



## May 2012

### Undergraduate Newsletter

#### Spring 2012 Important Dates

##### May

- 4 – Classes End and Last day to complete University Withdrawal from all classes
- 7 – 11 – Final exams week
- 11-12 – Commencement ceremonies

#### Science Quote of the Month:

“Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought.”

-Albert Szent-Györgi (1893-1986) U. S. biochemist.

**To learn more** about what faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Biology are up to, check out our website: <http://www.biology.colostate.edu/faculty/>

### New this month:

#### CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Congratulations to all of the Biology and Zoology majors who will be receiving their diplomas this Spring and Summer! Best of luck in all that you do!



**The Biology Undergraduate Newsletter** will be taking a break for the summer. Check your Rams email account in September for the first issue of the fall semester. Have a fantastic summer!

#### Registration Reminders:

**Registration Overrides**- The Biology Academic Support Coordinators would like to remind students who are registering for courses that we cannot grant any overrides for courses offered by other departments. For example, if you plan to take the equivalent of CHEM 245 and 246 over the summer at a college other than CSU, RamWeb will not let you register for BC 351 for the fall. You will need to contact the Biochemistry Department and inquire about a prerequisite override. Similarly, we cannot let students into full courses. You will need to get on the waitlist for any full courses in which you are interested.

#### Summer Course Highlights:

**Summer Field Mammalogy Course (BZ 380A3) - Register Now!** The Department of Biology encourages students to register for this intensive field course that focuses on approaches and techniques used to study wild mammals. Students enrolled in this course will spend twelve days at the Shortgrass-Steppe Long-Term Ecological Research Site, in Nunn, CO. Students can register for BZ 380 through Ramweb and must also register for BZ 380A3.L01.

**The Biology Department is Offering Every Required Biology and Most Required Zoology Courses This Summer!** Students can now register for LIFE 102, LIFE 103, BZ 214, BZ 220, BZ 310, BZ 311, BZ 350, and LIFE 320 to take during the summer terms. Act now as these courses are filling!

**Do You Want To Take Immunology (MIP 342) This Summer?** - The Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Pathology is offering MIP 342 as a summer course during the first 8-week term. The CRN for this course is 53521.

### Email Etiquette Tips From The Biology Academic Support Center

Email is one of the most popular modes of communication on any college campus. As a student, you may need to email faculty members, University staff, other students, or even CSU's President! These tips are intended to help you become a better email user.

1. You are not texting a friend! You are emailing a professional! Do not use abbreviations such as IDK or FYI.
2. Make sure your e-mail includes a courteous greeting and closing. It is never appropriate to begin an email with "Hey."
3. Address your contact with the appropriate level of formality and make sure you spelled their name correctly.
4. Use proper spelling and grammar.
5. Use appropriate capitalization and punctuation. Again – this is a professional email, NOT a text.
6. Be sure you are including all relevant details or information necessary to understand your request or point of view. Generalities can many times causing confusion and unnecessary back and forth replies.
7. Include your full name and CSU ID.
8. Always end your emails with "Thank you," "Sincerely," "Best regards" - something!
9. Read the email before you send it.
10. If you have multiple questions that are lengthy and in-depth, perhaps it is better to make an appointment with an Academic Support Coordinator.

Keep in mind that it is Peak-Advising time, and the Academic Support Coordinators are very busy – are you emailing to ask a question that you can find out on your own? Can you do research on the CSU website to find the answer? Then do this! Be proactive and find the answer on your own – it saves time!

## Don't forget from previous issues:

For more info on these stories, previous issues of the newsletter can be found online at:  
<http://www.biology.colostate.edu/undergraduates/newsletter/>

**Academic Probation** - The Department of Biology placed an advising code on your account if you were placed on academic probation at the end of Fall 2011. This code will only be released to you once you've met with an Academic Support Coordinator to discuss your options and plan for repairing your GPA. You can make a half-hour appointment online at:  
<http://www.biology.colostate.edu/undergraduates/schedule-an-appointment/>

**Math Placement** - Do you need to take/retake the Math Placement Exam or the Entry-Level Mathematics (ELM) Tutorial and Prerequisite Exam so that you can register to take math in fall? If so, don't forget that both exams are given on a "walk-in" basis (when classes are in session) in the PACe Testing Center (Weber 138). Bring a pencil or pen, and your RamCard (CSU ID card) with you. PACe Center hours of operation can be found online at  
[http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE\\_schedule.shtml](http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE_schedule.shtml).

**Composition Placement/Challenge Examination Dates** - The next Composition Placement Exam is scheduled for Monday, June 11, 2012 at 4:00pm in Behavioral Sciences 131. Students don't need to sign up for a test session, just show up with a pen and a photo ID. It's best to show up 10-15 minutes early--testing will begin promptly!!

Students can check their placement on RAMweb - under Records, select Composition Placement/Challenge Exam Results. If you have questions, contact Sue Russell at 491-1898. For more information visit <http://writing.colostate.edu/comp/placement.cfm>.

To aid you through the registration process, we have put together a table of **common registration error messages**, what they mean, and how to fix them. See below:

Error message	What it means	When you might get it	What to do
<b>Class level</b>	Only students in a certain class level (fr/so or jr/sr) can register for a given course.	Few (if any) Biology courses have this restriction but other departments' courses (e.g., Psychology) may have it.	If you NEED the course, contact the home department for access.
<b>Additional Component Required</b>	In addition to the lecture, you have to register for another component (lab or recitation) <i>at the same time</i> .	Many biology, chemistry, and physics courses are commonly associated with this error.	Check boxes for each component PRIOR to hitting "register." Click the CRN for the lecture to see specifically which sections of lab/recitation that must be selected.
<b>Major</b>	You do not have the right major for a class.	Some classes are restricted just to students in that major (Business/Art are examples); other classes allow non-majors to register after a certain date.	Click on the CRN for details about major restriction—if the class opens to non-majors at a certain date, it will tell you that info here.
<b>Prerequisite</b>	You fail to meet at least one prerequisite for the class.	BZ310 is an example (though most biology courses have prerequisites). It requires a semester of organic chemistry as a prerequisite.	You'll need to take the prerequisite courses prior to registering for the course in question. If you think this is an error, contact your advisor.
<b>Dept./Instructor approval</b>	Registration for a certain class is limited and only approved on a case-by-case basis.	An example is BZ505 Cognitive Ecology (being offered in Fall 2011) - it requires permission from the instructor for undergrads to enroll.	If you seek access to a class requiring dept./instructor approval, contact the instructor listed or the department.
<b>Stop enrollment</b>	A department has stopped enrollment so that no one can register for the class until a problem is resolved.	Hard to say—stop enrollments can happen in any department due to unforeseen changes.	Try registering for a different section of the same class, or contact the department to find out more information.

**Automated Waitlist on RAMweb** Don't forget - if you try to register for a class and it's full, sign up for the waitlist for that class directly on RAMweb. Check out the Waitlist FAQ's on Registration Ready for more information on the automated waitlist feature.

**Do you have other registration questions?** Have another look at last month's special edition of the Undergraduate Letter that exclusively covered registration: <http://www.biology.colostate.edu/files/2012/02/April-2012-Newsletter.pdf>



**Are you interested in a health professions career?** If so, you need to get connected to Health Professions Advising at CSU! Health Professions Advisors at CSU offer advising for students interested in careers in: Chiropractic, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Podiatry, and Veterinary Medicine. These advisors will work with you to prepare for a professional program and set you in the right direction! **To schedule an appointment** with a Health Professions Advisor call the Center for Advising and Student Achievement (CASA) at 970-491-7095. For more information on Health Professions Advising visit <http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/>.





## *Health Professions Happenings*



If you are interested in health professions, we encourage you to sign up for the health professions electronic mailing list (at <http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/hpmailinglist.aspx>). Subscribing to this list enables you to receive email messages about Health Professions advising, workshops related to Health Professions and special events sponsored by the various Health Profession student organizations.



### Upcoming Opportunities for Health Professions Students:

#### Tuesday May 1-

The Pre OT Club will have its end of the year banquet and club awards at the Old Town Old Chicago's at 6:00 PM. You must RSVP with a club officer.

The Pre Optometry Club will host Dr. Eric Reisler, OD, who specializes in sports vision therapy. Contact [fayiz@rams.colostate.edu](mailto:fayiz@rams.colostate.edu) for meeting time and location.

The Pre Dental Club will hold its end of the year party at 5:30 in Engineering E104.

#### Wednesday May 2-

The Pre PT Club will have its end of the year banquet and club awards at the Old Town Old Chicago's at 6:00 PM. You must RSVP with a club officer.

The Pre Pharmacy Club will have its end of the year banquet and club awards at the Old Town Old Chicago's at 6:00 PM. You must RSVP with a club officer.

Premedica will meet in A 102 Clark Building at 6:30 PM. Officer Elections will be held and Club Awards will be given.

Good luck on finals. If you wish to check in with your health professions advisor before the end of the semester call the CASA office at 970-491-7095 and the front staff will gladly set a time for you to meet.

