

Biological Sciences -- Noteworthy Faculty Activities for December, 2007

• PUBLICATIONS

Published

Bried, J.T. and **G.N. Ervin**. 2007. Intraspecific models and spatiotemporal context of size–mass relationships in adult dragonflies. *Journal of the North American Benthological Society* 26:680-692. (Bried was awarded a M.S. degree from the Department of Biological Sciences in 2005.)

Accepted

Brooks, C.P., J. Antonovics, and T.H. Keitt. 2008. Spatial & temporal heterogeneity explain disease dynamics in a spatially-explicit network model. *American Naturalist*.

• GRANTSMANSHIP

Funded

Lawrence, M., J. Ainsworth, F. Austin, and **J. Donaldson**. The genetic basis for variation of pathogenicity in *Listeria monocytogenes*. MAFES-USDA ARS, \$98,600 (2 years).

Gordon, D. (PI) Stress based regulation of yeast DNA repair enzyme. MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$10,000 (1 year).

Donaldson, J. (PI) To grow or not to grow: the role of DNA repair in the adaptation of *Listeria monocytogenes* to stressful environments. MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$7,936 (1 year).

Gary Ervin and **Christopher Brooks** received quick grants (\$2000 each) from the Office of Research and Economic Development for travel to Argentina in the spring to study the ecology of cactus moth (*Cactoblastis cactorum*) infestation in its native range.

Submitted

Shaw, D.R., J.D. Byrd, **G.N. Ervin**, J.D. Madsen, and S.C. Grado submitted a Letter of Intent to the USDA CSREES National Research Initiative, Competitive Grants Program for a project entitled “Evaluating an integrated prevention program for reducing the spread of cogongrass (*Imperata cylindrica*) in the Southeastern United States”. The group was invited to submit a full proposal in the 2008 grants competition.

• PRESENTATIONS

Invited

Christopher Brooks was invited to give a presentation on the spread of the invasive cactus moth (*Cactoblastis cactorum*) at the Interagency Cactus Moth Detection and Monitoring Network Meeting, Mississippi State University, Dec. 4.

Contributed

Ervin, G.N. Prickly pear cactus modelling efforts. Interagency Cactus Moth Detection and Monitoring Network Meeting, Mississippi State University, Dec. 4.

• **ADDITIONAL**

Adjunct Faculty Appointment

Janet Donaldson was appointed as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Basic Sciences at the College of Veterinary Medicine, MSU.

Ad Hoc Reviewer for Grant Proposals

Dwayne Wise reviewed grant proposals for the NSF CAREER program and Career Development Award for Human Frontier Science program (Strasbourg, France).