



BioSynthesis

Volume 6 Issue 2 (May 2007)

BioSynthesis On-Line: <http://departments.bloomu.edu/biology/>

Spring Semester Dates

APR 30: Biology and Allied Health Sciences Club Picnic, Town Park, 5:30 p.m.

MAY 2: Reception for BAHS graduating seniors, patio between east and west HSC, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

MAY 3 & 4: READING DAY: No classes

MAY 4: College of Science and Technology Research Day

MAY 7 & 8: Free Coffee & Donuts courtesy of Tri-Beta

MAY 7—11: Final Exams

MAY 11: Graduate Commencement

MAY 12: Undergraduate Commencement



Look what's inside:

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Congratulations Graduates!



SPRING 2007

B.A. Biology

Kristi Brinckman
Bryan Crandall
Adrianna D'Amico
Courtney Dean
Ian Demyanovich
Stephanie Findley
Kaylee Fischer
James Heim
Robert Heim
Matthew Hertz
Kathleen Jackson
Maria Johns
Brian Kriebel
Brock Solomon
Danielle Wartko
Jamie Willour

B.S. Biology

Oluwasayo Adeyemo
Sarah Bounds
Rachel Brous, Pre-Medical Sciences
Christine Dry, Microbiology
Mallory Garnett
Joel Gyimesi
Laura Halon, Biotechnology
Judith Harry
Phuoc Ho
Christopher Kashi
Stephanie Kutza
Cory Lavoie, Environmental Biology
Talia McAlister
Jonathan Molinari, Biotechnology
Kevin Nawrocki
Erica Smith
Jessica Teders
Neil Troutman
Robert Zachary Wert
Ashley Yelinek

Medical Imaging

Jeffrey Bubnowski
Laura Clauser

Secondary Education Biology

Pamela DeRose
Megan Zimmerman

Good luck and best wishes to all of our graduates! We are proud of you. Stay in touch and be sure to check out *Bio-Synthesis* on-line.



★ **Honor Graduates:**

★ **Top Honor Graduate for the College of Science and Technology:** Ashley Yelinek

★ **Summa Cum Laude:** Ashley Yelinek

★ **Magna Cum Laude:** Sara Bounds, Courtney Dean, Joseph Miller III, Melodie Wehry, Jamie Willour

★ **Cum Laude:** Laura Halon, Maria Johns, Brock Solomon, Jessica Teders

★ **Honors Program Graduates:** Jamie Willour



SUMMER 2007

BS Biology

Braden Ott, Marine Science and Biotechnology
Nicole Posey
Trinity Stempko
John Reichert

BA Biology

Kevin Hudson
Anne Muthui
Holly Seymour
Brittany Valway, Marine Science

Medical Imaging

Rachel Adu-Frimpong
Kristy Bennage
Ashley Boos
Ashley Corwin
Kelly Crawford
Melissa Crawford
Lauren Foley
Eric Funk
Keri Garton
Jennifer Heiland
Edward Hance
Natalie Livelsberger

Miriah Matrician
Lindsey May
Hoseph Miller III
Dawn Moyer
Mary Plytage
Lisa Sabia
Megan Saner
Heather Saullo
Nicole Shambach
Lindsey Solovey
Melody Wehry
Rachyl Yanuskiewicz

CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



BAHS Rising Stars

Two BAHS students were recently featured on the Bloomsburg University website as rising stars. **Melissa Scubelek** (left) is a junior biology major. She conducted research with Dr. Corbin on "Morphological Integrity of African Blue Flycatcher subspecies" and presented findings at a College of Science and Technology Research Day and the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science. She plans to become a zoologist working primarily in Africa. **Justin Dion** (right) is a senior with a double major in biology and health physics. Justin also conducted research with Dr. Corbin. He presented his project on the "Optimization and Screening of DNA Isolation and PCR Techniques for a Population Study of African Blue Flycatchers" at a College of Science and Technology Research Day,



BAHS Scholarship Winners

Jennifer Krott (left) and **Jared Geissinger** (right) are the recipients of \$250 scholarships awarded by the Department of Biological and Allied Health Sciences. Jennifer is a junior biology major and dean's list student who is interested in pursuing a career in physical therapy. Next year, Jen will be the secretary of Tri-Beta, the biology honor society. Jared is a junior biology major and dean's list student who plans to pursue graduate work in microbiology. He participated in the Jan-Plan program at Geisinger Medical Center and volunteers as a research student for Dr. Surmacz examining the toxicity of road de-icers in aquatic worms. He will be the treasurer of Tri-Beta next academic year.



BAHS students inducted into Phi Kappa Phi



Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest, and most selective honor society that recognizes and promotes academic achievement in all fields of higher education. Only the top 7.5% of juniors and the top 10% of seniors are eligible to join the society. The following biology majors were inducted in March at a ceremony attended by faculty, administrators, and family members: **Nicholas Bixler, Courtney Dean, Jared Geissinger, Laura Halon, and Aubrey Jones.**

BAHS Outstanding Biology Student Named

Ashley Yelinek was named Outstanding Biology Student. Ashley is graduating with a B.S. in Biology and is interested in pursuing a career in medicine. Ashley is a Dean's List Student and has been inducted into Phi Kappa Phi and Tri-Beta Honor Societies. She is the top honor graduate in the College of Science and Technology this semester. Ashley participated in the BU Honor's program and was a recipient of the Kozloff Undergraduate Research Award. Her Honors Independent Study project examined the relationship between tethered swimming and race performance in competitive male and female swimmers. Ashley presented her work at the Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences meeting in March. She will also present at the upcoming COST Research Day. Ashley is a 4-year member of the varsity women's swim team, a 3-time scholar-athlete, and PSAC champion in the 1650-freestyle.



BAHS Student Workers Shine!

Two BAHS undergraduates were nominated for the "Student Employee of the Year Award." **Kristi Brinckman**, a biology major and student secretary, was nominated by Ms. Vicki Beishline, BAHS secretary, for her reliable service, ability to work well independently, and attention to the individuals she is helping. **Talia McAlister**, a biology major, was nominated for her conscientious service as a student secretary in the Dean's Office, College of Science and Technology. The following BAHS students were thanked during Student Employee Appreciation Week for their hard work and contributions this academic year: **Chelsea Barnes, Laura Bauman, Kaylee Fischer, Stephanie Findley, Jithender Gundawar, Zane Hoover, Valerie Letukas, Kendra Soblesky, Trinity Stempko, Andrew Troutman, and Catherine Willis.**

BAHS Students Honored by College

The College of Science and Technology held its annual spring banquet in March at Kehr Union. The following members of Tri-Beta Biology Honor Society were honored for their outstanding performance in the classroom: **Katura Andrews, Nicholas Bixler, Kristi Brinckman, Rachel Brous, Sarah Bounds, Travis Castleberry, Courtney Dean, Kimberly Dodson, Kaylee Fischer, Jared Geissinger, Allison Grimm, Laura Halon, Robert Heim, Phuoc Ba Ho, Deborah Hunsberger, Kathleen Jackson, Aubrey Jones, Chris Kashi, Jennifer Krott, Cory LaVoie, Valerie Letukas, Talia McAlister, Jamilah Patton, Krista Rae Petruskevich, Sydney Schreck, Jonathan Snavelly, Brock Solomon, Trinity Stempko, Jessica Teders, Danielle Wartko, Jamie Willour, Ashley Yelinek, and William Young.**



COST Research Day

The College of Science and Technology will host its fourth annual Research Day on Friday, May 4 to showcase faculty and student research. This special event coincides with Reading Day (no classes will be held). Everyone is welcome to attend. All events will be held in Hartline Science Center. The program features a variety of poster presentations and talks. Many of the students will also present their work at the Student Research and Creative Activities Poster Session on Thursday, May 3 at Kehr Union in Multipurpose Rooms A and B.



BAHS Presentations in Kuster Auditorium during COST Research Day on Friday, May 4:

Student/Faculty Mentor	Title of Presentation	Time
Laura Halon Dr. Kristen Brubaker	The Effect of Heat Shock on the Immune Related Gene, DAF-16, in the Leaf-cutting bee, <i>Megachile apicalis</i>	8:45
Oluwasayo Adeyemo Dr. Judith Kipe-Nolt	The effects of inoculant and aeration on the survival of coliforms and coliphage in dairy manure	9:00
Stephanie Findley Dr. George Chamuris	A Comparison of Bark Beetle Infestation Levels at Two Study Sites	9:45
Mallory Garnett Kristin Field Dr. Margaret Till	Casein & Casein Hydrolysate Preference Scores for CD-1 Mice Fed Dough or Pellets	11:15
Shirshendu Saha Dr. George Davis	The Cloning and Characterization of the Iron-Phytosiderophore Transporter from <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	11:30
Ashley Yelinek Drs. Cynthia Surmacz Swapn Mookerjee Eric Rawson	Relationship between tethered swimming and race performance in competitive male and female swimmers	12:45
Jonathan Molinari Dr. George Davis	The Cloning and Characterization of the Iron-Phytosiderophore Transporter from <i>Avena sativa</i>	1:00
Cory Lavoie Dr. Steven Rier	Extracellular enzyme activities as indicators of ecosystem function in headwater and middle order streams	1:15
Michael Dzwonek Dr. Steven Rier	Top-down effects of stocked trout on the benthic food web of Fishing Creek	1:30
Trinity Stempko Drs. John Hranitz and Cindy Venn	Nucleotide Variation Using Partial Sequence of the Cytochrome c oxidase Subunit I Gene in Gooseneck Barnacles (<i>Lepas anatifera</i>)	1:45

Additional Presentations in Kuster Auditorium during COST Research Day on Friday, May 4:

Braden Ott Dr. Carl Hansen	The Cloning and Characterization of the G-protein Gamma-7 sub-unit in Nototheniid Fishes	2:45
Danielle Wartko Joel Gyimesi Drs. Troy A. Baird John Hranitz	Population genetic structure Of collared lizards at Arcadia Lake Oklahoma	3:15
Amy Savitsky Drs. John F. Barthell John Hranitz Kristin Brubaker	Intraspecific variation at the HSP70 gene in a solitary leafcutting bee	3:30
Zack Wert Dr. Clay Corbin	Comparison of habitat selection of woodpeckers in the Conrad Weiser State Forest	4:15

Student/Faculty	Title of Poster
Jared Geissinger Dr. Cynthia Surmacz	Comparative Toxicity of Sodium Chloride and Sodium Formiate in <i>Lumbriculus variegatus</i>

BAHS at PAS

BAHS faculty and students attended the recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science (PAS) held in Monroeville, PA. **Dr. Hranitz, Laura Halon, Dr. Brubaker** and co-investigators Drs. Yocum and Barthell presented *Nucleotide Variation in 70 kD and 90 kD Stress Protein Genes among Three Species of Bee*. **Dr. Corbin and Melissa Scubelek** presented *Subspecies Integrity Within the African Blue Flycatcher Complex (*Elminia longicauda*)*. Dr. Corbin also chaired the morning session on Vertebrate Ecology. **Ashley**

Yelinek (right) presented her honors thesis entitled *Relationship between tethered swimming and race performance in competitive male and female swimmers*. Her collaborators are **Dr. Surmacz** and **Drs. Swapan Mookerjee and Eric Rawson** from Exercise Science.





Pre-professional Committee News

Pre-Medicine Club Updates

The Pre-Medicine Club had a busy spring semester. The club hosted guest speakers, ran MCAT review sessions, raised funds on Valentine's Day, and participated in the recent Siblings and Children's Carnival. Officers for the 2007-2008 academic year were recently elected. Leading the pre-medicine club will be: President, **Nick Bixler**; Vice President, **Pam Hudock**; Secretary, **Kyle Bartol**; Treasurer, **Yveny Eustache**; and Public Relations, **Eileen Burkett**.



Calling All Pre-Dental Students

The booklet, 2008 Information for Applicants, from the Associated American Dental Schools Application Service is now available from Dr. Joseph Ardizzi.

Time to Visit!

The SUNY College of Optometry in New York City is hosting an open house on Thursday, May 24, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The open house will address requirements, procedures, and the cost of attending. Please RSVP by May 22, 2007 by calling 1-800-291-3937 or by e-mail admissions@sunyopt.edu



What are your Summer Plans?

Summer MCAT

The MCAT is a standardized exam required for admission to allopathic, osteopathic, and many veterinary schools. The exam assesses mastery in biology, general and organic chemistry, physics, scientific problem solving, critical thinking, and writing skills. Summer MCAT exams are offered May 11, 16, and 25; June 15; July 13 and 24; August 9, 14, 16, and 20; and September 7 and 8. To register go to: <http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm>

Summer Vacation Ideas

The committee wishes all pre-professional students a rewarding, relaxing, and rejuvenating summer. Remember summer is a great time to job-shadow. Many students also choose to do their volunteer work during the summer. Rising juniors are reminded to submit their completed application packets to the committee by the end of the summer or the start of the fall semester at the latest.

Primary Care Scholars Program

Pamela Hudock and **Essie Reed** will head to the Penn State College of Medicine this summer for the Primary Care Scholars Program. The program is for pre-medicine students who have completed their sophomore or junior years of college and are interested in becoming a primary care physician. During the first week, students are exposed to primary care in seminars and group sessions at the Hershey Medical Center. Students spend the second week in the office of a primary care physician.

GRE Preparation Course Offered

Penn State's Office of Career Services will hold a preparation course for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) on June 9-10, 2007 at the University Park campus. The GRE is a standardized exam required for many graduate and some professional programs. **PLEASE NOTE: This course is on the existing GRE, which will not be offered again after July 31, 2007.** Cost is \$295.00 for 14 hours of instruction, extensive handouts, and real GRE questions. A flyer and registration materials can be found at http://www.sa.psu.edu/career/PDF/GRE_Prep_Courses.pdf

Check out the Pre-Pro/Pre-Grad Community

Dr. Bell, Chemistry Department, has set up an online community on Blackboard to assist students interested in attending professional or graduate school. The site contains exam study aids, helpful links, a discussion board, announcements, and a "word of the week" to build that ever important vocabulary for standardized tests. For more information, see Dr. Bell.

Allied Health Updates



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MI AND CLS STUDENTS

ALL CLS and MI students who applied for clinical programs this year must see Dr. Kipe-Nolt before the end of the semester if you have not yet done so. This includes those who have been accepted into clinicals and those who have not.

BAHS Students Accepted to Clinical Programs

The following students have signed up (completed the paper work with Dr. Kipe-Nolt).

Radiography

Wyoming Valley – Tracy Stach, Peter Rigel, Jeanne Roszel,
Geisinger – Georgia Palmeter, Jaclyn Nyce, Tony Divel, Tina Stere, Michael Edwards, Kevin Wray
Reading – Rebecca Heisey, Caitlyn Scout, Rachel Sorber
Johns Hopkins – Samantha Langley, Katie Krause
Univ. Pennsylvania – Ashley Leimbach, Jason Craig

Sonography

Thomas Jefferson – Heather McWatters, Cori Suplee
Wyoming Valley – Sarah Bucchi, Dawn Tobias
Misericordia – Nikkiea Sabatino

Good luck as you begin this new chapter in your education!

Nuclear Medicine

Johns Hopkins – Raymond Castillo

Clinical Laboratory Science

York Hospital – Andrea Finch, Kimberly Maddalozzo
Robert Packer – Alessa Dalpiaz, Zane Hoover

BAHS Students Consider Bioethical Issues

A full house was present at the Kehr Union Ballroom for “Biotechnology, Bioresearch, and Bioethics: Their Significance for our Shared Humanity,” the keynote address of the 16th annual Health Sciences Symposium. The featured speaker was Dr. F. Daniel Davis, Executive Director of the President’s Council on Bioethics, a federal advisory commission based in Washington, D.C. During Friday’s concurrent sessions, **Dr. Gary Wassmer** discussed the bioethical issues raised by “Designer Babies.” The symposium also included student posters and a health fair. Many BAHS students participated in the event. **Laura Halon** and **Rachel Brous** were on the student poster judging committee and announced the award winners at the evening keynote. Our cheerful poster set-up committee (even at 7 a.m.!) consisted of **Rachel Brous, Talia McAlister, Sayo Adeyemo, Michelle Sienkiewicz, and Zane Hoover**. The following students were on the facilities committee: **Alisa Atno, Kay Blyler, Stephanie Bogert, Lindsay Bower, Danielle Clites, Michelle Fortin, Kristen Foust, Katie Fredericks, Lisa Gifford, Sacha Grochowski, Alex Hildenbrandt, Amanda Hudak, Laura Labiak, Justin Lavo, Shannon Lichty, Lara McDonough, Amanda Peterman, Elizabeth Podlasinski, Jennifer Simpson, Erica Still, Nicole Szczesniak, Joanie Thomas, and Nicole Yost**. The following students in Anatomy and Physiology II were award winners:

First place: Achy Breaky Heart - **Katie Fredericks, Shannon Lichty, Elizabeth Podlasinski, Autumn Umberger**

Second place: Hydrocephalus: Battle of the Brain and CSF - **Kay Blyler, Jennifer Simpson**

Third place: Asthma - **Alex Hilderbrandt, Justin Lavo, Laura Labiak**

Honorable Mention:

A Hole in the Heart: A look at ventricular septal defect: **Christina Diak, Sara Dunmire, Geno Zini**

Got Marfan's? Abe Does! **Alisa Atno, Stephanie Bogert, Sacha Grochowski, Nicole Yost**

Sweet Dreams Disrupted by Sleep Apnea - **Maggey Bloskey, Nikki Root**

Allied Health Scholarship Opportunity

Benjamin Cummings, a publishing company, is sponsoring a scholarship competition and will present five \$1,000 awards to allied health students. The goal of this contest is to share your ideas on how to improve public health. A poster describing the competition is on the bulletin board outside 161 Hartline Science Center. As part of the scholarship application you must submit a 1—2 page essay describing your solutions to health care issues such as infectious disease, access to health care, and disease prevention. To be eligible, you must currently be taking Anatomy & Physiology or Microbiology or have done so in the past two years. Application forms may be obtained from **Dr. Surmacz**, 268 Hartline. Deadline is November 1, 2007.



BAHS Seniors Moving on...



Kristi Brinckman will gain some clinical experience over the next year and will then apply to a physician assistant graduate program.

Bryan Crandall will enter the doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program at Arcadia University.

Mallory Garnett plans to take a year off and then apply to both medical school (Psychiatry) and graduate school (Clinical Psychology).

Courtney Dean will enter the doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program at Thomas Jefferson University.

Stephanie Findlay has been offered a position at the ecological consulting firm, Aqua-Niche. Her job will consist mainly of carrying out biological assessments of wetlands.

Kaylee Fischer will attend Chatham College to pursue a doctor of physical therapy (DPT) degree.

Laura Halon is going to Drexel College of Medicine for Pathology Assistant.

Rob Heim will enter the two year physician assistant program at Arcadia University.

Matt Hertz will attend DeSales University in Allentown where he will be in an accelerated bachelor of science in nursing program.

Phuoc Ba Ho will attend Russell Sage College to pursue a career in physical therapy.

Kevin Hudson will conduct research this summer at Sam Houston University in Texas on the Evolution of Sexual Selection in Fish Mating Systems. Kevin's research is part of the Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) program funded by the National Science Foundation. Kevin then plans to take a year off to back pack across Europe and then attend graduate school at Temple University.

Katie Jackson will start at the Physicians Assistant Program at Marywood University in May.

Chris Kashi will enter the physician assistant program at Drexel University.

Brian Kriebel will attend Harcum College and enroll in the physical therapy assistant program.

Cory Lavoie will attend graduate school in Baltimore at Towson University. Cory was awarded a teaching assistantship and will teach a biology laboratory. He will conduct research related to stream ecosystems.

Jonathan Molinari plans to work for the research & development or manufacturing department of a biotechnology of pharmaceutical company.

Megan Saner is finishing up her CT program at Johns Hopkins Hospital and will take her board exams in late May. After that, Megan plans to continue working at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Holly Seymour will pursue a second bachelor's degree in radiologic science at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Brock Solomon will begin his studies in May in the physician assistant program at Lock Haven University. He will specialize in rural healthcare and hopes to eventually serve on medical missions trips around the world.

Jessica Teders will enroll in the physician assistant program at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM).

Ashley Yelinek is waiting to hear from a couple medical schools. She plans on taking classes next year and reapplying for fall admission 2008.



Congratulations to all of our seniors! For those of you who are not certain of your plans, please send an e-mail to Dr. Surmacz in the future so we may share your good news! (csurmacz@bloomu.edu)

Focus on Research

Stephanie Findley (right) has studied the bark beetle populations at four sites: the BU campus, Rickett's Glen, Jakey's Hollow, and Conrad Weiser State Forest. Stephanie's research compared the abundance and species diversity between the sites. Stephanie will present her project at the COST Research Day. **Dr. George Chamuris** is her research mentor. After graduation, Stephanie has been offered a position at the ecological consulting firm, Aqua-Niche. Her job will consist mainly of carrying out biological assessments of wetlands.



Cory Lavoie, a graduating senior in the environmental biology option, will work this summer at the Department of Environmental Protection in the West Nile Virus Control Program.

Mike Dzwonek will work as a research assistant with Dr. Rier this summer. They will conduct pilot studies on the Susquehanna River to assess ways to measure ecosystem function.

Aubrey Jones will spend the summer in New England working in fisheries biology.

Dave Kessler, a freshman biology major, will work with **Drs. Corbin** and **Hranitz** on a study of the genetic integrity of subspecies designations in the African Blue Flycatcher (*Elminia longicauda*). Dave will learn techniques such as DNA extraction, amplification, sequencing and gel visualization. This research is being partially funded by a BU Collaborative Research Grant awarded to Drs. Corbin and Hranitz. Please let Dr. Corbin know if you are interested in participating. They have room for more lab and field partners.

Graduate student **Chelsea Barnes** recently shared her expertise in tortoises with a first grade class at Memorial Elementary School. Chelsea even made the local newspaper!.

Several undergraduates were accepted into prestigious Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) Programs funded by the National Science Foundation.

Valerie Letukas will attend the REU program at the University of Iowa where she will conduct research on the Herpes virus.

Amy Savitsky will travel to Greece and Turkey this summer as part of a REU program to collect bees for the subsequent study of heat shock proteins

Kevin Hudson will conduct research this summer at Sam Houston University in Texas on the Evolution of Sexual Selection in Fish Mating Systems.

Student Research Funds Available

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Biologists (CPUB) is awarding grants of up to \$400 to undergraduate and graduate students to fund equipment and supplies for research. To apply, students must submit a cover letter, a detailed proposal, a resume, and a supporting letter from the faculty research mentor. Proposals must be written by the student and must include an introduction, materials and methods, references, and a budget. The deadline is September 11, 2007. See the CPUB website for application materials: <http://academics.sru.edu/cpub/>



Thanks to all of you who helped to make this academic year a successful one! That includes our departmental secretary, student secretaries, work study students, lab assistants, members of our clubs and organizations (Biology and Allied Health Club, Pre-Medicine Club members, and Tri-Beta Honor Society) volunteers at Open House, the Science Iditarod, and the Health Sciences Symposium, graduate assistants, research students, and all of you who make this a great place to teach and learn!

We Saw you at Siblings' and Children's Carnival

The Pre-medicine club and Tri-Beta braved the cold "spring" weather to provide games for children on the Alumni House Lawn for the Siblings' and Children's Weekend Carnival. It was a fun time complete with clowns, cotton candy, balloons, popcorn, and prizes! The Pre-Medicine club entertained the children with face-painting, a ping-pong ball toss, and a tic tac toe game. Tri-Beta delighted the young ones with a home-made, life-sized bone puzzle game called "Know Bones About it." Tri-Beta received second prize for most creative game!



Nick Bixler at the ping-pong ball toss (above). **Sarah Bounds** and **Talia McAlister** are working hard (below).



Jess Teders and **Laura Halon** pose with **Joel Gyimesi** (Blue) .



Mallory, Pam and **Kristen** get ready paint faces!



Kim Dodson, Allison Grimm, and Jennifer Krott and "Bones."

News from the Radiologist Assistant Program

BU's new radiologist assistant program bridges the gap between radiologic technologists and radiologist physicians. RAs will work under the supervision of a radiologist to perform such duties as patient interaction, performance of certain radiology procedures that are currently conducted by a radiologist, and participation in the systematic analysis of the quality of patient care in radiology. Below (left) RA students **Brianna Wilkins**, **Henry Batiste**, and **Lynn Ritz** practice the technique of lumbar puncture on a manikin as part of their Radiologic Procedures and Image Evaluation 1 course. Below (right) RA Program Director **Mrs. Christine Mehlbaum** and Carol McGhee, president of the Radiology Practitioner Assistants/Radiologist Assistant Society of Pennsylvania, stand near a recruiting exhibit displayed at the Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists meeting that was held in Altoona, PA in March 2007.



News You Can Use

Important Dates:

Reading Days: No Classes: Thursday and Friday, May 3 and 4

Finals Week: Monday, May 7 to Saturday, May 12

Undergraduate Commencement: Saturday, May 12. There are two undergraduate commencement ceremonies and they will be held on upper campus at Redman Stadium. The ceremony for the College of Science and Technology will be in the morning at 10:00 a.m. Graduate Commencement is Friday, May 11 in Haas Auditorium.

Deadline to submit an application and proposal for Undergraduate Research in Biology:

For Summer: Last day of classes in spring semester

For Fall: Last day of classes in spring semester

(These are deadlines for submission of proposals to the Dean's office.)

Deadline to sign-up for Internships:

For Summer: 2nd day of classes of chosen summer session

For Fall: 5th day of classes, fall semester

(Internship proposals must be turned in much earlier for sites with which the university does not have an affiliation.)

Alumni Updates

Nicholas Ernst (Biology minor, 2006) has taken a biology field technician position in the wild back-country of Washington State's Cascade Mountains. For several months, Nick will be trapping, radio-tagging, banding and following Clark's Nutcrackers (a species closely related to jays and crows). The goal of the study is to understand movement and space use patterns of this important seed dispersing species.

Nathan Mutic (BS Biology, 2006) will attend Vanderbilt University to pursue a PhD in Neuroscience under the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program.

Michele Sienkiewicz (BA Biology, 2006) will enter the DPT program at Scranton University.