



BUILDING A STUDENT COMMUNITY



NEWS

February 2004

Biology Club News

The Club's upcoming meetings will be Tuesdays February 3 and 17, at 4 p.m. in S-203. We're planning for outreach to high schools, a new faculty award, guest speakers, social events, and completing plant sale details. To be added to the Club's email list, send your name and email address to Susan Weinstein at weinstei@marshall.edu. Even if you can't attend meetings, email updates allow you to choose other activities that may fit your schedule.

BSC Tutoring Center Update

If you are taking BSC 104, 105, 120, or 121, and have not already come by the new BSC Tutoring Center, located for this semester in room **S-307**, please stop by! The hours of operation are Mondays 11-5, Tuesdays 9-4, Wednesdays 11-5, Thursdays 10-4, Fridays 9-10 and 11-2. Don't wait until after your first exam – get help with the sticky areas now so that studying for exams will go more smoothly. The Department is offering a small gift to students who stop by, so come get one before we run out!

One Student's Year Abroad in England

BSC student Liz Fet is spending her junior year abroad, in England. In this item she shares her thoughts, now that she is halfway through her experience:

I am now at APU, which stands for Anglia Polytechnic University. The university is situated right in the town. I live in a shared house with five other people. We share a kitchen and common room. Dorms, or "halls" as they call them here, are also available. The center of town is only an eight minute walk away, and there are many shops and Cambridge University buildings. The city is the Cambridge campus. One can walk along the street and see a little gift shop right next to the very impressive and towering King's College. The weather has been wonderful so far - many sunny days and not a lot of rain. It is a bit like Huntington size-wise, everything within town is very accessible by walking or taking a bus. The people in biology, or life sciences department as they call it here, are all very nice and helpful. My study abroad advisor, Dr. Doberski, studies ground beetles and teaches an Insect Natural History class as well as nature photography and illustration. I took Insect Natural History, Mammalogy, and Animal Physiology last semester. All the classes were great and the professors are very willing to help out - all one must do is ask. In the spring semester I will be taking Ornithology, Field Biology, and Evolutionary Paleontology. The classes are set up a bit differently. You meet once a week for the class, however, it may be from 3-6 hours per class, as compared to at Marshall where a class may meet 3 times a week for one hour. There are no assigned textbooks, although some teachers like to refer to specific ones. There is really no need to buy textbooks unless you really want to. The library is very vast and has multiple copies of the texts the professors refer to. Study abroad programs are for either half a year or a year. I chose to do the year program because it would allow me time to get used to the new system of teaching and to get familiar with the area. Going to a new university in a new place allows one to take courses not offered at your local university, and still be on track with your studies. One meets new professors and people and learns about the country they are in. It also allows the student to take a course that he or she might not have thought of taking.

You can find MU's Study Abroad website at <http://www.marshall.edu/cip/studyabroad/> The program offers MU students a chance to study in Japan, New Zealand, England, France, Spain, Mexico and Korea. Consider an educational adventure!

Travel Grants for Undergraduate and Graduate Students – Feb. 9 Deadline!

The Biology Club is offering a limited number of \$50 grants (automatically matched by another \$50 from the Department, for up to \$100 total) to students traveling to scientific meetings this spring. The deadline for application is **February 9, 2004**. If you will be presenting, you will describe the work you have done and the kind of presentation you will be making. If you will not be presenting, you will be asked to discuss why we should help send you to the meeting. In either case, you will also submit a letter of support from your research advisor/mentor. To receive the application form, email Club Advisor Susan Weinstein at weinstei@marshall.edu; completed application forms should be submitted to Susan Weinstein by email or to my mailbox in the BSC office, S-350.

Higher Education for Learning Problems – The H.E.L.P. Program

Are you having trouble in your classes? Do you think you may have a learning disorder? Marshall's H.E.L.P. Program is committed to providing assistance through individual tutoring, mentoring, and support, as well as fair and legal access to educational opportunities for students diagnosed with Learning Disabilities and related disorders such as Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act defines Specific Learning Disabilities as "a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, which may manifest itself in imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, write, read, spell or perform mathematical calculations. Such disorders include conditions as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia."

Services offered by the HELP center include: Improvement of study skills, note-taking and test-taking strategies, assistance with improvement in organizational skills, administration of oral tests when appropriate, and assistance with improvement of memory. There is also a remedial program to improve reading and spelling skills, and a testing program to determine if Learning Disabilities and/or ADHD. The HELP center is located in Myers Hall, 520 18th Street (next to the MU Welcome Center), - reach them at 696-6252, guyerb@marshall.edu, or on the web at <http://www.marshall.edu/help>

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

- **Heather Hanna** and **Nicole Liette**, working under the direction of **Dr. Joy**, presented papers for the West Virginia Entomology Society meetings at North Bend State Park. Heather and Nicole's research was in the area of forensic entomology. They correlated carrion fly larval development with temperature and the decomposition of pig carcasses in sunlit versus shaded conditions. They plan to present at meetings in Tennessee later this semester, and at the National Forensic Entomology Society meeting at Davis, California, in August.
- **Dr. Joy** has an article appearing in the Journal of the Mosquito Control Association this month. He has written about the spatial and temporal distribution of those mosquitoes that vector La Crosse encephalitis and West Nile Virus in West Virginia. Dr. Joy also gave a talk about this work at the recent WV Entomology Society meetings at North Bend State Park.

Job Opportunities – details at MU's Career Services Center, 5th Avenue at 17th Street

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

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