



Newsletter Begins

Welcome to the second issue of the Marine Science Advisory Committee's newsletter. This is an attempt to keep students, faculty, staff and interested bystanders informed of events and ideas involving Marine Science. Tonya Clayton has graciously volunteered to be the first editor. She will be happy to receive any submissions of notable items. Comments on content and format will be appreciated.

MSAC Meeting

The next MSAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 2 March at 12 noon in the student lounge. All DMS students are encouraged to attend. Agenda items include: Spring Party, student offices, student symposium, student reps to faculty meetings, seminar series, faculty search, dive club, spring field trip.

PaleoLunch in Tampa

The Geology Dept. is sponsoring and informal luncheon every Wed. at noon. Folks sit, eat, and discuss papers they've read ahead of time. Recent topics have included "Phylogeny and Molecular Data," "Plant Evolution Dances to a Different Beat: Plant and Animal Evolutionary Mechanisms Compared" and "Productivity change as a Control on Planktonic Foraminiferal Evolution After The Cretaceous/-Tertiary Boundary."

Papers for the March 8 gathering: "Stress, strain, and stability of

lacustrine ecosystems." If you'd like to carpool over for some paleontology with your provolone, see Tonya Clayton.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Margarita Conkright, on her successful Ph.D. defense.

To Jonathan Rast, for acceptance into "Molecular Methods in Marine Biology," a field course on beautiful Santa Catalina Island, CA. Jonathan says it will be groovy.

To Drs. Al Hine and Pam Hallock-Muller, who received a grant from NSF for continuing work on the Nicaraguan Rise.



MSAC TGIAF Seminar Series Begins

MSAC has initiated an informal seminar series to be held every Friday just prior to TGIF, at 4:00 pm. Mark Frischer has taken on the task of shanghaiing speakers. The event takes place in the Conference Room at the end of the FIO hallway. Please feel free to attend and share your ideas and research.

Tom Lancraft was the first brave soul to step forward (after we caught him innocently walking the hallways: right place, wrong time). He spoke on Antarctica, providing many great slides and a few bawdy tales. Come on, a fish with no blood?

Modeler Mark Meyers was last Friday's speaker; he filled us in on the aims of modeling, stressing his research-in-progress on the nitrogen and carbon cycles in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coming up this Friday (March 3) is Rich Young, presenting ADIOS to the North Pacific, or How to Collect Dust in Oceanography: a Video Presentation.

March 10 will see Mike Harris take the podium to discuss "something seismic."

If you have a tall tale (in this dept., who doesn't), please share your wealth of knowledge with the rest of us and contact Mark Frischer. Mark has already rather snidely pointed out that the speaker list to date has been all male. The gauntlet is thus cast: Women of the waves step forward!

Modeling: what's it all about?

Once upon a time there was this gambler, see. And he wanted to improve his returns at the track. So he went to this numerical modeler and said, "Hey, I wanna improve my returns at da track. Heah's a list of all da horeses and all da stats. Heah's a list of all da tracks and all da stats. Heah's a list of all da jocks and all da stats. Can ya help me?"

Of course, the modeler said, "Oh yeah, sure. No problem. Easy as pi. We'll fix you right. Give me the information and come back in two weeks. I'll hand you one winning program, for sure."

So the gambler went away for two weeks, came back, all excited at the prospect of the riches soon to be his. "So, whadda ya got?"

Replies the modeler, "Okay, first you assume a spherical horse..."

New Books for the Library

Have you ever gone to our Bayboro Campus' Poynter Library only to be left out in the cold when it comes to titles in Marine Science?

Help rectify this situation. If you know of any newly released books that the library should acquire, please submit author, title and publisher to your nearest faculty member (if you happen not

to already be one), to be forwarded to the library for consideration.

Currently, several titles are at the library and are available for review.

Suncoast Chapter of the AGU Has Formed

Under the guidance of Dr. William Sackett, the first local chapter of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) has been formed. The objective is to bring together Tampa Bay area people of a variety of earth science backgrounds for social and scientific interaction.

At the second meeting last December, Dr. Fred Spilhaus of AGU headquarters in Washington, DC came down for a visit and addressed the group.

The next meeting will be held on the Tampa campus of USF on March 2 at 7:30 pm. Dr. Sackett and Jabe Breland are offering rides; see the announcement and ride sign-up near the entrance to the DMS lobby. See Jabe Breland or Dr. Sackett for membership information.