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## Hexapod Herald - Vol. 23, No. 3, April 2011

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# Hexapod Herald

Volume 23

April 2011

Number 3

## WELCOME

New Distance Masters Students:

Summer 2011 – **Jena Davis**, Ammon, ID; **Ronald Hirzel**, Columbus, GA; **Tyler Lane**, Great Falls, MT; **Amanda Newton**, Saint Louis, MO; **Jenna Ryan**, Fort Bragg, NC;

Fall 2011 - **Jonathan Robeson**, Johnston, IA

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Dr. Brett Ratcliffe** is one of two recipients to receive the Phi Beta Delta UNL International Scholar of the Year award. Brett, along with Dr. John Yohe, International Sorghum/Millet Collaborative Research Support Program (INTSORMIL) CRSP Program Director, was honored at a reception on April 20, 2011.

**Dr. David Carter** has been promoted to Associate Professor and granted continuous appointment (tenure). There was a reception at the Lied Center on April 19, 2011, honoring those being promoted and/or granted tenure.

**Dr. Fred Baxendale** has received the Distinguished Educational Service Award. Formal presentation of the award was held at the Honors Convocation, April 10, 2011, at the Lied Center.

**Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss** received a certificate of recognition for contributions to students at a ceremony held February 4, 2011, hosted by the UNL Teaching Council and the UNL Parents Association. This is the seventh such honor for Tiffany.

**Bill McCormick** was selected to receive the IANR Outstanding Employee Award for March 2011. There was a reception honoring Bill on March 29, 2011.

**Abdul Hafiz Ab Majid** and his wife, Izza are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Abdul "Muizz" Abdul Hafiz. Muizz was born on March 11, 2011 at 6.10 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz. and was 20 1/4 inches long. Muizz is welcomed home by big sister, Iman.

**Bamphitlhi (Banks) Tiroesele** and his wife, Obie, are the proud parents of a son, Asher Oarabile Tiroesele. He was born March 19, 2011 at 12:57 p.m. (Botswana time) or 5:57 a.m. (Nebraska time). He weighed 3.02 kg (6.6 pounds) and was 53 cm in length (20.9 inches).

**Wan Zaki Wan Mamut**, and his wife, Nadiah, have a new son, Wan Shakil Wan Zaki. Shakil was born on March 19, 2011, at 12:55 a.m., weighing 6 lbs., 2 oz. Shakil has big sister, Safiyyah, at home.



Abdul Muizz Abdul Hafiz



Asher Oarabile Tiroesele



Wan Shakil Wan Zaki

# PUBLICATIONS

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**Brust, Mathew L., Erica J. Lindroth, W. Wyatt Hoback, Robert J. Wright,** Kathy Handford, and **John E. Foster.** 2010. Morphological and genetic analyses in the *Melanoplus packardii* group (Orthoptera: Acrididae). *J. of Orthoptera Research*. 19(2): 281-288.

**Jurzenski, J.** and **W.W. Hoback.** 2011. Opossums and leopard frogs consume the federally endangered American burying beetle (Coleoptera: Silphidae). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 65(1): 88-90.

Larson S., J.M. Hustedt, A. Knobbe, N. Patel, R.A. Drijber, C.P. Bailey, and **D.O. Carter.** 2011. A high throughput method for using soil molecular biology as trace evidence. *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences* 17: 30.

Leslie K., T. Lowis, **L. Barksdale,** and **D.O. Carter.** 2011. Some error rates associated with angle of impact calculations. *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences* 17: 26.

**Maile A., D.O. Carter,** and R.A. Drijber. 2011. Gravesoil microbial community structure during carcass decomposition. *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences* 17: 296.

Neita-Moreno, J.C. and **B.C. Ratcliffe.** 2010. A new species of *Hemiphileurus* Kolbe from Colombia, with description of its larva and pupa (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Phileurini). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 64(4): 347-355.

**Paulsen, M.J.** 2011. A second species of *Lucanobium* Howden and Lawrence from South America (Coleoptera: Lucanidae: Aesalinae). *Insecta Mundi* 0171: 1-3.

**Ratcliffe, B.C.** and R.D. Cave. 2011. A revision of the genera *Endroedianibe* Chalumeau and *Hispanioryctes* Howden and Endrödi from Hispaniola with descriptions of new species (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 65(1): 1-14.

**Ratcliffe, B.C.** 2011. *Hoplopygothrix* Schürhoff revisited: a new species and country record for Bolivia (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae: Gymnetini). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 65(1): 63-66.

**Ratcliffe, B.C.** 2011. The scarab collections at the Hungarian and Austrian museums of natural history. *Scarabs* 63: 1-8.

**Taylor, D.B.,** and **D.R. Berkebile.** 2011. Phenology of Stable Fly (Diptera: Muscidae) Larvae in Round Bale Hay Feeding Sites in Eastern Nebraska. *Environ. Entomol.* 40(2): 184-193.

**Wright, R.J.** 2011. Insecticide Mode of Action Classification for Nebraska Field Crops, NebGuide G2066 available online at <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/sendIt/g2066.pdf>

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# G R A N T S

## Ashley Hall

- Layman Fund ..... \$10,000  
    *"In Vitro Repair of Damaged DNA Templates from Forensic Stains"*

## Nicholas Miller

- Layman Fund ..... \$9,880  
    *"Response of Western Corn Rootworm Larvae to Plant Defenses"*

## Robert Wright

- Syngenta Crop Protection ..... \$8,000  
    *"Crop Insect Management Research"*

## North Central Branch – ESA Meeting News

Several UNL faculty, staff, and graduate students received awards and recognition at the annual meeting of the North Central Branch of the Entomological Society of America, (ESA) in Minneapolis, MN, March 13-16, 2011.

**Dr. Frederick P. Baxendale** was installed as the 2011-2012 North Central Branch ESA President and will serve through the June 2012 annual meeting to be held in Lincoln, NE.

Several UNL entomology graduate students won awards for posters and papers presented at the meeting.

Oral presentation winners were:

**Tim Husen** (1<sup>st</sup> Place)  
**Jessica Jurzenski** (1<sup>st</sup> Place)  
**Justin McMechan** (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)  
**Sean Whipple** (3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

Poster presentation winners were:

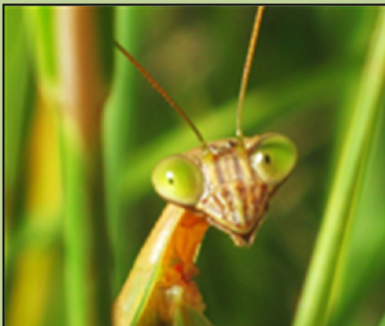
**Difabachew Belay Kondidie** (1<sup>st</sup> Place)  
**Muhammad Irfan Ullah** (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)  
**Fatima Mustafa** (3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

Graduate students **Lizette Dahlgren**, **Tim Husen**, **Justin McMechan**, and **Sean Whipple** won \$250 travel grants from ESA to participate in the North Central Branch ESA meeting.

UNL's Linnaean Team, **Tim Husen**, **Ken Miwa**, **Jessica Jurzenski**, and **Wayne Ohnesorg** won the Championship of the Linnaean Games at the annual meeting. They will receive a \$2,500 travel grant to participate in the Linnaean Games at the national ESA meeting in Reno, NV later this year. UNL previously won the 2006 ESA national championship. The team was coached by **Drs. Ken Pruess** and **Bob Wright**.

An Award for Educational Materials was presented to **James Kalisch** and **Dr. Frederick P. Baxendale** by the Mid-America Chapter of Board Certified Entomologists for the UNL Extension Circular 1580, *"Insect Borers of Shade Trees and Woody Ornamentals."*

**Kate Kneeland** won "Best Portrait" in the photo salon (winning photo below).



# FACULTY NEWS

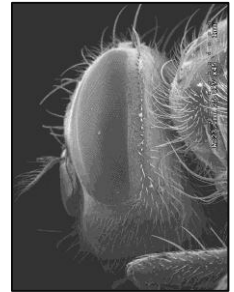
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**Dr. Bill Hutchison**, Department Head and Extension Entomologist in the Entomology Department at the University of Minnesota was approved as a Full Adjunct Professor in the Entomology Department. His appointment became effective March 1, 2011. Dr. Hutchison visited the Department April 19-20. He met with faculty and students and presented the seminar, "Less is More: The Paradox and Profit of an Areawide, Balanced Approach to Transgenic Corn Use for Insect Management."

# STUDENT NEWS

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**Amanda Fujikawa** won the photography contest at the Nebraska Division of the International Association of Identification (NEIAI) conference that was held in April at Mahoney State Park near Ashland, NE. Amanda's winning entry was a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) photograph of a *Lucilia sericata* adult blow fly (side view). The picture will be featured on the cover of the NEIAI conference program next year. Amanda is a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of **Drs. David Carter** and Leon Higley.



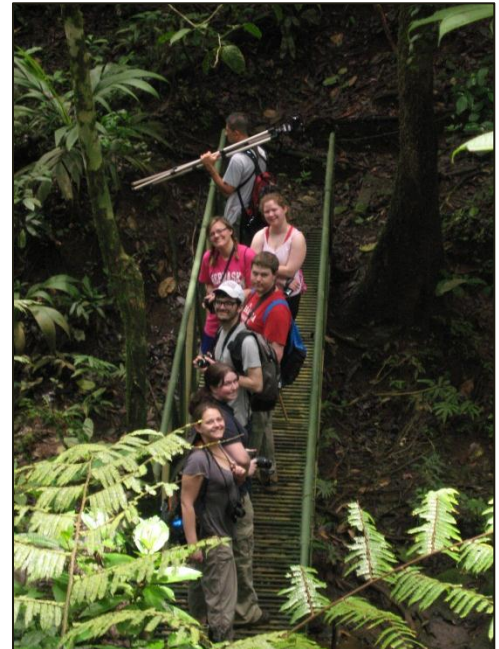
# TRAVEL

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Insect science majors, **Renee Berger, Jenny Freed, Stephen Losey, Andy Matz, Ginny Morgal,** and **Katie O'Brien**, along with **Drs. Fred Baxendale,** and **Lance Meinke** spent their March spring break on a study abroad trip in Costa Rica. The group stayed at the La Selva Biological Research Station operated by the Organization for Tropical Studies exploring the lowland tropical rainforest. The group focused on the tropical biodiversity of insects, animals, and plants present in various habitats. Students kept journals, some blogged, and all recorded observations through photography. Highlights were hikes into the jungle, including a night-walk in the rain, plus the sighting of many unusual insects, animals, and birds including large harlequin beetles and the large peanut-headed lanternfly at lights, several species of toucans, and three venomous snakes. Side trips included a tour of a banana plantation and a commercial butterfly farm. The trip was a great learning experience for all and was filled with many stories that will be remembered for a long time.



Ready to do some serious collecting and picture taking – bottom row- **Andy Matz, Fred Baxendale, Renee Berger, Stephen Losey,** and **Lance Meinke.** top row-**Katie O'Brien and Jenny Freed.**



Hanging out on the bridge – **Ginny Morgal, Renee, Andy, Stephen, Katie and Jenny.**

# THIS 'N THAT

Over 1,000 adults and children experienced Colorful Creature Day at Morrill Hall (Nebraska State Museum) on April 2, 2011. Living creatures, such as parrots, rabbits, alpacas, lizards, and you guessed it, INSECTS, (and other invertebrates) were available to look at, touch, and hold. The Entomology Department organized a coloring activity, displayed Nebraska insect collections, and brought a giant millipede, Madagascar hissing cockroaches, a whip scorpion, and a praying mantis, which were all fairly well received by curious and adventurous children. **Jess Jurzenski, Fatima Mustafa, Lisa Silberman, Irfan Ullah, Matt Yans,** and Tara Wood, a Doctor of Plant Health graduate student, all volunteered at this event, which allowed the many visitors to experience the wonderful world of invertebrates.



Fatima (with a Madagascar hissing cockroach) and Irfan interacting with visitors.



Lisa shows off "Millie", the giant millipede.

## *Calendar of Events*

### **May 2 - 6, 2011**

- Spring Semester Final Exams

### **May 6, 2011**

- Spring Semester Graduate Commencement and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

### **May 7, 2011**

- Spring Semester Undergraduate Commencement

### **May 16, 2011**

- Pre-Session and 8-Week Session begin

### **May 30, 2011**

- Memorial Day Holiday – No classes and offices closed

### **June 3, 2011**

- Pre-Session classes end and final exams

### **June 6, 2011**

- First 5-Week Session begins

### **June 23 - 25, 2011**

- Queen Rearing Workshop, Agricultural Research and Development Center, Ithaca, NE