



NEWSLETTER

Animal Behavior Society

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Molly R. Morris Secretary

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2003 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS

The Animal Behavior Society is pleased to announce the awardees of the 2003 Animal Behavior Society Research Student Grants. This year we had 130 proposals. The judges were impressed with the outstanding quality of this year's proposals, but, unfortunately, limited funds prevented all worthy applications from being funded. Full details for the 21 awards can be found at the Animal Behavior website: <http://www.animalbehavior.org> (Grants Link) Congratulations!

I would like to thank all the reviewers on this year's panel for their assistance: Rich Buchholz, Hugh Drummond, Chris Evans, Todd Freeberg, Peggy Hill, Chris Maher, Jill Mateo, Jeff Podos, Vladimir Pravosudov, Ron Rutowski, Andy Sih, Patricia Schwagmeyer, and Tammy Windfelder. Special thanks also to Shelley Adamo for sage advice and assistance. The assistance of Steve Ramey and Shan Duncan of the Central Office at Indiana University was invaluable.

Dr. Steve Nowicki
Senior Member-at-Large
Chair, 2002-03 Student Research Grant Committee
Duke University

Full Awards:

- Marina Ancaes.* University of Kansas. A test of the sensory drive hypothesis of sexual selection in the Golden-winged Manakin (*Masius chrysopterus*) from Western Ecuador.
- Barbara Ballentine.* Duke University. Mechanisms of mate choice: vocal performance as an indicator trait.
- Casey Harris.* University of Cincinnati. Aversion learning in wolf spiders (*Lycosidae*): The importance of sensory cues and memory.
- Jonathan Lee.* Cornell University. Evolution of male dimorphisms.
- Christopher Olson.* Iowa State University. Avian incubation: Adult temperature regulation and embryonic thermal requirements.
- Lawrence A. Rabin.* University of California Davis. Vocal plasticity and acoustic masking in a species of rodent: Exploring the response of California ground squirrels (*Spermophilus beecheyi*) to anthropogenic noise.

Luke Remage-Healey. Cornell University. Hormones and vocal communication in toadfish: A new role for steroid hormones?

Andrew Stoehr. University of California Riverside. Sexual selection, immune defense, and wing patterns in the cabbage white butterfly (*Pieris rapae*).

Brett Walker. University of Montana. The effects of grazing on parental care: unraveling the mystery of male incubation in sagebrush-steppe songbirds.

Shawn Wilder. Miami University of Ohio. Ecological factors affecting resumption of activity following a predator encounter.

Craig Wilmhoff. University of Cincinnati. Interaction modifications in a gecko community.

Jaime Zaldivar-Rae. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Function of female attendance by males of the teiid lizard *Aspidoscelis costata* (formerly *Cnemidophorus costatus*).

Partial Awards:

Kristen Bohn. University of Maryland Parent-offspring recognition in greater spear-nosed bats.

Matthew Walter Campbell. University of Wisconsin Madison. Can captive monkeys learn to recognize a natural predator?.

Stephanie Correa. Cornell University. A mechanism for sex ratio manipulation in birds.

Jesse Ellis. Cornell University. Repertoire size and signal coding in the white-throated magpie-jay (*Calocitta formosa*).

Karen Mabry. University of California Davis. The role of early habitat experience in dispersal and habitat selection behavior of brush mice (*Peromyscus boylii*).

Jason A. Moretz. Ohio University. A comparative analysis of the relationship between size, aggression and a signal of aggressive intent in male northern swordtail fishes.

Marc Pedersen. University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. Extraterritorial movements of male and female common yellowthroats (*Geothlypis trichas*) in relation to a male ornamental trait.

Cynthia Tech. University of New Mexico. Reinforcement of pre-mating isolation between hybridizing pupfish.

2003 DEVELOPING NATIONS RESEARCH AWARDS

Congratulations to this year's Developing Nations Research Grant awardees! Grants of \$700 each have been awarded to Jaime Zaldívar-Rae, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, for his research on "Function of female attendance by males of the teiid lizard *Aspidoscelis costata*" and to Alejandro Gonzalez Voyer, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, for his research on "The evolution of aggressive competition in parentally fed bird species".

The reviewers of this year's competition were Ola Fincke, Rogelio Macias-Ordonez and Patricia Schwagmeyer. More information about this competition may be found at the ABS website: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/>.

LATIN AMERICAN TRAVEL AWARDS

Due to the extension of the proposal deadline, recipients of the ABS Latin American Travel Awards will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

MEETINGS

ANNUAL MEETINGS ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY

2003: 19-23 July at Boise State University in Boise, ID

2004: 12-16 June in Oaxaca, Mexico

2005: 6-10 August at Snowbird Ski Resort, UT

Please see ABS website for details

INVITED POSTER SESSION, 2003 MEETING -- EDUCATING IN ANIMAL BEHAVIOR.

Members are invited to submit posters for a special grouping at the 2003 annual meeting at Boise, ID. Posters should focus on animal behavior education in a broad sense -- in the classroom, in the field, in the zoo, involving undergraduates, teachers, K-12 students, grad students, media representatives, etc. Ideas should be submitted to Penny Bernstein pbernstein@stark.kent.edu or Mary Crowe, crowe@coastal.edu for review. Only 12 spots will be available, so please submit as early as possible. Because posters for this session are invited, participants will be able to present one additional oral paper or poster on their disciplinary research at the meeting.

CHEMICAL SIGNALS IN VERTEBRATES X

July 29-August 1, 2003, Oregon State University,
Corvallis, Oregon.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Early Registration Deadline June 15th, 2003

The conference will cover topics related to chemical signaling in vertebrates. Topics will be wide ranging with representation from all the major vertebrate groups and include behaviors mediated by pheromones, chemical ecology, natural products chemistry, and the neurophysiology of chemoreception among others. The goal is to bring together researchers with wide-ranging interests in all aspects of behavioral interactions involving any of the chemical senses, odors and olfactory cues. Behavioral biologists, psychologists, chemists, ecologists, molecular and neurobiologists are all enthusiastically welcome. This is a small (200 people) and informal meeting with plenty of time to get to know the attendees. There will be both oral presentations and poster sessions and graduate students are encouraged to attend. The proceedings of this conference will be published as the tenth volume of the series, Chemical Signals in Vertebrates.

For further information on the preliminary program, abstract submission and registration, please go to our website <http://conferences.oregonstate.edu/csv10> or contact the conference organizer, Bob Mason, at masonr@science.oregonstate.edu for questions relating to the scientific aspects of the conference. For questions relating to the logistics, registration, travel, etc. please contact Jamie LeGore at jamie.legore@orst.edu

GORDON CONFERENCE 2004.

The Gordon Research Conference Board of Trustees has approved a proposal for a new Gordon Research Conference on "Genes and Behavior." The goal of this conference is to help catalyze an expansion of the terrain covered by molecular analyses of behavior by promoting the development of a community that includes scientists with roots in molecular biology as well as scientists with roots in animal behavior. The first conference will be in winter 2004 and will be held every two years thereafter. Date and site of the first conference are not presently known. If you have suggestions about the program, please contact Gene Robinson (Conference Chair) generobi@uiuc.edu, or Chris Boake cboake@utk.edu, Felix Breden breden@sfu.ca and Allen Moore ajmoore@pop.uky.edu (conference steering committee members).

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OPPORTUNITIES

Information!

There are several methods for obtaining information relevant to ABS members and beyond.

ABS Newsletter is the formal society newsletter, published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. It can be accessed at: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/> (News and Announcements). Articles submitted by Society members and judged by the Secretary to be appropriate are occasionally published. Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding each Newsletter. Questions concerning the ABS Newsletter and general correspondence concerning the Society should be directed to: Molly R. Morris, Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, Athens OH 45701, USA. Email: morrism@oak.cats.ohiou.edu. The publication of material does not imply ABS endorsement of the opinions expressed by contributors.

ABS Net is an electronic newsletter. Items that require rapid distribution such as requests for information and upcoming deadlines are particularly well suited for this medium. The primary aim of the electronic format is to support quick and easy communication among researchers and those who share a common interest in the study of animal behavior. ABS Net is posted once a week on average. You DO NOT have to be a member of ABS to use ABS Net. To subscribe go to: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/mailman/listinfo/absnet/>

ABSNews is a moderated, web based format that compliments the focus of ABSNet. An approved posting is displayed on the web site within 24 hours. Posting is done via a web-based form and if the posting author's e-mail is included, replies to the posting can be e-mailed directly to the author. All Postings are arranged by subject, similar to ABSNet. To encourage as wide a dissemination of the information as possible cross posting is encouraged!

Questions regarding *Animal Behaviour* manuscripts and editorial matters, missing or defective issues and change of address should be directed to: Animal Behavior Editorial Office, Indiana University, 2611 E. 10th St., Office #170, Bloomington IN 47408-2603, USA. Email: aboffice@indiana.edu. Phone: (812) 856 5541.

The Secretary reminds you that a time lag exists between my receipt of advertisements and the publication of the Newsletter. Positions listed here may already be filled. Please contact those offering opportunities before applying.

**1st Latin American Primate Conservation Biology
Field Course**

June 9-27, 2003, Formosa, Argentina

Organizers: Zoological Society of San Diego (California, USA) and Fundación ECO (Formosa, Argentina)

Goal: To provide students hands-on experience in field primatology, including human and non-human primates.

Contents: Students will receive training in demographic, behavioral and ecological data collection, capturing, sampling and radio-collaring of individuals, radio-tracking, data summary and analysis, grant proposal writing and accounting using the opportunities offered by the owl monkey and howler monkey research being conducted in the Gran Chaco region of Argentina. They will also learn and practice molecular methods for studying wild primate populations. Conservation strategies and tactics adequate for addressing the most prominent threats to primates in the Gran Chaco and elsewhere in Latin America will be discussed. Finally, the students will examine various aspects of the ecology, behavior, demography and reproductive biology of humans taking advantage of fieldwork currently being conducted in peri-urban and hunter-gatherer communities. The course will be taught in Spanish.

Lodging: In tents while in the field (2 weeks); at Fundación ECO or in a hotel while in the city (1 week).

Application deadline: Received by April 15th.

Eligibility: Students working or planning to work with human or non-human primates in the near future and who are close to obtaining their first degree or have already graduated. A maximum of 12 students will be accepted into the course to guarantee an intensive interaction with instructors and a hands-on approach to training. Fifty-percent of the students will be from Argentina, whereas the rest will be students working or planning to work in Latin America.

Application materials: 1- letter of interest explaining how their future work with primates would profit from their participation in the course, 2- curriculum vitae, 3- three letters of recommendation. All materials should be sent as Word files via e-mail to efduque@arnet.com.ar or valeggia@arnet.com.ar

Course Fees: US\$700. They cover lodging, food, local

transportation, learning materials, bibliography and field equipment. Those interested in being considered for a partial scholarships should mention it in the letter.

Instructors:

Dr. Anthony Di Fiore, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, New York University, USA.

<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/difiore/>

Dr. Eduardo Fernandez-Duque, Researcher, Conicet, Argentina, and Postdoctoral Fellow, Zoological Society of San Diego, California, USA.

http://www.sandiegozoo.org/conservation/millennium_owlmonkey.html

Dr. Pascal Gagneux, Postdoctoral Fellow, Zoological Society of San Diego and University of California San Diego.

Dr. Claudia Valeggia, Adjunct Researcher (Conicet, Argentina) and Research Associate, Harvard University.

<http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~valeggia/>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABS CONSERVATION WEB PAGE The ABS Conservation Committee web page (click on the conservation icon on the main ABS Web Page: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/>) is a resource for those interested in applying their animal behavior expertise to conservation problems. The web page has case studies, select literature references, a preliminary list of funding sources and pertinent internet links. To make suggestions or submissions (we especially need photos and more funding sources), please contact the committee chair, Guillermo Paz-y-Miño C. (pazymino@unlserve.unl.edu)

RAVEN 1.0 SOUND ANALYSIS SOFTWARE NOW AVAILABLE:

The first public version of Raven for Windows, an interactive sound recording and analysis program developed by the Bioacoustics Research Program at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, is available online at <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Raven>. Raven includes flexible signal displays that can show multiple simultaneous waveform, spectrogram, and spectral slice views both for saved signals and in real time during signal acquisition. Spectrograms can be displayed using any one of eight predefined color maps. Each signal window displays measurements of selected portions of a signal in a table that can easily be exported to spreadsheet or statistical programs. Signals can contain any number of channels. Configuration presets allow you to switch easily among frequently used configurations for window layouts, spectrogram parameters, and other aspects of signal display and program behavior. A free demonstration version of the program, including the

comprehensive Raven User's Manual and a set of example sound files, is available at this web site, and the fully functional version can also be purchased there. Work is in progress on a version of Raven for Mac OS X. This version will offer the same functionality as Raven for Windows, and will be released this coming summer.

NSF BUDGET SCRUTINIZED BY HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATORS

On the heels of a successful Congressional Visits Day (see next story), it appears that momentum may be building on the Capitol Hill for increased NSF funding. However, supporters are urged to keep up the pressure. During an April 3rd Senate appropriations subcommittee hearing on the NSF budget request for FY 2004, Bush administration science adviser, Dr. John H. Marburger III, and NSF Director Dr. Rita Colwell were questioned by Senators frustrated by the administration's meager budget request for NSF. Subcommittee Chairman Senator Christopher Bond (R-MO) and Ranking Member Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) expressed concerns with the administration's request for a 3.2 percent or \$171 million dollar increase over the current appropriation. The administration countered that the FY 04 budget request was based on the FY03 budget request and not the amount actually appropriated for FY 03 by Congress. Senator Bond committed to finding more funds for NSF. When asked what she would do with increased funding, Dr. Colwell noted the agency's desire to increase the size and duration of its average grant. NSF is seeking to increase the average size of its grants from \$127,000 to \$250,000.

Further frustrating subcommittee members, however, is NSF's apparent failure to adequately address key management issues raised in recent NSF Office of Inspector General reports to Congress. The IG's office has raised issues with NSF's oversight and management of large infrastructure projects and awarded grants. Additionally, NSF has failed to convince auditors that it is successfully addressing an impending workforce crisis resulting from the fact that nearly 40% of the foundation's full-time employees are eligible for retirement.

On April 10th, Dr. Colwell testified before the House appropriations subcommittee for VA, HUD and Independent Agencies. Dr. Colwell stressed the importance of continued investment in science and engineering research and education noting, "Today, our nation faces significant challenges - in security, health, the economy, and the workforce. The surest way to keep our nation prosperous and secure is to keep it at the forefront of learning and discovery. The NSF budget proposal for FY 2004 aims to do just that." Dr. Colwell

further noted that NSF invests in three strategic areas: people, ideas, and tools.

Among the priorities identified by Dr. Colwell is NSF's effort to increase graduate fellowship stipends from "a low of \$15,000 in 1999." NSF has increased stipends by 19% between 2001 and 2002 and is now requesting an increase to \$30,000. NSF also seeks to increase the number of graduate fellowships awarded.

Biocomplexity was also a focus of Dr. Colwell's testimony. NSF has requested \$100 million for research in Biocomplexity in the Environment. According to Dr. Colwell, "This investment will continue support for microbial genome sequencing and the ecology of infectious diseases, two areas that are of vital importance to the nation's anti-terrorism efforts."

Members of Congress have returned home until April 25th for a district work period, a time members of Congress use to meet with their constituents. This is an excellent opportunity for biologists and science educators to meet with their Senators and Representatives. You may wish to schedule a meeting with your Representative at one of their district offices or attend a town hall meeting to share with them why federal investment in science is important to you, their district and your state.

AIBS PARTICIPATES IN THE 8TH ANNUAL SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY CONGRESSIONAL VISITS DAY

On April 3rd, nine biologists representing AIBS and its member societies met with members of Congress and their staff to discuss the importance of a strong investment in science and technology. Participants included board members from the Organization of Biological Field Stations, the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, and the Estuarine Research Federation. AIBS was one of many societies to participate in the event, which brought together 200 scientists from the broad spectrum of scientific disciplines. The AIBS contingent met with 15 congressional offices over the two days. In addition to the core message of the CVD, AIBS scientists and staff emphasized the importance of providing increases for all disciplines funded by the National Science Foundation. The group emphasized that not all biology is funded through the NIH and that NSF funds nearly 65% of the non-medical biological sciences. The message was well received, with a senior committee staff member noting that many congressional staff simply need more education about the types of biology represented by AIBS. A full report and images from the event will be published in the AIBS News section of the June issue of BioScience.