<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highlights This Issue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Greetings from the Chair

**Vicki Cameron**

Greetings to biology, biochemistry and environmental studies alumni!

You are reading the first ever newsletter from the biology department, although we hope to publish annually in the future. We thought you might be interested in how the department is faring since you left us, and in the many changes that have occurred in recent years. Perhaps the most important change you will notice is names of the faculty who now make up the department. Gone are many of the faces that you would recognize, including Mildred Brammer, Jack Bernard, Flo Bernard, Bob Jenkins, Lucille Schmieder, Imre Tamas, and Steve Thompson. All of these senior faculty have retired since 1993.

You will find brief biographies of each of these faculty members later in the newsletter. With the retirement of so many faculty, many new faces now populate the department. These include Marina Caillaud, Ed Cluett, Jason Hamilton, and Peter Melcher, all hired in the last two years. Brief descriptions of their research interests are also found later in the newsletter. For those who graduated before 1996, a number of other faces will be new as well, and we invite you to meet these faculty by visiting the faculty Web page: [http://www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/faculty.html](http://www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/faculty.html).

*Continued on page 2*

---

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

Professor Jack Bernard and his wife Flo, both of whom taught in the biology department for many, many years (see “Retirements” pages 9-10), have generously established a fund to support undergraduate research in biology. These funds will be used to provide stipends for summer research, funding for student travel to meetings, and as needed, supplies and equipment necessary for students to carry out their projects. Alumni who feel the research experience was a particularly important part of their academic career at Ithaca College can also contribute to this fund (see page 11). We are hoping that the fund will grow over the years and make a significant impact on future Ithaca College students carrying out research in the biology department. Our heartfelt thanks go to Jack and Flo for their wonderful donation, which will add to our ability to carry out research projects with undergraduate collaborators. **Thanks so much, Jack and Flo!**
Chair’s letter, continued

The department continues to have a very strong focus on research in collaboration with undergraduates. Many students have given presentations or authored papers, and been recognized with national and regional awards. In addition, the undergraduate research experience of our students has prepared them well for admission to post-graduate programs and for employment in the scientific workforce (see students papers/presentations and the alumni information sections). The efforts of both faculty and students have led to a large number of funded grants in the department. A very exciting, recent event is the establishment of the Jack and Flo Bernard Family Undergraduate Research Fund. This fund, which has just been initiated with a generous endowment from Jack and Flo Bernard, has been established to promote undergraduate research in the biology department. One noteworthy aspect of the fund is that it provides our alumni with a means to designate gifts specifically to support undergraduate research. By filling out the form on page 11, alums can give a charitable donation to the department to support undergraduate research. We would be grateful for any support you can provide.

Finally, we hope you will find the newsletter an interesting way to keep up on the careers of your classmates.

If we don’t have information about you and your successes since you left Ithaca College, we encourage you to update this information by logging on to the departmental Web site, http://www.ithaca.edu//biology/alumni.html, and providing us with recent information about important events in your life.

Best wishes to you all. The biology department is healthy and doing well, and we look forward to hearing from you.

New Faculty Members

The department has grown at a fast rate. We will begin fall 2002 with the largest number of faculty yet! Following is a brief introduction of the four newest faculty members.


Professor Caillaud completed post-doctoral work at Cornell University and will join us in the fall of 2002. Her work focuses on genetic contributions to animal behavior. She is studying two populations of aphids that feed on different plants and trying to determine which genes are responsible for the behavioral feeding difference.

Edward Cluett, cell biology and teacher education. Ph.D., Cornell University. Professor Cluett carried out postdoctoral work at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and also taught high school for eight years before pursuing his Ph.D. He is interested in the structure and function of organelles involved in intracellular transport, particularly the Golgi complex.

Edward Cluett

Jason Hamilton, physiological plant ecology. Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara. Professor Hamilton carried out postdoctoral research at the University of Illinois. He is interested in the physiological ecology of plant–plant and plant–insect interactions as influenced by global change. His current research focuses on carbon metabolism and storage in eastern forests, where he is studying the effects of elevated carbon dioxide at multiple levels, from leaf–level physiology to whole plant growth responses, multi-trophic feedback, and ecosystem production.

Peter Melcher, plant physiology. Ph.D., University of Hawaii. Professor Melcher carried out postdoctoral research at Harvard University. He is investigating
the short-- and long--term processes that are involved in long--distance water transport in plants. He has recently shown that the resistance of the pathway for water transport is very sensitive to the concentration of ions found in the sap of xylem. He will expand these studies to investigate how much control a species of plant has over its internal water distribution.

Nicole White, Jamie Fountain, Michelle Niescierenko, Nate Ross, Wendy Clement, Kristen Sager

Student Achievements

Ithaca College biology and biochemistry majors continue to engage in research that results in scientific presentations and publications in peer--reviewed journals. Their work also makes them competitive for awards that recognize their achievements.

2001--2002 Publications


2001--2002 Honors Symposium

- Wendy Clement (S. Swensen), An AFLP study of Hillebrandia sandwichensis (Begoniaceae): understanding relationships within and among populations on Kauai and Molokai
- Jamie Fountain (M. Servetnick), Investigation of the upstream promoter regions of the human eye-specific genes six3 and six6
- Michelle Niescierenko (S. Allen-Gil), The role of 17-B estradiol in Fathead Minnows (Pimephales promelas) reproduction in relation to habitat loss.
- Maira Pires (V. Cameron), The Effect of the disrupted yme1 gene on the stability of cox2p bearing various mutations
- Kristen Sager (J. Hardwick), Determination of histamine and prostaglandin release from guinea pig cardiac mast cells
- Kim Stallone (J. Hardwick), Regulation of amphibian cardiac function by the neuropeptide pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating polypeptide (PACAP).
- Nicole White (A. Smith), Investigation of a protein that modifies marsh periwinkle mucus to glue
- Nate Ross (R. Wodzinski), The effect of pantocin B on arginine-transaminase enzyme of an enteric and a non-enteric bacterium
2001–2002 presentations

Eastern College Science Conference

- Mihai Aldea* (I. Tamas), Phloem loading and transport of IAA in Ricinus communis seedlings
- Jeremy Dobson* (J. Hardwick), Ionic mechanisms of histamine-induced responses in guinea pig intracardiac neurons
- Jessica Kupiec* (S. Allen-Gil), The effects of habitat degradation on the reproductive success of Pimephales promelas
- Kate Majka (M. Servetnick), Fibroblast growth factor receptors’ effect on the expression of cadherins in Xenopus embryos
- Martha Morin (A. Smith), The biochemical structure of marsh periwinkle adhesive mucus
- Tracy Robinson (A. Smith), The biochemical structure of adhesive mucus from the limpet Lottia limatula
- Tara Rynnhar (S. Allen-Gil), Reproductive behaviors and spawning substrate: a study of Fathead Minnows
- Kim Stallone (J. Hardwick), Neuropeptide regulation of cardiac function of amphibians

*Received Outstanding Presentation award.

The National Conference on Undergraduate Research:

- Michelle Niescierenko (S. Allen-Gil), The role of 17β-estradiol in Fathead Minnows (Pimephales promelas) reproduction in relation to habitat loss
- Kristen Sager (J. Hardwick), What excites cardiac mast cells and why we care
- Nicole White (A. Smith), Investigation of a protein that modifies marsh periwinkle mucus to glue

Other Professional Meetings:


Student Awards

Wendy Clement 2002, biology, has been selected for the third team in the USA Today All-USA College Academic Team Program. The judging panels selected 60 from almost 600 nominees from four-year colleges nationwide! This award recognizes not only
Wendy’s very impressive academic and co-curricular record at Ithaca College, but also the high level of her accomplishments among the competitive field of nominees.

Zach Goldsmith 2002, biology, is the recipient of the biology department’s George A. Gonzalez-Gallardo Scholarship for academic year 2001--2002. This scholarship was established in memory of George A. Gonzalez-Gallardo, a 1979 graduate, and is given annually to the outstanding senior majoring in biology or biochemistry.

Sarah Pascoe 2001, biology, received a $350 Lillian Stoner scholarship from the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. The scholarship for Sarah is an unrestricted cash reward. At this fall's meeting Sarah will give a presentation entitled “Management for Shrubland Birds on State-owned Lands.”

Jan Pawlicki 2003, biochemistry, is the recipient of the Jason Dickens Memorial Award, which was established in memory of Jason Dickens, a biology major intending to become a physician. The award encourages an outstanding junior with aspirations and goals similar to Jason’s.

Jan Pawlicki has also been named a Barry Goldwater Scholar for 2002--2003. These prestigious awards were given to 309 students nationwide who intend to pursue careers in science and mathematics. The awards provide financial support for either one or two years depending on the year of the scholar.

Tara Rynhart 2002, Biology, and Nicole White 2002, Biochemistry, are the recent award recipients of Tri Beta grants. Tara has received $640 and Nicole has received $545 to conduct biological research.

Shannon Werner 2003, chemistry, (but adopted by the biology department as she is carrying out research with Vicki Cameron), has been awarded a Pfizer Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship for research in biochemistry. Pfizer gave a total of 15 awards nationwide in biochemistry, and 54 others in biology, chemistry, computational chemistry, molecular biology and pharmacy.

Oracle Honor Society: The following biology and biochemistry majors were inducted into Oracle, Ithaca College’s freshman honor society. Student membership in the Oracle Society is limited to those who rank in the top five percent of the freshman class at the end of the fall semester.

Oracle Society Inductees:
- Mark Hedglin (biochemistry)
- Elizabeth Orrico (biology)
- Anthony Santoriello (biology)
- Kristin Weaver (biology)

Named outstanding sophomore for the highest grades in the School of Humanities & Sciences.

Tri Beta Graduation Honor Inductees:
- Heather Burgess, Allyson Clark, Wendy Clement, Patrick Cowley, Kim Stallone, Christine Felsen, Jamie Fountain, Zach Goldsmith, Katie Macaluso, Tom Metzger, Michelle Niescierenko, Maira Pires, Nathan Ross, Tara Rynhart, Kristen Sager, Fawn Stehlin, Nicole White
ALUMNI CONTINUE TO SUCCEED

The department is proud of the accomplishments of our alumni and we are eager to learn of your opportunities and experiences. The list below is only a small sample of alumni achievements and we apologize to those of you we may have left out.

The department maintains a page on the Web, http://www.ithaca.edu/ biology/alumni.html, 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. It would also be appreciated if you notify the Ithaca College Quarterly of significant news.

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

Aliza Abatelli McMorris 1995, biology, received her physician assistant degree and is now at home raising her daughter, who was born in February 2002.

Zach Adelman 1996, biochemistry, received his Ph.D. from Colorado State University in 2000 and is now a post-doctoral fellow at the University of California, Irvine.

Michael Axtell 1998, biology, is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at the University of California, Berkley.

Joe Bliss 1990, biology, received his M.D./Ph.D. from the University of Rochester in microbiology immunology. Joe is currently a fellow in the Department of Pediatrics, Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong Memorial Hospital. His wife, Cynthia Warnokowski Bliss 1992, biochemistry, is also a pediatric physician at Golisano; they recently welcomed their first child.

Jacek Burnett 1999, biology, was recently promoted to senior technologist, Charles River, Mouse Laboratory, Boston.

Caroline Arpe 2002, biology, is in a research position, Biolink, Mass.

Anthony Atti 1996, biochemistry, received his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California.

Scott Crawford 1992, biology, received his D.V.M. degree from Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, and is currently a veterinarian in Maryland.

Gloria Culver 1988, biology, received her Ph.D. from the University of Rochester, conducted post-doctoral research at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and is now an assistant professor at Iowa State University in the Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics, and Molecular Biology.

Dr. Edward Goldberg 1983, biology, received his M.D. from Rutgers University and is now in private practice in internal medicine in New York City.

Dr. Ricky Golub 1996, biology, is doing his residency in ophthalmology at the Indiana University, and is getting married in November.

Jessica Hawley 2001, biology, is working in an environmental consulting firm, EnvirBusiness Inc. (EBI).

Dr. Amy Herskowitz 1986, biology, received a D.P.M. and is a podiatrist in New Jersey.

Dr. Gail Jacoby-Low 1988, biology, received her M.D. and is an assistant professor of pediatrics.

Carrissa Jock 1994, biology, is an associate scientist at Pfizer Global Research & Development in Michigan.

Meghan Lindauer 2001, biology; Missy Roether 2001, biology; and Suzanne Taylor 2001, biology, are research technicians at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Quentin Machingo 2000, biology, and Mike Mazourek 1999, biochemistry, are co-authors on a manuscript published in Current Genetic. Quentin is enrolled in a Ph.D.
program at Emory University and is engaged to Stephanie O’Leary 1999, biology. Stephanie is enrolled in a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology. Mike has just finished his first year of Ph.D. work at Cornell.

Kit Muma’s Primary Human Anatomy lab

Kiran Madura 1981, biology, received his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester and is now an associate professor of biochemistry at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

John Millholland 1995, biochemistry, recently received his Ph.D. from Tufts University in cell biology. John is now conducting post-doctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania.

Mary Beth Mudgett 1989, biochemistry, received her Ph.D. in plant biochemistry from UCLA, conducted post-doctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley, and has recently assumed a faculty position at Stanford University as an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Beth Oldmixon 1997, biology, is working towards a J.D. degree from Northeastern University.


Dr. Aaron Pfalzer 1997, biology, received his M.D. from the University of Buffalo and is now an intern in emergency medicine.

Carrie Phillips 2000, biology, is getting married this August. She’s in her third year of optometry school in Boston.

Pat Sarmiere 1996, biochemistry, received his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester in 2001.

Dr. Alan Seltzer 1974, biology, received his D.D.S. from the University of Pennsylvania and is now in general practice in Elmira, NY. His daughters Courtney, 2004, and Lisa, 2006, are presently majoring in biology at Ithaca College.

Chris Walsh 1998, biology, is pursuing a Ph.D. in cellular molecular biology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Dr. Evan Zelinger 1995, Biology, received his D.O. from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in June 2002.

Biology
Faculty & Staff

Tenure-Line Faculty

Susan M. Allen-Gil, Environmental Toxicology www.ithaca.edu/faculty/sallen/Profile/Allen.htm

Marina C. Caillaud, Genetics www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/caillaud.html

Vicki L. Cameron, Molecular Biology www.ithaca.edu/faculty/cameron/index.html

Edward B. Cluett, Cell Biology, Teacher Education www.ithaca.edu/faculty/cluett/


Jean C. Hardwick, Vertebrate Physiology/Neurobiology www.ithaca.edu/faculty/jhardwick/hardwick.htm

Peter J. Melcher, Plant Physiology www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/melcher.html

Marc. D. Servetnick, Developmental Biology www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/Servet.htm

Andrew M. Smith, Animal Physiology, Biomechanics www.ithaca.edu/faculty/asmith/

Bruce P. Smith, Invertebrate Zoology, Evolution of Host/Parasite Relationships www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/smith_b.htm

Susan M. Swensen, Botany/Plant Systematics and Evolution www.ithaca.edu/hs/biology/swensen.htm
Grants

2001--2002 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.

32 proposals submitted:
❖ 18 approved
❖ 10 pending

Sources of funding included:

Cornell University (J. Confer)
Ithaca College: Summer Research, Faculty Development (S. Allen-Gil, J. Hamilton, K. Muma, B. Smith, I. Tamas)
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (J. Confer)
National Institute of Health/AREA (J. Hardwick)
National Science Foundation (M. Servetnick)
National Science Foundation - CCLI (S. Allen-Gil)
National Science Foundation--Equipment grant (J. Hardwick, J. Hamilton, M. Servetnick, A. Smith)
New York State Electric and Gas (J. Confer)
Orange & Rockland Counties (J. Confer)
NRI Entomology and Nematology (J. Hamilton)
US Fish and Wildlife Service (J. Confer)

KUDOS

Faculty Awards

Particularly Meritorious Faculty: The H&S Dean can designate 10 percent of the H&S faculty as “particularly meritorious” based on the annual review for salary. This year the following biology faculty were recognized for their accomplishments:

Vicki Cameron
Jean Hardwick
Bruce Smith

Vicki Cameron received the Ithaca College Excellence in Scholarship Award in 2000.
John Confer received the Ithaca College Excellence in Scholarship Award in 2001.
Kit Muma was named a Biology faculty inductee into the Oracle Honor Society.

Susan Swensen was recently granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

Faculty Publications

A.R. Zangerl, J.G.


RETIEMENTS

Professors Emeriti

Jack Bernard retired in 2000 after more than three decades of teaching in the Department of Biology. He served as the department chairman from 1973 to 1982 and 1997 to 1999. His research focused on life history, production, and nutrient cycling in wetland plants, especially the genus Carex. He was awarded several grants from various sources. His last NSF grant funded a three-year project to study the effect of pollution such as acid rain on clonal plant development in the United States and the Czech Republic. Jack also served as the Ithaca College representative to the NCAA.

Mildred (Millie) Brammer retired in 1996 as professor of biology after holding a position in the biology department since 1958. During her time here she contributed in every imaginable way, taking on heavy teaching loads, providing advising and career counseling for our students, and leading the department as chair for almost 10 years. During the years immediately before her retirement, Millie also served as the chair of the Ithaca College Premedical Sciences Advisory Committee. Millie’s service to the College was also exceptional. She took a leadership role on search committees for an assistant dean and for a new provost for the College.

Lucille Schmieder retired in 1993. Lucille was one of the founding members of the biology department. Lucille also served the college as an assistant dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences for 1987–88. She served as chair of the Ithaca College Premedical Sciences Advisory Committee from its inception until her retirement. In addition to her work in the department and
with preprofessional students, Lucille was also a major contributor to the affairs of the College. Through all her activities, Lucille’s primary focus was on Ithaca College students, on how best to educate them and how to provide them with the tools they need for their future.

**Retirees**

**Florence (Flo) Bernard** retired at the end of the fall semester, 1997. Flo held a position in the department as an instructor for many years. She taught laboratories in both Fundamentals and Principles of Biology and also taught the non--majors course Essentials of Biology. Flo was much more than just an “instructor.” She was an integral part of the department, contributing to our teaching effectiveness and our overall department “character” in many ways. She maintained an extensive set of slides for use in the teaching labs, and was the co-author, with Steve Thompson, of the lab manuals used for many years in both of our introductory biology courses.

**Robert (Bob) Jenkins** retired at the end of the fall semester, 1998. He too was a very long--term member of the department. Bob’s special area of expertise was anatomy and physiology, and he provided an invaluable service to the department by teaching both of those subjects to physical therapy students for a great many years. In addition, he taught non--majors courses in both the biology of aging and the biology of exercise. Bob also supervised an extremely large number of biology majors in their required research experience. A number of these students appeared as co--authors on peer--reviewed papers with him.

**Imre Tamas** Charles A. Dana Professor of Biology retired this year after more than 30 years of service to Ithaca College. He was named the Dana Professor of Science and Mathematics in 1996. During his tenure at Ithaca College Imre taught numerous plant--related courses for both majors and non-majors. Imre had a distinguished record of research carried out in collaboration with Ithaca College undergraduates. He has been principal investigator or co-principal investigator on 13 grants from the National Science Foundation. Imre also helped establish scientific exchange programs with the Biotechnology Institute in Godollo, Hungary, and with a scientific group in the Czech Republic.

**Steve Thompson** retired in 2001. He joined the biology department in 1968, and for many years he taught the first semester of our introductory biology class and our genetics course. He was the co-author on several major grants. Steve also conceived of converting an under-utilized student lounge in the Center for Natural Sciences into a small computing facility available for use in all our courses and, at other times, for our majors. Steve also served as chair of the biology department twice and ably guided the department through some difficult transitions. Steve was an excellent teacher, and was so recognized in 1991, when he was awarded the Sears Roebuck Foundation Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership award.

**Alumni Reunion 2003**

Reunion Weekend is May 29 to June 1, 2003. If you are interested in attending, we’d like to know (please return the form on the following page). If enough biology, biochemistry, and environmental studies alums return to campus, we will arrange a special reception for our alums and the biology faculty. Please let us know about your potential plans. We hope you'll find the time to revisit Ithaca and share some of your memories with us.
Alumni Reunion 2003
Reunion Weekend, May 29 to June 1, 2003

Name: ____________________________  Major: _______________  Graduation Year: ________

Address: ________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

I/We are planning/hoping to attend Reunion 2003:  Number attending [ ]

No, I/We will be unable to attend: [ ]

Jack and Flo Bernard Family
Undergraduate Research Fund

Name: ____________________________  Major: _______________  Graduation Year: ________

Home Address: ____________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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
Thanks You
for Your Generous Support!