

Biological Sciences -- Noteworthy Faculty Activities for February, 2008

• PUBLICATION

Accepted

Johnson, K. and **D. A. Wise**. 2008. Distribution of kinetochore fragments during mitosis with unreplicated genomes. *Cell Motility and the Cytoskeleton* (accepted with revision).

• PRESENTATIONS

Invited

Mark Welch was invited to present a seminar “Ecology's role in the generation, and maintenance of biodiversity” at the Biology Department at the University of Louisiana-Monroe and at the Department of Mathematics and Science at the Mississippi University for Women.

Contributed

Juliana, I., M. Green and **L. Brown**. The hyperthermophilic microbiological populations of subterranean hydrocarbon deposits. Poster presented at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences, Olive Branch, MS, Feb. 20-21, 2008.

• GRANTSMANSHIP

Funded

Welch, M. U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Discipline, Invasive Species Program. He will collaborate with J. Madsen (GeoResources Institute) to use molecular markers to identify invasive populations of the common reed, *Phragmites australis*, \$2000 (one year).

Smith, J. (Co-PI). Lantibiotic synthesis using differentially protected orthogonal lanthionines, NSF SBIR Phase II, sub award \$79,287 (2 years).

Submitted

Thibaudeau, G. (Co-PI). Acquisition of an atomic force microscopy system for advanced materials research and education, NSF-Major Research Instrumentation, \$482,704 (3 years).

Brown, L. R. (Co-PI). Lignocellulosic bioconversion thrust, DOE/MSU Sustainable Energy Research Center, \$145,740 (2 years).

Smith, J. (PI). Functional characterization of the site-specific residues in *Mutacin* 1140, resubmitted to the NIH, \$210,506 (2 years).

- **ADDITIONAL**

Participation in International Field Trip

Gary Ervin and **Christopher Brooks** worked with Argentinean researchers from the USDA ARS South American Biological Control Laboratory on mapping prickly pear cacti and cactus moths in northern Argentina from Feb 21 to March 1. This was funded, in part, by ORED Quick Grants awarded to Ervin and Brooks.

Reviewer for Genetics Book

Dwayne Wise critiqued chapters in the new edition (3rd Ed.) of *Genetics: Analysis and Principles*, a textbook authored by Robert Brooker (McGraw-Hill).