



# BIOLOGY Department Newsletter

## Ithaca College



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### Greetings from the 2003-2004 Chair *Vicki Cameron*

My three year term as chair officially ended on May 31<sup>st</sup>, and Bruce Smith has assumed these duties for the next three years. As you can imagine, it is with *great sadness* that I give up the chair duties, dealing with unhappy parents and students, signing endless forms, scheduling classes, and in general dealing with all the stuff in the department no one else wants to do. Instead, I will now have to fill my time teaching, directing my research students, and thinking about science. So sad! Despite the negative aspects of acting as chair, a number of very important events occurred during my term as chair. These include implementation of the Environmental Science major, a slight reduction in the departmental teaching



loads to provide more time for supervision of student research, publication of the departmental newsletter each summer, and hiring of two additional tenure track faculty members, Marina Caillaud and Peter Melcher. The department was also very fortunate to receive a generous donation from Jack and Flo Bernard to establish the Bernard Family Undergraduate Research Fund. In the past year, funds from that account have been used to purchase supplies for several student research projects and to help pay for two students to attend the national Neuroscience meeting in New Orleans. Thanks so much, Jack and Flo! I encourage all of you who are able to do so to contribute to the Bernard Fund to help us continue our outstanding program of undergraduate research.

### 2004 Alumni Weekend

This year the department participated in the College's Alumni Weekend. On Friday night, a dinner for faculty and alums was held, and on Saturday, several faculty participated in a Department Open House. Posters highlighting the achievements of faculty and students were on display at that time.

Alumni Attendees included:

David Freeman ('78)
Cynthia Warnokowski Bliss ('92)
Joe Bliss ('90)
Christopher Capozzi ('92)
Anne Gallup Delp ('95)
John Felsen ('68)
Laura Gay ('00)
Michael Mazourek ('99)
Tom Metzger ('02)
Jen Morawiak ('00)
Alan Seltzer ('74)

We were very happy to see those who were able to return. We are pleased to learn the roads you have taken since graduating from Ithaca College. As a reminder, you can also log onto our alumni website ([www.ithaca.edu/biology/alumni.html](http://www.ithaca.edu/biology/alumni.html)) to keep us updated on your activities. We hope to see you next year!

# Teaching Involvements

## Teacher Education in the Sciences

At Ithaca College, teacher education in the sciences meets or exceeds state requirements for classroom experience in teacher preparation. By the time students start their student teaching experience, they have over 100 hours of experience in middle school and high school classrooms and laboratories through observations, tutoring, classroom teaching, and outreach. Students have experience with diverse learning populations in both rural and urban settings.



Student teaching provides an additional 14 weeks of experience in both the middle school and high school settings. Ithaca College science majors in the teaching option are also involved in outreach activities to local and partner schools. Activities included an afterschool course at South Hill Elementary School and a one-week DNA lab at Frederick Douglass Academy I in New York City.



York City.

## Partnership in Teaching

This spring the Biology Department offered a free seminar series for local middle and high school teachers. "Afternoons in Science at Ithaca College" was designed to update middle and high school teachers on recent advances in the sciences. Teachers were welcome to bring interested students, and professional development credits were available. This spring there were several seminars by department faculty, and next fall a full schedule of seminars is planned.



skeleton to holding and observing giant millipedes and hissing cockroaches, and touching salamanders. Some children were hesitant to touch the creatures at first, but overcame their fears and found the overall experience fascinating.

## Student Achievements

Ithaca College biology and biochemistry majors continue to engage in research that makes them competitive for awards that recognize their achievements.

## Awards

- ◆ **Seamus Levine-Wilkinson** received \$150 from the Beta Beta Beta Research Foundation. Funds were used for expenses pertaining to his research with **Marina Caillaud** on plant-insect interactions.
- ◆ **Liz Peterson** received a \$1,000 grant from the Humanities and Sciences Ithaca Fund. This enabled her to travel to Bioko Island, and helped pay for her involvement in a program to monitor the eating and exporting of primates, or as she puts it, to do "monkey research."
- ◆ **Michelle Walter** received a \$435 award from the Beta Beta Beta Research Foundation. Funds were



## Science Class

Once again, Jean Hardwick joined the Ithaca 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in their science class this spring. The kids were intrigued with the brains and skulls Jean brought in for them to examine.

## Elementary Students Visit our Labs

Jason Hamilton was excited to invite the 2nd grade students from Fall Creek Elementary School to his lab to learn about biologists as detectives. The students were engaged in several activities from guessing an animal's identity from its

used for expenses pertaining to her research with Susan Allen-Gil on the effects of habitat stress on fish reproduction.

- ◆ **Thomas Welter** was the recipient of funding from the Humanities and Sciences Ithaca Fund to travel to Brazil to conduct field studies on maintenance of water balance in trees growing in the Sabrado (dry forests) of Brazil this summer. He will be working in collaboration with both Brazilian and American students, post docs, and faculty, including IC Assistant Professor, Peter Melcher.

### **Presentations**

#### *Honors Symposium*

- ◆ **Seamus Levine-Wilkinson** (Marina Caillaud) "Confirmation of Differential Gene Expression in Two Divergent Host Races of the Pea Aphid"

#### *Eastern College Science Conference*

- ◆ **Andrew Cameron** (Andy Smith), "Testing the Effect of Molluscan Glue Proteins on Adhesive Performance"
- ◆ **Laura Pease** (Andy Smith), "How Molluscan Glue

Proteins Control Adhesive Gel Mechanics"

- ◆ **Robin Rakobitsch** (Marina Caillaud), "Large Scale Sequencing of Microsatellite Regions in Aphids"
- ◆ **Joseph Resti** (Jason Hamilton), "The Effects of



Simulated Herbivory on Soybean Leaf Function"

- ◆ **Steven Sluck** (Andy Smith), "Will Duck Tape Soon be Renamed Snail Tape? The Attempt to Synthesize a Glue using Molluscan Adhesive Proteins"

#### *James J. Whalen Academic Symposium*

- ◆ **Kyle Block**, Lauren Spitz, Marisa Wilson, Cory Lehnbeuter, Zachary Coletta, and **David Ross** (Susan Allen-Gil, John Hopple, Greg Pitts),

"Solar Photovoltaic Project with EcoVillage"

- ◆ **Paul Brown** (Frederik Kaufman, John Confer), "The Cayuga Waterfront Trail: A Better Way: Assessment of the City of Ithaca. Proposal by students in the Environmental Studies Capstone Course.

### **2003-2004 Junior Research Symposiums**

[www.ithaca.edu/biology/303\\_302talks.htm](http://www.ithaca.edu/biology/303_302talks.htm)

- Alison Bowers** (Ed Cluett)
- Victoria Couture** (Susan Allen-Gil)
- Andrew Cameron** (Andy Smith)
- Kelly Gallagher** (Susan Allen-Gil)
- Mary Kate Gaetani** (Marina Caillaud)
- Ravi Kagali** (Vicki Cameron)
- Brent Karow** (Bruce Smith)
- Amy Kotarski** (Jean Hardwick)
- Caitlin McDonald** (Marc Servetnick)
- David Metzger** (Vicki Cameron)
- Erin Middleton** (Peter Melcher)
- Allison Mikita** (Jason Hamilton)
- Tugcem Monargali** (Jason Hamilton)
- Trudy-Ann Morrison** (Andy Smith)
- Evan Novick** (Marina Caillaud)
- Andrew Cameron** (Andy Smith)
- Tugcem Monargali** (Jason Hamilton)
- Anthony Santoriello** (Susan Swensen)

- ◆ **Eleanor Lahr** (Peter Melcher), "Being Stretched at Both Ends: Moving Water from the Roots to the Leaves"
- ◆ **Joseph Resti** (Jason Hamilton), "The Effects of Simulated Herbivory on Soybean Leaf Function"
- ◆ **Mary-Elizabeth Silvia** and **Vincent Frary** (John Confer), "Experimental Management of Utility Rights-of-Way and Avian Diversity"



- ◆ **David Ross** (Beth Ellen Clark Joseph, John Harrod), "Energy

Conservation on the Ithaca College Campus”

**56th Annual Meeting of the New York Ornithological Association**  
(with John Confer)

- ◆ **Ethan Kinsey**, "A Comparison of Bird Atlases in Tanzania and New York"
- ◆ **Tim Hauck**, "The Avian Response to Experimental Manipulation of shrubland Habitat"
- ◆ **Karen Allaben-Confer** (Biology 1970) received formal acknowledgment for her ornithological art at the conference.

**Society of Neuroscience**  
(with Jean Hardwick)

- ◆ **Jessica Peacock**, and **Danielle Federico**. Poster presentation, "Neuropeptide innervation of the axolotl cardiac ganglion"
- ◆ **Dobson, Jeremy S., Corbett, Brenna M. and Powers, Melanie J.** "Ionic mechanisms of histamine and prostaglandin modulation of guinea pig intracardiac neurons". (Jeremy Dobson and Brenna Corbett both



Jan Lappin, Loren Johnson, Brandy Brown, Laura Press

graduated in 2003. Melanie Powers graduated in 2001.)

**Other Professional Meetings**

- ◆ **Amanda Popielski** (Marc Servetnick). Poster presentation, "Embryonic Expression of FGFR-3 in *Xenopus laevis*", Northeast Regional Meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology, Woods Hole, MA. April 2004.
- ◆ **Michelle Walter** (Susan Allen-Gil). Poster Presentation, "Effects of habitat loss and exposure to 17 $\alpha$ -ethinylestradiol on the reproductive success of the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*)". Beta Beta Beta Northeast Region 1 District Convention. April 2004.

**Student Recognition**

**Ithaca College Sigma Xi.** Three Ithaca College students have been nominated and approved for associate membership in the Ithaca College Sigma Xi chapter, including Biology major **Seamus Levine-Wilkinson.**

**ALUMNI CONTINUE TO SUCCEED**

The department continues to be proud of the accomplish-

ments of our alumni. The list below is information that we have received from alumni. The department maintains a website which identifies our alumni and the directions they have taken since graduating from Ithaca College. We would greatly appreciate your reviewing your information and submitting updates to it. [www.ithaca.edu/biology/alumni.html](http://www.ithaca.edu/biology/alumni.html)

It would also be appreciated if you notify the Ithaca College Quarterly of significant news. [www.ithaca.edu/icq/](http://www.ithaca.edu/icq/)

Congratulations to all of you who are pursuing/have pursued the dreams you discussed with us when you were students in the biology department!

**Mr. Mihai Aldea** (Planned Studies 2003) is enrolled in the Ph.D. Program in Ecology, Evolution, Systematics and Populations, University of Illinois.

**Dr. Lisa Amoroso** (Biology 1991) received her DVM from the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine. She is currently a Veterinarian and Captain in the US Army in Fort Myers, VA.

**Dr. Leonisa Ardizzone** (Biology 1990) is an Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Adelphi University, Garden City, NY.

**Mr. Jerry Ashrafi** (Biology 2003) is doing clinical research in genetic medicine at Johns Hopkins University.

**Dr. Anthony Atti** (Biology 1996) received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. He is currently the Managing Director and Co-Founder of an energy venture capital fund in South Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Mr. Bryan Barboza** (Biology 2003) is enrolled in Physician's Assistant program at Yale.

**Mr. Lorenzo Billante** (Biochemistry 1997) received a MBA from UC Davis in 2003, and he is currently a Senior Manager and the Investors Bank & Trust in Sacramento, CA.

**Ms. JoAnn Binko** (Biology 1996) is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at Johns Hopkins University.

**Drs. Joseph Bliss and Cindy Warnokowski Bliss** (Biology 1990 and Biochemistry 1992) became the parents of twins, Erich Gregory and Heather Joyce on 11/4/03. The twins were welcomed by Joe and Cindy and by their little brother Daniel Joseph, who is two years old.

**Mrs. Andrea Blondin Morgan** (Biology 1993) is a Training Specialist at Harvard Medical School.

**Mr. Chris Breuer** (Biology 2002) is working in a clinical lab at Exact Sciences in quality control for a diagnostic for mutations involved in colon cancer.

**Ms. Melissa Conarton** (Biology 2003) is working as

a technician at the Veterinary Specialty Center of CNY.

**Dr. Gloria Culver** (Biology 1988) has been promoted to Associate Professor (one year early!) at Iowa State University's Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics & Molecular Biology. Gloria and her husband are proud parent of their 1<sup>st</sup> child, born this May.

**Ms. Melanie Ehniger** (Biology 2003) is attending the University at Buffalo School of Medicine.

**Ms. Lynda Evans** (Biology 2003) is working in a research lab at the National Cancer Institute-Frederick and will be attending the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the fall of 2004 to pursue a Ph.D. in Physiology.

**Mr. John Felsen** (Biology 1968) is the Principal Public Health Sanitarian at the Monroe County Department of Health in Rochester, NY

**Dr. Kerry Fluhr** (Biochemistry 1992) completed her Ph.D at the University of Michigan and post-doctoral work at the University of Washington. She is now working as a patent agent for a law firm in Seattle working on biotechnology patent law.

**Mr. Zach Goldsmith** (Biology 2002) is enrolled in the MD/Ph.D. program at Temple University School of Medicine.

**Dr. Gregory Howick** (Biology 1975) is a Senior Aquatic Ecologist at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City, Missouri.

## Grants

2003-04 was another successful year for funding. The faculty in the department continued to submit and receive grants; grants are currently funded at more than \$1 million.

### 17 proposals submitted:

◆ 8 approved

◆ 4 pending

### Susan Allen-Gil

H&S Ithaca Fund  
Instructional Development Fund  
Title VI State Department Grant to Ithaca College

### Marina Caillaud

USDA-ARS

John Confer, Vincent Frary, and Elizabeth Silvia.  
NYSEG

**John Confer**, R. Porter, P. Hamill  
Biodiversity Research Institute

### John Confer

NYS Department of  
Environmental Conservation

**Susan Swensen** and M. Condon  
National Science Foundation

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Additionally, several faculty in the department have multi-year grants still funded. This includes **Susan Allen-Gil**, **Vicki Cameron**, **Jason Hamilton**, **Jean Hardwick**, **Marc Servetnick**, and **Susan Swensen**.

### Mrs. Katherine Kowalski

**Wojciechowski** (Biology 1998) is working on a MS in Pharmacology at the University of Rochester. She is pleased that an article has been published in the *J Cell Biol.* Jul 8 2002;158(1):175-84, and another is underway.

**Ms. Carissa Jock** (Biology 1994) received a MS from Bowling Green State University. She is now working as a Scientist at Pfizer Global Research & Development in Michigan.

**Dr. Jeffery Larkin** (Biology 1994) received his MS and Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky, where he is now working as a Wildlife Biologist in the Department of Forestry. During the last year he made the training team for the U.S. Olympic Bobsled team. He is now ranked #10 in the U.S. after only a year of experience.

**Ms. Jennifer Morawiak** (Biology 2000) is a Research Associate at the Broad Institute at MIT/Cambridge. Jennifer has an article published in *ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies* 1(4): 555-563. 2003. The [abstract](#) for "Characterization of the Kinase Domain of the Ephrin-B3 Receptor Tyrosine Kinase Using a Scintillation Proximity Assay" is available at [http://www.ithaca.edu/biology/kudos\\_morawiakpub04.pdf](http://www.ithaca.edu/biology/kudos_morawiakpub04.pdf).

**Dr. Mary Beth Mudgett** (Biochemistry 1989) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Stanford University. Mary Beth and her husband Marco became proud parents of Ella in January of 2004.

**Valerie Waters** (Biology 2000) is the Assistant Manager and Vet Technician at the

Brookline Animal Hospital in Massachusetts.

**Mrs. Joy Florentino Williams** (Biology 1996) got married in October 2003 and she is a Critical Care Nurse.

**Dr. Michelle West Fry** (Biochemistry 1989) is Assistant Professor in the Chemistry Department at Skidmore College.

**Ms. Laura Gay** (Biochemistry 2000) is a Technical Support Specialist at Harvard Apparatus, Inc. in Massachusetts.

**Dr. Allison Glassman** (Biology 1993) is a Small Animal Veterinarian at the Veterinary Emergency Group in Ossining, NY.

**Ms. Jessica Gould** (Biology(7-12)) is teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade Life Science in Fairfax, VA.

**Ms. Ellen Hayes** (Biology 1973) is working on a master's degree in Environmental Advocacy and Organizing at Antioch New England graduate school. She plans to work in the area of sustainable community development when she graduates.

**Dr. Melissa Hemlock Jadick** (Biochemistry 1993) is a Pediatrician at Onslow Pediatrics in Jacksonville, NC.

**Ms. Michele Huntington Corzett** (Biology 1976) is a Biomedical Scientist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California.

**Ms. Bekke Mapes** (Biology 2003) is enrolled at University

of Texas, San Antonio in the Department of Physiology.

**Andrea (Grizzle) Markus** (Biology 1993) earned her MA from New York University, where she is currently an Adjunct Professor.

**Dr. Kimberly McAdam** (Biology 1991) is a Private Practice Physician at the North Jersey Primary Care/Hackensack University Medical Center.

**Dr. Adam McBride** (Biology 1998) is a Chiropractor and Owner at the Cornish Family Chiropractic Center in Cornish, ME.

**Mr. S. Richard Monaco** (Biology 1964) is a CEO of a Home Health Company in East Hanover, NJ.

**Mr. Les Murraray** (Biology 1998) earned his MS from Iowa State University and is pursuing his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is happy to announce that he was married May 18, 2002.

**Dr. Erol Onal** (Biology 1995) is practicing general pediatrics at Bi County Pediatrics in Atlanta, Georgia.



**Dr. Shane Oram** (Biology 1996) earned his Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from

Northwestern University. He recently accepted a research faculty position at the VA Hospital at UCSF.

**Mr. Kalyan Pande** (Biology 1999) is pursuing a Ph.D. from the University of WI-Madison in Cancer Biology.

**Ms. Jan Pawlicki** (Biochemistry 2003) is a graduate student in the Molecular Medicine and Pharmacology Program at Yale University.

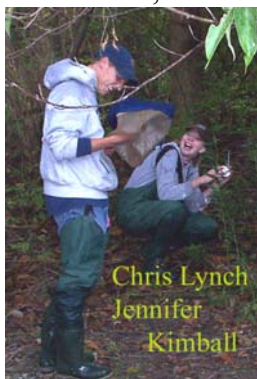
**Dr. Nicholas Pefkaros** (Biology 1995) is a medical doctor at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia, PA.

**Mr. Michael Pietrak** (Biology 1997) is a Project Manager for the Maine Aquaculture Association in Hallowell, ME.

**Mr. Robert Reid, Jr.** (Biology 1972) is a researcher at the SUNY Upstate Medical University.

**Ms. Sarah Repicky** (Biology minor 2003) is a graduate student at the University of Miami's Molecular & Cellular Pharmacology program.

**Mrs. Cynthia Roberts Chapin** (Biology 1980) is a Medical Technologist at Interlakes Oncology and Hematology in Geneva, NY.



**Ms. Tracy Robinson** (Biology 2003) is a medical student at the Duke University School of Medicine.

**Ms. Melissa**

**Roether** (Biology 2001) is a medical student at the University of Connecticut.

**Dr. Dierdre Schaefer** (Biology 1993) is a pediatrician at the

Geisinger Medical Group in Lewistown, PA.

**Dr. Marc Schneiderman** (Biology 1975) is a physician at the Heritage Valley Health System in Coraopolis, PA. Marc also hosts a quarterly medical journal type TV show called "The Doctor Is In" seen on local TV 14.

**Ms. Fawn Stehlin** (Biology 2002) is an Assistant in Communications and Conservation Education at the Rainforest Alliance in NY, NY.

**Mr. Elvis Shehu** (Biochemistry 2000) is enrolled in the MS program at Northeastern University while working as a Research Assistant at GPC-Biotech.

**Dr. Matthew Smith** (Biology 1995) is a physician in Internal Medicine at the Buffalo Medical Group.

**Ms. Amie Soucy** (Biology 1991) is pursuing an OD from the New England College of Optometry.

**Dr. Jonathan Sparks** (Biochemistry 1996) received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M and is working as a Patent Agent in Massachusetts while attending law school part-time.

**Mr. Nathan Sylvester** (Environmental Studies 2002) is teaching at the Duxbury Middle School in Massachusetts.

**Dr. Tom Torello** (Biochemistry 1997) received his Ph.D in 2003 from Harvard University and is presently serving as a Preceptor in Molecular and Cellular Biology at Harvard.

Tom returned to Ithaca College on March 4, 2004 and presented a seminar entitled "Molecular Detection of Pheromone Signals in Mammals".

**Mr. Brad Walajtys** (Biology 7-12, 2003) is an 8th grade life science teacher at Chester Junior/Senior High School.

### 2003 Summer Research Symposium

**Mary Edwards-Ransom** (off-campus faculty), "A Survey of *Asplenium montanum* at the Mohonk Preserve"

**Danielle Federico** (J. Hardwick), "Somatostatin & CGRP Innervation of the Axolotl Cardiac Ganglion"

**Lauren Monroe** (M. Cailluad), "Pea Aphid Parents are Selective, Hybrids Just Want to EAT!"

**Laura Pease** (A. Smith), "How Molluscan Glue Proteins Control Adhesive Gel Mechanics"

**Jay Sellers** (J. Hardwick), "Histamine and Prostaglandin Release Rates in the Guinea Pig Cardiac Ganglion"

**Dr. Matthew Watson** (Biology 1992) is an Optometrist. He opened a new office with a pediatric and sports vision concentration in October 2003.

**Dr. Todd Wilson** (Biology 1993) is completing his medical residency in internal medicine at UMDNJ (New Jersey) and has been offered a

fellowship in Allergy and Immunology at NIH beginning in July 2004.

## Faculty

### Achievements

**Vicki Cameron**, a Biology councilor for the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), participated as an external reviewer for the Biology Departments at Ouachita Baptist University, Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, and Purdue University at Calumet. Her reviews were conducted under the auspices of CUR as one of the services which they provide to academic institutions.

**Jason Hamilton** was a panel member of "Direct and Indirect Human Contributions to Terrestrial Greenhouse Gas Fluxes", sponsored by the National Academies of Science. Washington, D.C. September 2003.

**Andy Smith** is the recipient of several medals at last summer's Empire State Games, where he participated in the canoe/kayak competition at the University at Buffalo Campus.

### Tenure/Promotion

**Susan Allen-Gil** and **Andy Smith** were successfully and unanimously granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

## Publications

(students are underlined>

**Allen-Gil, Susan**, J. Ford, B.K. Lasorsa, M. Monetti, T. Vlasova, and D.H. Landers. 2003. "Heavy metal contamination in the Taimyr Peninsula, Russia". *Science of The Total Environment* 301: 119-138.

**Bohonak, A.J., Smith, B.P., Thornton, M.** 2004. Distributional, morphological and genetic consequences of dispersal for temporary pool water mites (Acari: Arrenuridae: *Arrenurus*). *Freshwater Biology* 49: 170-180.

**Cameron, Vicki.** 2003. "Teaching Advanced Genetics Without Lectures". *Genetics* 165: 945-950.

**John L. Confer**, P. E. Allen, and J. L. Larkin. 2003. Effects of vegetation, interspecific competition, and brood parasitism on Golden-winged Warbler nesting success. *The Auk* 121: 138-144.

**John L. Confer** and S.M. Pascoe. 2003. "The avian community on utility rights-of-ways and other managed shrublands in northeastern United States". Special publication of *Forest Ecology and Management*.

Del Campo, M., S. Via and **M.C. Caillaud**. 2003. "Recognition of host specific chemical stimulants in two host races of the pea aphid, *Acyrtosiphon pisum*". *Ecological Entomology* 28:405-412.

Drecktrah D, Chambers K, Racoosin EL, **Cluett, Edward B.**, Gucwa A, Jackson B, Brown WJ. 2003. "Inhibition of a Golgi complex lysophospholipid acyltransferase induces membrane tubule formation and retrograde trafficking". *Mol Biol Cell*. Aug;14(8):3459-69.

J.H. Fullard, **K.E. Muma**, and J.W. Dawson. 2003. "Quantifying an anti-bat flight response by eared moths" *Can. J. Zool.* 81: 395-399.

K. George, R. J. Norby, **Jason G. Hamilton**, and E. H. DeLucia. 2003. "Fine root respiration in a loblolly pine and sweetgum forest growing in elevated CO2" *New Phytologist*. 160: 511-522.

**Jason Hamilton**, J.R. Griffin, and M.R. Stromberg. 2003. "Long-Term Population Dynamics of Native Nassella Bunchgrasses in Central California". *Madrono* 49: 274-284.



Jelson, G.S., DeMasi, G.M., Sager, K.L., and

**Hardwick, J.C.** 2003. "Modulation of guinea pig intrinsic cardiac neurons by prostaglandins". *American Journal of Physiology*, 285: R682-R689.

**Melcher, Peter J.**, Zwieniecki, M.A., and Holbrook, N. M. 2003. "Vulnerability of Xylem Vessels to Cavitation

in *Acer saccharum* (Marsh.): Scaling from Individual Vessels to Whole Branches". *Plant Physiology* April (131): 1775-1780.

Pawlicki, J. M., Pease, L. B.,

Pierce, C. M., Startz, T. P., Zhang, Y. and Smith, Andy M.

(2004). The effect of molluscan glue proteins on gel mechanics.

*Journal of Experimental Biology*, 207: 1127-1135.

Pawlowski, K.,

**S. Swensen**, C. Guan, A.-E. Hadri, A. M. Berry, and T.

Bisseling. 2003.

"Distinct patterns of symbiosis-related gene expression in

actinorhizal nodules from different plant families".

*Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions* 16(9): 796-807.

**Andy Smith**. 2003. "The structure and function of adhesive gels from invertebrates" *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 42: 1164-1171.

**Smith, Bruce P.** 2003.

"Diversity of stylostome structure among parasitic larval water mites (Acari: Hydrachnida)". In From Yankee Springs to Wheeny Creek: An Acarological Tribute to David R. Cook, edited by I.M. Smith. Indira Publishing House, pp 239-255.

Zhang L, El-Hodiri H, Ma HF, Zhang X, **Servetnick, Marc**, Wensel TG, Jamrich M. 2003. "Targeted expression of the

dominant negative FGFR-4a in the eye using Xrx1A regulatory sequences interferes with normal retinal cell development".

*Development* 130:4177-4186.

Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry's 24th Annual Meeting. Austin, TX. November 2003.

**Susan Allen-Gil** and Aldea, M.

"Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*) as a

Potential Molluscicide for Use in

Aquaculture".

Society of Environmental

Toxicology and

Chemistry's 24th Annual Meeting.

Austin, TX. November 2003.

Charlton, C.L., **Smith, Bruce P.**, Bohonak, A.J.

Poster presentation, "Morphological

discontinuity in sister species of water mites: strong natural selection or recent speciation?".

Evolution 2003 (joint meeting of The Society for the Study of Evolution, Society of Systematic Biologists, and American Society of Naturalists), California State University, California, June 2003.

**John Confer**. "Shrublands are not just a little bush", as well as hosted part of the activities at the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society. Cornell University. April 2004.

**John Confer**. "Sustaining Biodiversity in Sterling Forest State Park". New York Commissioner for the

### 2003 CNS Picnic



The science departments took time out to play and have some fun at last summer's CNS picnic, which was

held at Baker's Acres. Everyone enjoyed the annual S.I.L.O. events (Silly Intra Laboratories Olympics). We were happy to be joined by Mike Mazourek ('99) and Quentin Machingo ('00).



Zwieniecki MA, Orians CM, **Melcher, Peter J.**, Holbrook NM. 2003. "Ionic control of the lateral exchange of water between vascular bundles in tomato". *Journal of Experimental Botany* 54: 1399-1405.

### Presentations

**Susan Allen-Gil**. "The Next Generation: Educating for Sustainability", National Environmental Assistance Summit, Baltimore, MD. April 2004.

**Susan Allen-Gil**. "PCB composition in searun vs. resident whitefish in subsistence fisheries of northern Alaska". Allen Gil, S., Ford, J., Seigle, J., Akpik, M.A, Woods, J.<sup>3</sup> and Nashagnik, J. Society of

Department of Environmental Conservation. March 2004.  
**Jason Hamilton**, Dermody, M., Aldea, M., Zangerl, M., Berenbaum, Rogers, A., and DeLucia, E. "Elevated atmospheric carbon dioxide affects crop herbivory by insects". Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. Savannah, GA. August 2003.

**Jason Hamilton**. "Global Warming: Fact, theory or hoax?". Partnership in Teaching, Lansing High School. May 2004.

**Jason Hamilton**. Poster presentation, "The Changing Role of Forests in the Global Carbon Cycle: Responses to Elevated Atmospheric CO2". DeLucia E.H, D.J. Moore, J.G. Hamilton, A. Finzi, J. Pippen, W.H. Schlesinger, R.J. Norby. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA. December 2003.

**Kit Muma and Bruce Smith** (co-authored and M.R. Forbes). Poster presentation, "Patterns of Parasitism: Crowding of *Arrenurus planus* Water Mites on *Sympetrum internum* and *Sympetrum obtrusum* Dragonflies". American Society of Parasitologists Annual Meeting. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. August 2003.

**Andy Smith**, "Glue or slime: molluscan glue proteins that control gel mechanics" (co-authored with Jan Pawlicki, Laura Pease, Courtney Pierce and Tom Startz). Annual Meetings of the Society for

Integrative and Comparative Biology. New Orleans, LA. January 2004.

**Bruce Smith**. Poster presentation, "Loss of Larval Parasitism in *Arrenurus* spp. mites: comparing forms with and without parasitic larval feeding". American Society of Parasitologists Annual Meeting. Halifax, Nova Scotia. August 2003.

## More for Education

### New Major

**John Confer is the Director for the new interdisciplinary major, Environmental Science.** This new major will prepare students to assess human interactions with the environment by using and compiling original scientific analyses. It will be administered by the steering committee for the major in Environmental Studies with advice from a new subcommittee for Environmental Science. The curriculum will include core science courses from several departments, restricted electives from several humanities and science departments, a choice of a focal area in Anthropology or Biology or Chemistry, and a capstone course and seminar.

## Alumni Reunion 2005

Reunion Weekend is June 3-5, 2005. If you are interested in attending, we'd like to know. Please return the form on the following page, or send an e-mail to [npierce@ithacae.edu](mailto:npierce@ithacae.edu) (as well as registering through the Alumni Office at

### New Courses

- **Baja, Mexico** (Susan Allen-Gil and Rob Porter)
- **Honors Intermediate Seminar: Alternatives Future** (Peter Melcher)
- **Ecophysiology** (Jason Hamilton & Andy Smith)
- **Wonderful Life: Genes, Evolution, & Biodiversity** (Susan Swensen)

<http://www.ithaca.edu/alumni/a-weekend.php>.

If enough alumni can return to campus, we will arrange a special reception for our alums and the biology faculty.

We hope you'll find the time to revisit Ithaca and share some of your memories with us.

## Boston Mini-Reunion

On a July '04 trip to Boston, Vicki Cameron met 11 IC alums for a mini-reunion. Exchanging news and greeting were: Mike Overholtzer, Jon Sparks, and Pete Yakowec '96; Gwen Eschmann Axtell and Mike Axtell, '98; Jason Burnett, '99; Laura Gay, Meghan Kilbride, Jen Morawiak, and Elvis Shehu, '00; and Maira Pires, '02. It was great fun to learn what these alums are up to and to reminisce about "old times" in Ithaca.

**Alumni Reunion 2005**  
**Reunion Weekend, June 3-5, 2005**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

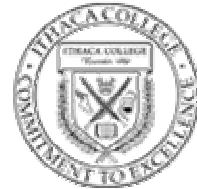
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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I/We are planning/hoping to attend Reunion 2005: Number attending   
No, I/We will be unable to attend:

**Jack and Flo Bernard Family**  
**Undergraduate Research Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made out to the **Bernard Family Undergraduate Research Fund**.

Send to: Office of Special Programs  
Ithaca College  
310 Alumni Hall  
Ithaca, NY 14850-7055

Comments:

**The Biology Department**  
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**for Your Generous Support!**