



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Department Of Animal & Plant Sciences

NEWSLETTER
08 February 2010

CONGRATULATIONS;

To Gareth Phoenix, Duncan Cameron and Jonathan Leake on being awarded a NERC Small Grant to investigate "Resource Partitioning for Phosphorus in P-Limited Plant Communities"

Roger Butlin being awarded an NERC grant to investigate "Chemosensory Genes and the Evolution of Aphid Host Races"

Owen Petchey, Andrew Beckerman, with Peter Marin on being guest editors of a special feature on adaptive foraging and food webs published in Functional Ecology.

SEMINARS;

Departmental Seminar. Monday 8 February at 1.05 pm in BLT1 – "Take now, pay later: Are orchids parasitic on their fungal symbionts or do they live on carbon credit" Duncan Cameron

Postgrad Seminar Series. Tuesday 9 February at 1.00pm in BLT1: Gareth Lennox "Systematic Conservation Planning: Conservation and Economics" AND Catherine Preece "Survival in ice: Impacts of winter icing events on sub-Arctic dwarf shrubs"

Plant Science Seminar Series: Tuesday 9th February at 16.00 in the BMS conference room. The speaker is Michael Lenhard from the John Innes Centre who will be giving a talk entitled "Control of plant organ size in Arabidopsis and (a little) beyond".

Evolution and Behaviour Group Seminar:

Thursday 11 February BMS Conference Room at 1 pm – Dr Mike Brockhurst (University of Liverpool) "Coevolution in space: experimental evolution of a bacteria-phage arms race"

STAFF/STUDENT INFO & DEVELOPMENT;

Standing up for Science Media Workshop. Free full day event on Friday 19 March in Manchester. This is open to early career scientists in all sciences, engineering and medicine (PhD students, post-docs or equivalent in first jobs). Go to www.senseaboutscience.org/VoYS

Second Annual Student Conference on the Environment. To be held at the University of Stirling on 9 April 2010. Conference for

Postgraduate Students with prizes for posters. Held in partnership with Scottish National Heritage. Go to www.sbes.stir.ac.uk/conservation-conference for more details.

RESEARCH & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES;

Bids are now being sought for equipment to enhance the research and teaching programmes (particularly the support of new research initiatives that are cross-Department) within the Faculty of Science. Bids can be submitted to a maximum value of £100K (including VAT). Bids should be submitted to Sue Carter - by Friday 19 Feb so that a co-ordinated bid can be submitted to the Faculty by their deadline of Feb 22.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS;

Mike Siva-Jothy has now taken over as the Director of Graduate Studies for the Department. The Department wishes to thank Mark Osborn for his hard work over the last three years.

It has been announced that the Faculty has appointed Dr Mark Geoghegan's as Head of Research Studies for the Faculty of Science for a period of 3 years as from 1 March 2010. He will deal with Postgraduate Student Matters.