



BIOLOGY

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

April 2018 Undergraduate Newsletter

Spring 2018

Important Dates

April

2 - Priority registration begins

3 - Senior registration begins

6 - Junior registration begins

13 - Sophomore

registration begins

20 - Freshman registration begins

**Registration times are assigned by the number of credits you have completed. Check Ramweb for your specific date and time.*

May

4 - Last day of spring classes.

4 - Last day to request University Withdrawal

7-11 - Final Exams

12 - CNS Commencement

14 - summer sessions begin

28 - University closed

In this newsletter:

Pg. 2-3: Fall registration and other juicy tidbits

Pg. 4: Faculty Focus - Dr. Rachel Mueller

Pg. 5-6: Summer job opportunities

Pg. 7: On-Campus job fairs in April

Club Meetings This Month

Zoology Club: April 10 & April 24, 6pm in BIO 136

Biology Club: April 25, 6pm in Clark 142

Job Opportunity for Student with Work-study Award

Flexible 10 hours/week and primary duties will include:

- Entering and verifying data
- Maintaining and extracting data from databases
- Obtaining and linking data from multiple sources
- Assisting with research reports and performing descriptive and other statistical analyses

Location: The National Wildlife Research Center at the CSU Foothills Campus

Training will be provided to develop database and statistical skills

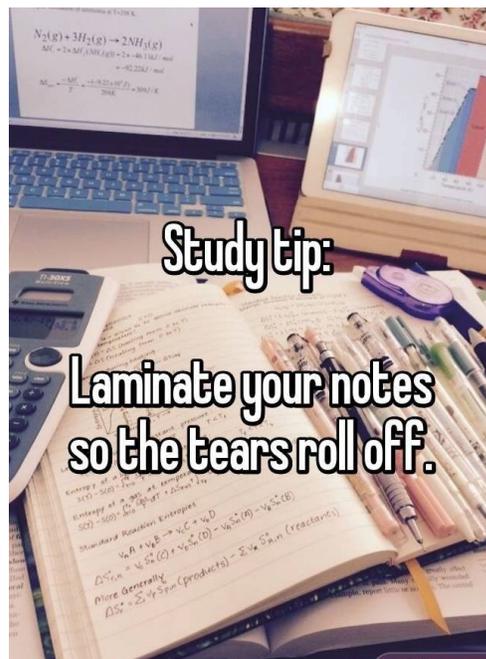
Interested students can send resume to Kim Pepin at Kim.M.Pepin@aphis.usda.gov

In case you missed it, check out this article in Source to learn about the amazing additions to the teaching collection in the Biology Dept.!

<https://natsci.source.colostate.edu/105-contraband-specimens-donated-to-biology-department-thanks-to-students-work/>



There are only 5 weeks of class remaining before finals week! It's time to start gathering materials and preparing study guides for finals. Visit your professors' office hours if you're uncertain of how to prepare for your final exam. Statistically, students who space their studying over the course of several weeks not only perform better on exams, but they retain the information longer (meaning you'll likely do better in next semester's courses since you'll be able to recall prerequisite knowledge).



ARE YOU READY TO REGISTER FOR FALL CLASSES?

There are multiple ways to connect with an Academic Success Coordinator if you need to discuss your fall schedule.

- **Schedule an appointment at www.biology.colostate.edu**
- **Come to drop-ins:**
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1-3pm
- **Send an email to your advisor**

While we are here to offer our guidance, support, and advice, it is important that you come to your appointment prepared. Choose the courses you want to take this fall and/or summer and use the catalog (catalog.colostate.edu) to look them up and make sure they're offered.

Remember to check RamWeb for your registration date.

Monday, April 16 - Celebrate Undergraduate Research and Creativity

8:00am-9:30am: Participant check-in and poster/art display set up

10:30a-1:30pm: Concurrent poster displays, oral presentations, and art displays

Not participating in CURC? Stop by the LSC and view the work of your peers!

When planning your schedule, consider these BZ courses on the fall '18 schedule
These courses are not offered in spring terms and some are only fall of even years

BZ212 Animal Biology—Invertebrates

BZ 223 Plant Identification

BZ330 Mammalogy

BZ333 Introductory Mycology

BZ 418 Ecology of Infectious Disease

BZ346 Population and Evolutionary Genetics

BZ348 Theory of Population & Evolutionary Ecology

BZ 360 Bioinformatics & Genomics

BZ462 Parasitology and Vector Biology

BZ 577 Computer Analysis in Population Genetics

BZ578 Genetics of Natural Populations

BZ331 Developmental Plant Anatomy

BZ332 Introductory Phycology

BZ425 Molecular Ecology

BZ 433 Behavioral Genetics

BZ476 Genetics of Model Organisms

BZ 535 Behavioral Ecology

BZ 572 Phytoremediation

see catalog.colostate.edu for course descriptions and prerequisites

Are you on Academic Probation?

You are required to meet with an Academic Success Coordinator if you are on probation 1 or probation 2. Don't wait to schedule your appointment as advising calendars are filling up quickly!

We meet with every student on academic probation to discuss academic status, give out advising codes, plan for future semesters, and offer additional help/support for getting back into good academic standing.

Plan ahead and schedule your appointment or make a plan to attend drop-ins!
You will not be able to register for fall 2018 courses without your advising code.

To make an appointment with an ASC, and view drop-in hours, please visit:

<http://www.biology.colostate.edu/undergraduates/schedule-an-appointment/>

Faculty Focus: Dr. Rachel Mueller



What courses do you teach and what do you enjoy about teaching those courses?

“I teach Herpetology and Genome Evolution (with Dan Sloan). I like teaching Herpetology because we get to cover all levels of biology—molecules to ecosystems—through the lens of amphibians and reptiles. I also like the incredible enthusiasm for the organisms that students bring to the class; I always learn something new. Genome Evolution is a joy to teach because it is such a small class that we all get to know each other.”

Are there opportunities for undergraduates to get involved with your lab?

“Sometimes there are! It depends on funding and what projects are ongoing. At the moment, we aren’t looking for anyone new, but that changes every few months. The best way to find out if we have openings is to get in touch with me by email.”

What are some of your current graduate students’ projects?

“My lab members are working on 1) how the evolution of big cells impacts organisms, 2) how metabolic rate impacts hybridization, and 3) how transposable element silencing differs in big vs. small genomes.”

What is your primary research interest?

“I am an evolutionary biologist focused mainly on genome evolution. I also like thinking about the evolution of cells, selfish DNA, speciation, hybridization, and almost anything having to do with salamanders...and giant viruses...and copepods...and phylogenies too!”

What is your alma mater and can you describe the path that brought you to your current research?

“I went to UC Berkeley for both undergraduate and graduate school. I became interested in animals that evolve huge genomes and huge cells as an undergraduate, actually. I didn’t work on this question then — I worked on locomotor physiology in geckos — but I came across it in a class. After college graduation, I worked briefly as a cocktail waitress in the financial district in San Francisco, and then for several years as a lab tech in a cancer genetics lab at a medical school. I saved all my money and traveled around the world by myself for a year, and then went back to graduate school when I was 23. I’ve been thinking about salamanders (mostly) ever since, although my postdoc was in zebrafish developmental genomics.”

What is a fun fact about yourself that you’d like to share?

Before I had my four kids, I was a rock-climber and a martial artist and, in the more distant past, a gymnast and a semi-occasional violinist. Now I mostly hang out with my kids and find ways to crack them up (and vice versa) ... so my current hobbies are more like trampolining and tween fashion consultation and sometimes managing a very short hike.

Summer Job Opening



Rocky Mountain Research Station Biogeochemistry Laboratory Biogeochemistry Lab Assistant

The incumbent will conduct lab work in support of various environmental research projects relating to water quality, forest productivity and wildfire effects. The knowledge and skills obtained through this position are highly valuable for those wishing to pursue a career in an environmental science related field.

Major Duties:

The incumbent will be involved with a variety of laboratory tasks relating to water, soil and vegetation. Water analysis tasks include sample preparation, sampling, labeling, tracking, filtering, instrument operation, analysis, and general lab upkeep. Soil and vegetation tasks include sample sieving, grinding, weighing, analysis, and soil extractions. Occasional day-trips for hiking and field sampling may occur throughout the year.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Knowledge of general chemistry and laboratory instrumentation
- Experience with basic statistics and spreadsheet software (Excel)
- Ability to prepare accurate and legible notes and labels
- Good organizational skills
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Punctuality and dependability

Details:

This is a full time position (40 hours per week) from mid-May until the end of August, with the potential continuation into subsequent semesters.

Pay is hourly and scaled based on experience and skill (\$10.01 - \$14.08 per hour), with opportunities for promotion.

Ideal candidates will be in their sophomore or junior year.

Laboratory is located in Fort Collins, CO off of Lake Street on the south edge of the CSU campus.

Applications: Interested candidates please send a resume/cover letter to Tim Fegel at tfegel@fs.fed.us

For additional information contact:

Tim Fegel
Biogeochemistry Laboratory Manager
Rocky Mountain Research Station
U. S. Forest Service
240 W. Prospect
Fort Collins, CO 80526
tfegel@fs.fed.us





Position Title: Wildfire Effects & Watershed Rehabilitation Technician

Collaborating Agencies: Rocky Mountain Research Station (USFS) & CSU

Dates: mid-May through August 2018 (and possibly longer)

Salary: Contingent upon experience (probable range \$14.00 - \$16.00/hr)

JOB OVERVIEW:

We are hiring technicians to assist with a variety of research projects on the consequences of wildfire on stream nutrient retention, plant communities and soil productivity.

POSITION DETAILS:

These are full-time, non-exempt positions, based in Fort Collins, Colorado. Work will start in mid May 2018 and continue until August 2018, with the potential for continuation into October. Work will require daily travel to field sites, overnight lodging at the Manitou Experimental Forest, Fraser Experimental Forest, and will involve occasional camping in the Routt and Medicine Bow National Forests.

PRIMARY TECHNICAL DUTIES:

- Collection, preparation and analysis of stream water and soil samples
- Understory plant and forest sampling
- Surveying the effects of wildfire and prescribed burn treatments on landscapes and watersheds
- Planting trees for experimental regeneration bioassays in burned areas

REQUIREMENTS:

- Enrollment/completion of BSc degree in hydrology, soils, forestry, ecology, biology, or related field.
- Ability to prepare accurate and legible notes and labels
- Familiarity with handheld GPS units and mapping software
- Punctuality and dependability
- Excellent physical condition
- Experience and interest in hiking, backcountry orienteering, travel and first aid
- Valid driver's license. Experience operating 4-wheel drive vehicles is preferred

Work requires strenuous physical exertion, such as hiking with heavy field gear over steep terrain and through dense vegetation and logging slash. Work is often done in remote, isolated areas and inclement (rainy, cold, and hot) weather conditions.

HOW TO APPLY:

Send resume, transcripts, verification of university enrollment, reference contact information to:

Chuck Rhoades PhD, Research Biogeochemist
US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(970) 498-1250; (crhoades@fs.fed.us)



Job & Internship Fair

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

4:30 - 7 PM

LSC Ballroom CD

Even if you aren't quite ready to apply for jobs, you can still attend job fairs! It's an opportunity to learn which employers are coming to CSU, talk to employers to start building your network, and prepare for your future after graduation.



is for...

Teacher Job Fair

Wednesday, April 18, 2018 | LSC, Grand Ballroom | Check-In Begins at 7:30 AM

Registration is Required → career.colostate.edu