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American Society of Parasitologists

FOUNDED BY HENRY BALDWIN WARD

Newsletter

Published Quarterly by the American Society of Parasitologists



Newsletter: Released on the ASP web-server
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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. In addition to the newsletter, we will be posting material on the web as they are generated by you, the **reader** and **contributor**.

Sincerely,

Scott L. Gardner

Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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NEWS

Dr. Stephen G. Kayes

Why Do You Go to the Annual Meeting of the Society?

by

Stephen G. Kayes, Ph.D.

President, American Society of Parasitologists

Why do you go to the annual meeting? What do you expect to have happen when you show up? Do you remember the first annual meeting of the Society that you attended? What was the best part of the meeting? Have you ever presented a paper at the annual meeting? Chaired a session at the annual meeting? These are all great questions. The answers are revealing.

Why you attend an annual meeting most likely has to do with your age or where you are in your career. Perhaps you are finishing up your first scientific study and have new and exciting data to present. Or maybe you are ready to make a career change and move to the next level. This change might be going from a Masters degree to a Ph.D. program and you want to talk to people who have openings in their labs that you are interested in. Thus, your meeting is an interview. The same may be true if you have just completed your Ph.D. and now wish to find a post doctoral position. If you had been presenting papers on a regular basis at the annual meeting, other labs may now be clamoring to see you move to their campus. Then too, you may have completed your post doc, achieved rising star status and are now looking for a faculty position. Again, the annual meeting offers a perfect venue to explore opportunities and make contacts with those institutions which have openings that may meet your career needs.

Now you have that position and all the hard work of graduate school and at least one post doc seems worth it. Then you realize that you have just 84 months to get grants, write papers, develop lectures, serve on a committee or two and hopefully, establish a national reputation and be considered for tenure. Again, the annual meeting plays a significant part. Perhaps you need to discuss the development of that first big NSF or NIH grant with scientists from the agencies. No better place to do so than at an annual meeting. Presenting papers as an assistant professor at a national meeting cements your reputation at the national level and begins to establish your credentials at the international level under some circumstances. But you could not have accomplished any of this with out the annual meeting of the Society.

Lastly, there is one more reason why many of us attend the Annual meeting of the Society. We want to return once a year to renew friendships, see our former mentors and students, exchange stories about how jobs are going, compare notes about how different institutions do things, and of course, travel and get to see some place perhaps that you have never seen before.

Having made the case that we all need the Annual meeting at some time in our careers and for differing reasons, have you ever considered what would happen if there were no more annual meetings? All of the points discussed would be for naught.

What makes the annual meeting a reality once a year is the hard work and dedication of those members who appreciate what the meeting has meant to them and who feel an obligation to help make the next meeting take place so that when **YOU** need the “national experience” it is



there for you. That is, having been offered a hand-up, they now want to do the same for the next person who could use the same hand-up. This aid to the Society takes the form of participation on one or more of the Society's standing or ad hoc committees. Perhaps no committee works as hard as the local arrangements committee who have the immense responsibility to secure a venue and make all the arrangements so that when you arrive everything appears to happen seamlessly. Coffee appears magically at the appropriate time, your name tag is in your registration packet, rooms where your paper will be presented actually match your Program and Abstract booklet which you receive at just the right time. Then people show up to judge student presentations and students show up after having used their Marc Dresden Awards to facilitate their travel to the annual meeting. You get the picture. Meetings happen because people care about you

So, if you are ever asked to serve on one of the Society's committees, please accept the honor (say yes and immediately put it on your CV!) and then roll up your sleeves and pitch in to make the next meeting the best one ever. If you would like to volunteer to serve the American Society of Parasitologists by being on a committee and you have not been asked, please send me your contact information (skayes@usouthal.edu) and I will see that it and you are put to work for a good, no..., **a great**, cause.

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The following is a paper submitted Mr. Maurice R. Odiere, Ph.D. Candidate - Institute of Parasitology, McGill University. *The Editor* encourages others to send in articles on this or other topics in parasitology for possible publication in *The Newsletter*.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA:
A REAL SYNERGY OR JUST A PHILOSOPHY?**

By

MAURICE R. ODIERE

Ph.D. Candidate - Institute of Parasitology, Macdonald campus of McGill University

Scientifically based research in human health is crucial as a source of new knowledge serving as a means to identify health problems and solutions, and as a means to implement, monitor and evaluate public health interventions. More critical is that health based research must always strive for and be dedicated towards advancing human welfare, knowledge, and understanding of the numerous health problems afflicting local populations. An integration of scientific knowledge and acquired skills (via training) with healthcare systems will ultimately result in a formidable synthesis. This blend of knowledge is a primary requisite towards sustainable utilization of resources and alleviation of human suffering caused by infectious diseases. This synthetic blend of knowledge is also necessitated particularly so in the face of global challenges to sustainable, adequate healthcare for all, especially in tropical countries where many infectious diseases are endemic.

There is indeed a great deal of human health based research being conducted in Africa and other developing and tropical countries, yet the burden of disease and the toll in currency of human suffering in the tropics continues to be of concern. Because there is so much health-based research being conducted in these developing countries, it is necessary to evaluate the impact that these numerous research programs are having in these countries. Research scientists (both local and international) must ask themselves whether the research they are undertaking here has a direct impact (or any impact) on the lives of the people. Questions that can be asked include: Is this the right kind of research? Are the researcher's just using research for career development/advancement? Do scientists really internalize and understand the significance/justification/rationale of their studies? Of what good is it to acquire knowledge and not be able to practice or implement the acquired expertise? It is not surprising that numerous people from African countries are holders of masters (M.Sc, MPH), PhD's and Post-doctoral degree certificates in Biomedical/Health sciences, and yet the impact of this huge pool of trained personnel appears relatively insignificant. It does no good for us to write fancy reports, theses, publications, and journal articles that cannot be translated into practice.

Society in general has invested in scientists and placed expectations on them to deliver and free the populace from the yoke of diseases. I remember during my fieldwork in Western Kenya, a local resident once asked me why malaria control programs had been ongoing in their area for so long yet mosquitoes still bit them and many people still died from malaria. Another resident even went further to suggest that scientists were exploiting them and just stealing blood from them. This clearly indicates that society's understanding of some research aspects is missing or they are not informed, which creates rumors, misconceptions, suspicions, and other concerns. Misconceptions about blood stealing in research have also been encountered in



Zambia, Mozambique, The Gambia, Tanzania, and Uganda and have been reported in sub-Saharan Africa since colonial times (White, 2000). Collection of blood, regular treatments with vitamins or malaria prophylaxis, including interventions targeting specific age or gender groups (such as vaccination and family planning), have been suspected of reducing the fertility of young girls (e.g. Bradley, 1980; Feldman-Savelsberg et al., 2000). Here in Africa when such suspicions arise, many times project leaders respond by intensifying sensitivity training for workers in the community and by providing additional information, for example by showing community leaders around the laboratory so that they can see what happens to blood samples. This then creates some understanding, with the suspicions subsiding and the research then continues. Knowledge imparted to the local populations of what research is actually being conducted is critical to achieving long-term goals.

Suspensions and misconceptions of actual use of data by human health research teams by locals, if not properly addressed, may sometimes impede recruitment into research, affect adherence to interventions, and even threaten continuation of entire projects. On some occasions, such suspicions may be dismissed as background noise without direct impact (Geissler 2005; Molyneux et al., 2005a; Pool & Geissler 2005). As research scientists we should not interpret such suspicions as expressions of ignorance of medical science and research, or as the persistence of traditional beliefs. Some social scientists have often seen such suspicions and concerns as forms of popular resistance (Atieno Odhiambo 1974; Ceyssens 1975). The frequency and magnitude of these suspicions and misconceptions, and their potential effect on medical research and public health interventions, implies that they should not be ignored. Addressing these suspicions and misconceptions could enrich health research and improve relations between research scientists and study communities (Geissler et al., 2006).

Ensuring that communities involved in studies understand medical research procedures has sometimes improved acceptance (e.g. Doumbo 2005). Knowledge dissemination and health education and awareness campaigns are critical in this regard. The common phrase in my village back home in Western Kenya, "*Don't walk in the rain you will contract malaria*" used by parents to caution their children serves to illustrate the lack of knowledge on malaria transmission. However, lack of knowledge in itself cannot adequately explain the misconceptions. For instance, it is common to find scientifically well-educated members of society misrepresenting facts. It is common also to find that graduate students in Parasitology do not understand basic aspects such as lifecycles, modes of transmission, and prevention mechanisms for many parasites (from personal experience at the University back home). It is surprising that suspicions and misconceptions sometimes occur in urban settings with higher levels of schooling and exposure to modern technology, and they can arise around very familiar interventions or issues.

If we take the discipline of Parasitology, it would add value to introduce concepts of Parasitology in elementary schools. Emphasis has been placed on teaching this course at graduate studies level in higher institutions of learning. The concern here is, how many students advance their studies up to graduate studies level? The academic life can be summarized in the form of a pyramid. Very few people reach the higher levels, with most toiling at the lower levels below, and this clearly outlines the importance of introducing aspects of parasitology at the lowest levels where the knowledge can reach a wider group. The curriculum can be moderated to the level of consumption in elementary schools. There are basics that can be taught such as modes of transmission, life-cycles, prevention and control, environmental management, nutrition



and, sanitation among other things. With all due respect to scientists who are working on ‘complicated advanced stuff’ and discovering new molecules, which is plausible, but it could help much if we concentrated on the ‘basics’ at times. Morbidity and mortality figures attributable to diseases in tropical countries are alarming, and we do not have the luxury to do irrelevant human-health based research.

It is clear from health outcomes that in many tropical countries, human health based research needs to be geared towards advancing responsible development and general well-being. There is need to invest more in research focussed in reduction of diseases, decreasing morbidity, and promoting public health. Research scientists should also focus on pursuing translational research (research that translates findings into practice). Another way of reaping the fruits of research is for consumers such as medical practitioners to rely on evidence-based practice-EBP (*the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of the current best evidence in making healthcare decisions* - Sackett et al., 1996). Governments in developing countries must allocate more resources to improve health care infrastructure, especially primary healthcare systems, and human resource training. A combination of health education on good health practices and avoidance of risk behaviors, translational health research, improved health infrastructure and enhanced food security are significant factors for combating diseases and promoting health in tropical countries. Research on human health issues in tropical and developing countries should not just be a philosophy, but it should translate to improvement of health, overall development, and sustainable use and stewardship of the life support system of the planet, the biosphere.

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Yungasicola travassosi from *Akodon* spp. - Unduavi, Rio Aceramarca, Bolivia.



THE RETIRED PARASITOLOGIST EDGE (in contrast to “corner” which *The Editor* thought too confining for these two)

D & J column #1

The following paragraph is a suggestion for a “lead” by the Editor of the ASP Newsletter for our new column. We thought we should give the Editor a paragraph he may choose to use, or not to introduce us.

“*The Editor* wishes to announce a new column for the Newsletter, The Retired Parasitologist Corner. This is a column that will appear from time to time when this growing group of parasitologists, i.e., our colleagues no longer earning a salary, has opinions, issues or comments on the state of the discipline. This month you find the first of a sometime series entitled “Dear Dick and John.” Mimicking “Car Talk” by “Click and Clack, The Tappet Brothers” on National Public Radio, or NPR, this column will tend to focus on those questions and issues encountered on retiring. The authors have just retired from careers searching for the ultimate answers in parasitology and are now able to consider even larger questions of life from their rocking chairs. We hope you enjoy this tongue-in-cheek column by two new retirees, Dick Seed and John Oaks.” *The Editor* will make an effort to include “podcast” information supplied by the authors so “the reader” may also become “the listener.” Because these two fellows are “old” we would expect a certain degree and level of crabiness and I am sure that you, the reader, will appreciate the sage advice that these two provide.

The Dear Dick and John Column

A note from the authors: Old parasitologists are you preparing for retirement? As recently retired faculty, having tackled the difficulties of both State and TIAA/ CREF retirement systems, who could be better qualified to advise you as you approach your new freedom. This column deals with a letter asking about the problems of what to do with all those reprints in your office files. For topics of future columns and to avoid the psychological stress of pre and immediate post retirement, please write us with your questions.

Dear Dick and John,

I am, like many of my boomer parasitologist colleagues, am about to retire. Because I began as a parasitologist before the advent of the electronic library and the .pdf file, I have several file cabinets filled with reprints. What shall I do with all of these reprints I have collected?

Signed, Inundated-with-great-papers



Dear Inundated,

We, too, faced this problem and consulted with AAUP. Their reply said “Remember that this is copywrited material and only a single copy may be made for teaching purposes. This copy must not be sold for profit.” They obviously did not know how to deal with such a complex problem, so we have wracked our brains and come up with some of our own suggestions:

1. Sort your reprints by topic. Send them to your still employed parasitologist colleagues working in each of the topic fields. They will be pleased because if they are still working, reprints were a thing of the past by the time they joined the profession and they probably do not have enough of their own. However, we suggest that if do send reprints to others, do not put a return address on the envelope. This is just in case should they decide to write “RETURN TO SENDER” on the envelope, the reprints will end up in the Dead Letter Office that way you will not have to deal with them a second time.
2. The second option requires a two step process. Call a shredder company and ask them to turn their shredder on the “fine” setting and deal with your reprints. Once the shreds are available, call a home insulation company and have the reprint fodder blown into the walls of your home. This way you can be warmed all year long by being surrounded by classic and important data. What a warm and fuzzy feeling!
3. We have known at least one retiree who wall papered his home office with his favorite and best reprints (mostly his own work). It was like living and working in a rare book archive.
4. We have also known individuals who have tightly rolled up their reprints and then used them in their fireplaces. If you have been a serious collector, like us, you may have enough material to reduce your heating bill by 20% this coming year!
5. If however, you cut the rolled up reprints into half or thirds, you can take them on camping trips. When nature calls, they are more absorbent than those potentially toxic leaves and also much less dangerous. Although old reprints will work for personal hygiene in the wild, we understand that if you saved any memos from administrators, they are much more effective for this purpose and provide much greater satisfaction.
6. Fiber is important in our diets and wuxing up a reprint or two each day in a Warring Blender with a little water or beverage of your choice could substitute for your daily glass of Metamucil. Think of the money you could save by making your own fiber drink.
7. Need mulch for your tomato beds? Reprints, laid three layers thick, will stop the growth of seedling weeds. Even if it does not make your plants any smarter or grow better, it sure is an inspiration to old biologists while gardening. We would recommend those reprints dealing with growth hormones and/or flowering. This is another example of the power of publication. However, a brief word of warning, DO NOT use any reprints on plant parasites! We have seen healthy plants wilt in minutes when surrounded by reprints on the tobacco mosaic virus or the tomato blight virus.



8. There is a rumor that some decades ago, several well known parasitologist faculty of a university in New Orleans sold their reprint collection to the Army Corps of Engineers to be used in levee construction. We would not recommend this option, not even for damming a body of water as small as a cattle pond. This is because, as you all know, scientific knowledge shifts with the progression of the scientific frontiers. There is nothing more slippery and elusive than proof of a hypothesis.

9. Lastly, a colleague suggested that reprints can be used to plug the hole in the floor of your '56 Chevy. At first thought this may seem a good idea. However, we know this may concern some you, because the driver may be come distracted by the trying to read the content of the paper while controlling the moving vehicle. Not to worry, place the reprints opened to the bibliography. No one reads the bibliography.

Dear Dick and John,

I can't bear to throw out all of those unrequested reprints of my own publications. I paid Allen Press good money for them and I will be @#\$% if I am going to pitch them out. Do you have any idea how I find a use for them.

Signed, I-even-bought-them-with-covers!

Dear Bought-Them,

Although this appears to be the identical problem that we addressed in the previous letter*, we believe that the emotional attachment one has to one's own reprinted material deserves a very different approach. This attachment is clearly wrapped in the disappointment that colleagues did not realize the incredible importance of this work and its potential impact on our future understanding of parasitology. We, of course, entirely agree with your assessment of the value of your work.

We suggest that you retain these personal reprints by making them into something useful. Since you are retiring and will be spending a great deal of time sitting and since you may not have been awarded a named chair during your career, we suggest you reward yourself at retirement with a Chair of Personal Parasitology Research Reprints (PPRR). You will need the following Gorilla Glue (remembering how slippery hypotheses can be, you will need this incredibly strong glue), your unsent personal reprints and patience.

Remember that you have been bringing home lots of those items you just can't bare to give or throw away from your office and lab, and it is wise to avoid confrontational interactions with your life partner, such as "Oh no! Don't bring any more of that stuff in here." So while he or she is out, pick a place in your home that you enjoy relaxing and mark off a 4 foot square. Work quickly, or he or she will return before you are done. Start by laying down a single layer of reprints to the edge of your square. Apply Gorilla Glue to the tops of the reprints and then the next layer of reprints. Repeat this until you get a cube approximately 18" high. This is the foundation for the seat of your chair. Then begin to apply additional reprints at the sides of the cube to build the arms and the back support. Do not worry about being careful with the glue, because once constructed, this chair, like those at many institutions of higher learning, is a permanent award!

Should you decide to build a Chair of PPRR, on its completion, please send us a digital photo so that we may publish it in our column.



Good gluing, from your masters of retirement, Dick and John

*Because of the high quality of paper used by Allan Press for the Journal, the content of sizing is high and will add unneeded and unwanted calories, we do not recommend, as we did to our pervious letter writer, that the personal reprints be used to substitute for Metamucil.

Don't forget if you are planning on retiring any time soon, send us your questions. Why worry, let us worry for you so that you may receive more freedom then you ever expected in your golden years.

Dick and John, brothers in parasitism

Richard Seed and John Oaks can, most likely, be contacted at:

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Richard Seed

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Richard Seed (in red shirt) and *John Oaks* (in white shirt) - it is good that they wore contrasting clothing on this photo day. Note how old parasitologists converge in morphological characters through time. This is an interesting phenomenon that deserves further study (*Editor*).





POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veterinary and Medical Parasitologist/Entomologist position

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), through the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, seeks applications to fill a 12-month tenure/tenure-leading faculty position for a Veterinary and Medical Parasitologist/ Entomologist in the Departments of Entomology (70% research) and Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences (30% teaching). This position is part of an innovative Cooperative Program in Veterinary Medical Education between UNL and the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine (ISU CVM). For more information and a job description, please visit the respective departments' websites: <http://entomology.unl.edu> and <http://vbms.unl.edu>. This position requires a Ph.D. and minimum of 12 months post-doctoral experience in medical/veterinary entomology, parasitology or related field. The successful candidate will be considered at the ranks of Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. To apply, go to <http://employment.unl.edu>. Search for requisition #060644. Complete the faculty/ academic administrative information form and attach a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and list of references.

Review of applications will begin Nov. 1, 2006 and continue until the position is filled or the search is closed. The University of Nebraska is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action and equal opportunity and is responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We assure accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; contact Marilyn Weidner at 402-472-8679 for assistance.

Position Open

AIBS Education and Outreach Manager

11/01/06

Closing Date: When Filled

The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) seeks a full-time experienced Education and Outreach Manager to join its senior staff and direct all aspects of the AIBS Education Office program from its Washington DC headquarters office, as described at www.aibs.org/education. AIBS, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) scientific association dedicated to advancing biological research and education for the welfare of society, is an umbrella organization with a membership of more than 90 scientific research societies and science education organizations, 100 natural science collection institutions, and 5,000 individuals.



The goals of the AIBS Education Office are: (1) Facilitate communication and interaction between AIBS and the biology education community, (2) increase the participation of under represented minorities in the biological sciences; (3) provide information about career options in the biological sciences; and (4) support biology education professionals by providing resources to increase the understanding of biological sciences and encourage the practice of teaching the way science is practiced.

Reporting to the AIBS Executive Director, the Education and Outreach Manager has duties that include:

- Plan, implement, and manage all AIBS education projects and outreach activities
- Develop short- and long-range planning goals for the Education Office that are consistent with and support AIBS's overall goals
- Coordinate activities of support staff, consultants, and/or volunteers engaged in implementation and administration of program objectives
- Work with the AIBS Education Committee and AIBS Human Resources Committee to support these volunteers as they set their agendas and carry out initiatives
- Seek outside funding sources, prepare grant proposals to secure support, and manage contracts, grants, and budgets for various projects
- Serve as principal point of representation and liaison with individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies on education and community outreach matters
- Supervise the Education and Outreach Program Associate
- Oversee and initiate the development and production of education content and outreach materials (brochures, pamphlets, booth materials, slide presentations, -etc.) for distribution on the website, in workshops, and at events
- Represent AIBS at various community and/or business meetings; promote new and existing programs
- Write regularly on education matters for AIBS publications, including the AIBS journal *BioScience*, and AIBS websites
- Write and present progress reports to the AIBS Board of Directors
- Travel as required

The successful candidate will have advanced training and professional experience in formal and informal science education and/or science communication. An advanced degree and at least five years of experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities described herein are required; PhD preferred.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities Required:

- Knowledge and understanding of the current state of biology education, both at the higher education and K-12 levels, including teaching strategies, learning principles, and a broad range of training methods, techniques, and formats.
- Ability to manage and facilitate education and outreach activities
- Ability to develop, plan, and implement short- and long-range goals and establish work priorities



- Knowledge of communication principles, media, and marketing techniques
- Advanced leadership skills including the ability to supervise and train employees including organizing, prioritizing, and scheduling work assignments; evaluating performance; and mentoring and coaching employees to achieve maximum productivity.
- Ability to develop financial plans and manage resources including skill in budget preparation and fiscal management.
- Knowledge of contracts and grants preparation and management.
- Ability to gather data, analyze information, and prepare reports.
- Skill in the use of personal computers and related software applications.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community.

AIBS employment benefits include healthcare and retirement plan. Send cover letter, resume, writing samples, and salary requirements to:

AIBS Executive Director
Education and Outreach Search
AIBS, 1444 Eye St. NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
FAX; 202-628-1509
rogrady@aibs.org

Qualified women, minority, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

The College of Science at Southern Illinois University Carbondale

seeks an outstanding scientist in the general area of parasitology. An appointment at the Assistant Professor level will be in the Department of Zoology. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or other appropriate doctoral degree and have a record of relevant postdoctoral research training by the time of appointment. The applicants must also have an externally funded research program or the potential for developing one, as well as a significant record of peer-reviewed publications. A research cluster in pathogenesis/parasitology/epidemiology is an ongoing part of SIUC's commitment to enhance interdisciplinary research and become a leading public research university (<http://news.siu.edu/s150/>). **Parasitology:** The Department of Zoology at Southern Illinois University Carbondale invites applications for a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor with a start date of August 16, 2007. The successful candidate will enhance and complement existing programmatic strengths in the areas of ecology, environmental biology, conservation, biodiversity, and evolutionary biology with a basic research program in some aspect of parasite biology such as host-pathogen interactions or coevolution, host defense mechanisms, host specificity, epidemiology, biogeography, population dynamics, responses to environmental factors, or development of methods and agents to combat parasites. The successful applicant is expected to teach an introductory parasitology course, help teach animal diversity, and teach an advanced graduate course in an area of expertise, or other courses as the program requires. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is a large, public, comprehensive



research-intensive university situated in a pleasant small-town setting southeast of St. Louis. The Department of Zoology, with a faculty of 25, offers B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Zoology (<http://www.science.siu.edu/zoology/>). SIUC is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer that strives to develop a diverse faculty and staff and to increase its potential to serve a diverse student population. All applications are encouraged and will receive consideration.

CONTACT: Applications: Review of applications will begin October 15, 2006 and continue until the positions are filled. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching and research interests, and the names and addresses of at least three references, to: Parasitology Search Committee Chair, Department of Zoology, Mailcode 6501, 1125 Lincoln Dr., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901. E-mail: zoology@zoology.siu.edu

Manager /Collection Research Scientist

Exciting growth opportunity for a Manager/Collection Research Scientist to lead the world's largest and most diverse Protistology Collection. Our client is a Virginia-based, premier biological resource center supporting global scientific research.

--The successful candidate will be responsible for coordinating major corporate resources in Protozoology, including a Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Resources Collection, a Protozoan Collection, and a Malaria Research and Reference Reagent Resources Center. The incumbent will assume the responsibility for establishing and coordinating a nationally recognized and externally funded research and development program. This position will supervise a team of Scientists in Malaria Research and Protistology. The incumbent is encouraged to transfer and continue his/her research interests and will have the opportunity for additional research initiatives funded by BEI Resources.

Qualifications: Candidates must have a doctoral degree in a relevant biological science. 8-12 years of post-doctorate experience in Medical Parasitology and research is required. Prior experience in biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies strongly preferred. Supervisory experience required.

◁For additional information on this opening, qualified candidates please contact: ▷

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Organismal Biologist The Department of Biology, College of

Charleston, invites applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor

level to begin August, 2007. Candidates must possess a Ph.D. in the biological sciences, a strong commitment to teaching, and an active research program with the potential for undergraduate involvement. The candidate must have a background and interest in evolution and genetics with research interests complementing departmental disciplinary strengths. Teaching assignments will include sophomore level courses in Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation Biology (BIOL 211), Genetics (BIOL 212), and an upper division course in the candidate's area of specialization. The College of Charleston is a public liberal arts and sciences institution of 10,000 students. The College's primary goals are teaching and research excellence. In addition to its undergraduate programs, the department offers M.S. degrees in Marine Biology and Environmental Studies. Information about the Biology Department is available at <http://www.cofc.edu/~biology/>. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, statement of teaching and research interests, copies of relevant publications, and three letters of reference by November 1, 2006 to: Chair, Department of Biology, Organismal Biologist Search Committee, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424. The College of Charleston is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and encourages applications.

From:

Oscar J. Pung, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
P.O. Box 8042
Georgia Southern University
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912-681-5857

Faculty Position – Biology

The Biology Department at Georgia Southern University seeks a candidate for a non-tenure track position to teach Microbiology lecture and associated laboratories for allied health and nursing majors and to supervise microbiology laboratory preparation. The required qualifications for this position include a Ph.D. in the biological sciences and a demonstrated commitment to excellence in the teaching of microbiology. The starting date is August 1, 2007. The position will remain open until filled, however, applicants are encouraged to submit materials before October 31, 2006. Information about the department and faculty, full description of preferred and required qualifications, and application instructions can be located at <http://www.bio.georgiasouthern.edu/jobs/http://www.bio.georgiasouthern.edu> . For more information about the University, see <http://www.georgiasouthern.edu> . Georgia Southern is an open records state; AA/EO Institution. Individuals who need reasonable accommodations under the ADA should contact the Associate Provost.



Open application EPA – Period: November 20, 2006 through January 31, 2007

<http://www.epa.gov/nerl/postdoc/postdoc.html>
http://www.epa.gov/nerl/postdoc/postdoc_2007.html

Project No.	MCEARD-07-5
Division:	Microbiological and Chemical Exposure Assessment Research Division (MCEARD)6
Branch:	Biohazard Assessment Research Branch (BARB)
Location	Cincinnati, Ohio
Title:	Detection of live pathogenic protozoans in water
Brief Description of Research Project:	The candidate will be involved in developing a complete method to detect and identify live parasites (i.e., <i>Cryptosporidium</i> , <i>Giardia</i> , microsporidia, and/or <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>) present in environmental water samples. The research project will focus on evaluating microarray-based gene expression analysis, in vitro cell culture, and animal infection model systems for use in developing rapid and accurate detection assays for infectious waterborne protozoans of human health concern. Once optimized, the method developed will be used in a disinfection study to determine the impact of various treatments on the protozoan pathogen in question. Results from this work will enable EPA Program Offices to assess and manage risks to humans posed by waterborne protozoan pathogens in source waters. It will also provide scientific tools that will help support regulatory guidelines on effective disinfection treatment practices by drinking and wastewater treatment plants for waterborne enteric pathogens (i.e., bacteria, protozoans, and viruses).
Major Area	Clean and Safe Water
Project Area:	Protozoan Occurrence Methods/Viable Pathogens
Educational Requirements:	Ph.D. in Microbiology, Parasitology or a related scientific discipline
Specialized training and/or experience preferred:	A strong background in host/pathogen interactions with experience in cell culture, molecular/cellular biology (e.g.: real-time PCR and microarray) , and animal infection model systems are preferred.
Scientific Contact/Principal Investigator*:	Email: Eric N. Villegas, Ph.D. at villegas.eric@epa.gov *This person may be contacted for additional scientific information about this project. This person is not authorized to accept applications, make job offers, set salaries, set start dates or discuss benefits. See general announcement for details on how to apply.



Position

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR - INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Organization

University of Texas Pan America

Location

Edinburg, US Texas

Date Posted

09 Nov 2006

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR - INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

The University of Texas - Pan American Department of Biology seeks to fill a tenure track, Assistant Professor Position for fall 2007, in INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY (Job Vacancy F06/07-31). We seek a broadly trained invertebrate zoologist but are especially interested in persons whose research interests include marine invertebrates.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in a relevant field, be able teach introductory and advanced undergraduate and Master's courses including courses in parasitological, develop courses in their area of expertise, and conduct externally funded research. Post-doctoral experience is preferred. It is desirable that candidates have research interests that complement existing (e.g., Center for Subtropical Studies) or planned (e.g., Ph.D. in biological sciences) programs, or that exploit UTPA's setting, including resources and facilities at UTPA's Coastal Studies Lab on South Padre Island. Research lab space is available; salary and start-up funds are negotiable.

UTPA is located in a region of unusual biological diversity and interest, the subtropical Rio Grande Valley, near the Gulf of Mexico. UTPA is the tenth largest university in Texas, with undergraduate enrolment of 17,000 and rising, and is developing initiatives to become the premier research institution in south Texas. More information can be found at <http://www.utpa.edu>.

Complete applications consist of: a cover letter stating the position desired and the vacancy number, statements of teaching and research interests, CV describing research and teaching experience, and three reference letters sent separately. Signed hard copies of original documents must be sent by mail.

Deadline for receipt of all application materials is December 1, 2006 and continue until filled. Only complete applications will be considered. Incomplete applications or applications received after the due date will not be reviewed.

Send inquiries and applications to

Dr. Kristine Lowe
Department of Biology
University of Texas - Pan American
1201 West University Drive
Edinburg, TX 78541
U.S.A.

Email (for inquiries only): klowe@utpa.edu. E-Mailed applications and ancillary materials WILL NOT be considered.

Information on the Biology Department can be found on the web at <http://www.utpa.edu/dept/biology/>.

UTPA is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer, and welcomes applications from candidates of diverse backgrounds. Women and minorities are particularly encouraged to apply. This position is security-sensitive as defined by the Texas Education Code 51.215(c) and Texas Government Code 411.094(a) (2) which authorizes the employer to obtain criminal history record information. Texas law requires faculty members whose primary language is not English to demonstrate proficiency in English.



From:

MATTHEWS, MIKE [mailto:MATHEWS@hsu.edu] ?Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2006 2:14 PM?To: UMC BIOSCI Graduate Students; UMC BIOSCI Post Docs?Subject: Microbiology Teaching Position Available

The following advertisement for a position in the Biology Department at Henderson State University in southern Arkansas appeared in the November 17, 2006, edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education.

If you would bring it to the attention of possibly interested individuals it would be appreciated. Thanks.

Biology: Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas seeks an Assistant professor of Biology;

tenure-track, nine-month appointment with additional summer teaching possible. Ph.D. preferred, ABD considered. Teaching responsibilities will include general microbiology and introduction to biology. Ability to offer courses in other areas, particularly immunology and/or parasitology, would be beneficial. Scholarly activities and a research program involving undergraduate students are expected. For more information and application procedures, please visit <http://www.hsu.edu/Affirmative-Action>.

Again - Thank you for your assistance.

Herbert M. (Mike) Matthews, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
P.O. Box 7743
1100 Henderson Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71999-0001
Phone: 870-230-5157
Fax: 870-230-5530
Email: mathews@hsu.edu
Office: REY 201c

Report from South America. By Associate Editor - Jiménez-Ruiz

The first South American Congress of Mammalogy was held this past October 5 – 8 in Gramado, Brazil. The meeting summarized the current research on systematics, ecology, behavior, and conservation of mammals in both South and North America. Some investigators of infectious diseases presented updates of their research programs including: Jorge Salazar-Bravo, Eduardo Caldas, Paulo D'Andrea, and James Mills. Of the several hundred posters presented by undergraduate students from Brazilian and Argentinian Universities, including: Universidade Guarulhos, Universidade Federal de Santa María, and FIOCRUZ, a few concentrated on parasites of mammals. These student posters summarized the helminth fauna of rodents and bats in the Atlantic forest and desert habitats of northeastern Argentina. Two of the main talks in the meeting were given by mammalogists/parasitologists. Jorge Salazar-Bravo, from Texas Tech University, gave a talk on infectious diseases, and Scott L. Gardner, The Manter Laboratory of the University of Nebraska talked about Parasites and Biodiversity. There was a Round Table on parasitology, entitled "Parasitología En La Mastozoología Sudamerucana: Su Potencialidad Para Explicar Nuevos Patrones." The participants in the round table discussion included Dr. Graciela Navone, Dr. Pedro Linardi, and Dr. Scott Gardner. Both Dr. Gardner and Dr. Linardi presented

the current trends in endo- and ectoparasites, respectively. They coincided in the necessity of completing the inventories of species of parasites, and in estimating their phylogenetic relationships so the understanding of the patterns of association among parasites and hosts would be possible. Lastly, Dr. Navone presented results of the long-term ecological research she leads on the helminth fauna of parasites of sigmodontine rodents in the basin of the La Plata river. Her results showed intersite variability on the helminthofauna of each of five species of rodents across four different localities.



From left to right: Scott Gardner, Graciela Navone, and Pedro Linardi in the round table “Parasitología en la mastozoología sudamericana: su potencialidad para explicar nuevos patrones.”



AIBS Meeting and other AIBS information on line.

2006 Annual Meeting Lectures Online. Biodiversity: the Interplay of Science, Valuation, and Policy

Videos, slides, and transcripts of the lectures at the 2006 AIBS Annual meeting last May ("Biodiversity: the interplay of science, valuation, and policy") are now online for free viewing, as are the talks from the AIBS awards evening and Council meeting held that same month. The direct URL of the recordings is:

<http://client.blueskybroadcast.com/AIBS/>

and via the AIBS Virtual Library at

<http://www.aibs.org/virtual-library/> (where we've been recording the talks at AIBS annual meetings since 2000)

The 2006 content is as follows:

Learning to Speak Science: How the Scientific Community can Learn to Win back its Political Influence in America. Presented by: Chris Mooney, Washington correspondent, Seed Magazine

Framing Science: Understanding the Battle Over Knowledge
Presented by: Matthew C. Nisbet, School of Communication; The Ohio State University

From Science to Policy: Biodiversity Protection, Metrics, and Results
Presented by: Daniel Esty, Law School and School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; Yale University

The Endangered Species Act under Attack: The Dynamic Interplay between Science and Policy
Presented by: Jamie Rappaport Clark, Defenders of Wildlife

Applications of Biodiversity Research to Human Well-Being
Presented by: Shahid Naeem, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology; Columbia University

Values and Valuation in a Rapidly Changing World
Presented by: Richard B. Norgaard, Energy and Resources Group; University of California at Berkeley

Valuing Ecosystem Services



Presented by: Stephen Polasky, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior; University of Minnesota

Defining Effective Science for Biodiversity Policy

Presented by: Stephen Bocking, Environmental and Resource Studies Program; Trent University, Canada.

And note that the registration site for the 2007 AIBS annual meeting next May is now online at http://www.aibs.org/annual-meeting/annual_meeting_2007.html. The theme is "Evolutionary Biology and Human Health."

Richard T. O'Grady, Ph.D.
Executive Director
American Institute of Biological Sciences
1444 Eye St. NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005

NEXT AIBS MEETING - MAY - 2007

Registration site for the 2007 AIBS annual meeting next May is now online at http://www.aibs.org/annual-meeting/annual_meeting_2007.html.

The theme for the next AIBS meeting "Evolutionary Biology and Human Health" is especially important relative to the controversy that has erupted in the past few months regarding the official statement by the ASP relative to mythology. See: <http://asp.unl.edu> and click on education. *The Editor.*

AIBS Evolution Initiatives

AIBS conducts activities that support evolution education and communicate the nature of science. Through the Education, Public Policy, and Publications Offices, AIBS supports sound educational practices and reports on and advances public policy initiatives that support science education. AIBS often collaborates with other organizations and research centers to inform scientists, teachers, students, and policy makers of the latest evolutionary discoveries. An overview of our organization-wide activities, resources, and accomplishments is presented at the AIBS website. Go there to download the AIBS Evolution Initiatives Brochure (PDF 55KB).



Public Policy Office Data from the American Institute of Biological Sciences

Go to: <http://www.aibs.org/public-policy-reports/>

20 November 2006

- * Voters support evolution education
- * Democrats take control of Congress: New leadership for science and environment committees
- * Climate change gets a "Stern" report
- * New in BioScience: "National Academy of Sciences Issues Gender Equity Plan"
- * Applications for 2007 AIBS Emerging Public Policy Leader Award now available

6 November 2006

- * Applications for 2007 AIBS Emerging Public Policy Leader Award now available
- * Reminder: November 7 is election day
- * NSB seeks new members
- * Hays confirmed as associate director for science at OSTP
- * Employment opportunity: AIBS Education and Outreach Manager
- * Predator control debate still alive in Alaska and British Columbia
- * New in BioScience: "National Academy of Sciences Issues Gender Equity Plan"

23 October 2006

- * AIBS comments on NSTC ocean research plan
- * NPS gets new director
- * House Democrats investigate EPA library plan
- * Border fence could be barrier to wildlife
- * New in BioScience — "Global Warming: Congress Still Stalled, States and Cities Act"

10 October 2006

- * Science, congress and the midterm elections
- * Plan to vote this November
- * Senate approves penalties for animal rights terrorists
- * National Park Service releases draft EIS on benefits-sharing
- * USGS Coalition hosts third annual congressional reception
- * Myers confirmed to head USGS
- * New in BioScience - "Global Warming: Congress Still Stalled, States and Cities Act"



--PODCASTING GOES PARASITIC--

Manter Laboratory of Parasitology *PARASITECAST*^(TM)

The Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology and the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln announce the creation of a new web service. This service is called ***PARASITECAST*^(TM)** and is a podcast of the parasitology lectures and seminars that are hosted by the Manter Laboratory. The Thursday noontime parasitology seminar series at the University of Nebraska has continued unbroken since 1972.

To listen to a ***PARASITECAST*^(TM)** go to <http://lamareck.unl.edu/hwml/> and click on the “cast” of your choice. Feel free to link to or download to your favorite mp3 player.

If **you** have video, audio tape, mp3, or wav file with useful parasitological information on it, send it to the archives of the American Society of Parasitologists. We will then copy the data from the tape (audio only at this time) and post it to the ***PARASITECAST*^(TM)** web site. If you have a seminar series in parasitology at your institution that you would like to post to our ***PARASITECAST*** pages, please contact Scott Gardner or John Janovy.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASP DEVELOPING - MORE SOON

“From Alaska to Chiapas: The First North American Parasitology Congress.”

Go to: <http://www.mda.cinvestav.mx/aspm07>

ASP Meeting - June 21-25, 2007, in Merida, Mexico

Contact Don Duszynski for more information.



Collaborations.

Please contact Joel Ehrenkranz MD.

Dear Dr. Janovy:

I am a medical endocrinologist with a research program in inhibitors of glucose transport. I have come across references to the presence of sodium glucose linked transporters in neurocystercosis and would like to collaborate with parasitologists working on pathogenic parasites such as *Taenia solium*, *Wuchereria bancrofti*, and *Onchocerca volvulus*, to identify mechanisms of glucose uptake in parasitic worms and to test whether inhibitors of active glucose transport are effective as anti-parasitic agents.

Professor Arme suggested I contact you, in your capacity as secretary of the American Society of Parasitology, as you would be able to send out an email to members of your society describing my research interests and desire for collaboration. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information, and if it is possible to circulate my inquiry. Thank you in advance.

Joel Ehrenkranz MD
Associate Professor
Dept. of Medicine
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

and

Chief Scientific Officer
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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 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.

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