as predators of wheat curl mites.” Abby’s co-advisors are Drs. Gary Hein and Steve Danielson.

Laura Campbell’s dissertation defense seminar will be held on Monday, November 30, at 1:00 p.m. in the Nebraska East Union. Her title is “Hybridization in *Diabrotica barberi* Smith and Lawrence and *Diabrotica longicornis* (Say) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae): Biology, Behavior, Field Introgression, and a Reevaluation of Taxonomic Status.” Laura’s advisor is Dr. Lance Meinke.

Mitch Stamm will present his thesis defense seminar on Wednesday, December 2, at 10:00 a.m. in HECO 121. His seminar title is “Differential Responses of the western chinch bug, *Blissus occiduus*, to neonicotinyl insecticides.” Mitch is co-advised by Drs. Fred Baxendale and Tiffany Heng-Moss.

**FROM THE OFFICE**

USDA - Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program
http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/RFAS/eipm_support_program.html Application Deadline: 1/14/10
More information: Nathan Meier (2.1808/ nmeier@unl.edu)

Contracts for Professional Services - Effective October 1, 2009, contracts for services must include a clause regarding the vendor’s verification of the work eligibility of their employees. Individuals or sole proprietors must provide a citizenship or qualified alien attestation for services performed within
the State of Nebraska. Please contact Marissa Young accounting person for details. Further compliance information on LB403 is available at http://tinyurl.com/y1zyah8.

**TRAVEL**

Team Scarab, **Dr. Brett Ratcliffe, Dr. M. J. Paulsen, Dr. Mary Liz Jameson, and Jesus Orozco**, attended and presented papers at the VIII Reunión Latinoamericana de Scarabaeoidología (RELAS) in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico on October 12-24, 2009.

**Dr. Bob Wright** chaired the annual meeting of the North Central Field Crop Extension Entomologist's Working Group, held in St. Louis, MO, October 15-16, 2009.

**Dr. Bob Wright** participated in the annual meeting of NCERA-125, the USDA regional committee on biological control of insects and weeds, at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, October 27-28, 2009.

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**Calendar of Events**

**November 30, 2009**
- Laura Campbell, Dissertation Defense Seminar, 1:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

**December 1, 2009**
- Entomology Seminar – Erica Lindroth, 4:00 p.m. Nebraska East Union

**December 2, 2009**
- Mitch Stamm, Thesis Defense Seminar, 10:00 a.m., HECO 121

**December 7-12, 2009**
- Last Week of Classes

**December 8, 2009**
- Treat Day I – Entomology hosts Forestry – Starting at 10:00 a.m.

**December 10, 2009**
- Treat Day II - Forestry hosts Entomology – Starting at 10:00 a.m.

**December 13-17, 2009**
- ESA Annual Meeting, December 13-17, 2009, Indianapolis, IN

**December 14-18, 2009**
- First Semester Final Exams

**December 18, 2009**
- Graduate Commencement and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

**December 19, 2009**
- First Semester Undergraduate Commencement

**December 24 – January 3, 2010**
- Holiday Closedown

**January 4, 2010**
- UNL Offices Open

**January 11, 2010**
- Second Semester Classes Begin

**January 18, 2010**
- Martin Luther King Day (Student and Staff Holiday)