

ECONEWS

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Important Upcoming Events

EGSA Meeting: Wednesday, November 12th at 5:30 PM; 2120J Wickson.

EGSA Happy Hour: Thursday, November 20th, 5:30 PM until whenever, at Cantina del Cabo.
Yummy Nachos for all! Paid for by the EGSA.

Notes from the Mentorship Committee

The Mentorship Committee of the Student Review of the GGE has completed its report and formally presented it to the Executive Committee. The document they presented was in the form of two checklists, one describing graduate student expectations of faculty members and the other describing faculty expectations of graduate students. Attached to this month's newsletter is a copy of the coverletter that accompanied their report. It highlights the major themes of the report. Perhaps this will prove useful to some of you who might wish to begin a mentoring dialogue with your major advisors. Committee members can be contacted if you are interested in seeing the complete text of the report. (Their names are listed at the bottom of the attachment.)

Look for highlights from other committee reports in upcoming newsletters.

Cookies and Coffee for All!!!!

Hooray for Captain Spalding! Oops, I mean Jon Syder and Maggie Brown! They are now our official heroes as they volunteered to bring cookies and coffee to not just one Ecology and Evolution Seminar but to every one for the entire quarter. Such benevolence is rarely seen. Give them a big round of applause whenever and wherever you encounter them on campus. Plus consider your own ability to duplicate this noble act for next quarter's seminar series. Those interested should contact a EGSA chair.

Salutations from Silvia

Award/Fellowship Committee Seminar: Any ideas on when a good time would be to hold this? Please provide me with some input.

PROGRESS REPORTS: To anyone who has not turned in their 1996-97 progress report, OR has lost their form, please turn them in or pick up another form from me. Progress reports were due June 20th!

Annual cookie pig-out and exchange - Friday, December 5th. Fire up those ovens, be creative, load up on sugar prior to Fall Quarter final exams. How about 2PM? For those of you who are new or have never been able to participate: We bake enough cookies to eat on

site, and then share what's left. Hope to see you there. I will provide napkins, punch, coffee and tea. Any suggestions or variations on this theme are welcome.

Company Coming! Yep, My Ted's family will be visiting for both Thanksgiving AND Christmas. I will be on leave on: Wednesday, November 26th; and the weeks of December 22nd and 29th.



Contact Silvia at schillyer@ucdavis.edu.

Citation Exchange

Leidy, R. A. and P. B. Moyle. 1997. Conservation status of the world's fish fauna: an overview. Pages 187 - 227. In P. L. Fiedler and P. M. Kareiva, eds. Conservation Biology for the Coming Decade. Chapman and Hall, New York.

Ives, A.R., J. Foufopoulos, E. Klopfer, J. Klug and T. M. Palmer. 1995. Bottle or big-scale experiments: how do we study ecology? Ecology. 77(3):681-685.

Palmer, T. M. 1995. The influence of spatial heterogeneity on the behavior and growth of two herbivorous stream insects. Oecologia. 104:476-486.

Cooper, S. M. and T. M. Palmer. 1994. Observations on the dietary choice of free-ranging juvenile ostriches. Ostrich 65(3-4):251-255.

Palmer, T. M. and M. Zimmerman. 1994. Pollen competition and sporophyte fitness in *Brassica campestris*: Does intense pollen competition result in individuals with better pollen? Oikos 69:80-86.

Stevens, Michelle and Ryan, Andrea. 1997. The Ethnobotany of the Putah and Cache Creek Ecoregion. U.C. Davis Public Service Research Program. Edited by Ted Swift, beautiful botanic illustrations by Ruth Mazur and Kathleen Harrison, cover by Bob Hare. This was funded by the U.C. Davis Public Service Research Program, and has been distributed to education and Native American groups in the watershed.

If anyone wants a copy, they can either call the Public Service Research Program or email Michelle at mlstevens@ucdavis.edu. We only have a limited number of copies.

Call for items

Does anyone have an item they'd like to submit to the newsletter? Perhaps something you don't think is appropriate for the listserver could be discussed here. Contact the newsletter editor (ljhansen@ucdavis.edu) to discuss potential submissions.

Mildly amuse yourself!

Looking for daily email that will entertain in even the most mild form? Get a subscription (free of course) to Public Radio icon Dr. Science's daily question and answer relating to all things scientific. To subscribe visit his web site: www.drscience.com. Let your arcane scientific knowledge amuse your soul. Following are samples:

Dear Dr. Science,
Will you please tell me everything you know about vitamin C?
M. Richardson from Allegan, MI

For starters, it was invented by the famous chemist Linus Pauling. A harmless by-product of Jell-O synthesis, Vitamin C was originally thought to be simply an annoying scum at the bottom of the test tube. Then the Nobel laureate chemist found that if properly packaged and promoted as a cure for the common cold, Vitamin C could revolutionize the world of over-the-counter dietary supplements. Rumors that Pauling had drugged the Nobel committee to give him a second prize, this time for promoting world peace, are entirely unfounded. The tolerant Swede's simply wanted to get him off his tiresome Vitamin C tirade, and hoped a second prize would do it. It didn't.

Dear Dr. Science,
I'm a travel agent, but I still don't understand what makes an airplane fly? Can you tell me?
Barbara S., Portales, NM

Of course. Airlines go out of their way to make flying a pleasant experience - free magazines, peanuts, coffee, music on the headphones and nutritious food. They give you these things because the true source of aerodynamic lift is faith. When the flight attendants (or air goddesses) chant their mantra about seatbelts and emergency exits, nobody really listens. But the message sinks in subliminally. We do keep our seatbelts fastened, even after the head aviator (or is it avatar?) turns off the seatbelt sign. And it's the reassuring smile of a stewardess that keeps the plane in the air, not the wings. Obviously if they didn't give us those dinky little pillows or show feel-good Hollywood movies, well, we'd get depressed and the whole shebang would drop like a rock.