

August 2000
Volume 5, Issue 8

Inside this Issue

- * Congratulations
 - * Who's Who
 - * What's Up
 - * Upcoming Events
- And much more!

University of South Florida
College of Marine Science
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

NAUI Scuba diving classes - beginner and advanced classes starting now. Specialties, Rescue Diver, and Divemaster classes available upon request. Contact Brad Penta x-1112 or penta@ecos9.marine.usf.edu

The Squid's Ink

Notes From the Editors

We hope you have been having a great summer so far. As you can see, this issue of *SI* is short and sweet. Help us make next month's "Back to School" issue bigger and better by giving us your submissions. E-mail them to (lizz@marine or jyotika@marine) or put them in our mailboxes any time.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jen Boehme and Dana Wetzel who both successfully defended their Ph.D. dissertations last month.

Congratulations to Dr. Peter Betzer. He was appointed Acting Dean of the College of Marine Science effective July 1, 2000.

Congratulations and a big thank you to Linae Boehme, who has volunteered to help Nan Schmidt as the blood drive co-coordinator. Linae is taking Lisa Young's place while she is on leave-of-absence this coming semester.

Congratulations to the staff of Project Oceanography. They received a funding renewal from the National Ocean Partnership Program, a division of the Office of Naval Research. Look for more P.O. news in the next issue of *SI*, when we will introduce you to their newly hired curriculum writer.

Who's Who

By Peter Howd

In this two part series (to be continued in the next issue of *SI*), I will introduce

you to two new faces in my research group. The first is Lauren Wetzell, a MS student who comes from Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina. She has been working with Dr. Paul Gayes on the joint USGS-SC Sea Grant erosion and mapping project in that state. She will be working on a project aimed at combining measurements of deep water waves and coastal topography (from lidar surveys) to assess potential erosion hazards. She's located off the lounge in MSL 134.

Insurance Update

By Jyotika Virmani

There is an improved student health insurance policy which will take effect on August 24th, 2000. It is still with MegaLife, but there are many changes which should benefit you.

First, students from this campus will no longer need to go to the Tampa Campus Student Health Center first before being referred elsewhere. They can go directly to one of the Providers on the CCN network list (see 2. below), eliminating both the \$60/semester health fee and the trip to Tampa.

MegaLife is using a new physician network - CCN. Lists of the CCN providers are available from Flo, Dr. Van Vleet, myself, or the Counseling and Career Center (CCC). This list was implemented April 1st, 2000, and includes many of the local hospitals and doctors. If you need to see a CCN physician before August 24th, you will need to get a CCN sticker on your current insurance (*cont. on next page*)

.....

Upcoming Events

August 10, 8am-4pm, FMRI Circle, Blood Drive, all donors receive a t-shirt, Dunkin' Donuts and IHOP coupons, and entry into drawings to win airline and movie tickets.

August 15, Full moon

August 28, 1:30, Joint Use Auditorium, Endowed Fellowship Award Ceremony – celebrate the accomplishments of our graduate students

(cont. from previous page) card. This can be obtained from Diane McKinstry in the CCC. After August 24th, you will be issued a new insurance card with CCN marked on it. Please note that CCN allows more services than are covered by the MegaLife policy, so check with MegaLife or the doctors office before making an appointment.

Third, preventative health care is still not included. However, women's annual exams are completely covered if they are done at the Tampa student health center (and you pay the \$60 fee).

Finally, there is some talk of subsidizing USF student health insurance for Graduate Assistants. This is unlikely to take affect this fall, but I'll keep you posted when I hear anything new.

If you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer them for you.

Campus Child Care

By Kristen Lester

The on-campus child care that we have is actually run by the YMCA. They are a bit expensive, but there are three child care subsidy programs that are available.

The newest grant program is for students who use the Y child care center for less than 30 hours/week. Provided they qualify financially (same monetary requirements as the Pell Grant, but graduate students are eligible) there is grant money available. The Student Affairs Office has plenty of money to 'give away' (!! because this is a new program. Students should contact Student Affairs or the Financial Aid office if they are interested.

Another program, which is similar to the one above, is available for full time child care. It is run through the county, and the monetary requirements for aid are the same as those of the Pell Grant. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

The third program is sponsored by student government. It is available to all students, regardless of financial need, and is based on credit hours. The amount ends up being \$102/semester for a full time student with 1 child, and increases with each additional child. To get this award, you need to go to the financial aid office at the end of the semester with receipts or cancelled checks for child care totalling at least \$102, and the license number of your day care provider.

What's Up

By Bob Jolley

I thought I would grab this opportunity to bring everyone up to date on some of the goings on in our new college. At long last we are wrapping up the renovations in the geology labs on the 1st floor of MSL. Everyone is very excited about their new digs and it is eye opening to see just what can be done with some of this old space. Remember this building was built in 1939, so making major modifications is

quite a challenge. Stop by sometime and take a look.

We won't stop here however! In case you haven't heard we have two new faculty members joining our ranks. Dr. David Hollander will be coming to us in August from Northwestern University, and Dr. Kendra Daly from NSF Division of Ocean Sciences will be starting next spring. In preparation for their arrivals, we will be renovating Dr. Sackett's old lab on the second floor of MSL for David Hollander and Dr. Blake has very generously relinquished some of his space in MSL to be renovated for Kendra Daly. Expect to see this work under way in the fall.

Let me also bring you up to date on some other projects we are working on. We should be receiving federal money through FEMA to address deficiencies we have that could become a problem during a hurricane. These funds will be used to replace all the old Miami style windows in MSL, buy an emergency generator to provide back-up power to critical areas, and, funds permitting, to take care of the dolphin pilings that are deteriorating in the waters around the peninsula. Although not glamorous, these are all necessary and significant improvements to our facilities.

Finally, the College Transition Committee continues to be active. During July, smaller sub-committees have been hard at work on various aspects of the conversion of the department to a college, and I am excited about the valuable guidance they will be providing. Once our esteemed chairman, Dr. Walsh, returns in August I anticipate heightened activity as we work towards producing a governance document and a review of our internal procedures.

The Squid's Ink "Staff":

Editor: Lizz Singh (lizz@marine)

Assoc. Editor: Jyotika Virmani (jyotika@marine)

Contributors to This Issue: Peter Howd, Bob Jolley, Kristen Lester, Nan Schmidt

For sept. issue

LIST OF NEW STUDENTS

Publications

Here are two recent publications put out by people in this department. Let us know if you have published something lately.

James, N.P., Feary, D.A., Surlyk, F., Simo, J.A., Betzler, C., Holbourn, A.E., Li, Q., Matsuda, H., Machiyama, H., Brooks, G.R., Andres, M.S., Hine, A.C., Malone, M.J., and the Leg 182 Scientific Party, 2000, Quaternary bryozoan reef mounds in cool-water, upper slope environments: Great Australian Bight: *Geology*, v. 28, p. 647-650.

Johnson, Z. and P.A. Howd, 2000, Marine photosynthetic performance forcing and periodicity for the Bermuda Atlantic time series, 1989-1995, *Deep Sea Research Part I*, v. 47, p. 1485-1512.

By Peter Howd

Also joining us this fall will be Dr. Laura Moore. Laura received her Ph.D. from UC Santa Cruz and has been a post doctoral fellow at WHOI for the past couple years. Laura's research interests are in large scale coastal behavior. Her primary focus here at USF will be in the area of long-term coastal change, working on the integration of lidar surveys with historical measures of shoreline position. There is considerable interest in determining the relative roles of long-term processes, like sea level rise, versus the integrated effects of storms in how coasts evolve over time scales of decades to centuries. Her strong interest

in the area of how interannual climate variability is reflected in coastal change should help that along. She will be housed over at the USGS, but expect to see her over here a fair bit.

A Fowl Story

This is a real story taken from... Warning: Killing birds may hurt town's publicity. By Frank Cerabino, Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

News item: Earlier this month, an Atlantis police officer shot and killed a peahen. The peacock mate to the deceased bird is still at large and the chicks are in custody.

Q: I thought Atlantis was a bird sanctuary. Isn't there a city ordinance that says it's "unlawful to trap, hunt, shoot, molest, or attempt to do so, any bird, wild fowl, or wildlife"?

A: Yes, but Ordinance #21, Section 3-16 (c) gives the police chief the authority to destroy any wildlife in the city if it's deemed to be a nuisance to residents or their property.

Q: Such as . . . teenagers having wild parties?

A: Um, I'll have to check that out.

Q: If any bird can be eliminated on the basis of it being deemed a nuisance, what are the chances the cops will bag a few snowbirds this winter?

A: I think that would depend on how many registered voters sign the petition. Also, I think the police would be obligated to try to trap the snowbirds first.

Q: Any ideas on how to do that?

A: A buffet table and a big net.

Q: Getting back to the peacocks, if they were such a nuisance, why hasn't anybody been able to trap the male for the past two weeks?

A: That just shows you how annoying these peafowl can be. Not only do they occasionally poop on a patio or squawk during nap time, but also, when you try to catch them, they disappear.

Aggressive or docile?

Q: But I thought these were supposed to be aggressive birds. Didn't one woman say she was afraid to go outside to get her mail because of the peacocks?

A: Stories conflict. Some people said they were afraid of these birds, while others said the birds were so docile they could be fed by hand, and would run into the brush if they felt threatened.

Q: So it sounds more like a people problem than a bird problem, doesn't it?

A: Yes. In fact, Mayor William Howell squarely puts the blame on the city's "Good Samaritans," who coddle wildlife and then complain to local TV stations when birds in a bird sanctuary get hunted and killed by police.

Q: Wait a minute. Doesn't he have it backwards? Why would the mayor blame people who enjoy co-existing with birds in a bird sanctuary, rather than those who foolishly experience peacock panic, probably because they grew up in a place where a bird was something you gave a bad driver?

A: It's a balancing act. Are some people in the city foolish for being afraid of the peacocks? Certainly. But do they also have a right to be foolishly afraid? Absolutely. So what we have to do is figure out what is more valuable to preserve: the life of an animal, or the foolish fears of people? Given this choice, it's clear why the order to kill was given.

August 2000

A difficult lesson

Q: And so the only ones in the city who should hang their heads in shame are the people who enjoy living among peacocks?

A: Now you're beginning to understand. I think Mayor Howell summed it up beautifully in his "Mayor's Corner" column in the city newsletter. "Let's hope that all concerned can learn a lesson," he wrote. "One person's charity can be another person's problem. Negative publicity in the City of Atlantis is everyone's loss!"

Q: So, in the end, it's not about whether it was necessary to kill a beautiful bird in a bird sanctuary, a bird that many people saw as a benefit, rather than a detriment to life in Atlantis?

A: I see you've learned the mayor's lesson well. Now, how can you get some good publicity for Atlantis?

Q: How about taking down the bird sanctuary sign? After the peacock incident, it sounds hypocritical.

A: Get rid of the bird sanctuary sign? Are you crazy?! That sign is great for real estate values.

Contributors:

the text box shading to improve the print quality. Can that be done?

A: Yes. To change the shading or color of a text box, select it and double click its borders to open the Format Text Box dialog box. Click the Colors and Lines tab and then choose the new color from the Color drop-down list in the Fill section.

Q: What's the best way to print this newsletter?

A: Print page 2 on the back of page 1. Fold in half and mail with or without an envelope. For best results, use a medium to heavyweight paper. If you're mailing without an envelope, seal with a label.

Q: I would like to use my own clip

Q: I would like to change some of