

*The University of Pennsylvania*  
**Biology Undergraduate Newsletter**

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### Biology Field Class

#### **BIOL 465: Ecological Techniques in Conservation**

If you are looking for some field experience in biology, consider Biology 465. You will spend 9 days (March 5-14) at the Smithsonian Center for Conservation and the Shenandoah National Park in Front Royal, Virginia. The class is intended to give students hands-on experience collecting biological data on real organisms relevant to ecological, conservation, and wildlife management issues. You will live and work at the Center for Conservation and participate in such projects as small mammal trapping, sampling resident bird populations, learning the rudiments of GPS/GIS techniques, and trapping white-tailed deer to monitor their population and encourage them to participate in the local birth control program. The class is challenging and fun. For more information, email Rich Lucas ([rlucas@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:rlucas@sas.upenn.edu)) or come to an informational meeting on **Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm** in 205 Goddard Lab.

### Advanced Placement Exams

AP exams for BIOL 101, 102, and 121 will be given on **Thursday, January 15 at 4 pm**, in Leidy Lab, Room 10. The AP exams give students the opportunity to earn 1 cu credit for the lecture portion of Biol 101 or 121 and/or 102. Contact the Academic Office to sign up by **3 pm, Wednesday, January 14**, if you want to take any of the AP exams. *Don't forget to bring your ID to the exam.*

### Student Advisory Board

The 2003-04 Undergraduate Student Advisory Board members are now on the web. Board members arrange student events, are available to answer questions about the major, and are your voice to the department. Visit <http://www.bio.upenn.edu/programs/undergraduate/ot/her/sab03.html> to ask questions, give your opinion or just to learn more about their areas of interest and future plans. Biology majors interested in joining should come to the Academic Office (Leidy Lab, Room 102) or e-mail [sherwood@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:sherwood@sas.upenn.edu).

### Updates on Fall 2004 Courses

#### **BIOL 411: Adaptation and Speciation**

Taught by Dr. Dunham and Drs. McDade, Lundberg and others from the Academy of Natural Sciences. Currently scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-10:30 am, the course time **will be changed** to avoid conflict with Advanced Statistics (Biol 556). Please attend the first meeting in 102 Goddard Lab to discuss the change in meeting time.

### Looking for a small course for Spring 2004?

#### **BIOL 325: Biology of Invertebrates**

Taught by Dr. Petraitis on Wednesdays and Fridays, lecture/lab 9-12. Lecture and lab combine to emphasize the relationship between form and function of the major invertebrate taxa. The semester culminates in an "invert feast" dinner at Dr. Petraitis' home! Prerequisite: Year of introductory biology including Biol 102 or 122.

#### **BIOL 455: Plant Genetics and Development**

Taught by Dr. Poethig on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-12 pm. Prerequisite: Biol 221 or permission of instructor.

#### **BIOL 571: Proteomics**

Taught by Drs. Rea, Hippler and others on Tuesdays, 4-7 pm. Students will read from the original literature about developments in protein identification & characterization.

### New to Biology Faculty

The Biology department welcomes **two** new faculty members!

Dr. Michael Hippler joins the department from the Institute of General Botany and Plant Physiology at Friedrich Schiller University of Jena, Germany. Dr. Hippler uses a proteomic approach to study the multi-protein complexes involved in photosynthesis. This Spring, Dr. Hippler will be teaching Biol 571 Proteomics with Dr. Phil Rea.

Cell biologist Dr. Tatyana Svitkina comes to us from Northwestern University where she was a Research Associate Professor. Dr. Svitkina studies how cells move by investigating the process of filopodia formation. Dr. Svitkina will be setting up her lab this Spring and will begin teaching in the Fall.

