New CANCAS Officers and Campus Liaisons

CANCAS Officers and Campus Liaisons for the 2012-2013 year were selected at the CANCAS/NCAS Annual Meeting held at Campbell University on March, 2012.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Jennifer Floyd</td>
<td>Mount Olive College</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Sam Kelly</td>
<td>Guilford College</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Katie St. Clair</td>
<td>Campbell University</td>
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<td>Historians</td>
<td>Michael Khayat &amp; Tatum Lemly</td>
<td>Guilford College</td>
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<td>Campus Liaison</td>
<td>Krystal Taylor Piotrowski</td>
<td>Campbell University</td>
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<td>Campus Liaison</td>
<td>Morgan Gregg</td>
<td>Elon University</td>
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<td>Campus Liaison</td>
<td>Canna Zheng</td>
<td>Guilford College</td>
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<td>Campus Liaison</td>
<td>Leah Sigmon</td>
<td>Lenoir–Rhyne University</td>
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<td>Campus Liaison</td>
<td>April Tucker</td>
<td>Mount Olive College</td>
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Pictured left to right: Tatum Lemly, Michael Khayat, Jennifer Floyd, Sam Kelly and Katie St. Clair.

CANCAS/NCAS 2012 Annual Meeting

Derieux Awards

The CANCAS/NCAS Annual Meeting was held at Campbell University on March 23-25, 2012. Over 47 posters and 36 presentations were presented by CANCAS members. Derieux Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate research were presented at the banquet and awards Program. Award Recipients in each category are listed below:

**Oral Presentations - Microbiology, Cell Biology, and Biotechnology**

1. **Marcus Ford*, Victoria Ellis, Morgan Campbell, Sandra Westergaard, John Bartlett-** Campbell University. Prevalence of Methacillin Resistant Staph Aureus (MRSA) on Campbell University Campus and the Efficacy of Current Cleaning Products
2. **Morgan J. Gregg* and Dr. Yuko J. Miyamoto-** Elon University. Examining The Role of mTOR if T cell Proliferation Under Immunosuppression by Rapamycin
3. **Lydia B. Shedlofsky-Guilford College.** The effect of mutating the FMN riboswitch into the permanently off position on the virulence of *P. lumenscens*

The whole of science is nothing more than a refinement of everyday thinking. ~Albert Einstein
CANCAS meeting continued

Oral Presentations - Physiology, Toxicology, Biochemistry, Health & Environmental Sciences I & II

1. **Melanie A. Kemp* and Vicki Collins** - Warren-Wilson College. Palatability and Nutritive Content of Wolffia for Warren Wilson College Laying Hens
2. (tie) **Janna A. Joyner** - Peace College. Analysis of PCB accumulation within trophic levels of biota inhabiting an EPA superfund watershed.
3. (tie) **Jessica Schaner* and Dean Kahl** - Warren Wilson College. Untapped Abundance: Antioxidants in Edible Invasive Plants
5. (tie) **Laura M. Lilley* and Dean Kahl** - Warren Wilson College. The Mutarotation of Glucose in Dimethyl Sulfoxide

Oral Presentation - Zoology, Botany, and Ecology

1. **Andres Camacho** - Lenoire-Rhyne University. Behavioral response of subterranean termite *Reticulitermes virginicus* as a result of exposure to acoustical vibrations
2. **Alice Sloan* and Michael Torres** - Warren Wilson College. The Suitability of Lower Peterson Creek (Queensland, Australia) as Habitat for the Platypus, *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*

Poster Presentation - Ecology, Toxicology, Health Sciences Physiology and Science Education

1. **Victoria Ellis* and Karen Guzman** - Campbell University. Lasting effects of chronic caffeine dosage on heart rate, growth rate and activity of zebrafish embryos

Poster Session - Cellular, Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, and Pharmacology

1. **Grace Anderson, Almagul Kanafina, Emily Lehman, Paul Steimle** - UNCG. Identification and Characterization of a Myosin II Heavy Chain Kinases (MHCK-D) in Dictyostelium
2. (Tie) **Brittany L. White** - Elon University. The establishment of successful talin knockdown and appropriate conditions for inducing focal adhesion kinase (FAK) phosphorylation in mammalian cells (HEK293AD)
3. (tie) **Ben Dyer and Michelle S. Thomas** Campbell University. Cloning and Characterization of the Coxiella burnetii Macrophage Infectivity Potentiator Protein
4. **Michael T. Wyngarden**, Mary B. Hawkins - NCSU. Binding Properties and Function of *M. undulatus* Estrogen Receptors with Chlordane and the Effects of Amino Acid Mutation on Binding

The capacity to blunder slightly is the real marvel of DNA. Without this special attribute, we would still be anaerobic bacteria and there would be no music. - Lewis Thomas
CANCAS NEW NOTES

CANCAS Meeting Continued

Poster Session - Microbiology, Chemistry, & Astronomy

1. Jeremy D. Griffin and David N. Judge-Gardner-Webb University. Analysis of Pungency Chemicals in Ginger Soft Drinks by HPLC
2. Ashley Williams and Parke Rublee-UNCG. Do physical characteristics and human use affect the aquatic microbial community of lakes on Mount Desert Island, Maine?
3. David R. Citron, Taek You, Larsen, and Sang Seob Lee-Campbell University. Discovery and Identification of Environmental Microorganisms from Soil Samples of Buies Creek, North Carolina

Poster Session - Zoology/Botany

2. Krystal T. Piotrowski and John C. Havran-Campbell University. Floral Morphological Comparison of Two Closely Related Hawaiian Violets
3. LaShonda M. Caine*, Bobbie J. Legg, Sean P. Graham and David A. Beamer-Nash Community College. The Phylogeography of the Seepage Salamander (Desmognathus aeneus)

Congratulations Award Recipients!

Announcements:

The NCAS exhibit at the Astronomy Days Celebration scheduled for May 20-21 has been cancelled. The exhibit is expected to be rescheduled for January. Thanks to those of you who offered to volunteer. More details to come!

Other News:

Undergraduate Research Workshop
Planning for the Fall Undergraduate Research Workshop is underway. It will be held at Bennett College in Greensboro, NC on October 27. Watch the News Notes and website for more information!

www.cancas.org

Stay Informed! If you are a faculty advisor, please remember to forward the news notes to your students. If they would like the News Notes to reach them directly, please have them send a request to Michele Malotky (mmalotky@guilford.edu) indicating their name, email and which group (club, department) with which they are associated.

Updated Membership list for 2011-2012
Group Members: Campbell University, Elon University, Guilford College, Lenoir-Rhyne University, Meredith College, Mount Olive College, NC State University, Peace College, Queens University of Charlotte, UNC-Greensboro, TriBeta at UNC-Pembroke, Warren Wilson College

Individual members: Andrew Blank-UNC-Greensboro, Robert Thornhill-NCSU, Nick Jones-East Carolina University, Brittany Keim-Campbell University.

Final Note:
Do you have news to share? All news items, suggestions and comments can be directed to Dr. Michele Malotky (mmalotky@guilford.edu)

CHEERS!

Remember to pay your 2012-2013 dues at the beginning of the academic year! WWW.CANCAS.ORG