



# Life Science Department News

November 28, 2000

## News

As I indicated in my recent email, I plan to distribute information items for the department via this email newsletter rather than taking up department meeting time. I hope it works. In the future, I don't think it will be so long. Please submit items for the Department News to me via email. Please also direct any comments or corrections to me via email at [kincaid@mail.mc.maricopa.edu](mailto:kincaid@mail.mc.maricopa.edu). If you wish to comment on any news item to the whole department, you can reply all to this message.

### Department Meeting Postponed

I will be in Tucson for the Project Kaleidoscope National Assembly Thursday through Sunday. Consequently, we must postpone our department meeting. From all the feedback that I have received, December 8 will be OK for most. Lets meet at 2 p.m. in the conference room.

### Ron and Bonnie's San Pedro Trip

Ron Dinchak and Bonnie Kalison spent a weekend with EAC students at the San Pedro on the Grayhawk Ranch conservation area (near Sierra Vista). It was darned cold, but their students worked hard to maintain trails and learned a lot about the importance of riparian habitat. The students braved 20 degree record cold temperatures camping by the river to do what they can to save the last "wild" river in Arizona. They should be congratulated. Ron and Bonnie have been sponsors of the Environmental Action Club for 10 years. They are the only club that meets every week. One of their students is now at the conference in the Hague, Netherlands and is helping to build dikes as well as learning, first hand, about the effects of global warming. Our heartfelt thanks to Ron and Bonnie for their commitment to the students of the Environmental Action Club.

### Peggy Wins Again

Peggy Johnson has won another award. This time it is 2nd place for the CCS Presentation Systems and Proxima Corporation Technology Teacher of the Year - College Division. Congratulations Peggy!

### International Exchange Opportunity

The District International Education Office will offer a workshop for faculty interested in learning more about the Summer 2001 Maricopa Fellowships in Mexico and China, as well as the Exchange Program with Australia. These programs are limited to full time employees. This workshop is scheduled for Dec. 8 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at District. Unfortunately, this conflicts with our department meeting. I'm sure however that anyone interested can get information directly from the DIE Office. Contact Rebecca Brown at [rebecca.brown@domail.maricopa.edu](mailto:rebecca.brown@domail.maricopa.edu) for more information.

### BIO 181 and 182 at ASU

As rumored, ASU is changing the way they teach 181 and 182. Topics typically taught in 182 will be taught in the first half of the sequence and vice versa. This will allow students to be introduced to biology by exploring concrete concepts in the first semester (organismal and ecological) and then focussing on more difficult, abstract concepts in the second semester (molecular and cellular). They are planning to renumber the courses so that 181 = 192 and 182 = 191. At ASU, 191 will not be a

prerequisite for 192. They are committed to preventing articulation problems, but we can expect some confusion for our students. Thus, our standard advise to students will still be relevant: students should take the entire 2 semester sequence at one institution. ASU is hosting some summer workshops to address this restructuring of introductory biology. Contact Ali Whitmer for more information.

## **Changes to Majors at ASU**

Plant Biology at ASU is requiring a new introductory course, PLB 200 and 201 (Biology of Plants lecture and lab). They will also accept BIO 181 and 182 from the community colleges.

Molecular Biosciences and Biotechnology (MBB) will be required to take MBB 245/246 (cellular and molecular biology) and MIC 220 (general microbiology). BIO 181 and 182 may be taken in place of 245, but 205 will not substitute for 220 anymore (even with the test).

Both the Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology concentration and the MBB major require MBB 245/246. For more information, see <http://lifesciences.asu.edu/mbb>

## **Spring ABC Meeting**

Mike McCarthy has agreed to organize the spring meeting on the weekend of March 31-April 1 at Karchner Caverns. To help defray the costs of the ABC meetings, the ABC is collecting \$5 in voluntary dues. To contribute, send cash or check (Arizona Biology Conference) to Cheryl Craddock at Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210088, Tucson, Arizona 85721, Phone: (520) 621-5483 [ccraddoc@u.arizona.edu](mailto:ccraddoc@u.arizona.edu)

## **Capital and Staffing Requests**

Our capital request, which follow directly from our department plan, has been submitted. I incorporated the feedback that I received from all in developing the priorities. Of course, we will not get it all. Our ranked list for the top 14 items was as follows:

1. Study lab computers and software
2. Faculty computers
3. Online Biology lab kits
4. Arm, leg, torso, skull and muscle models
5. BIO 160 video series and models
6. Landscaping plants and signage
7. Cadavers and gurneys

I have also submitted our staffing request for next year. These positions also come directly from our department plan.

1. General Biologist for Red Mountain (mostly 100, but also 105, 108, 109, 110)
2. General Biologist (100 and 105)
3. Cell and Molecular Biologist (181 and maybe micro)

## **Substitute Procedures**

Please be careful to notify Sandy in writing if you are using a substitute. Give her the appropriate names, dates, and section numbers. Please do this in advance of the date of substitution if at all

possible.

## **Doors and Lights**

Please be extra careful with the doors in the new building as well as in our office area. Take extra care in locking them -- on several occasions some doors (including the department office door) have been left unlocked. It is also a good practice to manually turn off the lights in the labs and classrooms. The can lights are not connected to the sensors that turn off the rest of the lights.

## **Voice Mail**

Please make sure that you check your voicemail regularly. Sandy and the student workers regularly direct any calls for faculty to their voice mail numbers.