



# NEWSLETTER

## Animal Behavior Society

Vol. 50, No. 2  
May 2005

Molly R. Morris, Secretary

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publication

Natalie Dubois, Editorial Assistant  
Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, Athens OH 45701 USA

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### 2005 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS

ABS is pleased to announce the awardees of the 2005 Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grants. We received a total of 130 applications this year and we had funds sufficient to support 20 proposals; 16 were funded up to a maximum of \$1000 and a further four up to a maximum of \$500. A committee of 13 ABS members reviewed proposals and our funding decisions were based on the scores and evaluations provided by these reviewers.

Thanks to the reviewers: Dan Blumstein, Gordon Burghardt, Carlos Cordero, Chris Evans, Scott Forbes, Lynette Hart, Jerry Hogan, Warren Holmes, Regina Macedo, Molly Morris, Hubert Schwabl, Brad Shaffer, and Judy Stamps. Thanks also to Shan Duncan and Steve Ramey of the ABS Central Office for their facilitation of the proposal submission and review process, and to all of the ABS members who have donated funds to this program.

Dr. Hugh Drummond  
Senior Member-at-Large  
Chair, 2004-2005 Student Research Grant Committee

The successful applicants, their academic affiliations, and the titles of their research proposals are provided below. Congratulations!

**Bronwyn Heather Bleakley**, Indiana University. Indirect genetic effects on social behavior of guppies, *Poecilia reticulata*.

**Lauren M. Costa**, Princeton University. The plumage polymorphism in female hooded warblers (*Wilsonia citrina*) may be an aggressive signal mediated by circulating hormone levels.

**Heidi S. Fisher**, Boston University Marine Program. Communication breakdown and hybridization in *Xiphophorus* fishes.

**Susan Gershman**, University of California, Riverside. *Gryllus vocalis* field cricket paternity under natural conditions.

**Meeghan Gray**, University of Nevada, Reno. Does contraceptive treatment impact feral horse (*Equus caballus*) behavior?

**Beth A. Hahn**, University of Michigan. Habitat selection by a migratory songbird, the American redstart *Setophaga ruticilla*: The role of social facilitation and population density.

**Wendee Holtcamp**, Rice University. Uncovering the causes and consequences of animal hybridization.

**Stefan M. Klose**, University of Ulm. Stress sensitivity and the immune response in the common fruit-eating bat, *Artibeus jamaicensis*, in Panama: A link between indirect costs of reproduction?

**Damon M. Orsetti**, University of Kentucky. Multiple mating by females and alternative pathways to genetic benefits.

**Noah Perlut**, University of Vermont. Experimental manipulations of synchrony: the relationship between social and genetic mating systems.

**Dorothee Raulin**, University of Pau. Parent-offspring resemblance in dispersal behavior: which processes are involved? An experimental approach in the collared flycatcher *Ficedula albicollis*.

**Ann Marie Ray**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Conserved biosynthetic pathways of contact pheromones as indicators of relatedness in longhorned beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae).

**James W. Rivers**, University of California, Santa Barbara. Assessing the extent and function of flexible begging strategies in a generalist brood parasite.

**Jennifer M. Siani**, University of Maryland. Parent-offspring conflict in wild golden lion tamarins (*Leontopithecus rosalia*).

**Emile C. Snell-Rood**, University of Arizona. Developmental costs of behavioral plasticity in *Pieris rapae* (Lepidoptera: Pieridae).

**Paula A. Trillo**, University of Montana. The evolution of primary and secondary sexual characters in the Chrysomelid Beetle *Acromis sparsa*.

**Sarah Turner**, University of Calgary. Are disabled monkeys stressed? Social and physical correlates of basal cortisol levels in Japanese macaques.

**Valeria Vergara**, University of British Columbia. Context specific vocalizations of belugas (*Delphinapterus leucas*) in the Nelson River Estuary.

**Jill Villarreal**, Indiana University. How does exposure to low O<sub>2</sub> and high CO<sub>2</sub> of the burrow of the burrow affect postnatal rodent development?

**Megan Wyman**, University of California, Davis. Acoustic signal production and assessment in North American plains bison (*Bison bison*) within the context of mate competition.

#### **2005 E. O. WILSON CONSERVATION AWARD**

Heidi Fisher, Boston University, has been selected to receive the E. O. Wilson Conservation Award. Fisher's proposal "Communication breakdown and hybridization in *Xiphophorus* fishes" will be funded by the ABS Student Research Grant Program and she will receive the 2005 E. O. Wilson Conservation Award. Fisher's research focuses on a natural hybrid zone of two swordtail fishes, *Xiphophorus birchmanni* and *X. malinche*. She investigates factors that disrupt the sensory environment causing hybridization; her proposal addresses the evolutionary consequences of environmentally-mediated communication breakdowns.

The Edward O. Wilson ABS Student Research Grant for Conservation seeks to encourage graduate students of animal behavior to participate in meaningful conservation-related research. The award is part of the ABS Student Research Grant Program and it supports a proposal considered meritorious for its science and conservation component. E. O. Wilson, professor at Harvard University, who in 2002 received the ABS Distinguished Animal Behaviorist Award, is one of the world's most eminent scientists and pioneers in biodiversity conservation.

#### **LATIN AMERICAN TRAVEL AWARDS**

Recipients of the ABS Latin American Travel Awards will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

#### **RESEARCH GRANT AWARD CONTRIBUTORS**

The Animal Behavior Society and the Development Committee in particular would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Society listed below who contributed to our 2003-2004 requests for contributions to our Research Grant Awards fund and made it possible for 57 awards to be made from a total of 219 applications. The ABS Research Grants provide needed financial assistance to our graduate student members. These modest awards can be used to fund a small project, to provide seed money while seeking long-range financing, or as supplemental funding for a large project. On occasion they have been the key that unlocks the research career of a talented animal behaviorist.

Some of the contributions to the fund were modest, some were extremely generous. All contributions, both large and small, are sincerely appreciated. The award recipients, the Society, and the Development Committee express our gratitude to the following members for their contributions to the 2003-2004 Awards fund:

Elizabeth Adkins-Regan  
Susan C. Alberts  
John Alcock  
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ABS Newsletter and general correspondence concerning the Society: Molly R. Morris, Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701, USA. [morrism@ohio.edu](mailto:morrism@ohio.edu) Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding each Newsletter. The next deadline is **July 15, 2005**. Articles submitted by members of the Society and judged by the Secretary to be appropriate are occasionally published in the ABS newsletter. The publication of such material does not imply ABS endorsement of the opinions expressed by contributors.

**Animal Behavior Society Web Site:**

<http://www.animalbehavior.org/>

*Animal Behaviour*, manuscripts and editorial matters: Animal Behavior Editorial Office, Indiana University, 2611 East 10th St., Office 170, Bloomington, IN 47408-2603, USA. Email: [aboffice@indiana.edu](mailto:aboffice@indiana.edu), Phone (812) 856-5541, Fax (812) 856-5542.

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*ABSnet*

**THE ELECTRONIC MAIL NETWORK OF THE ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY**

ABSnet provides a fast electronic forum for animal behaviorists, and others interested in the study of animal behavior, in a digest or newsletter form. ABSnet provides job announcements, requests-for-information, computer-related news (eg. virus and bug alerts), appropriate software and hardware reviews, and news of Society activities and business. ABSnet is not an interactive, listserv-type discussion group but rather a moderated forum for the exchange of information of interest to animal behaviorists. The digest or newsletter does not replace the official Society hardcopy newsletter sent to all Society members via regular mail. Questions? Let me know! James C. Ha, University of Washington [jcha@u.washington.edu](mailto:jcha@u.washington.edu). To SUBSCRIBE to ABSnet go to:

<http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Announcements/> click on the Subscribe/Unsubscribe link under ABSNet and fill out the web based form. Links to Post an article or view the archives are also available.

**MEETINGS**

**ANNUAL MEETINGS  
ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY**

**2005:** 6-10 August at Snowbird Ski Resort, UT  
**2006:** 10-17 August at Snowbird Ski Resort, UT  
*Please see ABS website for details*

**OPPORTUNITIES**

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.

**TRAVEL GRANT TO THE XXIX  
INTERNATIONAL  
ETHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, BUDAPEST,  
HUNGARY  
20-27 AUGUST 2005**

The U.S. Ethological Conference Committee announces funds from NSF to support travel for 5-7 younger scientists at the amount of \$750.00 to \$1000.00 to attend the XXIX Ethological Conference in Budapest, Hungary, 20-27 August 2005. Younger scientists are defined as those who received their Ph.D. degree between 2001 and 2005 or will complete their Ph.D. during 2005. Non-US citizens are eligible for the travel grant only if they are currently at a US institution. To apply for the travel award please submit the following items to IEC Travel Grants at <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Grants/> no later than 20 May 2005: (a) 1-2 page curriculum vitae; (b) abstract you submit for consideration to the IEC program (all recipients must present their research at the conference in either an oral or poster presentation); (c) names of two persons to write letters of recommendation (letter are to be sent directly to jrandall@sfsu.edu) and (d) budget with estimated air fare from the applicants home to Budapest, Hungary. For applicants who have not completed their Ph.D. their major professor must submit a letter verifying that the degree will be completed during 2005. We intend to notify all applicants of the outcome of the awards by 15 June 2005. Questions about this competition may be addressed to Dr. Jan Randall at jrandall@sfsu.edu.

Dr. Jan Randall  
Department of Biology  
San Francisco State University

**SEASONAL FIELD BIOLOGIST** (1) needed for a study of Dark-eyed Juncos near MISSOULA, Montana. Research focuses on the evolution of habitat selection and parental investment in the *montanus* subspecies across a dramatic gradient of food availability and predation risk created by the Black Mountain forest fire. The individual filling this position will be involved in multiple aspects of the project including nest finding, quantifying bird behavior, insect sampling and measuring vegetation. Applicants with prior experience in finding and monitoring passerine nests will be given preference. Good organizational skills are essential for this position. Applicants must be in good physical shape, be able to work alone and independently, have good hearing and vision and have an interest in avian behavioral and evolutionary ecology. Furthermore, the applicant will be required to read selected scientific

papers giving background on the research goals. Potential for independent research project. This is an excellent opportunity to broaden your skills, get experience working as a part of a research team, and appreciate how ecological and evolutionary research works. Position available from roughly EARLY MAY THROUGH LATE JULY 2005, lasting 10+ weeks. A stipend of at least \$200 per week will be provided. To apply, send letter of application, resume, and names (including phone numbers and e-mail addresses) of two (2) references to: bruce.robertson@mso.umt.edu. Applicants without internet access can mail materials to BRUCE ROBERTSON, Avian Science Center, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812. E-mail applications are preferred.

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**NOTICE!** For additional funding source information see <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Grants/>

**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/>) 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.



## The Website for this year's annual meeting at Snowbird Utah is up and running

<http://www.animalbehavior.org/Conference/Snowbird05/>

Please go to this site to request your registration ID, download the registration form and/or submit an abstract.

## DEADLINES: Abstract Submission and Early Registration: June 1 2005

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### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Symposia

*Please see website for abstract and list of contributors*

### Symposium in honor of Donald Griffin

Organized by: Marc Bekoff with Colin Allen, Gordon Burghardt, and Jim Gould.

Date: Tuesday, 9 Aug 2005

### How genes influence complex behaviors

Organized by: Greg Hunt

Date: Wednesday, 10 Aug 2005

## Plenary Speakers

Keynote Address

**Craig Packer**, Univ. Minnesota, Sunday, 7 Aug 2005, 8:30 am

Fellows Lectures

**John Wingfield**, Univ. Washington, Monday, 8 Aug 2005, 8:30 am

**Joan Strassmann**, Rice Univ., Wednesday, 10 Aug 2005, 8:30 am

**Workshops:** Jim Ha has arranged a workshop with the trainers of avalanche rescue dogs. Dean Cardinal, leader of the [Snowbird Resort's championship avalanche dog training team](#), will give an evening talk about avalanche safety and the role of rescue dogs. Then, on the following day, for a small charge to support the training program, Dean has offered to run a two hour, small-group avalanche-dog-training workshop on the mountain. The registration for this limited-space opportunity will be at the on-site registration desk, starting on Saturday afternoon.

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## NEW MEMBER

Full Name:

Organization:

New Memberships take effect with the next available issue of the journal (if applicable) or the next calendar month.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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ABS does NOT share fax, phone or e-mail address lists with other organizations.

**Correspondence** (for general correspondence and Newsletter)

**Journal** (if your membership includes subscription, Journal is delivered here)

**Directory** (listed in our Membership Directory; write DO NOT LIST if you wish not to be listed)

**Research Interests:**

## DUES / SUBSCRIPTIONS (all amounts in US dollars)

| Membership Category  | EITHER<br>Dues<br>online Journal  | OR<br>Dues<br>paper Journal   | Endorsement<br>Students: Dept Head, ABS Member or ID<br>Sci Writer: Name of Periodical or Publisher | Amt<br>Paid |         |          |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|-------------|---------|----------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular / Fellow  | \$30.00   | \$57.00   | N/A   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emeritus  | \$20.00   | \$42.00   | N/A   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student   | \$18.00   | \$40.00   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developing Nation   | \$15.00   | \$24.00   | N/A   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dev Nation Student  | \$10.00   | \$19.00   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science Writer  | <b>Contact office</b>   | \$27.00   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Countries NOT Considered Developing Nations:</b> U.S.A., Canada, Israel, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, United Kingdom, Ireland, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, and Portugal. |   |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
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| <b>Contributions</b>   |   |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Research Award</b>  | Provides research grants of up to \$1,000 US to Graduate Students researching animal behavior.        |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Diversity Grant</b>   | Provides Registration Assistance to encourage culturally diverse participation at annual ABS meeting. |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>David Tuber Award</b>   | To promote excellence in research into Applied Animal Behavior.                                       |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Genesis Award</b>   | Provides an award for best Undergraduate Poster presented at annual ABS meeting.                      |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Cetacean Behavior Award</b>   | Provides awards of up to \$1,000 US to Students researching Cetacean Behavior and/or Conservation.    |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Omega Award</b>   | Rewards Professional Presentation by Member assigned terminal slot at annual ABS meeting.             |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Conservation Award</b>  | Provides research grants to Graduate Students researching animal behavior with a Conservation focus.  |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Travel Award</b>  | Provides Travel/Housing Assistance to Latin American Members attending annual ABS meeting.            |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
| <b>Unrestricted Fund</b>   | General Donations to enable the society to respond effectively to emergencies and opportunities.      |   |   |             |         |          |   |  |
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