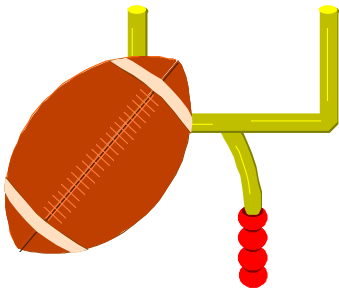


27th Annual Newsletter  
(2003-2004)

Department of Biological Sciences

***HOMECOMING!***

Celebrate Homecoming with us on Saturday, October 16, 2004



**Homecoming Activities**

**Wednesday, October 13**

7:00 pm Homecoming Parade- Sam Houston Avenue

**Friday, October 15**

6:00 pm Distinguished Alumni Gala- LSC Ballroom

**Saturday, October 16**

9:30 am Dedication of Magnolia tree- Alumni Garden

10:00 am College of Arts and Sciences Open House- Lee Drain Building

11:00 am Pre-game with the President- Austin Hall

12 noon SHSU Tailgate Bearkat Alley- Bowers Stadium parking lot

2:00 pm Football Game SHSU vs Nicholls State- Bowers Stadium



**5:00 p.m.**

**Department of Biological Sciences Homecoming Barbecue, rain or shine, at the home of Dr. Jimmie Long, 3352 Winter Way, Spring Lake Subdivision (located one mile west of I-45 on FM 1374). Sponsored by Department faculty and staff. No charge.**

## **The Annual Newsletter is under construction.**

Due to the fact that Homecoming came early this year and that everyone is busy as heck, the newsletter is still under construction. Stay tuned.

### **News of Graduates**

**Kathy Kanocz (BS 1990 ESC)** is currently employed by British Petroleum as the safety team leader for Gulf of Mexico deepwater operations. She reports that she provides safety and occupational health support for offshore drilling and production operations. After leaving SHSU, Kathy obtained an MS in ESC and a PhD in Safety and Occupational Health (in 2003). In her spare time she dabbles in real estate and rental properties.

**Jack Kilgore (MS 1979 BIO)** has been working with the Corps of Engineers in Mississippi since graduating from Sam. “The Corps has been good to me over the years. I am working more and more on the Mississippi River – mainly sturgeon research and habitat restoration projects.” He has two children 15 and 16, and is “looking for a car or two”. Jack stays in touch with Dr. Darrell Hall, his former thesis advisor.

**Steve Twidwell (MS 1971)** has retired after 33 years with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in Austin.

**Cydne Holt (BS 1989)** received a PhD in molecular Biology from Baylor College of Medicine in 1995, and is Director of the San Francisco Police Department’s Forensics Laboratory. She recently appeared on the ABC TV show 20/20 for her DNA fingerprinting work on the Zodiac Killer case.

**Tammy (Lange) Wall (BS 2000 BIO)** is a Physician Assistant working at Family Practice Associates in Corpus Christi.

**Bolton S. Williams (BA MS 1962, 1964 BIO)** retired from xxx in 2002, and enjoying retirement in Willis, TX. His wife, Jerilynn, (MTH and Library Science 1964) is the Director of the Montgomery County Library System.

**Larry (Lawrence J.) Smith (BS 1978 BIO)** is a recent Partner with Deloitte and Touche LLP as Tax Principal. He consults with the tax departments of Fortune 1000 companies, advising them on efficiency, software implementation and other tax-related matters. Although Larry has moved away from Biology, his children have not- Caitlyn 18 is in the premed program at TAMU and Trey 15 has an interest in marine biology.

**Robert Puckett (BS, MS 2000, 2003 BIO)** is in his second year of a Ph.D. program in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M.

**Laurie Lynch (BS 2001, MS soon BIO)** has taken the position of Entomologist at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. She will be completing her MS in the next month or so under Dr. Jerry Cook., who reports that “She got married last week-end.

**Rick Johnson (BS 2000 ESC)** has recently moved up to Manager of Corporate Environmental Operations for Entergy Services, Inc. in New Orleans. He reports that “...now I interact with all of Entergy's business units (Fossil, T&D, Nuclear, Thermal, etc.) and work on issues and projects that are

common among these types of operations.” He lives in Mandeville, LA, and commutes via van pool into New Orleans across Lake Ponchartrain each day.

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Above news items were posted October 10, 2004.

**More News of Graduates to come. Check back soon.**

**Send in your news now for posting in our update of this newsletter. (Send to A. Dewees [bio\\_aad@shsu.edu](mailto:bio_aad@shsu.edu) ).**

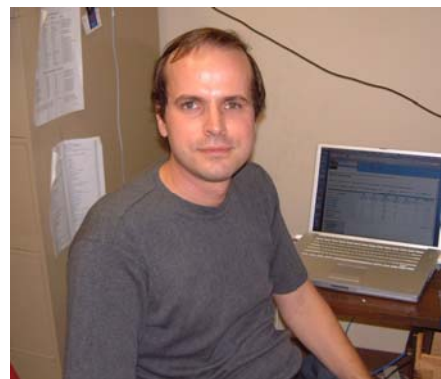
## NEW FACULTY

The Department hired two new faculty members at the assistant professor level to begin the Fall 2004 semester. Dr. Ted Brummel will replace Dr. Dewees who retired last spring, and Dr. Anne Gaillard takes over the cell biology position previously held by Dr. Brian Sailer.

**Dr. Theodore (Ted) J. Brummel** grew up in Argentina, the son of missionaries, and received a BS in Biology in 1991 from Transylvania University in Lexington, KY. He completed the PhD in genetics in 1998 at the University of California, Irvine, where he studied genes that affect development in *Drosophila* under Dr. Michael O'Connor. Following completion of the PhD degree, Dr. Brummel held a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, working with noted geneticist Seymour Benzer at the California Institute of Technology. While there, Dr. Brummel studied the genetics of aging in *Drosophila*. Through gene screens, he has identified several genes that increase longevity in the fly, as well as determining that bacteria are required for normal aging. He will continue with studies of the genetics of aging here at SHSU. In his first teaching position, Dr. Brummel is currently teaching the Introductory Genetics course and Introduction to Cell Biology. Dr. Brummel and his wife, Micheline, have two children, Alea age two and Kayley age 4 months, and reside in Huntsville.



Dr. Gaillard



Dr. Brummel

**Dr. Anne Roush Gaillard** is a native of the state of Indiana and received the BS in Genetic Biology from Purdue University in 1996. Subsequently, she obtained a PhD in Cell Biology in 2001 from Emory University in Atlanta under Dr. Winifield Sale. Her dissertation involved the study of genes and their proteins that affect flagellar axonemes in the green alga *Chlamydomonas*. She characterized mutant genes and their effects on the structure and function of the flagellum in this organism.

Dr. Gaillard will continue her research program on *Chlamydomonas* at SHSU. Prior to coming to SHSU, Dr. Gaillard served as an assistant professor of biology at North Georgia College and State University in Dahlonega, GA, from 2001 to 2003 where she taught courses in Introductory Biology, Genetics and Cell Biology. This fall at SHSU Dr. Gaillard is teaching the senior level course in Cytology and a graduate level class, Cell Structure and Physiology. She and her husband, Jonathon, live in Houston.

### Annual Spring Recognition Ceremony

The Department held its second Annual Spring Recognition Ceremony to honor recent graduates in Biology and Environmental Science last April at the University's Gibbs Ranch on HWY 75 North. Approximately 75 students, their friends and faculty were in attendance to enjoy BBQ and see the graduates receive the coveted SHSU coffee mug. Dr's Hudson and DeShaw were instrumental in setting up the evening. Below are scenes from the ceremony.



Students and faculty finishing off the BBQ



Dr. Thies handing out the coveted SHSU cups to some of the students in attendance



The Dr.'s Hudson



Dr.'s Thies and Dewees



Dr.'s Hall and Wilson

## **The Department Rears Butterflies for Moody Gardens**

Since joining the Biology Department at Sam Houston State University in 1999, Dr. Jerry Cook has had an ongoing research project with Moody Gardens in Galveston, Texas. Prior to last year this project dealt primarily with the biological control of pest insects at Moody Gardens. Moody Gardens uses no pesticides to control insect pests, but instead uses their natural enemies, usually parasitic or predatory insects.

Beginning in 2003, the Moody Gardens research project took on an additional aspect. Jerry Cook's lab is now rearing native Texas butterflies that are part of the exhibit at Moody Gardens. To support this program, Moody Gardens is contributing funding on a per butterfly basis for each chrysalis sent to the exhibit, and eventually portions of this money will be used to fund student research. Prior to last year, Moody Gardens bought exotic butterflies from Belize and Costa Rica to release in their rainforest exhibit. Beginning in 2003 a switch was made to releasing only Texas native butterflies. This change not only eases quarantine restrictions, but allows Moody Gardens to exhibit native butterflies that are as colorful as the exotics. In fact, since parts of Texas have a subtropical climate, some of the species that we most think of as exotic are also found in the state.

To facilitate the butterfly rearing program, a new greenhouse has been erected at the Department's field station, and there will soon be an additional shade house. Kathleen Thies, who has been working on research projects with Jerry for the past five years, has taken on the task of getting the program started. Currently, Kathleen is single-handedly running the project and is now supplying regular shipments of butterflies to Moody Gardens.



Monarch Caterpillars



Dr. Cook and a rearing unit



The Butterfly Rearing Facility



**The Daniel Joseph (Joey) Harrison Student Research Award**

The Department of Biological Sciences at Sam Houston State University established in 2004 The Daniel Joseph (Joey) Harrison Student Research Award to honor the memory of Joey Harrison, former student in the Department of Biological Sciences. The Award, due to the generosity of the Harrison family and friends, honors the memory of Joey Harrison for his love of and dedication to the biological sciences. Joey exhibited a curiosity for the workings of science that was contagious to all those around him. His dedication and curiosity led him to complete the B.S. degree in Biology in 2000 at Sam Houston State University. Prior to his untimely death, Joey had completed requirements for the Master of Science degree in Biology, and the University conferred this degree to Joey posthumously in August 2003.

In memory of Joey's pursuit of knowledge in biology, the Daniel Joseph (Joey) Harrison Student Research Award will be made yearly to an undergraduate or graduate student majoring in Biology or Environmental Science. The monetary award will be used to support the student's research project. The Award will be administered by the Department's faculty research committee. Interested donors can send checks, made out to Sam Houston State University - Harrison Award, in care of Dr. Monte Thies, Box 2116, Dept. of Biological Sciences, SHSU, Huntsville, TX 77341.

## Faculty News

**Jerry Cook (2000)** has been very active during the past year, both in the classroom and in research activities. He has developed and taught a graduate course in Forensic Entomology, one of the four core Biology courses that support the University's MS Forensic Science Program. Chemistry and Criminal Justice also teach courses in this interdisciplinary Program. Dr. Cook also teaches a diverse group of undergraduate courses- Freshman Biology, Economic Entomology, Human Anatomy- plus graduate courses in Ichthyology and Experimental Design. During the past two years he directed six MS students in their thesis research, two of whom have completed their degrees- Joey Harrison and Robert Puckett- and the remaining four are making progress toward completion. Dr. Cook has been very successful in attracting outside grant funding for a variety of projects in entomology. During the past two years he brought in \$195,000 to support 17 different projects. The projects were funded by a number of different agencies and commercial entities, including The City of Huntsville, the National Forest Service, the Texas Army National Guard, Moody Gardens (see note above), Houston Museum of Natural Sciences, Castor Oil Incorporated, and Wellmark International. The major portion of the funding supported Dr. Cook's work with the Imported Fire Ant, *Solenopsis invicta*, and one of its prey species, *Pogonomyrmex Comanche*, the harvester ant. Dr. Cook and his students have presented their work at ten state and national scientific conferences during the past two years, and he has authored or co-authored the following peer-reviewed articles:

Cook, J. L. 2003. Conservation and biodiversity in an area impacted by the red imported fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). *Biodiversity and Conservation*, 12(2): 187-195.

O'Keefe, S. T., J. L. Cook, and S. B. Vinson. 2003. The Common Ant Genera of Texas. Texas A&M Agricultural Communications. 52pp.

Clopton, R. E., T. J. Cook, and J. L. Cook. 2004 *Naiadocystis phykoterion* n. gen., n. sp. (Apicomplexa: Eugregarinida: Hirmocystidae) from the Mexican pygmy grasshopper *Paratettix mexicanus* (Orthoptera: Tettigidae) in the Texas Big Thicket with recognition of three previously described members of *Naiadocystis*. *Journal of Parasitology*, *in press*.

Brain, M. L., J. L. Cook, and T. J. Cook. 2004 *Thelohania solenopsae* (Microsporida: Thelohaniidae) infectin in the red imported fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) correlated with increased ground dwelling arthropod diversity. *Southwestern Entomology*, *in press*.

Puckett, R. T. and J. L. Cook. 2004. Physiological tolerance ranges of larval *Caenis latipennis* (Ephemeroptera: Caenidae) in response to fluctuations in dissolved oxygen concentration, pH, and temperature. *Texas Journal of Science*, *in press*.

More faculty news to come. Stay tuned.

## **Retired Faculty from Department of Biological Sciences and Years Served (Current Location)**

Dr. Ruth Thomas 1964-91 (Huntsville)      Dr. Robert Stewart 1959-60, 1967-92 (Nacogdoches)  
Dr. Terrell Hoage 1968-97 (Huntsville)      Dr. Ralph Moldenhauer 1968-98 (Dubois, WY)  
Dr. Darrell Hall 1965-98 (Huntsville)      Dr. Thomas Meade 1965-99 (Tucson, AZ)  
Dr. Jimmie Long 1959-99 (Huntsville)      Dr. John Hilliard 1968-95 (Huntsville)  
Dr. Maynard Yoes 1960-1988 (New Mexico)      Dr. Andrew Dewees 1967-2004 (Huntsville)

## **Current Faculty in Department of Biological Sciences**

**Monte L. Thies**, Ph.D. (Oklahoma State University), Associate Professor and Chair. Ecological and Systematic Studies of Mammals. bio\_mlt@shsu.edu

**Karolis R. Bagdonas**, Ph.D. (Colorado State University), Associate Professor. Human Anatomy, Ecology and Entomology. bio\_krb@shsu.edu

**Theodore J. Brummel** Ph.D. (University of California, Irvine), Assistant Professor. Genetics and Molecular biology. Bio\_tjb@shsu.edu

**Jerry L. Cook**, PhD. (Texas A&M University), Assistant Professor. Entomology, Anatomy and Physiology. bio\_jlc@shsu.edu

**Tamara J. Cook**, PhD. (Texas A&M University), Assistant Professor. Entomology, Invertebrate Zoology, Parasitology and Ecology. bio\_tjc@shsu.edu

**James R. DeShaw**, Ph.D. (Texas A&M University), Professor. Environmental Science. bio\_jrd@shsu.edu

**Harold F. Foerster**, Ph.D. (University of Texas), Professor. Microbiology and Virology.

**Anne Roush Gaillard** Ph.D. (Emory University), Assistant Professor. Cell Biology and Genetics. bio\_arg@shsu.edu

**Joan E. Hudson**, Ph.D. (Iowa State University), Associate Professor. Plant Morphology and Plant Physiology. bio\_jxn@shsu.edu

**James D. Long**, Ph.D. (University of Texas), Professor Emeritus. Medical Entomology. bio\_jdl@shsu.edu

**William Lutterschmidt**, Ph.D. (University of Oklahoma), Assistant Professor. Comparative physiology, Physiological ecology, Herpetology. bio\_wil@shsu.edu

**Diane Neudorf**, Ph.D. (York University), Assistant Professor. Avian Biology and Animal Behavior. bio\_dln@shsu.edu

**Jack C. Turner**, Ph.D. (University of California-Riverside), Associate Professor. Physiological Animal Ecology. bio\_jct@shsu.edu



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Dr. Maynard Yoes xxxx

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**Brian L. Sailer**, Ph.D. (South Dakota State University), Assistant Professor. Cell and Molecular Biology. bio\_bls@shsu.edu

**Jack C. Turner**, Ph.D. (University of California-Riverside), Associate Professor. Physiological Animal Ecology. bio\_jct@shsu.edu

**Justin K. Williams**, Ph.D. (University of Texas at Austin), Assistant Professor. Plant Taxonomy and Systematics. [bio\\_jkw@shsu.edu](mailto:bio_jkw@shsu.edu)

**Everett D. Wilson**, Ph.D. (Purdue University), Professor. Mammalian Reproduction and Endocrinology. [bio\\_edw@shsu.edu](mailto:bio_edw@shsu.edu)

**Keneth Wunch**, Ph.D. (Tulane University), Assistant Professor. Applied Environmental Microbiology [bio\\_kjw@shsu.edu](mailto:bio_kjw@shsu.edu)



