

Faculty and Staff Notes

New faculty

Dr. Yvonne Vadeboncoeur recently joined the faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences. Her area of expertise is aquatic ecology, and she will focus on the ecosystem-level effects of energy linkages among habitats in freshwater ecosystems.

The Department of Psychology added Dr. David LaHuis, an industrial/organizational psychologist, to the faculty. His research interests include studying how applicants perceive and respond to selection systems, multilevel analysis, and structural equation modeling.

Dr. Allen Hunt recently joined the Department of Physics. He received a PhD in theoretical condensed matter physics from the University of California at Riverside in 1983. Although his education has been primarily in physics, he is very interested in geological and environmental sciences as well. Dr. Hunt earned a M.A. in field geomorphology from Duke University and has since worked at postdoctoral positions in surface and subsurface hydrology, as well as in climate dynamics. He has published over 70 refereed articles on these subjects as well as on basic physics.

Professional Development Leaves

Professor John Flach, Psychology, is in Europe interacting with various universities and organizations on design and human factors. He will spend time at a product design company in Delft, The Netherlands and interact with colleagues at the Royal College of Art and Design. He will teach several courses in Copenhagen and in Linköping (Sweden) and speak to the staff at TNO in Soesterberg (a Dutch equivalent to the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory.)

Doctor Weizhen Wang is working with Professors Jason Hsu and Tom Santner of

The Ohio State University Department of Statistics. While there he will be working in three important areas of statistics, namely bioequivalence, analysis of saturated designs, and categorical data analysis. Dr. Hsu is a nationally recognized expert in bioequivalence and among the top researchers internationally in multiple comparisons, which is related to Dr. Wang's research on the analysis of saturated designs. Dr. Santner is an expert in categorical data analysis.

International Front

Dr. Thomas Van't Hof, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, recently returned from Japan, where he presented lectures and conducted research on circadian (24-hour) rhythms in birds. He visited Okayama University of Science, a sister university of Wright State, plus the University of Tokyo and Nagoya University.

Searches underway

The College is conducting Chair searches for the Departments of Physics, Anatomy and Physiology, and Mathematics and Statistics this year.

In memory

Dr. Krishan Gorowara, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, passed away in June. He joined Wright State as an Associate Professor in 1966 and was one of the architects of the Wright State University Mathematics Department. He was promoted to Professor in 1971. From 1973 – 1977, Krishan served as department Chair and also as an Assistant Dean in the College of Science and Engineering (until 1976). He retired in 1993 and lived in Beavercreek with his wife, Santosh. The Gorowara family recently established an endowed scholarship in memory of Dr. Gorowara to support mathematics and statistics students at WSU.

Mathematics is not a book confined within a cover and bound between brazen clasps, whose contents it needs only patience to ransack; ... it is not a soil, whose fertility can be exhausted by the yield of successive harvests; ... it is limitless as that space which it finds too narrow for its aspirations; its possibilities are as infinite as the worlds which are forever crowding in and multiplying upon the astronomer's gaze.

—James Joseph Sylvester

Student Notes

Micah Fuerst, a junior mathematics major at WSU, has been awarded a Goldwater Scholarship. The Scholarship Program honoring Senator Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields. The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship was authorized by the United States Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate.

James R. Boss, a biological science major, was awarded the Trustees Scholarship by the Wright State University Board of Trustees. This four-year scholarship recognizes his exceptional academic achievement and leadership qualities; the award covers tuition, fees, room and board and provides a book allowance. Trustees Scholarship recipients are required to participate in the University Honors Program all four years that the award is in effect and to graduate as University Honors Scholars.

Science Matters!

Dr. Daryle Busch, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kansas and past President of the American Chemical Society, visited Wright State University and spoke to faculty and students.

Internationally known chemist Dr. J. M. Frechet, Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, was the inaugural speaker for the Proctor and Gamble Lectureship. Dr. Frechet spoke to the WSU community on how to design molecules for special purposes in science and medicine; he is the co-author of some 600 publications and 60 patents involving the fields of polymer and organic chemistry. Dr. Frechet has been elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, U.S. National Academy of Engineering and American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

“Addressing Complexity: Reassessing the Roles of Humans, Science and Technology.” John Flach, PhD, Professor of Psychology, helped organize this conference in which 150 leading scientists from around the world gathered to discuss the relationship of humans, science and technology. The conference was co-sponsored by the Cognitive Systems Engineering Consortium (CSEC) and Air Force Research Lab, Human Effectiveness Branch. CSEC is comprised of Wright State University, The Ohio State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, General Dynamics, and Klein Associates. Dr. Flach said “the emerging field of cognitive systems engineering is the key to the workshops because it taps into the creative potential of humans to adapt creatively to the demands of an increasingly complex world. We want to focus on how people, science and technology must adapt to address the challenges and opportunities on the horizon and beyond.”

Wright State University and Forensic Bioinformatics, Inc. will be the host for the 3rd Annual Conference on Statistics and DNA Profiling in August 2004. This three day conference is a one-of-a-kind event that draws people from around the country. The conference titled, *DNA from Crime Scene to Court Room: An Expert Forum*, will feature expert speakers from law firms, public agencies, and universities.