



BUILDING A STUDENT COMMUNITY NEWS



January 2004

Biology Club News

The Biology Club's first meeting of the Spring semester will be Tuesday, January 20, at 4 p.m. in room S-203. We'll be working out details for our annual Valentine's Day plant sale, guest speakers for the Spring semester, and other activities. If you'd like to be added to the Club's email list, send your name and email address to Advisor Susan Weinstein at weinstei@marshall.edu. We always welcome new members, and even if you are unable to attend the meetings, you will receive email updates about other activities you may be able to fit into your schedule.

New BSC Tutoring Center!

The BSC Department is excited to announce the opening of a drop-in BSC Tutoring Center. This spring, tutors will be available to help students in BSC 104, 105, 120, and 121. Tutors, who are BSC graduate students, will not be advisors or career counselors, but will be there to help explain concepts you may have had trouble grasping in lecture or by reading the text. The tutoring center will give you a chance to put your between-class time to work, with the advantage of the presence and aid of a BSC grad student. Tutors will be able to meet with individuals or with study groups. This semester the tutoring center will be located in **room 307**, but as this issue of the newsletter goes to press, the tutoring hours have not yet been set. The hours will be announced in your lectures, and flyers will be posted on the door to room 307 and in the hallways by the second week of classes. Tutoring Center hours will begin at the start of the semester, so don't wait until after the first exam to come get help! We're also open to suggestions as to what would make your studying efforts more successful, so please feel free to make your thoughts known by dropping by the tutoring center and letting the tutors know what services you'd like to see offered.

Plant Science Scholarship Available in BSC at Marshall

The Junior League Garden Club Scholarship in Botany is available to a BSC undergraduate or graduate student interested in plant science. The scholarship carries a \$1000 award each year for three years (6 semesters) for undergraduate students, or two years (4 semesters) for graduate students. A tuition waiver is included with the award. Students receiving the scholarship are required to participate in an educational experience at the Huntington Museum of Art Plant Conservatory.

Students interested in this scholarship may obtain an application from Dr. Dan Evans, Department of Biological Sciences, Room 364. The deadline for application has been extended until mid-January so if you're interested, please see Dr. Evans as soon as possible.

Summer Internship at OU College of Osteopathic Medicine

This summer, the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM) will host the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship program for students interested in careers in medicine or biomedical research. The program will run June 14 - August 6, 2004. Participants will be provided room and board, a \$1750 stipend, and eight quarter-hours of biology credit with a tuition waiver from OU for those credits. In addition, students who are eligible to apply for admission to medical school will have the opportunity to interview for admission to OU-COM during their summer internship, and a recent MU student who participated in this internship was accepted at OU-COM. Applications are available in the College of Science Office, S 270; the **deadline is February 1, 2004**.

Do You Want to Earn An Honors Designation for 400-level Courses?

It is possible to earn an honors (H) designation on your transcript for certain 400-level BSC courses that are also offered as 500-level courses. If you wish to explore this option, approach the instructor of the 400/500-level course(s) that you are enrolled in. The two of you will discuss the additional work that will be required to earn the honors designation, and you will work out a contract with the instructor that will be approved by the University honors program. (This may still be done after you are already registered for the course, as long as it is early in the semester.) In order to enroll for the honors option you must have a minimum 3.3 overall GPA. More information about Marshall's Honors Program and the Honors Option is available at the Center for Academic Excellence, located in Old Main 230. You may also reach the Center at 696-5421.

Take Advantage of the MU Career Center on Campus

It's not too early to begin preparing to apply for summer or post-graduate jobs, and MU's Career Center can help you with the necessary steps. The Career Center can be found on the web at www.marshall.edu/career-services. There are links to cover letter- and resume-writing aides, tips on interview skills, and a service that allows you to submit a draft of your resume for review. Once you've prepared your documents, you can use the links to internships, part-time jobs, career fairs, and on-campus interviews. There is also an index of Career Web Links that you can explore based on your area of interest. The site has a lot of good information, and will help you be prepared and professional for your job applications and interviews. In addition to finding the Career Center on the web, you can email them at career-services@marshall.edu, or visit the Center, located on 5th Avenue at 17th Street.

Brag Box - an abbreviated list of recent BSC student and faculty accomplishments:

- Research performed by MU undergraduates Shawna Blaney, Elizabeth Hatcher, and Kristin Smith, who worked in Dr. Georgel's lab on the transcription factor GAGA, was presented by Shawna Blaney at the 25th Annual West Coast Chromatin Meeting held in Asilomar, CA, December 11-14, 2003. The abstract will be published in the June 2004 issue of *Biochemistry and Cell Biology*.
- Nicholas Adkins, Dr. Georgel's research technician (and MU IST graduate), presented his work on the transcription factor MeCP2 at the 25th Annual West Coast Chromatin Meeting held in Asilomar, CA, December 11-14, 2003. The abstract will be published in the June 2004 issue of *Biochemistry and Cell Biology*.
- Nicholas Adkins, Meagan Watts (BSC graduate; now a student at the MU School of Medicine), and Dr. Georgel co-authored an invited review on chromatin higher-order structure entitled: "To the 30nm-fiber and beyond." The review is presently in press, to appear in *Biochimica and Biophysica Acta*.
- BSC graduate Nathan Belue is enrolled in the University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy. He began there in Fall 2002, and has another 1 ½ years of classes, to be followed by a one-year clinical internship. He is currently leaning toward nuclear medicine and veterinary medicine as his elective rotations.

Job Opportunities

- An excellent resource for summer and permanent jobs in the natural sciences is The Job Seeker website at www.tomah.com/jobseeker
- usajobs.com

Selected BSC Contact Information			
Dr. Laura Jenski, Biological Sciences Chairperson	S-350	696-6791	jenski@marshall.edu
Dr. Nicki LoCascio, Capstone Advisor	S-122A	696-3975	locascio@marshall.edu
Susan Weinstein, <i>BSC News</i> , Biology Club Advisor	S-204	696-2428	weinstei@marshall.edu
TA applications, u-grad tuition waiver forms, BSC office	S-350	696-3148	smithmj@marshall.edu