



Science Buzz: e-newsletter from the School of Science

Message from Dean Palladino



School of Science faculty and staff have many achievements to be proud of as we conclude the 2010-11 academic year. Our most valued honor is to congratulate our graduates of the School who received their degrees on May 18th at Commencement. We, as a nation, need you. In a world increasingly dependent on science and technology, we need you to be productive leaders in your future careers to support scientific innovation that is essential for us to maintain our global competitiveness as a country.

I urge you to continue your good work at Monmouth University by challenging yourself and others to strive for excellence in all that you do and to continue on a path of lifelong learning. Your contributions inside and outside of the classroom have greatly enriched our academic community. As a School, all of us wish our new graduates great personal and professional success. Congratulations! Keep in touch and tell us about your successes. As always I welcome the opportunity to hear from you (mpalladi@monmouth.edu, 732-571-3421) and I look forward to seeing you on campus again in the future.

My best regards to all of our alumni for a safe and enjoyable summer,

Michael Palladino

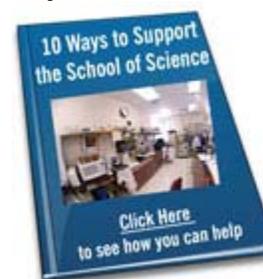
Dean Francis C. Lutz Endowed Scholarship

The School of Science is proud to announce its first school-led endowed scholarship, the Francis C. Lutz Endowed Scholarship. The Lutz fund was initiated by

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Important Links

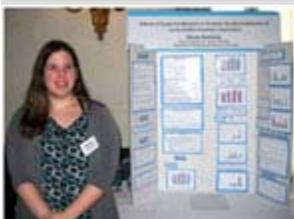




the School of Science Advisory Council to recognize the contributions of Dr. Francis C. Lutz,

founding Dean of the School of Science (formerly the School of Science, Technology and Engineering) from 1996 through 2008. The Lutz scholarship will support an undergraduate science major. Contributions to the Lutz scholarship can be made by [clicking here](#).

Biology Majors Receive Research Awards



For the 12th consecutive year, MU undergraduate biology majors have earned awards for their research presentations. On April 16th, senior Nicole Starinsky tied for Best Undergraduate Talk at the Lehigh Valley Ecology and Evolution Society symposium at Muhlenberg College for her work titled "Effect of Ocean Acidification on Predator Avoidance Behavior in Larval *Fundulus heteroclitus*" carried out under the supervision of Dr. Ursula Howson.



On April 9th junior biology major and Monmouth Medical Center Scholar Puja Sharma received 2nd place for her poster presentation at the 2011 Northeast Sigma Xi Research Symposium held at Stony Brook University for her work on essential oils and their role in preventing the spread of methicillin resistant and methicillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* carried out under the supervision of Dr. James Mack. [Click here to read more](#)

10th Annual School of Science Student Research Conference



On Friday April 15, 2011 the School of Science celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its Student Research Conference (SRC) highlighting undergraduate research projects. This year over 40 students made poster presentations of their faculty directed research endeavors.

The event was followed by a reception for the participating students, friends and families. At the reception, the winners of the Dean's Award of Excellence in Undergraduate Research were announced. [Click here](#) to see the selected projects. The reception also included a panel of School of Science alumni who told the gathering how involvement in undergraduate research helped them form their career paths. Panel members included:

- Dr. Michael Barnathan, BS Computer Science '06, Google
- Dr. Kenneth Briley, BS Chemistry '04, University of Pennsylvania
- Mr. Lawrence Perruzza, BS Biology '03, Roche Diagnostics
- Dr. Ryan Scally, BS Biology '06, UMDNJ
- Mr. Eric Wasnesky, BS Biology '03, Master of Arts in Teaching '05, Manasquan High School

We are proud of their accomplishments, and grateful for their willingness to take time out of their busy schedules to join us and contribute to the event. [Click here](#) to see a photo gallery of the event.

- [Department of Biology](#)
- [Department of Chemistry, Medical Technology, and Physics](#)
- [Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering](#)
- [Department of Mathematics](#)
- [Urban Coast Institute](#)
- [Rapid Response Institute](#)

Cape Eleuthera Institute Collaboration



In January, Assistant Dean Tiedemann conducted the Tropical Island Ecology course. The course is held annually, in January, and includes a two week residence program held at the Cape Eleuthera Institute and the Cape Eleuthera Island School, located at Cape Eleuthera. The Cape Eleuthera Institute was founded in 2003 to conduct research on important coastal and marine issues facing The Bahamas and wider Caribbean region.

This year twelve students took part in the course. Monmouth University undergraduates majoring in marine and environmental biology and policy spend two weeks at CEI working side-by-side with scientists investigating flats ecology, patch reef ecology, and sustainable resource management. Students document the distribution of long-spined sea urchins in patch reefs, the decline in size of queen conch, and track bonefish movements between flats and other habitats. These experiential education opportunities help students achieve a greater understanding of applied research necessary to inform resource conservation and management decisions. More information and images can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

We Want You!



Are you interested in teaching at Monmouth University? Adjunct faculty teaching positions in School of Science departments are available for qualified alumni. Adjunct positions require a master's degree. If you are interested in adjunct teaching please contact Associate Dean Catherine Duckett (cduckett@monmouth.edu).

Tell Us About You!



Visit [School of Science Alumni Survey](#) to update your profile, tell us about your successes, and help us serve you better as an alumnus. The first 20 alumni to update their profile who are not in our database will receive a School of Science travel tumbler.

Alumni Profile



Lauren Landrigan is a computer scientist with the Department of the US Army, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland and a Ph.D. student at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ.

If you would like to read about her progress from Monmouth to the present in her own words, [click here](#).

Would you like to be a featured alumnus for an upcoming edition of *Science Buzz*? If so, contact Associate Dean Catherine Duckett (cduckett@monmouth.edu).

Faculty Spotlight

The School of Science thanks Dr. William Schreiber for his leadership



as Interim Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Medical Technology and Physics from 2009-11. Dr. Schreiber will continue on the faculty as a lecturer teaching general chemistry and organic chemistry among other courses. Dr. Schreiber joined Monmouth University in 2007 after a 30-year career as an industrial chemist at International Flavors & Fragrances, Inc.

Support the School of Science



Make a tax-deductible donation to the School of Science today. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of current School of Science students.

Your gift can be designated to the area of your choice, including student scholarships, the Summer Research Program, and facilities improvements.

[Click here to make your gift](#)

Did you know?

The School of Science has partnership agreements with five partner institutions in China (Jiangsu Teachers University of Technology; Guangdong University of Technology; Guangdong University of Business Study; Nanjing University of Science and Technology; Shandong University of Technology; and Xi'an University of Posts and Telecommunications) and three partner institutions in India (TRR Group of Institutions; St. Peter's College of Engineering ; and Vignan Institute of Technology and Science. These agreements support student recruitment to MU academic programs, faculty and student exchange opportunities and research collaborations. This summer Computer Science and Software Engineering Department Chair Dr. Jiacun Wang will bring a group of MU students to Nanjing University of Science and Technology for a course on technology in China and this summer MU will host a group of faculty and students from Xi'an University of Posts and Telecommunications for a two week camp on science and technology.

School of Science

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