



Fall 2013 Important Dates

November

23 - Fall recess begins;
no classes Nov. 25-29.

28 - 29 - University Holiday;
University closed.

December

2 - Classes resume.

13 - Last day of classes. Uni-
versity withdrawal deadline.

16 - 19 - Final Exams!

20 - 21 - Commencement.

24 - Grades available on
RamWeb.

25 - 27 - University Holiday;
University closed.

Registration Dates

October 29 - Senior
registration began.

November 1 - Junior
registration begins.

November 8 - Sophomore
registration begins.

November 15 - Freshman
registration begins.

December 2 - New student
registration begins.

Main Features:

Page 2-3: Meet Your
Health Professions Advi-
sors!

Page 4: Career Connections

Page 5-6: Community
Spotlight - Wildlife Biolo-
gist

Fall Break Advising Hours

During fall Break the Academic Support Center will be open November 25, 26, and 27. We will not be holding walk-in advising on Wednesday, the 27th, however.

As always, advising appointments are scheduled online at <http://www.biology.colostate.edu/undergraduates/advising/>

Spring Registration Began
October 29th!

Please register on time!

YOU WILL NOT HAVE AN
ADVISING CODE

unless you are on **academic probation** or it is your very **first time registering** for classes at CSU. If you are unable to see your Academic Advisor prior to your registration date it is important that you register on time! If your appointment is after you register, you can talk about the courses you selected and make any necessary changes at that time.

NEW THIS SEMESTER!

The Biology Club is back!

The goal of the Biology Club is to create a diverse and interactive group of people that have an interest in ANY area of biological sciences. We do so by putting together club activities, volunteering throughout the community and having guest speakers of various backgrounds talk about their work.

For more information on how to join, contact the president, Erin Davidson, at erdavids@rams.colostate.edu.

Hope to see you at our next event!

**INTERNSHIP
OPPORTUNITY!**

The Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Cornell University in New York offers 10-week, paid summer internships. Gain experience in Plant Genome Research, Bioinformatics, and Bioenergy Education. Applications accepted annually from November until the first Friday of February.

For more information
and to apply visit:

bti.cornell.edu/internships

Gain research experience!

Explore if a scientific

career is right for you!

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

A Little About Health Professions Advising...

In both the Biological Sciences major and the Zoology major, there is a large number of students who are interested in pursuing a profession in the field of human or animal health. A common misconception, though, is that students are able to declare Pre-Med or Pre-Vet as a major and this is not the case. Students interested in Health Professions do, however, take certain pre-requisite courses during their time as an undergrad in order to apply to graduate school, medical school, or veterinary school. **This is why it is important for these students to meet regularly with their Health Professions Advisor.** They are extremely knowledgeable and work to help students prepare for the next step on the journey toward their Health Profession of choice.

Meet The Health Professions Advisors at CSU!



Joy Olimpo began at CSU this semester and is the newest member of the Health Professions Advising Team.

What is your background?

My academic background is in Kinesiology, Women's Studies, and Higher Education - so, all over the place! I am originally from Pennsylvania and completed my undergrad at Penn State. I then did graduate work at Temple and the University of Maryland.

For which health professions do you advise CSU students?

I advise students who are interested in studying dentistry, nursing, chiropractic, public health, anesthesiology (at the master's level), and complementary medicine.

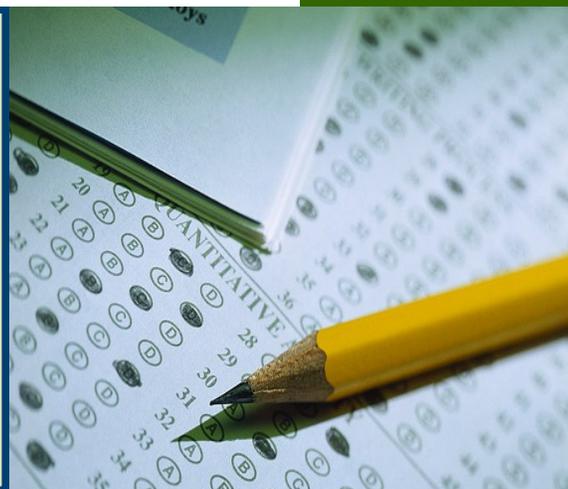
What advice do you have for students considering health professions?

I have two pieces of advice for these students. First, get out there job shadowing, attending conferences, reading journals and gaining experience however you can. Find out what you really want to do; nothing is worse than committing time, energy, and money working towards a career that you are not sure you will enjoy. Second, plan, plan, plan! Everything you do in college - the students and professors you connect with, the organizations you join, the classes you take - will affect your professional future. So keep this in mind while enjoying your undergraduate experience.

Planning On Taking The MCAT in 2014?

In the spring semester, Health Professions Advising offers a 12-week, non-credit, MCAT review course.

Information about registration, cost, dates, and specific time will be available after winter break.



Pre-Med
Pre-Optometry
Pre-Occupational Therapy
Pre-Physical Therapy
Pre-Physician Assistant
Pre-Chiropractic
Pre-Pharmacy
Pre-Podiatry
Pre-Nursing
Pre-Vet
Pre-Anesthesiologist Assistant
Pre-Dental



To schedule a meeting with a health professions advisor, contact the Center for Advising and Student Achievement at 970-491-7095. The staff at the CASA main desk will gladly set appointments.



What is your background?

I am a Colorado native, a CSU alum, and am in my 14th year working at CSU. Prior to returning to CSU, I worked as an Academic Advisor at Western Illinois University, the University of Utah, and the University of Northern Colorado. In my spare time I like to travel around Colorado with my wife and hang out with my grandchildren.

For which health professions do you advise CSU students?

I advise students who want to become physicians, physician assistants or podiatrists and I am the advisor for the Premedica Club.

What advice do you have for Students considering health professions?

Challenge yourself to do well academically and follow your passions. Professional schools aren't interested in who you think they want, they are interested in who you really are.

Linda Stoddard



What is your background?

I began at CSU in 1987 as a Fieldwork Coordinator, Advisor, and Instructor in Human Development and Family Studies. In 1999, I began at the HELP/Success Center (now CASA) as an undeclared advisor and in 2007 joined the Health Professions Advising Team.

For which health professions do you advise CSU students?

I work with students interested in graduate programs for physical therapy, pharmacy, physician assistant, and those interested in going to medical school.

What advice do you have for students considering health professions?

My advice is to get involved in the professions you are considering...do informational interviews, volunteer, job shadow, work as an aide. And get involved in the CSU Health Professions Clubs. They are amazing!

Ann Bowen



What is your background?

I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology here at CSU and my Master's Degree in Counseling and Guidance from the University of Arizona. I have worked in higher education for 22 years.

For which health professions do you advise CSU students?

I have been advising pre-veterinary students at CSU for the past 11 years. The best part of my job is helping students achieve their goals.

What advice do you have for students considering health professions?

The road to any health professions degree takes a lot of hard work, commitment, and sacrifice. Believe in yourself, create balance in your life and meet with a health professions advisor on a regular basis - Knowledge is power!

CAREER CONNECTIONS

November 2013

Need help planning your future? **Judy Brobst**, the Career Center Liaison for the College of Natural Sciences, can assist you with all aspects of your career development! Services offered: Internships & volunteer experiences, resume development, choosing/changing majors, graduate school, on-line assessments, job search skills, etc. **To set up an appointment** contact Judy at judy.brobst@colostate.edu or call **970-491-5707**.



Thanksgiving break is almost upon us. When you go home, family and friends will ask you questions:

“Do you like your major?”

“What are you doing next summer?”

“What are you doing after graduation?”

Don't wait - focus on your future NOW!

Meet with a Career Counselor to start the conversation and begin to plan your future.



INTERNSHIPS

NOW is the time to look for internships! The Career Center has several resources on the **student page** to help you find internships. **Start looking now** to find several internships and start the application process. Don't forget that CareerRAM also has internship postings.



For information on Majors and Career Exploration, Job and Internship searches, Career Fairs at CSU, and how to prepare for Graduate School, visit:

<http://www.career.colostate.edu/Students/>

Informational Interviews

- A great way to talk with people about their jobs and learn what they do.
- Think about scheduling time for this over Thanksgiving or semester break.
- Help clarify what you can do with your major and options to look at for potential career paths.
- Need some help on what questions to ask? Here are the seven steps to prepare for an informational interview.

- 1) *Define your purpose*
- 2) *Identify your contacts*
- 3) *Do preliminary research*
- 4) *Develop a list of questions*
- 5) *Make first contact and schedule an informational interview*
- 6) *Conduct your informational Interview*
- 7) *Follow-Up with a thank you and evaluate what you learned*

Have questions? Stop by the Career Center for more information and sample questions!

JOB INTERVIEWS

Your **resume** and **cover letter** will help you get an interview for an internship or a job, but it is the interview itself that will land you the position. Be sure to prepare adequately and well in advance!

Sign up for a **MOCK INTERVIEW** with the Career Center to practice your interview skills.

Call (970) 491-5707 to schedule an appointment at the Career Center!

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: ONE FORT COLLINS RESIDENT'S PATH TO BECOMING A WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

What did your educational path look like?

I completed my undergrad at the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC. I started out wanting to be a doctor, so took a lot of microbiology and molecular biology courses. I remember one semester sophomore year I was taking organic chemistry and plant taxonomy, and I really felt that organic chemistry was not the path I wanted to go down and that plants were really interesting. I changed my focus to include more ecology and environmental studies courses, and was much happier in school.

I graduated with a B.S. in Biology and an interdisciplinary minor in Environmental Studies. As I was wrapping up undergraduate school, I realized that the careers I wanted would require more education, so I took the GRE and started looking into graduate programs. I found an interesting lab and research project at Kent State University in Kent, OH working on population genetics of small populations of a native plant, great blue lobelia. I researched inbreeding depression and paternity in small populations compared to large populations, and also looked at the way pollinators behaved at populations of varying sizes.

Julie Reeves is a Wildlife Biologist with the Wyoming Ecological Services Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Inspecting a bat for white-nose syndrome.

What might a typical day in your job include?

My job is to implement the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The main focus of my job is to work with energy developers (i.e. oil and gas, wind, and transmission lines) to site, design, operate, and decommission their projects in a way that avoids and minimizes effects to federally listed threatened and endangered species, proposed and candidate species, eagles, and migratory birds.

I am the Service's lead for a couple of national-priority interstate transmission line projects that cross through Wyoming and into other states (Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada). A typical day for me would be to check emails and respond to any high-priority ones, go into the field in the morning and do population surveys for the federally threatened Colorado butterfly plant in and around Cheyenne, and review the latest information about wind energy projects and their threats to migratory birds and eagles. I might have time to review a proposed cell tower or bridge upgrade.

STORY CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE...

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS FOR SPING 2014!

Microbial Ecology (MIP 432)

*-principles of microorganism interactions with their living and non-living worlds: implications for the environment, plants, and animals.
(3 credits)*

*These courses can be applied towards the Microbiology and Ecology (List B) fields in the Biological Sciences major.

*Contact Donald Klein for more information: Donald.klein@colostate.edu

Microbial Ecology Lab (MIP 433)

*-experimental microbial ecology; the design, conduct, and interpretation of experiments that illustrate basic principles of microbial ecology.
(1 credit)*

WORKSHOPS AT TILT

- Presentation and Speaking Skills
November 4, 5, and 7
 - Mindfully Managing Stress
November 11, 12, and 14
 - Overcoming Procrastination
November 18, 19, and 21
- *All workshops are held in TILT 211, Mondays at 4pm, Tuesdays at 5pm, and Thursdays at 6pm.
Refreshments are provided!

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...

What was the process you went through to obtain this job?

I started working for the US Fish & Wildlife Service in Ohio during my last semester of graduate school. Working 40 hours a week during school was a challenge, but that challenge paid off. I was offered a permanent position after graduation. I was forced to resign that position, however, when I moved to Colorado with my spouse. It was difficult finding another position but I utilized networking with those I knew in grad school to help secure another position. My supervisor from Ohio put in a good word for me, and after a few months, I got a call about a possible temporary position with the US Fish & Wildlife Service in the Cheyenne Office. I applied for the position on **USA-jobs.gov**. I did a phone interview, and a few weeks later, was offered the position. I have since been promoted to a permanent position.

Do you have any advice for student interested in pursuing this line of work?

Get involved any way that you can - volunteer, intern, and learn about current technologies that are being used for energy development. A lot of the work I do has required on-the-job training, and I wish that I had taken some GIS courses, engineering courses, and animal husbandry courses while in undergrad so that I would have been better prepared for the work that I do now. Another recommendation is to have excellent communication skills. Most jobs in this field require excellent letter and email writing as well as public speaking. Sometimes biologists are the bad guys (for listing or delisting a species or for delaying a wind project), and so being able to effectively communicate with people who do not agree with your position is very important. It is a challenging job field out there right now. It is difficult to be young and starting out, especially when there are so many people with much more experience applying for the same job. You should market yourself as having new insights, new ideas, and a new perspective, and definitely show lots of enthusiasm for the work.



Releasing pit-tagged Lake Erie water snakes (once threatened and now delisted).

START GAINING EXPERIENCE THROUGH VOLUNTEER WORK!

Looking to start adding valuable experience to your college education? Pets Forever is looking for motivated, mature student to help those less fortunate and their companion animals in our community. Volunteer expectations include:

- **Attend weekly class (Tues. 9-9:50 OR Weds 12-12:50)**
- **Provide a minimum of 4 hours/week service outside of class**
- **Communicate effectively with clients**

For more information, contact Dr. Lori Kogan

Lori.kogan@colostate.edu

You can also visit the website at

<http://petsforever.colostate.edu>

What are some things you did as an undergrad to help prepare you for work in this field?

I did internships during the summers, and each one was very competitive. One summer when I was still interested in medicine, I worked as an assistant in an ambulance on 911 calls. Another summer, I did an internship with the Student Conservation Association and worked in Great Smoky Mountain National Park doing botanical surveys in prescribed burn areas to measure burn-scarring and re-vegetation. I was also an environmental intern with a local energy cooperative and did two-week rotations with their power line crew, water quality crew, mosquito testing crew, and aquaculture/fisheries crew. I think these internships really helped me stand out above other applicants for graduate school and for the jobs that I have applied for since then.