

Biological Sciences -- Noteworthy Faculty Activities for October, 2007

• PUBLICATIONS

Published

Altig, R., and R.W. McDiarmid. 2007. Diversity, morphology, and evolution of egg and clutch structure in amphibians. *Herpetological Monographs* 21:1-33. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

Brown, L. 2007. The relationship of microbiology to the petroleum industry. This was an invited feature article for the bimonthly *SIM NEWS* (The official news magazine for the Society for Industrial Microbiology). The article appeared in the September/October 2007 issue. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

Accepted

Brooks, C.P., J. Antonovics, and T.H. Keitt. 2007. Metapopulation dynamics and persistence are explained by temporal heterogeneity in spatial network structure. *American Naturalist*.

Akers, E.C., C.M. Taylor, and **R. Altig**. 2007. Effects of clay-associated materials on the growth of the tadpoles of *Hyla chrysoscelis*. *Journal of Herpetology*. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

• PRESENTATIONS

Invited

Lewis Brown presented “The impact of a terrorist attack on shipping and potential remedial measures”, an invited talk at the Asian Energy Security Conference held in Jackson, MS, October 1-2. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

Lewis Brown presented “Microbial permeability profile modification”, an invited talk to Denbury Resources, Inc. in Dallas, TX, October 8. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

Gary Ervin presented “Habitat models as tools for invasive plant monitoring and management”, an invited talk for the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern Mississippi, October 12.

Mark Welch presented “Adapting FST for the modern tools of empirical population genetics”, an invited talk for the MSU Center for Computational Sciences, October 22.

• GRANTSMANSHIP

Funded

Lewis Brown received an eight-month research contract for \$19,977 from Maxoil Services Ltd. (situated in the United Kingdom) to “Determine if microorganisms are present in oil wells in Kuwait”. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

David Chevalier received a \$1,000 Travel Award from the MSU Office of Research and Economic Development to attend the FASEB (Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology) meeting on Mechanisms of Plant Development next August in Vermont.

Donna Gordon received a \$1,000 Travel Award from the MSU Office of Research and Economic Development to attend a Gordon Conference on Mitochondria and Chloroplasts next August in Maine.

Janet Donaldson received a \$1,000 Travel Award from the MSU Office of Research and Economic Development for travel to the Washington DC area to meet with program officers at the NIH, NSF, and USDA.

Submitted

Gordon, D. (PI) Mitochondrial rhomboid function in yeast. Submitted to the NIH R15, \$202,323 (3 years).

Lawrence, M., J. Ainsworth, F. Austin, **J. Donaldson.** (Co-PIs) The genetic basis for variation of pathogenicity in *Listeria monocytogenes*. Submitted to the MAFES Food Safety Initiative, \$98,600 (2 years). Janet's Co-PIs are in the CVM.

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

Welch, M. (PI) Estimating rates of multiple paternity in the Turks and Caicos Rock Iguana: a potential model system for studying the long-term evolutionary effects of population reduction and fragmentation. Submitted to the MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$10,000 (1 year).

Brooks, C. (PI) Sylvatic leprosy as a model system for disease emergence. Submitted to the MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$9,927 (1 year).

Chevalier, D. (PI) Role of the receptor-like kinase At5G61480 in the regulation of sugar metabolism in plants. Submitted to the MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$8,954 (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. Submitted to the MSU Research Initiation Program sponsored by the Office of Research and Economic Development, \$7,936 (1 year).

• **ADDITIONAL**

Dean's Eminent Scholar

Gary Ervin was named the College of Arts & Sciences Beverly B. and Gordon W. Gulmon Dean's Eminent Scholar. This is a three-year award/title. Gary was one of just three named a scholar in the college.

Judge for Siemens Competition

Dwayne Wise was invited to judge the first round of the Siemens Competition in Math Science and Technology which is a national high school science competition. This competition is administered by the College Board.

Symposium Proposal Accepted

A symposium proposal for the 2008 Conference of the International Society of Wetland Scientists, submitted by **Gary Ervin** and Jason Bried (M.S., 2005), was accepted. The session "Advancing floristic quality assessment in wetland plant assemblages" will be part of this May, 2008 meeting to be held in Washington, DC.

Board of Directors Meetings

As a member of the Board of Directors, **Lewis Brown** attended the Association of Retired Faculty Board of Directors meeting held October 9. (*Emeritus faculty member.*)

As Secretary of the Society for In Vitro Biology, **Nancy Reichert** participated in their fall Board of Directors meeting held October 26-28 in Tucson, AZ.