

The University of Pennsylvania
Biology Undergraduate Newsletter

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Spring Events

**Symposium for
Undergraduate Research in Biology**
will be held
Monday, April 24, 2:00 – 5:00 pm
in the Grand Foyer of Leidy Lab

Biology students who have completed independent research are encouraged to participate in SURB. Organized as a poster session, a research reporting format that is used internationally by biological societies, SURB gives you the opportunity to discuss your research with faculty and students. Examples of posters presented at professional meetings can be seen in Leidy and Kaplan hallways on the second and third floors.

If you are interested in participating, please submit your name, email address, and project title to Robert Kuniewicz, room 102, Leidy Lab, by **March 31st**. A handout with additional information on the preparation of the poster is available in the Academic office, Leidy 102.

Abstracts are due by 4:00 pm Friday, April 14

Note: Seniors who participate in SURB are eligible for the Neysa Cristol Adams prize in Biology. Students with concentrations in **Molecular Biology** or **Neuroscience** are **required** to present a poster at SURB and to submit a thesis.

If you or your research advisor have questions, please contact Robert Kuniewicz (rkuniewi@sas.upenn.edu) or Robin Sherwood (sherwood@sas.upenn.edu)

Congratulations!

The Biology Department congratulates Biology Majors **Elizabeth Gurney** ('06) and **Robert Henderson** ('06) on being named Dean's Scholars for 2005-2006. The School of Arts and Sciences annually recognizes nine College students for outstanding academic achievement.

New Advising Policy in Biology

Beginning this semester, the Biology department will require majors to meet with their major advisor in the Spring of their junior year. During the meeting, students and their advisors will review the major requirements and expected course schedule to ensure that all requirements will be fulfilled for graduation.

Course Changes in Neuroscience

Biol 251: Cellular Neurobiology

Biol 251 will be offered this Fall on Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 – noon. Formerly offered as a Spring only course, Biol 251 is permanently moving to the Fall semester. Associated with this change, **Biol 442** Neurobiology of Learning and Memory and **Biol 451** Systems Neuroscience will now be offered as Spring only courses.

Course Information for Fall 2006

Biol 406: Infectious Diseases: Mechanisms of pathogenesis, prophylaxis, and therapy

Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 – 3 pm

This is an upper class seminar course organized by Dr. James Kim. Dr. Kim is a senior research investigator in the Medical School. He co-taught this course last year with Dr. Cebra. The course is usually over-subscribed so Dr. Kim is requesting that interested students contact him for permission to register. You can contact Dr. Kim at jamesi@mail.med.upenn.edu (please include a list of the Biology courses you've taken in your e-mail).

Biol 436: Molecular Physiology

Will not be offered this year. Look for this course in Fall 2007.

Biol 438: Systems Biology: Integrative Physiology

Day and time TBA

Dr. Larry Rome teaches this advanced course in Systems Biology. The course explores the physiology of muscles and biomechanics through lectures as well as lab and computer demonstrations of musculo-skeletal system design. Topics include animal energetics, muscle function, scaling, and the mechanics of locomotion.

Biol 480: Advanced Cell Biology

Will not be offered this year. Look for this course in Fall 2007. Students using CHEM 251 in place of BIOL 202 who need a cell biology course are encouraged to take BIOL 484 Cell Motility and the Cytoskeleton offered in the Spring semester.

Opportunities

Summer Research in Cell Biology

Two summer positions available in a cell biology lab investigating very cool cell shape changes orchestrated by the actin cytoskeleton. Work includes



Drosophila genetics, confocal microscopy and imaging analysis. Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry or Bioengineering major preferred and completion of BIOL 202 and 221 helpful. 20-35 hr/wk, \$8.50-9.50/hr depending on experience. Work study also possible. Please send cover letter and resume to gguild@sas.upenn.edu. For more information about research in this lab see <http://www.bio.upenn.edu/faculty/guild/>

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Research Assistant in Tropical Ecology

Want to spend a summer in Costa Rica? This is an opportunity to gain valuable research experience living and working in one of the most important national parks in the tropics. You will be trained in experimental ecology and field biology techniques. Contact Salvatore Agosta at agosta@sas.upenn.edu for more information. This is a volunteer position but your airfare and room will be provided.

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Research position in Clinical Cell and Vaccine Production facility

Dr. Bruce Levine is looking for recent graduates who would like to spend at least two years in laboratory research. You would carry out experiments in cellular immunology in support of early phase cell and gene therapy clinical trials. For more information on the research in this lab, visit the following websites: <http://www.ups.upenn.edu/abramson/clinicalFacility.html> <http://www.med.upenn.edu/bmrc/CCVPF/index.shtml?CCVPF> or e-mail Dr. Levine at levinebl@mail.med.upenn.edu

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Research Specialist A in Immunology Lab

Full time research position available in an immunology /molecular biology lab analyzing immune responses in genetically modified mice. Duties include maintaining a mouse colony and tissue culture using sterile technique, cellular, molecular, and biochemical experiments. BA/BS in Biology or related field required. Apply on line at <https://jobs.hr.upenn.edu> using "immunology" and job grade 24 as search parameters (two positions available, one listed as #050517300). Applicants may additionally email their resumes and a cover letter to Dr. Martha Jordan jordanm@mail.med.upenn.edu

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Summer Job Opportunities

EPA Summer Opportunities for Students provides a website for locating EPA opportunities across the country. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/ohr/student> to search for jobs and to apply directly to the office that has the vacancy.

Who was the BEST Biology TA you ever had?

The University wishes to recognize excellence in teaching by graduate students by awarding a cash prize to those who have made an impact on your education at Penn. Acknowledge your Biology TA by submitting a nomination online at

<http://www.upenn.edu/grad/taprize.htm>

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, March 27th**!

Honors in Biology

To graduate with **Distinction in the Major**, students are required to have a GPA in the Major of at least 3.25 and submit an honors thesis, which is based on your independent research. If you meet these criteria, you are strongly encouraged to apply for honors. For information and sample theses, contact Robin Sherwood in the Academic Office, Leidy 102 (sherwood@sas.upenn.edu)

Applications for honors due by Friday, March 31st



Biology Majors Graduation Reception and Awards Ceremony

The Biology Department is pleased to invite all graduating Biology Majors, their families, Biology Faculty, and Biology TAs to a reception in honor of graduating Biology Majors.

The winners of the Neysa Cristol Adams Prize in Biology, the Edna R. Green Award, the Chair's Award for Excellence in Biology, and the Biology Department Award for Excellence in Teaching will be recognized.

Come celebrate graduation with fellow Biology Majors and Faculty.

Leidy Lab Main Lobby
Sunday, May 14th
4:00 – 5:30 pm

A light meal will be served.

We hope to see you there!