Spotlight on RU-27 Glider Celebration

On March 4, Cook Campus Dean Rick Ludescher (Food Science) greeted the university community that gathered at the Rutgers Student Center to welcome home RU-27, “The Scarlet Knight,” following her heroic transatlantic journey to Spain, and praised the mission that made history in oceanographic exploration. Rutgers President Richard L. McCormick addressed students, faculty, staff, and visitors and congratulated the glider and documentary teams on their success. “This epitomizes the new era of undergraduate education at Rutgers University—marked by inter-departmental and interdisciplinary cooperation, strengthened bonds between students and faculty, and enriched experiential learning,” McCormick said.

Several Rutgers deans addressed the audience, including Robert M. Goodman, Douglas Greenberg, and Tom Farris. Dena Seidel from Rutgers Writer’s House presented a documentary of the glider’s journey. Scott Glenn and Oscar Schofield (Marine and Coastal Sciences) introduced the student members of the glider team. Glenn announced future glider projects, including the ambitious Challenger Mission to circumnavigate the globe. Read more.

Clockwise, from top left: celebrants gather at the RSC; Scott Glenn being interviewed; students from the RU-27 mission control and documentary teams touch “Scarlet Knight”; and Doug Webb (facing camera), of Teledyne-Webb Research, a key partner institution in the RU-27 mission. Webb designed the Slocum Electric glider, of which the Scarlet Knight is the latest version.
Founding Director of New Jersey Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health

On March 1, Peter J. Gillies, former DuPont Fellow, began his tenure as the founding director of the New Jersey Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health, whose new home is the Rutgers George H. Cook Campus. The institute is a signature initiative that will build on the university’s extensive and pioneering work in the fields of agriculture, food science, nutrition science, and human health. According to Robert M. Goodman, executive dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources, “Gillies’ strong ties to scientific and professional networks, combined with his prominence in the field of nutritional genomics, moves Rutgers a major step forward to its goal of bringing the best in research and education to respond to the urgent and growing challenges to nutrition and human health the world over.” Gillies is a recognized expert in lipid and lipoprotein metabolism with long standing research interests in the fields of toxicology, cardiovascular drug discovery, and molecular nutrition. Throughout his career, Gillies maintained adjunct professorships with major universities including the Pennsylvania State University, the University of Toronto, and the University of Delaware where he supervised Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows. He is a Fellow of the American Heart Association, an elected member of the Society of Toxicology, and member of the American Society of Nutrition, the International Society for the Study of Fats and Lipids, and the National Lipid Association. The University’s initiative in food, nutrition, and health will advance translational nutrition through an integrated network of interdisciplinary collaboration among Rutgers scholars who conduct research in related areas such as pharmacy, psychology, social work, and biomedical engineering, with the aim of focusing the collective effort on specific problems related to food, health, and nutrition. Read more.

Schaffner Recognized by Food Industry Groups

Don Schaffner (Food Science) has been elected Secretary of the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP). Schaffner will take office at the conclusion of IAFP 2010 in Anaheim, CA, and will fulfill a five-year commitment to the Association, serving as President in 2013–2014. The IAFP represents more than 3,400 food safety professionals committed to advancing food safety worldwide. The association includes educators, government officials, microbiologists, food industry executives, and quality control professionals who are involved in all aspects of growing, storing, transporting, processing, and preparing all types of foods. Working together, IAFP members, representing more than 70 countries, help the association achieve its mission through networking, educational programs, journals, career opportunities, and numerous other resources. In addition to this honor, Schaffner was recently elected an Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) fellow. According to the IFT, “Election as an IFT Fellow is a unique professional distinction conferred for outstanding and extraordinary contributions in the field of food science and technology.”
Spotlight

Youth Education and Employment Success Center Celebrates 2 Years of Success

“Celebrating Success: The 2nd Anniversary of the YE²S Center” took place on February 22, with notable guest speakers including Mayor Cory A. Booker of Newark, Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Robert M. Goodman, Rutgers-Newark Chancellor Steven Diner, Newark Public Schools Office of the Superintendent representative Daniel Gohl, and YE²S Center participating youths. The afternoon provided a chance for over 150 youth, staff, partners, AmeriCorps volunteers, and community members to learn about current initiatives, educational programs, partner services, and reasons to celebrate the growing success of the Newark Youth Success Center. Student speakers included representatives of the newly expanded Performance Learning Centers, alternative education models developed through a partnership between Communities In Schools of New Jersey and the Newark Public Schools’ Office of Alternative Education, and housed at the YE²S Center.

A number of alternative education options for students have seen expansion this year with the development of the Alternative High School Initiative in Newark. The YE²S Center has serviced over 1,350 disconnected young people, including dropouts, truant, and court-involved youth, in the past year alone, connecting them to meaningful educational and employment opportunities. The YE²S Center partner network has grown to over 100 organizations. This dedicated network continues to shape the center into a dynamic, engaging and safe environment for youth development. Staff and partners remain dedicated to building productive futures for the youth of Newark, and together, look forward to further success in year three!

The YE²S Center is managed in large part by Rutgers University’s Transitional Education and Employment Management (T.E.E.M.) Gateway and has served 1,300 young people this year alone. Ken Karamichael directs Rutgers T.E.E.M. Gateway/YE²S Center, which is a unit of NJAES Office of Continuing Professional Education (OCPE).
Spotlight
Launch of Rutgerscience Saturday Program
The 4-H Department of Youth Development kicked off its inaugural Rutgerscience Saturday program on March 13. This 4-H program is designed to spur youth interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and expose youth to the roots and global reach of Rutgers cutting edge science. 4-H welcomed 37 middle school youth and their parents to experience a variety of research science topics at the School of the Environment and Biological Sciences at Rutgers University. Oscar Schofield (Marine Sciences) explored the issue of our changing environment and shared his research experience in Antarctica.

Michael Kornitas, Rutgers energy conservation manager, and students from the Rutgers Energy Institute, David Michael (undergraduate student, Engineering) and Jed Drolet (undergraduate student, Urban Planning and Policy), discussed alternative energy research at Rutgers. David Tulloch (Landscape Architecture; CRSSA) provided hands-on computer laboratory activity focused on how scientists are using remote sensing technology to understand a changing landscape. Josh Kohut (Marine and Coastal Sciences) turned the youth into swimming fishes on human sized chess boards, to simulate the effects of warming temperatures on Mid Atlantic waters. 4-H SET Agent Janice McDonnell shared how a warming ocean is affecting its living inhabitants including coral reefs.

Overall, the youths rated the program excellent (4.4 of a 5.0 scale). A second program in the series will be held on April 10 at the Rutgers Geology Museum.

Visit the 4-H Science Engineering & Technology (SET) website for more information.
Spotlight
Assessing New Jersey's Coastal Ocean and Coastal Bay Ecosystems
Michael J. Kennish, a research professor in the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences (IMCS), is leading a team of Rutgers researchers conducting a comprehensive and innovative ecological assessment of New Jersey’s coastal ocean and coastal bay ecosystems. Working in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Kennish and colleagues at IMCS and the Center for Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences at Rutgers are collecting extensive databases on key water quality and biotic indicators of environmental condition. This will help to determine the overall ecological health of these waters, as well as where impairments currently exist and where environmental remediation must be focused in future years to improve estuarine and marine conditions.

One of the major goals of this work is to develop new measures of assessment for estuarine and marine waters with state and federal resource management agencies. The ecosystem-based assessment of nearshore ocean waters, ongoing since 2007, is also targeting the effects of low dissolved oxygen historically located in four nodal areas between Sandy Hook and Cape May. Ecological assessment of the coastal bay systems (Barnegat Bay and Little Egg Harbor), ongoing since 2003, is principally targeting the effects of nutrient enrichment and eutrophication which have been responsible for the cascading alteration of ecosystem structure and function of these waterbodies. Results of studies in these bays will include the development of thresholds of biotic and numerical loading criteria to support nutrient management planning to mitigate impacts on biotic communities.

A total of 100 probabilistic stations were sampled in the nearshore ocean from Sandy Hook to Cape May in the summer of 2007. An additional 53 probabilistic stations were sampled in the summer of 2009. More than 80 probabilistic stations are scheduled to be sampled in 2010. Analyses of the ocean samples are ongoing, and results are expected in 2010 and 2011. In the coastal bays, 120 stations have been sampled annually since 2004, with results also expected in 2010 and 2011. The long-term goal is to extend this ecosystem assessment to all coastal waters of New Jersey to protect biotic communities, recreational and commercial fisheries, water quality, and habitats.

The methods and findings by Rutgers scientists along the New Jersey shore will provide a blueprint for the assessment of estuarine and marine ecosystem conditions in other coastal states around the country, demonstrating the vital role that the University is also playing in environmental protection of estuarine and marine waters nationwide.
**Spotlight**

**New Graduate Certificate in Energy**

The Rutgers Energy Institute has announced the offering of a graduate certificate in Energy, under the auspices of the Graduate School–New Brunswick. The certificate will take advantage of the several energy-related courses offered at Rutgers, as well as ongoing research at our university involving all aspects of energy. The Graduate Certificate in Energy will build on the diversity, magnitude, and variety of Rutgers resources in science, engineering and public policy by enabling graduate students to cross over to courses outside of their graduate program and enrich their background in energy. Any graduate student in a natural sciences or engineering graduate program is eligible to apply for the Graduate Certificate in Energy. Once accepted, the student must choose three courses from a list of approved courses. The certificate will be issued after the student completes all degree requirements for their programs of study. For further information visit the Rutgers Energy Institute or the Graduate School–New Brunswick. Students who receive the Graduate Certificate in Energy will receive a broad exposure to the topics and challenges in energy and they will have stronger qualifications to pursue a career in industry, government, and academia upon graduation, as well as become leaders in innovation.

**Oh, the Interesting Courses We Teach!**

Have you ever wondered what types of insects that trout eat while they swim around in New Jersey’s streams? Or what times of the year do certain insects eaten by trout abound? Or what those insects look like? Or why anyone would actually care?

If you have, then “Entomology for Anglers” may be the course for you. Entomology for Anglers was first taught by the late Louis Vasvary (extension specialist in entomology) during the 1970s and 1980s and was re instituted in 2002. The course is designed to teach students about the insects that are eaten by trout, how to identify them, and when these insects are plentiful. The intrepid students who sign-up, and there are many, learn about what patterns fly fishermen use to imitate these insects and how to tie them. The course is open to students and faculty alike but is limited to 20 enrolled, so only the early birds get a spot.

So, sign up for Entomology for Anglers, Ag & Environmental Sciences, 11:015:256. Course instructors are Frank Carle (assistant research professor, Entomology) and George Hamilton (extension specialist, Entomology).

Send in your interesting course for inclusion in this report to quintin@aesop.rutgers.edu.
Faculty and Staff Activities and Accomplishments

Steven Handel (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources) has won the 2010 School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and NJAES Research Excellence Award for Sustained Research and Impact. This award is presented to a faculty member whose research has demonstrated sustained excellence; achieved broad recognition; published in highly visible outlets; and had a major long-term impact on the scientific community, as evidenced by grants or awards or through recognition by industry, government, public policy, or the general public.

Lena Struwe (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources) and a member of both the Ecology and Evolution and Plant Biology graduate programs, received the Excellence in Graduate Faculty Teaching. Struwe was nominated by the Department of Plant Biology with a co-nomination from the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Natural Resources.

Congratulations to Rebecca Jordan (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources) for her successful mentoring of three Ph.D. students, Wes Brooks, Steven Gray, and David Mellor, who all won recent Graduate School–New Brunswick awards.


John Reinfelder (Environmental Sciences) co-chaired the session titled “Mercury in the environment: From Maine to Florida,” at the Geological Society of America, Northeastern and Southeastern Sections Joint Meeting from March 13–16.

Alan Robock (Environmental Sciences) served as one of three panelists at the national press conference convened by the Union of Concerned Scientists to unveil the “U.S. Scientists and Economists’ Call for Swift and Deep Cuts in Greenhouse Gas Emissions,” a call to national leaders “to require immediate, deep reductions in heat-trapping emissions that cause global warming.” The statement was endorsed by over 2,000 scientists and economists and was delivered to all members of Congress.

Joseph Heckman (extension specialist in soil fertility) was one of several delegates from the United States who were invited to participate in the first Indo-USA Workshop on Silicon in Agriculture, held on February 25–27. Heckman presented a paper titled “Silicon nutrition benefits to pumpkin, corn, and wheat.” At left, Heckman is pictured at the Indo-USA Workshop on Silicon in Agriculture that was held at the University of Agriculture Sciences, Bangalore, India.
The Food Policy Institute research on food recalls is being featured as the basis for a new awareness campaign by the Partnership For Food Safety Education.

Joseph Clark (Plant Biology and Pathology) was selected by the State FFA Organization, formerly the Future Farmers of America, to receive an Honorary State FFA Degree. The award is given to those who “advance agricultural education and the FFA through outstanding personal commitment.” Clark will receive the award at the 81st New Jersey State FFA Convention to be held on the Douglass Campus on May 26.

Christopher Obropta (extension specialist in Water Resources), Salvatore Mangiafico (agricultural and resource management agent, Salem and Cumberland counties), Michele Bakacs (environmental agent for Middlesex and Union counties), and Amy Boyajian (program associate, Water Resources) presented posters at the USDA-NIFA Land Grant & Sea Grant National Water Conference, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. More than 500 attended the conference between February 21–24.

Peter Rona (Marine and Coastal Sciences) served on the Engineering and Math Panel of the National Academies Research Associateship Programs in Washington, DC, from March 11–12.

Student Activities and Accomplishments

David Mellor, a Ph.D. candidate in Rebecca Jordan’s lab (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources), received the GSNB Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching Award. Mellor is currently an instructor in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences’ Portals to Academic Student Success (PASS) program, where he serves as coordinator and instructor for science learning skills for freshman and science majors on academic probation. He has developed a curriculum for 100 students with the goal of decreasing science major attrition. Last year, Mellor was the head TA for the General Biology courses taught through the Division of Life Sciences, a position he attained after being a teaching assistant in General Biology for 4 years.

Steven Gray, a Ph.D. candidate in Rebecca Jordan’s lab (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources), received the Graduate Student Research Award. Steven has several publications in peer-reviewed journals and more in review. He has received funding for his research from NOAA, NSF, the EPA and a Rutgers University Governors Fellowship. His research covers areas as diverse as education research, risk management, and ecosystem-based resource management; specifically his studies are in the area of fisheries management.

Wes Brooks, a Ph.D. candidate in Rebecca Jordan’s lab (Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources), will be funded next year by a Bevier Fellowship for his research proposal titled “A community-based approach to biological invasions and its implications for ecological restoration.” The Bevier fellowship is awarded to a graduate student who has completed all the course work and requirements for the Ph.D. degree and is in the process of writing their thesis.
Grants and Gifts

A complete list of grants received can be found [here](#).

**Changlu Wang** (Entomology), collaborating with Timothy Gibb (Purdue University) on “Developing an Affordable Bed Bug Monitoring Tool and Community-based Bed Bug Management Programs in Low-Income Housing”, received a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant worth $251,453 for two years, starting June 1, 2010.

**Richard Ludescher** (Food Science) and **Rong Di** (Plant Biology and Pathology) are collaborators with Vikas Nanda PI (UMDNJ/CABM), Amale Laouar, and Peter Lobel on “Structure-based engineering of allergens to enhance digestibility,” received a NIH grant worth $429,000 for two years, starting April 1, 2010.

**Rong Di** PI (Plant Biology and Pathology) is collaborator with Lauren Levy (USDA-APHIS-PPQ-CPhST-NPGBL) on “Evaluation of surface Plasmon resonance (SPR) for the detection of quarantine plant pathogens and use of a portable SPR device (SPIRIT) in field labs”, received a USDA-APHIS grant worth $214,000 for two years, starting April 1, 2010.

Conferences, Seminars, and Other Events

**Dipak Sarkar** (Animal Sciences) conducted month-long collaborative research in London, UK, with Professor Gunter Schumann at the Institute of Psychiatry at King’s College. Sarkar is developing a multinational, multi-institutional NIH grant proposal involving scientists from Rutgers, Yale, King’s College in London, and the Indian Institute of Medical Science, to determine how a mother’s use of alcohol during pregnancy increases the child’s addictive behavior later in life. He plans to study complex genetic traits of both animal and human subjects utilizing state-of-the-art brain imaging.

**Sarah Ralston** (Animal Sciences) presented the following:
- “The unwanted horse” and “Responsible horse ownership” at the Equine Science Center Horse Management Seminar in New Brunswick, NJ.
- “Nutritional management of old horses” at the Southern States Advanced Equine Feed Master Meeting in Raleigh, NC.
- “Getting the most from old horses through nutrition” and “Getting the most reasonable control of insulin resistant horses” at the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association annual meeting in Roanoke, VA.

**Tom Leustek** (Plant Biology & Pathology; Biotech Center) organized a two-day Bioinformatics Workshop on Comparative Genomics held March 15–16 in the computer lab of Foran Hall. Andrew Hanson and Jeffrey Waller, bioinformatics experts from the University of Florida, presented the workshop for graduate students, postdocs, and faculty interested in discovery of gene function in plants and microbes. Twenty participants attended free of charge, thanks to sponsorship arranged by Leustek from the National Science Foundation and several Rutgers units,
including the Waksman Institute, Biotech Center, Plant Biology Graduate Program, and the Department of Plant Biology and Pathology. Hanson also presented a seminar on March 12 titled “Folate biofortification: What works, what doesn’t, and what might.” The seminar illustrated how bioinformatics tools can be used to develop hypotheses about the function of novel genes.

Gediminas Mainelis (Environmental Sciences) was invited to participate in the Stakeholders’ Panel on Agent Detection Assays (SPADA), organized by the AOAC International, contracted by the Department of Homeland Security’s Chemical/Biological Research and Development Section (CBRDS), in February.

Beth Ravit (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present “Oyster Restoration in an urbanized estuary: Lessons learned” at the Atlantic Estuarine Research Society (AERS) meeting in Atlantic City, NJ, on March 5.

Cesar Rodriguez-Saona (Entomology) was invited to present the following:
- “Integrating applied insect chemical ecology into blueberry pest management” to the Department of Entomology, Penn State University in State College, PA.
- “The ecological functions and applications in pest management of herbivore-induced plant volatiles” to the Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.
- “Cranberry tipworm” and “Cranberry industry in New Jersey” to the British Columbia Cranberry Congress, Vancouver, Canada.

John Reinfelder (Environmental Sciences) presented “Mercury volatilization from wetlands sediments,” at the Geological Society of America, Northeastern and Southeastern Sections Joint Meeting from March 13–16 March.

Alan Robock (Environmental Sciences) was invited to present “Volcanic eruptions and climate” at the University of Ottawa, Canada, on March 4.

Carol Byrd-Bredbenner (extension specialist in nutritional Sciences) presented “Food safety cognitions of middle schoolers and parents of middle schoolers” at the 2010 Food Safety Education Conference sponsored by the USDA in Atlanta, GA on March 25.

William Hallman (Food Policy Institute) presented “Food recalls: Connecting with consumers” at the 2010 Food Safety Education Conference, Advancements in Food Safety Education: Trends, Tools and Technologies, sponsored by the USDA in Atlanta, GA, on March 25.

Peter Rona (Marine and Coastal Sciences) presented a seminar, “Paleodictyon nodosum: A living fossil on the deep sea floor” at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington on March 10.

Judith Storch (Nutritional Sciences) was invited to participate in the External Advisory Board meeting for NIH-funded Nutrition Obesity Research Center at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill from March 22–23.
Publications and Editorships


Mainelis, G. (Environmental Sciences), and M. Tabayoyong. 2010. Effect of Sampling Time on the Overall Performance of the Portable Microbial Impactors. Aerosol Science and Technology. 44(1):75-82.


The 2010 GIBEX-East Africa Symposium and Training Workshop

Ilya Raskin (Biotech Center) led delegates from the Global Institute for Bioexploration-USA (GIBEX-USA) to the 2010 GIBEX-East Africa Symposium on “Botanicals: From research to commercialization” and a training workshop on Botanical Biodiversity Documentation/Screens-to-Nature technology (BBD/STN). The two events took place in Nairobi, Kenya, from March 15–20, and were organized by the GIBEX principal partner at the University of Nairobi (UoN), Professor Grace Thoithi (Dean of Pharmacy, UoN) and Associate Director for GIBEX-Africa, Albert Ayeni (Plant Biology and Pathology).

The symposium attracted 70 participants from East African institutions and two US Universities (Rutgers and North Carolina State University [NCSU]). The keynote speaker at the symposium, J.W. Mwangi (professor of Pharmacognosy, UoN), discussed “East African endowments for natural product–based health products: Untapped economic opportunities.” Baldwyn Torto (senior scientist, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology [ICIPE]) gave an overview of natural products research at ICIPE. Ilya Raskin, Mary Ann Lila (NCSU), Robert Gruetzmacher (Rutgers’ Office of Technology Commercialization), and Tolo Fridlender (visiting scientist, Rutgers University), respectively, discussed “Botanicals: from research to commercialization;” “Superfruits, superberries and supersuccess;” “How to protect your IP;” and “How to start your company.” Panel discussions gave opportunities for highly interactive Q&A sessions, which added significant value to the quality of the symposium.

The BBD/STN training workshop took place at the symposium venue from March 16–20, with trainees from UoN, Kenya and Makerere University, Uganda. Ayeni coordinated the training workshop while Brittany Graf (graduate assistant, Plant Biology & Pathology) and Josh Kellogg (NCSU) conducted the training program. The BBD training covered plant identification, documentation, and herbarium preservation. The STN training covered plant sample collection, sample preparation, extraction, and screening with STN assays. A total of 21 plant species were collected and sampled from which 30 extracts were screened with eight different assays. The training workshop was highly productive and the feedback was positive based on an end-of-training assessment carried out by the trainees. GIBEX was established in 2004 under the leadership of Ilya Raskin and Mary Ann Lila to advance ethical and purpose driven bioexploration in developing countries. To date, the GIBEX network covers four continents: Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Oceania.
Biotech Center Hosts Chinese Visitors

Coordinated by Rong Di (Plant Biology & Pathology; Biotech Center), a delegation of six researchers and professors from the Institute of Tropical Bioscience and Biotechnology of the Chinese Academy for Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS) and Hainan University, Hainan, China, visited the Biotech Center on March 15. Opportunities for both student/faculty exchange and extended research collaborations, under the auspices of Rutgers-NSF IGERT Project on Sustainable Biofuels, were presented by Linda Anthony, IGERT Coordinator. Additionally, the 2+2 undergraduate programs and future collaborative graduate programs at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences were presented by Monica Emery (Office of International Programs) and received with enthusiasm by the Chinese visitors.

Eric Lam and Michael Lawton (Plant Biology and Pathology, Biotech Center) visited the Centre of Material and Process Synthesis (COMPS) at the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, on March 15–18 to discuss opportunities for student/faculty exchanges and research collaborations under the auspices of the Rutgers-NSF IGERT Project on Sustainable Biofuels and the School of Biological Sciences’ Office of International Programs. In separate but coordinated seminars, Lawton provided an overview of ‘Jersey Roots, Global Reach: International programs for science and research at Rutgers University’, and Lam spoke more specifically about ‘Sustainable Fuels IGERT: A comprehensive education and research project at Rutgers University for renewable fuel solutions.’ The COMPS group is a world leader in research on Fischer-Tropsch technology and syngas/synfuel production, and plans are being laid through the IGERT program for Rutgers-COMPS collaborations towards efficient, economical, and sustainable production of fuels and energy from agricultural and municipal wastes and other biomass sources. Generous institutional support for the visit was provided from the offices of Executive Dean Robert M. Goodman and Rutgers Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Philip Furmanski.

Mark Your Calendars!

Learning Evolutionary Biology Through Inquiry Activities

WHEN: April 5, 2010, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Alampi Room, Marine Sciences Building, 71 Dudley Road  
WHAT: Seminar delivered by Dr. Timothy Zimmerman and sponsored by the graduate program of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources.  
MORE INFO: Contact Marsha Morin, 732-932-3213, mmorin@aesop.rutgers.edu.
3rd Annual Nutrition, Endocrinology & Animal Biosciences Graduate Student Conference

**WHEN:** April 7, 2010, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
**WHERE:** Room 138, Foran Hall, 59 Dudley Road, George H. Cook Campus.
**WHAT:** This multidisciplinary graduate student conference is organized in an effort to provide graduate students with the opportunity to gain valuable experience in giving a poster presentation or a short talk on their research.
**MORE INFO:** Contact Leslie McCauliff, 732-932-1690, lburton@rci.rutgers.edu.

Introduction to Landscape Sketching

**WHEN:** April 10, 2010, 9 a.m. to noon.
**WHERE:** Holly House, Rutgers Gardens, 112 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick.
**WHAT:** Class for beginners or for those wishing to renew their skills in basic landscape sketching.
**MORE INFO:** Contact Maryann Schrum, 732-932-8451, rugardens@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Why Good Models of Species Ranges Fail: Relationships of Individuals with Landscapes

**WHEN:** April 22, 2010, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
**WHERE:** Alampi Room, Marine Sciences Building, 71 Dudley Road.
**WHAT:** Talk by Dr. Michael Sears and sponsored by the graduate program of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources.
**MORE INFO:** Contact Marsha Morin, 732-932-3213, mmorin@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day

**WHEN:** April 24, 2010, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
**WHERE:** George H. Cook Campus, New Brunswick
**WHAT:** Ag Field Day is an annual celebration of our community spirit and of the close ties enjoyed by students, faculty, staff, alumni, volunteers, and New Jersey residents. This year, like last year, Ag Field Day will be part of a larger, campus-wide Rutgers Day.
**MORE INFO:** Contact Mike Green, green@aesop.rutgers.edu, 732-932-7000.

Bridging the Information Divide Between Scientists and the Public

**WHEN:** April 27, 2010, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
**WHERE:** MPR B&C, Cook Campus Center, 59 Biel Road.
**WHAT:** Lecture and book signing by Susan Dworkin, author of "The Viking in the Wheat Field," who tells a gripping story of how scientist Bent Skovmand preserved the world’s wheat harvest.
**MORE INFO:** Contact Patricia Kastner, 732-932-2000, ext. 4211, discovery@aesop.rutgers.edu.

This report is produced by the Office of Communications. For information or to provide comments, please contact Paula Walcott-Quintin at quintin@aesop.rutgers.edu, or 732-932-7000, ext. 4204.