



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Meeting of Western Society of Naturalists

CSUN Marine Biologists put on quite a show at the annual meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists in Vancouver, WA.

- **Dr. Mia Adreani:** “Estimating fecundity, spawning frequency, and season length of temperate reef fish: a comparison of natural and artificial reefs.”
- **Dr. Larry Allen:** “Bomb radiocarbon dating and estimated longevity of giant sea bass.”
- **Anya Brown:** “Flow-regulated algal turf control of oxygen dynamics within interactions of massive *Porites* and algal turf.”
- **Darren Brown:** “Effects of elevated pCO₂ and temperature on the growth of three calcifying cnidarians.”
- **Dr. Steve Dudgeon:** “Trade-offs of reproductive mode revisited: asexual *Mastocarpus papillatus* have some benefits of sex without the cost?”
- **Aaron Dufault:** “The importance of light in mediating the effects of ocean acidification on coral recruits.”
- **Dr. Peter Edmunds:** “Metabolic costs of larval settlement and metamorphosis in the coral *Seriatopora hystrix* under ambient and elevated pCO₂.”
- **Jennifer Gowan:** “Do fine-scale spatial differences in sedimentation affect coral–algal interaction outcomes: does it matter where you get dirty?”
- **Barbara Sanchez:** “The effects of pollution on growth and fecundity of barred sand bass in Southern California.”

- **Jessie Tootell:** “Effects of algal abundance on herbivorous fishes of Moorea.”
- **Lauren Valentino:** “Dual role of a keystone species in cultivating and controlling an invasive alga in a marine protected area.”
- **Chris Wall:** “pCO₂ does not affect thermal bleaching in juvenile colonies of the coral *Seriatopora caliendrum*.”

New Publication

Limnology and Oceanography has published, “Zooplanktivory ameliorates the effects of ocean acidification on the reef coral *Porites* spp.” by **Dr. Peter Edmunds**.

Open Classes: A Rare Animal Indeed

There’s not much left for Juniors and Seniors, just a few seats in the following spring courses. Come ‘n’ get ‘em!

- BIOL 330/L Design and Analysis of Experiments—required of Environmental Biology and Marine Biology options but valuable to anyone who will analyze data.
- BIOL 481/L Plant Physiology—rarely taught, so this is likely your last chance to learn how plants work.
- BIOL 496MY/L The Fungi—a kingdom worth knowing; counts as a Systematics and a field course for B.A. students and electives in most other options. Prerequisite BIOL 315/L.
- BIOL 575/L Biological Imaging—Very hands on; students will learn how to use awesome microscopes.

EDITORIAL: Study Plants, Insects

—Paul Wilson

Not to be rude, but dudes and dudettes, brain surgery isn't for everyone!

Even if you are destined to uncover the secrets of life in humans and other endotherms, I suggest apprenticing with wildflowers or worms, cockroaches or crickets, *Arabidopsis* or algae. These are the organisms that are truly feasible to study here, now.

Break the irony: we hire professors who can be productive researchers at CSUN by involving students in their research, but it's up to you to get involved in this research. Talk to your professors about research opportunities in their labs.

It's much easier to do science with plants in pots or nematodes in dishes. You can have replication. You can test hypotheses statistically and experimentally. You can figure out how things work. And you're not in a race against Harvard University Medical School ... actually, though, Harvard University Medical School also does plenty of its studies using these model organisms.

And for Environmental Biology and Marine Biology majors, you of all people, stop obsessing about lions and dolphins! Go for a walk. Look at the teaming life all around you. Study what you step on. Fall in love with mosses, even if it is only a fling.

Hematology Class Goes to Clinic

Shortly before 8:00 a.m. **Dr. Paul Lonquich's** Hematology class met in front of the Addie Klotz Student Health Center for an arranged tour.

We were warmly greeted by licensed phlebotomist Breanna McKell who ushered us to a waiting area where we met Monica Cuthbert, CLS, ASCP, Assistant Director of Ancillary Services. Cuthbert addressed the group explaining the various services available at the clinic and spoke directly

about the process of becoming a Clinical Laboratory Scientist. She fielded questions and concluded by explaining the complex certification process the clinic must complete multiple times each year.

We broke into small groups. At each stop the students were allowed to speak to the medical specialists, inquiring at to their duties and how they used the laboratory facilities. Other stops focused on pieces of equipment. A highlight of the tour was that class members were allowed to have their blood drawn and analyzed. While the class observed, the blood samples were placed into an analyzer and Cuthbert explained how the equipment worked. Later we reviewed the results for some of us who consented to going public. Lab technician Loudi Europa demonstrated the proper technique for blood smearing and staining. The staff had set up microscopes throughout the lab and placed representative slides and diagrams around the lab. This allowed students first-hand experience observing actual samples of blood conditions they had only seen in books before.

At the end of the tour Cuthbert presented each student a notebook with information she had compiled about hematology. The Hematology class wishes to express our sincere gratitude to those who worked so hard in making this day extremely beneficial.

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