



Volume 64, No.5

October 2006

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Pennsylvania Academy of Science

PLAN TO ATTEND THE Pennsylvania Academy of Science 83rd ANNUAL MEETING

Radisson Hotel
Monroeville, PA

www.radisson.com/monroevillepa

March 30-April 1, 2007

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The Pennsylvania Academy of Science Newsletter

Richard L. Stewart Jr. and Pablo R. Delis, Editors
Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



Will Roger's once said:

*"Even if you're on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit there."*

Not only is the Pennsylvania Academy of Science "on the right track", but also we intend to move full speed ahead in pursuit of several key initiatives and projects.

First, the PAS Board of Directors published its official position statement on the teaching of Evolution in K-12 schools within the Commonwealth. The statement was printed in both the Academy Newsletter and in the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science. Since its publication, we have received a wealth of positive feedback from various groups. Of particular interest, the National Center for Science Education (NCSE) sought permission to publish our position statement in the third edition of their Voices of Evolution text and on their website (www.ncseweb.org).

Second, the Academy is honored to have received two substantial investments this year. The first was a \$43,000 grant awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. These funds will be used, in large part, to support student programs for the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS). PAS will also receive a portion of this grant, which will help fund undergraduate research and training. The second investment was a generous corporate donation from Sanofi-Pasteur for \$7,500. As an esteemed member of our Advisory Council, company president Damian Braga has worked very hard in support of our Academy. We are very grateful for his generous contributions and those of his company as we continue our quest to promote science education and research throughout Pennsylvania.

Speaking of research, we are proud to award eight Undergraduate Research Grants this year, totaling almost \$5,000. The award recipients are listed in this issue of our Newsletter, and represent six Pennsylvania colleges and universities. Congratulations to all of these outstanding students, and their dedicated faculty mentors! We look forward to learning more about your research at a future Academy meeting.

Continued on Page 3

And, finally, speaking of our annual Academy meeting, please, reserve March 31-April 1, 2007, on your calendar. The 83rd annual Pennsylvania Academy of Science meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Monroeville, PA. We are currently planning to sort presentations into five broad categories: Cellular & Molecular Studies, Ecology & Environmental Sciences, Organismal Biology, Physical Sciences, and Science Education. In addition, we are planning an exciting and timely symposium on Renewable Energy, for which Pittsburgh will be the perfect host city.

Taken together, these accomplishments clearly indicate that the Pennsylvania Academy of Science is not content to “*just sit there*”. Our Academy continues to advance science and technology throughout the Commonwealth and work diligently to support scientists of all ages. We welcome members from all scientific fields to join the Academy and share your input and expertise. Please, encourage your colleagues and friends to join the Pennsylvania Academy of Science and get involved!

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(2006-2008) Marlene Cross
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

The **83rd Annual PAS Meeting** will be held at the *Radisson Hotel, Pittsburg, PA, March 29-April 1, 2007*.
<http://pennsci.org>

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the **Ecology Society of America** will hold its 4th annual meeting the weekend of **March 17-18, 2007 at York College of Pennsylvania**. Please visit the website for more information. <http://www.esa.org/midatlantic/>

The Wildlife Society Pennsylvania Chapter Annual Meeting will take place **March 16-17, 2007 at the Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA**. Please visit the website for more information <http://www.wildlife.org/chapters/pa/>

The **Experimental Biology Annual Meeting** will take place **April 28-May 2, 2007, Washington, DC**. Please visit the website for more information <http://www.eb2007.org/>

The **American Society for Microbiology General Meeting** will take place **May 21-25, 2007, Toronto, ON Canada**. Please visit the website for more information <http://www.gm.asm.org/>

The **Association for Biological Laboratory Education (ABLE) 29th Annual Conference** will take place on **June 5-9, 2007 at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY**. Please visit the website for more information. <http://www.zoo.utoronto.ca/able/conf/able2007/index.html>

RECENT MEMBER PUBLICATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Toledo, Rafael; Esteban, Jose-Guillermo and Fried, Bernard (2006). Immunology and pathology of intestinal trematodes in their definitive hosts. *Advances in Parasitology* 63: 285 - 365.

New Newsletter Available

The Northeast Wildlife DNA Laboratory at East Stroudsburg University is proud to publish the newsletter, Wild Tracks. Their newsletter contains information related to ongoing research projects, laboratory news and events, laboratory techniques, and local wildlife. If you or someone you know is interested in receiving an email copy of the newsletter, please send an email to wildlifedna@po-box.esu.edu or visit their website for more information www.esu.edu/biology/wildlife

WILD TRACKS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE
NORTHEAST WILDLIFE DNA LABORATORY
EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
EAST STROUDSBURG, PA

Chronic Wasting Disease

by: Nicole Bernarsky, East Stroudsburg University graduate student

Article reprinted with permission from The Northeast Wildlife DNA Laboratory

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a neurological disease affecting deer, elk, and moose. It is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy that causes deterioration of the brain and nervous systems of animals. The agent of the disease is a prion, an infectious protein that causes normal proteins to fold into abnormal shapes that cannot be broken down in the body, leaving them to accumulate and form microscopic holes in the brain. The function of the normal proteins is unknown, though it is possible that they function in brain cell communication.

CWD is spread by direct transmission (animal-to-animal) and indirect transmission (animal-to environment-to animal.)

The disease has a long incubation period, an average of 15 months. The clinical stage of CWD, in which the animal exhibits symptoms of the disease, lasts for one to an average of eight months before resulting in death. Symptoms may resemble those of other diseases, and include but are not limited to: weight loss, blank facial expressions, walking repetitive courses, drooping ears and head, lack of coordination, widebased stance, head tremors, excessive drinking and urination, periods of sleepiness, teeth grinding, difficulty swallowing, and drooling. Animals are tested for CWD after death. The lymph nodes and obex are removed and tested using immunohistochemistry (IHC). In this technique, antibodies that are bound to the abnormal CWD prion proteins in the tissue are stained by a fluorescent dye that makes them visible under a fluorescent microscope. This test is sensitive enough to detect even small accumulations of the prion in infected tissues. There is a very limited number of laboratories across the United States that are certified to test for CWD—this is to insure consistency in lab techniques, accuracy in results, and limited movement of diseased samples throughout the country. There is no vaccine or cure for CWD.



CWD has been found in the following states, in captive and/or wild deer, elk, and moose: Montana, Kansas, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, New Mexico, West Virginia, and New York; and in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan. There is lack of evidence of CWD transmission to humans, despite several epidemiologic investigations. The risk, *if any*, of transmission of CWD to humans, is low. State and federal agencies, in cooperation with various organizations and interest groups, have developed efficient and organized response plans to prevent, detect, control, and eradicate the occurrence of CWD in an area.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) published their final regulations on interstate movement and herd certification program of captive cervids. The intention of the herd certification program is to eradicate CWD in farmed and captive cervids. Because of criticism by state wildlife agencies the rule has been withdrawn pending further comment. The disputes concern state authority to impose more strict regulation and the incubation period for CWD.

To read more about CWD or USDA's proposed regulations and the resulting comments from state agencies visit:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/naahps/ccc/cwd/>

<http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main>

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

83rd Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science

March 30- April 1, 2007

Radisson Hotel
Monroeville, PA

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS EXTENDED: January 2, 2007

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING AND SUBMITTING ABSTRACTS

Read All Rules Before Writing Abstract

http://www.pennsci.org/annual_meeting/meeting_absrules.htm

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL ABSTRACTS MUST BE SUBMITTED USING THE
WEB PAGE AT**

http://www.pennsci.org/annual_meeting/Meeting_Submit_an_Abstract.htm

RULES GOVERNING SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ABSTRACTS

1. The corresponding author must be a member of PAS in order to submit an abstract
2. One person cannot be listed as the presenter on more than three abstracts.
3. Once the Program Committee has accepted an abstract, it cannot be withdrawn.
4. The Abstracts will be published in a supplemental issue of the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science to be distributed at the annual meeting.
5. Any abstracts received after **January 2, 2007** will not be published.
6. Authors will be notified when the abstract is received and if the abstract is accepted the time and place of the presentation will be printed in the February PAS newsletter and posted on the PAS website <http://pennsci.org/>.

2007 Renewable Energy Symposium *Call for Abstracts*

RENEWABLE ENERGY CATEGORIES

- solar energy;
- wind;
- low-impact hydropower;
- geothermal energy;
- biologically derived methane gas, including landfill gas;
- agriculturally derived biomass;
- fuel cells;
- coal-mine methane;
- waste coal;
- coal liquefaction;
- coal polygeneration;
- integrated gasification combined cycle electricity generation;
- demand management measures, including recycled energy and energy recovery, energy efficiency and load management; and
- general renewable energy topics.

The following topics are listed for your convenience to match your paper with one of the titles. If your research title does not match with the following, submit your abstract for inclusion in the general renewable energy discipline.

For more information contact: Dr. Assad I. Panah, webmaster
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Volunteer To Be A Campus Representative Now!

The Pennsylvania Academy of Science is seeking Campus Representatives from your school. If you are willing to place advertising on available bulletin boards and serve as a resource for students interested in becoming a member, this may be a service role for you. The webpage created to identify representatives' needs updating. It is located at http://www.pennsci.org/Campus_representative.htm Please contact the editors if you are willing to serve in this role.

Contact the Newsletter Editors

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MANUSCRIPTS FOR *THE PENNSYLVANIA GEOGRAPHER*

The editors of *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, a peer reviewed, semi-annual journal of the Pennsylvania Geographical Society, are soliciting manuscripts for the Spring/Summer 2007 edition. The journal is in its 44th consecutive year of publication. The general topic for this issue (Volume 44, #1) of the journal is: **ECOTOURISM**. Papers dealing with the above theme, or any other geographical topics, will be considered for publication. The deadline for submitting materials for the spring/summer 2007 issue is **February 15, 2007**. Please send manuscripts and/or inquiries to Dr. William B. Kory, Editor, or Dr. Gregory Faiers, Associate Editor, *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, Geography Department, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Johnstown, PA 15904. Phone: (814) 269-2994; 2993 or 2990. E-mail: koryupj@pitt.edu

TOPICS FOR FUTURE ISSUES:

Fall/Winter 2006 (Volume 44, #2):

“Geography and Terrorism”

August 15, 2006 deadline for receiving material

Spring/Summer 2007 (Volume 45, #1):

“Cultural Geography”

February 15, 2007 deadline for receiving material

Fall/Winter 2007 (Volume 45, #2):

“Water Resources”

August 15, 2007 deadline for receiving material

Visit us on the web at

<http://www.pitt.edu/~pageog/>

SCHOLARSHIP & AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

Spencer Foundation Major Research Grants Program

The grants program is intended for research projects requiring more than \$35,000 in grant support. Awards of up to \$35,000 are made. Inquiries and preliminary proposals are accepted at any time. The principal investigator must have an earned doctorate in an academic discipline or a professional field and must be affiliated with a college, university, research facility, or cultural institution. The foundation supports research that promises to contribute new knowledge to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, in the U.S. and abroad. A variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches are favored, though emphasis is given by charter to the behavioral sciences. The foundation is interested as well in the related research areas of cultural knowledge, socialization, and the production and distribution of knowledge. Research may range from medium-sized studies that can be completed in a year by an individual researcher to more extensive collaborative studies that last several years. Grants are not made to maintain organizations or infrastructures of educational research. Additional information can be found on the Web at <http://www.spencer.org/proginfo.htm>. For further information, contact: John B. Williams, Vice-President, Spencer Foundation, 900 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2800, Chicago, IL 60611-1542.

LEARNED DISCOURSES *Timely Scientific Opinions*

Intent. **Learned Discourses** provide a forum for open discussion by and for PAS members. These articles will reflect the professional opinions of the authors regarding scientific issues. They will not represent PAS positions or policies. And, although they are subject to editorial review for clarity, consistency, and brevity, these articles will not be peer reviewed. The success of the **Learned Discourses** depends on our contributors. We encourage submissions that are timely and will inform and stimulate discussion. If you disagree with an opinion expressed here, *submit a reply*.

Rules. All submissions must be succinct: preferably no longer than 1,000 words, no more than 6 references, and at most one table or figure. Reference format should follow that of the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science. Topics may fall within any area of science.

Submissions. Send submissions as e-mail attachments (Microsoft Word), to Richard Stewart (rlstew@ship.edu). Submissions will be printed on a first-received basis when space limitations apply.

Learned Discourses Editors

Richard Stewart and Pablo R. Delis

Pennsylvania Online Herpetological Atlas

A new resource is available for people interested in adding to our understanding of Pennsylvania's herpetofauna (Amphibians and Reptiles). Dr. Tim Maret of Shippensburg University maintains the Pennsylvania Online Herpetological Atlas at <http://www.ship.edu/~tjmare/herp.htm>. This is an extension the atlas project initiated by Dr. Art Hulse of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. An excerpt from the webpage explains the history of this initiative. "Dr. Hulse established a network of volunteers to collect information on the distribution of amphibians and reptiles throughout the state. The project ran for six years, during which time a tremendous amount of important and useful information was gathered. For example, some of the data were used in the decision to designate two species as endangered in Pennsylvania. However, we still lack critical information on 36 of Pennsylvania's 73 native amphibian and reptile species. Therefore, it was decided to revitalize the project in a new online form, as the **Pennsylvania Online Herpetological Atlas**."

A better understanding of the natural history, including distribution and abundance, of the herpetofauna in Pennsylvania is sorely needed and this web page provides an avenue for people to help. A menu on the left of the page provides links for Submitting a finding, Amphibian species of conservation concern, Reptile species of conservation concern, Resources for identifying species, Tips for photographing specimen, and other links including <http://www.topozone.com/>. The Topozone website is an extremely valuable tool as one may use the search portion (at the bottom of the page) or browse by state and county to identify specific coordinates where their amphibian or reptile was observed. An area is provided within the Submitting a finding form to include these coordinates. To assure that the submitter identified the amphibian or reptile correctly, you should include a picture of the organism with the provided upload a file feature at the bottom of the page.



The Resources for identifying species will aid those having difficulty identifying amphibians or reptiles and can be used by students and teachers of natural history alike. Specifically, untrained people interested in aiding this effort can use a link to a key developed and maintained by Dr. Ralph Grove of James Madison University titled Pennsylvania Online Herpetological Atlas Amphibian and Reptile Identification Helper or simply identifying an amphibian or reptile they have recently discovered.

Maps will be posted on the website to show where each species has been found, although specific locations will remain with Dr. Maret and the individuals utilizing the information to protect these populations. This website is a valuable tool and its existence should be shared with those that may be able to help by submitting findings. Please visit and evaluate the website for yourself at <http://www.ship.edu/~tjmare/herp.htm> and keep it in mind when you do discover amphibians or reptiles on your excursions into nature. If you have questions or can provide suggestions for improving the website, you may email Dr. Maret at tjmare@ship.edu.



DARBAKER PRIZE - \$1,000

The Darbaker Prize is a Pennsylvania Academy of Science (PAS) award given for outstanding scholarly contributions, which use microscopic techniques and present microscopic illustrations in the reporting of biological research. The award is competitive amongst qualified papers submitted in association with the Academy's annual meeting.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Science established the Darbaker Prize in 1952. Funds for the award are made available through a bequest of the late L.K. Darbaker, 1939 PAS President. Referring to the award, Dr. Darbaker stated: "Any sum applicable to the Pennsylvania Academy of Science shall be for grant or grants in Microscopical Biology."

To qualify for the Darbaker Prize, a scientist or scientists must: (1) have used microscopy (light, SEM, TEM or other technologies) in the research they report, (2) submit in proper format a manuscript reporting the results of the completed study for consideration to be published in the *Journal*, (3) specifically state a request to the Editor of the *Journal* to have their manuscript considered for the Darbaker Prize for the current calendar year, and (4) be a member of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science. Darbaker Prize competition manuscripts are expected to be presented and submitted at the PAS annual meeting, but if not, manuscripts will be accepted for consideration within four weeks (28 calendar days) following the last day of the annual meeting. Only manuscripts that have successfully completed the review process and have been accepted for publication in the *Journal* will be eligible for the award.

The Editor of the *Journal* will examine all manuscripts submitted for award consideration to determine the fulfillment of requirements. The editor will then forward the eligible manuscripts with his/her and reviewers' recommendations to the PAS President for final decision. The Darbaker Prize will be made in the *Journal* at an appropriate time.

For further information contact:

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PAS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

The PAS has funds to provide modest financial support, not in excess of \$100, for student research projects. Students working on projects in the Natural or Physical Sciences under the direction of PAS member scientists at high schools, colleges, or in industry may submit an application for support.

Proposal Guidelines:

1. Funds are to be used primarily for supplies; secondarily, for small pieces of equipment if essential.
2. Funds are not to be used for major pieces of equipment, student stipends, travel, etc.
3. Proposals are encouraged that involve groups of students working together on a project.
4. Students are encouraged to present their findings at the next meeting of the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS).

Proposal Requirements:

1. A title page with project title, name and grade of the student; sponsor name (PAS member); school name, address and phone number; characterization of school location (urban, suburban, or rural). The title page should also include the total amount requested (not to exceed \$100) and the signatures of student and sponsor.
2. A short summary of the project, including pertinent background information, a statement of the hypothesis, a description of the planned experiments, and a statement of the expected results.
3. Budget, including a statement of how the money will be used and a statement of the time frame during which the project will be performed.

Proposal Deadlines:

March 30 and November 15. Proposals received after a deadline will be reviewed during the following period. Send completed proposals or requests for further information to:

Dr. Jane F. Cavender
Chairperson, PAS Research Grant Committee
Department of Biology
Elizabethtown College
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2298.

Information on various research grants can be found on the PAS web site at <http://pennsci.org/>

**PENNSYLVANIA BIODIVERSITY
PARTNERSHIP SOLICITS INPUT ON
PENNSYLVANIA BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION PLAN**



The Pennsylvania Biodiversity Partnership (PBP) is a broad-based public-private partnership formed in 2000 to promote the conservation of native species and their habitats. PBP members include conservation and

environmental organizations; government agencies; business and industry; scientists and academic organizations; sportsmen and women; and private landowners.

A consensus quickly emerged with the Partnership that a statewide plan, focusing on strategies and opportunities for protecting Pennsylvania's natural resources, while at the same time maintaining economic vigor and quality of life for all Pennsylvanians, must be developed and implemented.

The development of this comprehensive plan for biodiversity is a multi-year process with a projected completion date of 2005. *Biodiversity in Pennsylvania: Snapshot 2002*, released in December 2002, marked the end of the first phase. This 48-page document is a concise literature-based report that synthesizes the present status of Pennsylvania's biodiversity.

Building on *Biodiversity in Pennsylvania*, PBP is actively soliciting input from all stakeholders, including biologists and other scientists, in developing the first draft of the Pennsylvania Biodiversity Conservation Plan. Please tell us what issues are important to you and what you would like the plan to contain by visiting the PBP website (www.pabiodiversity.org) and completing a short comment form online.

Additional information about PBP and copies of *Biodiversity in Pennsylvania* and the executive summary, may be found on the PBP website. Free copies of the report or executive summary may be obtained by contacting PBP, 16 Terminal Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, telephone (412) 481-4100, e-mail: pbpinfo@pabiodiversity.org



**PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

Fellow members of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science:

I would like to thank all of those who contributed to our first Annual Fund Campaign and to ask for your continued support. In order to adequately fund our undergraduate research program, we need to increase our Undergraduate Research Endowment. Currently we are funding the Journal by page charges and the operating fund of the Academy, but we would like to be able to create a sufficient endowment so that the interest can be used to support our excellent peer reviewed journal. The executive board of the Academy established the annual fund drive to increase our endowment for undergraduate research and to endow the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science. It is our desire to have the journal be self-sufficient and to be supported entirely through page charges and interest from our recently established Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy Endowment.

Pennsylvania Academy of Science Annual Fund Campaign

Please apply my contribution of:

_____ **to the Undergraduate Research Fund**

_____ **to the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science Endowment**

Signature _____

Thank You.
Fred J. Brenner, Past PAS President

COLLEGE STUDENT RESEARCH FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Pennsylvania Academy of Science has funds available to support UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COLLEGE STUDENT research in the natural, physical, or social sciences. Proposals should be written and submitted by the student under faculty guidance. Proposals will be accepted until May 1 at which time they will undergo review by professional referees, and evaluation by the PAS Research Grant Committee. Authors of proposals selected for funding will be notified by October 15. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by November 15. Grants are normally made in the amount of \$500 or less, as requested in the proposal and, therefore, proposal budgets should take this limit to consideration.

General Guidelines for proposal:

- (1) Projects should be of such nature that they could be initiated and completed within one year.
- (2) The PAS funds are to be used primarily for expendable supplies, small pieces of equipment, and travel, living and/or housing expenses, if essential for the project.
- (3) Funds are not to be used for major pieces of equipment.
- (4) Results of the project are normally communicated at the next meeting of the PAS following completion of the research. The student is encouraged to submit a manuscript for consideration of publication in the *Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science*.

Proposal Format should include the following Sections:

- (1) A titled INTRODUCTION describing the nature of the project and discussing the novelty or significance of the research. A general summary of the pertinent literature must be provided to demonstrate to the reviewers that the author has adequate knowledge of the research area.
- (2) A titled METHODS & MATERIALS describing how the research will be carried out; the kinds of materials and equipment used; the procedures to be employed regarding the care, use and disposition of research animals; the approximate starting and finishing dates of the research for which PAS funding is requested.
- (3) A titled STUDY PARTICIPANTS identifying the student(s) and supervising PAS member, their affiliation (e.g., academic institution or employer), and position or section status. The role of the student(s) must be CLEARLY identified. The previous relevant experience of the PAS member in supervising research must be discussed. A statement is required that the research supervisor is a current PAS member. A statement should be made regarding primary responsibility for writing the proposal, if not the author(s) given.
- (4) A titled BUDGET will include an ITEMIZED budget showing how PAS funds are to be used, and identifying the piece of equipment and facilities currently available to do the research. If funding is to be supplied by other sources, this should be identified. Additional guidance regarding format can be found in the "Guidelines for Authors" in *Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science*.

Submission by email is strongly encouraged. You may also submit an original and FIVE (5) copies of the proposal and clearly list on the cover page, the area to which the grant most closely applies: Biochemistry, Chemistry, Cell Biology, Ecology, Environmental Science, Genetics, Geology, Microbiology or other. The PAS Research Grant Committee will evaluate all proposal reviews, and the proposals will be ranked for preference for funding. Only those proposal judged worthy of funding will receive funding to the extent funding is available. Unsuccessful proposals may be reconsidered after revision in accordance with suggestions by the PAS Research Grant Committee and proposal referees.

Send emails or materials to:

Dr. Jane Cavender,
Chairman PAS Research Grant Committee
Department of Biology
Elizabethtown College
Elizabethtown, PA 17022, e-mail: cavender@etown.edu

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

The Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research (PSBR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit science education organization, which was founded in 1990 and became operational in 1991. Universities, medical schools, pharmaceutical firms and professional societies in Pennsylvania formed the society. Current members and supporters include many of the Commonwealth's leading biomedical research and educational institutions, professional societies, and hospitals. Our mission is to foster a better understanding of the benefits of biomedical research and the vital role it plays in improving the quality of human and animal health and expanding our economy. A board of directors elected from its membership governs the society. The board meets three times a year, usually at a member organization. PSBR's annual meeting provides an opportunity for participants to be briefed of the status and activities of PSBR and to discuss important issues. The PSBR strongly supports the continued role of animals in research when no reliable alternative exists.

Our goals include:

1. Develop PSBR as a resource for pertinent facts about the indispensable use of animals in biomedical research.
2. Serve as a credible resource for the general public, educators, students, legislators and member organizations.
3. Responsibly manage our resources to enhance an environment which supports biomedical endeavors to improve human and animal health.

PSBR seeks to meet its goals through the following programs in cooperation with our member organizations:

1. **PSBR Information**

Publish PSBR Bulletin, a newsletter that documents items of interest to the biomedical research community

Maintain a PSBR home page and web site on the Internet (<http://www.psbr.org>)

Maintain a database and resource library of biomedical research information.

2. **Educational Programs**

Conduct contests for students on topics related to animals in research

Provide information for teachers through workshops and training programs

Provide educational materials and speakers to elementary, secondary and college classrooms

Provide reference materials on biomedical research to school and public libraries

Exhibit materials at scientific and educational conferences

Develop and maintain a hands-on exhibit about animals in research

Coordinate all PSBR programs with the Pennsylvania Department of Education

3. **Membership support – Public Relations/media**

Media/speaker training

Assistance in crisis management planning

Provide resources and information to members dealing with requests from the media and animal rights organizations

Contribute editorials and press releases on items of interest to biomedical research

Enlist the governor to proclaim October 21 as Biomedical Research Day, Pennsylvania

4. **Staff Orientation and Information**

Assist animal care staff in explaining their contribution to biomedical research

Enlist member personnel to participate in PSBR educational programs

5. **National Cooperation**

Network with other state biomedical research organizations, and with national organizations in order to maximize effectiveness through information exchange and development of cooperative projects and programs

6. **Animal Rights Movement**

Maintain a current knowledge of the animal rights movement by review of animal activist publications, web sites and information hotlines

Cooperate with national and other state biomedical research organizations

Seek opportunities to counter negative representations about biomedical research

7. **Legislation and Government Relations**

Monitor and review newly introduced legislation for impact on biomedical research

Provide information on key issues to legislators :

Keep members informed of the status of important legislation

For further information contact

PSBR

Post Office Box 1163

Camp Hill PA 17001-1163

Ph: (717) 731 3557; Fax: (717) 731 3506; e-mail: psbr@psbr.org

What in the world could it be?

Please send an email with your guess to rlstew@ship.edu
Winners will have their names published in the next newsletter.
Photo taken by Kim Nelson



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND INTEREST IN SERVING

The members of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science are requested to submit nominations for the following offices of the Academy to be elected at the 2007 annual meeting:

Treasurer-elect (2006-8)

Director-at-large (2007-9) 2 positions (Nominated from among the committee chairs)

Additionally, if you or students at your school routinely go to the PAS annual meeting, PAS has an advisory role for you.

Nominations or inquiries of interest should be sent to:

Dr. Jane E. Huffman
PAS Past-President
Department of Biology
East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
Ph: (570) 422-3716
Fax: (570) 422-3724
e-mail: jhuffman@po-box.esu.edu

PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE-APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: ____ / ____ / ____
 Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial or Name: _____
 Complete Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Institution: _____ E-mail: _____
 Office Phone: (____) _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____
 Branch of Science Main Interest: _____
(Biology, Zoology, Botany, Physiology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, Spectroscopy, Biochemistry, Psychology, Medicine, Mathematics, Geology, Geography, etc.)
 Degrees: _____ Title: _____

Where did you learn about PAS? _____

Member of AAAS? Yes **PSTA** Yes **PASA** Yes **PA Chapter Wildlife Society** Yes
Society of College Science Teachers Yes **PA Biological Survey** Yes **PA Assoc of Environmental Professionals** Yes
Comm of PA Univ Biologists Yes **MidAtlantic Assoc College Biologists** Yes
 Active Member - \$ 35.00 per year Student Member - \$17.50 per year Sustaining Member - \$35.00 or more per year
 Life Member - \$525.00 (*can pay in installments*) Non-profit Institution/Library Member - \$45.00 per year
 For-profit Institution/Library Member - \$150.00 per year
 Back Issue of *Journal* - \$15.00 each (List desired issue) _____ Contribution to PAS _____

Please return this application and first year's membership dues, made payable to the **Pennsylvania Academy of Science**, or an address change to: **Dr. Robert B. Coxe, Membership Chairperson**, Delaware Natural Heritage Program, 4876 Hay Point Landing Rd. Smyrna, DE 19977. Ph: 302-653-2880 x122, Fax: 302-653-3431 or e-mail: robert.coxe@state.de.us

Book Order Form

I want to order the following books:

- Wildlife Diseases: Landscape Epidemiology, Spatial Distribution, and Utilization of Remote Sensing Technology (\$60.00)
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- Forests – A Global Perspective (\$45.00)
- Environmental Contaminants, Ecosystems and Human Health (\$45.00)
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This book order form, together with the appropriate payment made payable to The Pennsylvania Academy of Science, should be sent to: Dr. Shyamal Majumdar, Department of Biology, Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18042.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Name or Initial: _____
 Complete Mailing Address: _____

PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, INC.
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