

The Collecting Net

Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing this Directors Message having just returned from Copenhagen, Denmark, where I participated, as part of the Woods Hole Consortium, in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15). This historic gathering drew together decision-makers from around the world who are working toward a comprehensive agreement for responding to climate change on a global scale.

Along with WHOI director Susan Avery and WHOI scientist Scott Doney, I was a panelist at the conference's Oceans Day on December 14. This session highlighted the importance of oceans, coasts, and small-island developing nations in climate change assessments and policy deliberations. Following Oceans Day, the Woods Hole Consortium hosted a special dinner to help educate key decision makers on the need to understand the interlocking issues of air, land, sea, and ice to fully understand what is happening to Earth's climate. For full details of the consortium's

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Researcher Spotlight

Meet **Anton Post**

Senior Scientist, Bay Paul Center

Anton Post, senior scientist in the Bay Paul Center, is very happy. Like all scientists, he dreams of discovering something new, of experiencing "moments when you feel that what you do has made a difference," he says. He is experiencing that feeling these days.



"The research projects that I brought here from my previous position at Hebrew University are going so well, and developing in completely new avenues, and taking dimensions that I didn't picture before—or even dared dream of before!" Anton says.

A recent exciting advance is his lab's discovery of marine photosynthetic bacteria—which are abundant in the tropics and subtropics—in waters off Antarctica, of all places.

"This is a paradigm shift with respect to the biology and ecology of marine phytoplankton," Anton says. Everyone has always thought it was too cold in Antarctica for photosynthetic organisms to survive.

Did the cyanobacteria recently migrate to the south polar region? Or if they are longtime inhabitants, why did they go undetected for so long?

"We think they may always have been there," Anton says. "But, first, we didn't have the tools to detect them, and second, everybody 'knew' they weren't there, so nobody bothered to even look!"

The "tools" Anton had were novel strategies to identify different kinds of microbes that Mitchell Sogin and others at the Bay Paul Center have developed over the past several years. As for "bothering to look"—that involved a bit of serendipity.

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Employee Spotlight

Meet **Kate Shaw**

Director, MBL Annual Fund and Alumni Relations

"I'm a science geek. I love it!" says Kate Shaw, director of the MBL Annual Fund and Alumni Relations.

Kate remembers her first day at the MBL in 1996, when visiting scientist Bob Barlow showed her around his lab. "That's when it hit me," Kate says. "Scientists are endlessly curious. They ask a question, find a way to test it, and then come up with the next question. It's that curiosity that I love. I'm the same way!"

Kate's love of science goes a long way in her position. Most of the potential donors she connects with are MBL alumni, and conversations with them often turn to—science!

Some people might be daunted by what Kate accomplishes. Kate raises close to \$1 million a year for the Annual Fund, which is unrestricted operating support for the MBL.

Yet she is modest about her talents. "It would be daunting to raise that much money if we didn't have the MBL trustees we have now, and a devoted following of alumni and scientists," she says.

Kate herself is largely responsible for building the Annual Fund donor base. Shortly after she was hired, she started a project to locate MBL alumni. "We have about 9,000 alumni records in our database now," she says. When

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“We had these ocean samples from a research cruise by the German icebreaker *Polarstern* in Antarctic waters,” Anton says. “As so often happens with these cruises, so much went wrong and we were left with a limited amount of samples. I was thinking, ‘How can we make the best of this?’ We decided to take a long shot and look for cyanobacteria motifs that may have been hidden or undetectable by other approaches. And it worked! And it kept on working, and our results were repeatable!” Anton and his colleagues are writing their discovery up for publication now.

Anton joined the Bay Paul Center in 2008, after spending four summers at the MBL as a visiting researcher and a year here on sabbatical. Anton was the recipient of a Gruss Lipper Family Foundation fellowship from 2005 to 2007.

“I seem to be making a habit of that: I go somewhere to visit, and then I stay!” he says.

It happened once earlier in his career. Born and raised in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Anton received his Ph.D. in microbiology at the University of Amsterdam. Afterwards, he moved to Jerusalem to take a post-doctoral position at Hebrew University. While there, he met and married his wife, Osnat, an architect who is from Jerusalem. “I got told I had to stick around and make a career in Israel,” Anton says, laughing. “So I did.” He became a faculty member at Hebrew University and he and Osnat raised three children, all now in their 20s: two boys, Gilboa and Nadav, and a girl, Carmel.

Like many scientists, Anton has little spare time, but when he does he enjoys sports, music, and exploring the Cape and New England. For the last 8 or 9 years he has been playing classical guitar.

“I love music from the Dark Ages, Renaissance and Baroque, and well into the classical era,” he says. “And I love jazz.”

Anton loves the “intellectual challenges” of a life in science. “It’s being at the edge of what is known and not known, and seeing how far you can push it, and seeing what contributions you can make,” he says. “To me, that entails a lot of creativity, and combining technological and intellectual skills. It’s a wonderful opportunity to interact with people, to set up collaborations with other scientists and learn—but also teach—in the process.”

a new student comes to the MBL, he or she receives a welcoming gift from Kate’s office and is added to the database, so the MBL can stay in touch with them. “Many of them do give,” Kate says. “It’s wonderful to hear their comments, such as, ‘This course changed my life.’ I hear that all the time.”

Kate also researches potential donors in the “outer world” beyond MBL. “I love doing that,” she says. “It’s like being a detective. I’ve gotten good at connecting the dots and identifying someone who may want to give to the MBL.”

As if that weren’t enough to do, Kate also oversees the database systems for the MBL’s Development Office. She has been building up computer expertise since 1979, before the first wave of desktop computers hit the business world. By the early 1980s, she was managing a group that supported corporate finance/mergers and acquisitions at E.F. Hutton in New York City, in the pre-PC, pre-spreadsheet era.

“Talk about pressure,” she says. “I’d get called in the middle of the night to troubleshoot a problem when some major deal was in the works. I couldn’t stand it.” After a while, she says, she “escaped” Wall Street and enrolled in Yale, where she earned a master’s degree in environmental studies.

Kate also worked at the National Audubon Society and at a private school in Connecticut, where she learned the ropes of institutional development, before coming to the MBL. She now lives in West Falmouth with her husband, Barclay, an illustrator and computer animator. They have two sons in college, Clay and Harry.

Two times a week, Kate practices Tang Soo Do, a Korean martial art. Like everything she does, Kate approaches it with dedication: She has a 2nd degree black belt in the form.

“Tang Soo Do has a body-mind-spirit integrative philosophy, whereas Taekwondo is more competitive,” she says. “Tang Soo Do has some slow movements, like Tai Chi. It’s both fire energy and water energy. It’s a lifelong study, a practice.”

You may guess that what Kate most loves about her work is the gratification of successfully raising money for the MBL. But, she says, “It’s the people here. When you spend more than half of your waking life with the same people, and you stay in a place a long time, they become like family.”

“It’s being at the edge of what is known and not known, and seeing how far you can push it, and seeing what contributions you can make.”

— A. Post

MBL Mentors Help Make PEP Program 'A Rousing Success'

by Debbie Scanlon

Amias Polk had never seen the ocean before he came to Woods Hole last summer. "I'm from the land-locked state of Arkansas," he laughed. In three months, however, Polk, a chemistry major at Arkansas State College, not only saw the ocean but spent a day at sea, took a four-week course in ocean and environmental sciences, and conducted a six-week internship in ecological science.

Polk and fellow Arkansas State student James Shelton were participants in the Woods Hole Partnership in Education Program (PEP), launched this year by the Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee, a consortium that includes the MBL, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Sea Education Association (SEA), U.S. Geological Survey, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Woods Hole Research Center. As part of the PEP, both students had internships at the Ecosystems Center.

According to Ambrose Jearld, director of academic programs at NMFS, PEP is designed for college juniors and seniors who have had course work in oceanography or marine and/or environmental science, or some combination of biology, chemistry, geology, and physics. Students of all backgrounds are welcomed while those from groups under-represented in marine and environmental sciences are especially encouraged to apply.

"The six Woods Hole scientific institutions in the Woods Hole Science Community Diversity Initiative met often and we talked and talked," said Jearld. "We held diversity days and events, but finally we asked, 'What is concrete, what will demonstrate what we are espousing?'"



PEP students James Shelton (left) and Amias Polk (right)

"They immersed themselves in Woods Hole science and were changed by it for the better, as students have been for decades."

— George Liles, Woods Hole Diversity Committee, NMFS

Polk, Shelton, and their classmates arrived in Woods Hole in May and lived for four weeks at SEA. After completing an introductory PEP course taught by Woods Hole scientists, the students participated in a six-week internship. Scientists from all of the Woods Hole institutions acted as mentors, hosting PEP students in their labs.

Shelton and Polk spent their six-week internships at the Ecosystems Center. Polk worked with stable isotopes to study nitrogen cycling in the northeast Amazon of French Guiana with adjunct scientist Maureen Conte while Shelton researched soil respiration on Martha's Vineyard with Ecosystems Center assistant scientist Jim Tang.

Jearld, who is chair of the Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee, and George Liles, director of the NMFS Woods Hole Science Aquarium, together led the effort to establish PEP.

"The first year of the program was a rousing success," said Liles. "We attracted 16 students from 11 different colleges—including schools that are not often represented in our science community. The students were a wonderful group—bright and enthusiastic and full of wonderful undergraduate energy. They immersed themselves in Woods Hole science and were changed by it for the better, as students have been for decades."

*Director's Message,
from page 1*

efforts in Copenhagen, visit our new, improved website at www.woodsholeconsortium.org.

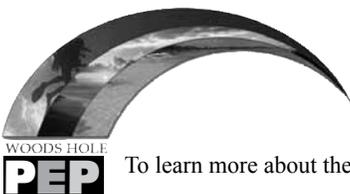
Closer to home, I am happy to report that the MBL is taking a green approach to the Loeb Laboratory renovation. We have made a commitment to recycling and construction waste management wherever possible—98% (by weight) of the material being removed from the building during demolition has been recycled to date. We are also working toward LEED Certification, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green building. You can read more about the specific actions being taken to reach LEED certification, and some recent accomplishments from the MBL Climate Commitment Committee, in the "Facilities Update" section of this newsletter.

Climate change is one of the most pressing scientific problems facing our generation. I'm honored that the MBL and the Woods Hole Consortium had the opportunity to share our expertise at the Copenhagen forum and look forward to continued efforts that we can take here at the MBL to be a responsible member of the global society.

With warmest wishes for a happy holiday season,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Borisy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 'y'.

Gary Borisy, Director and CEO



To learn more about the PEP program and the 2009 interns, visit www.woodsholediversity.org/pep

Facilities Update

• As is clear from the cranes, trucks, and dumpsters surrounding the building, the Loeb Laboratory renovation is the primary facilities project happening on campus. The MBL officially kicked off the project on August 31. A groundbreaking with representatives from funders Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Massachusetts Life Sciences Center and state and local officials followed on September 21.

Loeb's internal infrastructure is being completely gutted to create a modern facility for the MBL's research-training programs. The ambitious \$25 million renovation is slated for completion on June 1, 2010, just in time for the start of summer courses. According to Rich Cutler, director of Facilities and Services, the project is currently on schedule and on budget. Specifically, the rooftop mechanical room has everything in place and systems are being connected. Walls are up on the first, second, and third floors, and most of the basic infrastructure is in place on the third floor. Outside walls are being insulated and sealed and the ground level has been trenched for new underslab drain lines and electric feeds.

• The MBL has completed construction of the research grade greenhouse at its property in Falmouth Technology Park. The greenhouse will support the research of Ecosystems Center senior scientist Zoe Cardon and her colleagues.

• The MBL is now the owner of the house and land at 11 North Street (located between Broderick House and the Swope Center). With this acquisition, the MBL now owns all the property on the block. The previous owners will remain at the location until construction of their new house on Bar Neck Road is completed sometime next summer. Plans for how the MBL will use the newly acquired space are still being determined.



11 North Street

Greening the MBL

MBL Climate Commitment Committee

The Loeb renovation project is moving toward LEED certification. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, provides a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable construction. Below are a few of the many specific actions being taken to reach LEED certification:

• **Building Reuse** - Existing structural elements including walls, floors and roof structure are being maintained.

• **Construction Waste Management** - 98% (by weight) of the material being removed from the building during demolition is being recycled. Some material has been donated to other institutions (see article at right).

• **Recycled Content** - Materials with pre- and post-consumer recycled content are being used. The goal is to have an aggregate 20% recycled content for all materials used within the building.

• **Regional Materials** - Materials that are extracted, processed and manufactured within 500 miles of the project are being used. The goal is to use at least 20% regional materials.

• **Low Emitting Materials** - Low VOC (volatile organic compound) emitting materials for all paints, coatings, composite woods, carpet adhesives, and sealants used within the building are being employed.

• **Water efficiency** is being maximized by reducing water use by 30%. Renovations will reduce the burden on municipal water supply and wastewater systems by using water efficient toilets, urinals, and faucets.

Progress on other parts of campus include:

• Newly installed Marine Resources Center boilers have reduced gas use significantly. The boilers are 30% more efficient and help to reduce our carbon footprint.

• New variable frequency drivers, which run equipment at a speed required to maintain an efficient, constant flow, have been installed on the MBL's seawater pumps and have reduced power consumption.

Renewable energy as a percentage of electric power used by the MBL has increased from 5% to over 7%.

MBL Donates Loeb Furnishings to National Marine Life Center

The MBL takes its commitment to the environment seriously. Nowhere is this more visible than in the Loeb Laboratory renovation, where recycling and construction waste management are a priority wherever possible. One component of our effort to "go green" with the renovation was the recent donation of old lab furnishings to the National Marine Life Center (NMLC) in Buzzards Bay, which is building a new hospital to care for marine animals that strand on Cape Cod. When complete, NMLC's facility will be the only U.S. marine animal hospital capable of simultaneously housing injured sea turtles, seals, dolphins, and pilot whales under one roof.

The donated equipment from the MBL included a rectangular tank, sixteen durable laboratory-grade sinks, a fume hood, two steam dishwashers, storage cabinets, chairs, and file cabinets. The MBL also donated the former Loeb generator and automatic transfer switch which does not meet the MBL's needs, but can more than completely power the new NMLC facility. "We were tremendously excited to receive this gift from MBL," said Kathy Zagzebski, NMLC president and executive director. "The equipment will save us money and be put to good use in our science and educational laboratories."

"Recycling of these materials is not only helping the NMLC as they build their new hospital, but will also reduce the amount of materials that may otherwise be left for a landfill as unused waste."

— Rich Cutler, MBL director of Facilities and Services

"The MBL is committed to reducing its environmental impact and is pleased that The National Marine Life Center can benefit from this used equipment," said Richard Cutler, director of Facilities and Services. "Recycling of these materials is not only helping the NMLC as they build their new hospital, but will also reduce the amount of materials that may otherwise be left for a landfill as unused waste."

Loeb Laboratory Renovation Q&A

A Look "Behind the Scenes" with Richard Cutler, director of Facilities, Services, & Projects

Q. Will the renovations add any new classrooms or meeting space?

A. Yes. There will be a 60-seat classroom that can be divided into two rooms (similar to Candle House 104/105). There will also be a computer/break room for each of the six main summer courses. The lobbies will remain in their current location.

Q. What are some features in the new building that MBL employees might be interested in?

A. The renovated Loeb will be fully air-conditioned, elevators will be upgraded, and drinking water will be filtered for taste and color. The new 60-seat conference room on the first floor will have teleconferencing capabilities and be completely high-tech. The new Loeb will also be fully handicap accessible.

Q. What are some of the biggest construction challenges you're facing?

A. Tight working conditions, short timeline for construction completion, and more structural damage than originally thought from seawater.

Q. On a typical day, how many construction workers are in the building?

A. We average around 100 workers per day. The largest amount of workers we've had on one day is 150. They work at least five days a week and most begin working at 6:30 AM and end at 2:30 PM. Some crews are working 14-hour days, 7 days a week. I'm happy to report that 20% of the workers are local.

Q. So, what the next big project for you after Loeb is completed?

A. Who knows? Maybe Lillie? Depends on where the money comes from!



*Loeb east wing corridor,
December 2009*

Plans are currently in the works for a summer ribbon-cutting ceremony. Stay tuned for details!

Message from the Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator

A Different Kind of Sensitivity

When an EEO Coordinator writes an article on sensitivity, most people expect to read about people's feelings on such topics as diversity, discrimination, or affirmative action. But this article is about a different kind of sensitivity. It's not the intellectual or emotional kind, it's the physical kind.

According to <webmd.com>, at least one out of every five Americans suffers from allergies. Common causes include food products such as peanuts, milk, strawberries, and shellfish; outdoor plants such as grasses, weeds, and various tree pollens; indoor substances like dust and molds; pet dander from cats and dogs; a large array of fragrances from colognes to shampoos; and my favorite, swimming pools.

If you've ever had an allergy, you know how miserable they can be. They cause reactions such as watery or itchy eyes, sneezing, nasal congestion, breathing difficulties, headaches, nausea, dizziness, muscle and joint pain, and a host of skin reactions such as hives and rashes. Some allergies are so severe they cause anaphylaxis, a state of unconsciousness that can lead to a coma. People susceptible to such reactions carry epinephrine with them to rapidly suppress the condition before they pass out.

Since breathing is one of the major life activities defined by the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and specifically mentioned in the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, allergies which severely limit a person's ability to breathe are covered by it. Therefore, MBL must make reasonable accommodations when requested. These requests may range anywhere from creating peanut-free zones in MBL buildings to allowing employees who work in fragrance-filled areas to go outside and breathe fresh air as needed.

My job, as EEO Coordinator, is to foster awareness about "sensitive" matters. This information is intended to educate the workforce about the real effect foods, chemicals, fragrances, etc., can have on an individual with allergies. Many people may be unaware that the scents they use or the lunches they carry can actually make their coworkers sick.

—Jane MacNeil, x7378, eeo@mbledu

Employee News

The MBL has welcomed the following new employees since last spring:



Hannah Jaris
Research Assistant
Bay Paul Center



Kristy Owen
Research Assistant
Bay Paul Center



Lakshmi Manoha Akella
Scientific Informatics
Analyst
MBLWHOI Library



David Koweek
Research Assistant
Ecosystems Center



Verity Salmon
Research Assistant
Ecosystems Center



Christine Bizinkauskas
Research Assistant
Bay Paul Center



Erica Lasek-Nesselquist
Postdoctoral Scientist
Bay Paul Center



Sheri Simmons
Assistant Scientist
Bay Paul Center



Valerie Boyajian
Assistant to the
Chief Academic
& Scientific Officer



Mirko Lunau
Postdoctoral Scientist
Ecosystems Center



Julie Smith
Postdoctoral Scientist
Bay Paul Center



Erika Del Castillo
Postdoctoral Scientist
Bay Paul Center



Claire Lunch
Postdoctoral Scientist
Ecosystems Center



Rose Smith
Research Assistant
Ecosystems Center



Jerome Girard
Electrical/Mechanical
Technician
Plant Operations
& Maintenance



Mary Anne Mann
Research Associate
Marine Resources
Center



Suzanne Tank
Part-time
Postdoctoral Scientist
Ecosystems Center



Alden Gustafson
Research Assistant
Bay Paul Center



Colin Millar
Research Assistant
Ecosystems Center



Kimberly Ulmer
Research Assistant
Marine Resources
Center



Amitabh Verma
Research Assistant
Cellular Dynamics
Program



Jenna Walker
Student Worker
Ecosystems Center



Laura Williams
Postdoctoral Scientist
Bay Paul Center



Erick Wolfinger
On-Call Dishwasher
Ecosystems Center

Promotions

Irina Arkhipova was promoted to assistant scientist in the Bay Paul Center.

Sarah Butler was promoted to research assistant III in the Ecosystems Center.

John Furfey to senior automation services officer, MBLWHOI library

David Graham was promoted to research assistant II in the BioCurrents Research Center.

Diane Rielinger to assistant director for administration and finance, MBLWHOI Library

Michael Shribak was promoted to associate scientist in the Cellular Dynamics Program.

Jennifer Wernegreen was promoted to senior scientist in the Bay Paul Center.

Linda Amaral Zettler was promoted to assistant scientist in the Bay Paul Center.

• MBL veterinarian **Amy Hancock** and her husband Jim Ronemus welcomed a baby girl, Julia Ronemus, on December 1.

• **John Furfey**, senior automation services officer, and his wife, Erin, welcomed twin baby boys, Leo and Eamon Byrne Furfey, on October 27.

• **Peter Mangiafico**, informatics team leader in the Biodiversity Informatics Group, and his wife, Karen Casciotti, welcomed a baby boy, Benjamin David Mangiafico, on November 13.

• **Leslie Murphy**, research assistant in the Bay Paul Center, and her husband, Tom, welcomed a baby boy, Thomas Graham Murphy, on May 10 (Mother's Day!)

Marriages

• **Kristen Lans**, biodiversity informatics project coordinator, Encyclopedia of Life, and Ronald Cunha were married on July 19 in Woods Hole.

Retirements

• Ecosystems Center lab manager **Don Burnette** retired on November 17 after 10 years of service.

• Director of Education **Lenny Dawidowicz** retired on October 2 after 14 years of service.

• Seawater Technician **Steve Mills** retired on November 20 after 44 years of service.

Milestones

Births

• **Lakshmi Manohar Akella**, scientific informatics analyst, and his wife, Padma Madhuri Akella, welcomed a baby boy, Archishmaan Krishna Akella, on October 2.

• **Chris Dematos**, web systems manager, and his wife, Jen, welcomed a baby girl, Camryn Lynne Dematos, August 24.

Once Again, MBL Employees Dig Deep for Their Neighbors in Need



Ecosystems Center staff load donated gifts into the van

Through the MBL Activities Committee, MBL employees collected gifts and food baskets for Cape families this holiday season. Through the Housing Assistance Corporation, 12 families submitted wish lists that included toys, clothing, and household items. MBLers adopted each family, then bought family members gifts and food baskets. At the Ecosystems Center, Kelly Holzworth organized the donations and Richard McHorney of the center delivered them to Hyannis.

Through Giving Trees, the MBL Activities Committee collected food and unwrapped childrens gifts for the Falmouth Service Center holiday drive. Food and toys were donated by and delivered to the Service Center by MBL employees in time for Christmas.



This shiny new girls bike was donated by a generous group of MBL employees

MBL Softball Season Recap

By Coach Jim Marcello

The 2009 MBL softball season featured 37 different players suiting up team "Specimens" throughout the summer campaign. After a 5-1 first half, MBL looked like the team to beat, but opponents fought back down the stretch holding us to a 6-4 record on the season. While the range of competition in the league varies greatly, we held our own going 4-4 against strong opponents and pulling off some real nail biters against WHOI Chemistry, WHOI Physical Oceanography, and the Woods Hole Post Office.

Some of this season's highlights include: Big Tom's 305 foot homer and epic slide versus the WHOI Carpenters; Melissa, Simon, Leon, and JP's on-base consistency; Sam gunning down a GFD runner home from deep right field; Dave G's opposite field power; Jack's go-ahead homer capping a 10-run comeback versus WHOI Chemistry; Rich Romano's trip rounding second base on opening night; the Dacey trio's offensive tear sinking rival FYP; Rhys robbing WHOI Biology of a 2-out grand slam; Team Sam's annihilation of Team Dave in the Brothers Bailey exhibition game; George's steady pitching and slick glove; Jim's smooth swing; Herb becoming a staple on the team; and lastly the 20 player turnout for our final game and team party. Thanks to everyone who made this such a fun year! Looking forward to doing it again in 2010.

2009 Team Roster

COACHES

Jim Marcello
Rhys Probyn

VETERANS

Justine Allen
Dave Bailey
Sam Bailey
Olin Christy
Leon Collis
Jack Dacey
Mike Dacey
Morgan Eisen
Dave Galatzer-Levy
Grant Harris
Erica Lassek-Nesselquist
Simon Minor
Grady Reilly
Mike Toner
Corey*

ROOKIES

George Bell
Vansa Chatikavanij
Tom Dacey
Dan Doughty
Bill Dundin
Jay Fabio
Tom Fetchko
Melissa Genazzio
Pete Goldsborough
Pete Mangiafico
Herb McAdams
Kevin McKean
Andrew Medieros
Rebecca Prosser
Rich Romano
Colin*
JP*
Mark*
Corey*
Jack*

SPECTATORS/BENCH

COACHES

Jim Carroll, Dina DiCarlo,
Steph Oleksyk

*last name unknown

Activities Committee Update

• The Mexican fiesta-themed annual MBL picnic was held September 10 in the MBL Quad. Sodexo generously provided food for the event. Instead of the usual barbeque fare of burgers and dogs, fajitas, tacos, beans, rice, guacamole, and other south-of-the-border goodies filled the plates at this year's picnic, which was highlighted by a salsa contest. Congratulations to contest winner Ecosystems Center Research Assistant **Elissa Schuett**, who wowed everyone's taste buds with her Apple Salsa. Interestingly, Elissa also won the pie baking contest at last year's picnic. We're anxious to see what she comes up with for next year's event!



• The Activities Committee-organized Thanksgiving Food Drive was a great success. The MBL donated four grocery carts full of canned and boxed goods to the Falmouth Service Center. Many thanks to all employees who participated in the food drive.

• The MBL hosted 21 vendors at the 2009 Holiday Bazaar held on December 3 in the Meigs Room. MBL employees **Suzanne Livingstone** and **Tamara Clark** joined local crafters and artisans who offered holiday shoppers everything from pottery, to photography, to handmade jewelry, soaps, and candles.

• Looking Ahead: Stay tuned for Wii Bowling to start up again in February. Be sure to be a part of this activity. It's a great way to meet fellow employees and beat the winter blues!

The MBL Activities Committee is a group of employees who volunteer their time to plan and promote events and activities that facilitate staff interaction, and enhance and sustain employee morale. The Committee also organizes charitable and community service events. Current members include: **Deb Deering, Kelly Holzworth, Lisa Hunt, Homer Lane, Beth Liles, Suzanne Livingstone, Becky Mountford, Katie Newhall, Nancy Stafford, Pam Vidal.**

The Activities Committee is looking for new members. No experience is necessary. Just a willingness to have fun! An informational open house will be held in January and our goal is to have at least one representative from each department at MBL. More information coming soon.



Other Employee News

• Comedian Paula Poundstone and MBL Marine Resources manager **Scott Lindell** pose for a photo after Poundstone's recent performance at the Zeiterion Theater in New Bedford. Poundstone is a regular guest on the popular NPR quiz show "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me" and Scott's sea bass acoustic conditioning project (otherwise known as "Pavlov's Fish") was a topic in the "Bluff the Listener" segment of the March 29, 2008 show. According to Scott, "At first she didn't remember the story she told on the show, but after a little prompting she did remember and asked me how the experiment concluded. Well, she did say her memory wasn't good, didn't she?" You can listen online to the segment at <www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=89205277>

• Congratulations to MBL chief financial officer and Masters swimmer **Homer Lane**, who recently broke a New England Masters record at Boston University in the 400 meter Freestyle at 5:04.65!

Ecosystems Center Staff Donates Books to Help Local Elementary Schoolchildren Better Understand the Earth

By Debbie Scanlon

Explaining the science of how the Earth works can be difficult, and especially challenging when the audience is elementary school students. But Molly Bang, well-known author and illustrator from Woods Hole, and MIT scientist Dr. Penny Chisholm accepted the challenge and decided to write “the best books we could about how the Earth works—especially about how sunlight affects the Earth.”

“We, as a society, have to make decisions about cloning, genetic foods, effects of climate change, and other factors. Without a solid basis in science, how can we do this responsibly?” asked Ms. Bang.



Ed Rastetter, a senior scientist at the MBL Ecosystems Center, presents a copy of *Living Sunlight* to East Falmouth School teacher Wendy Scholes. The Ecosystems Center staff donated books to all of the elementary and middle schools in Falmouth, Bourne, and Mashpee.

Within several days, Ecosystems Center employees had raised enough money to buy two books per school for each of the ten elementary and middle schools in the Falmouth, Bourne, and Mashpee school districts.

Ecosystems Center senior scientist Ed Rastetter presented the books October 29 at a teacher workshop held at the Falmouth Public Library. He commented that “a general scientific literacy is vitally important for society to respond to the climate change issues facing us. Molly Bang’s *Living Sunlight* is a great introduction for young children into one of the most fundamental processes that will be affected by climate change, photosynthesis.”

Teachers were enthusiastic about both the workshop and the book. “The workshop was very well done. The information was very useable and appropriate to the science curriculum,” said Deb McRoberts, teacher of motivated and talented students at East Falmouth and Mullen-Hall Schools. “The book *Living Sunlight* is beautiful and, with the explanatory text in the back, incredibly useful. Many teachers couldn’t wait to get started.”

Ms. Bang and Dr. Chisholm published *Living Sunlight: How Plants Bring the Earth to Life* earlier this year. The book, geared for elementary schoolchildren, focuses on one of the most vital biological processes on Earth—photosynthesis.

This fall Ms. Bang approached the Woods Hole Science and Technology Education Partnership (WHSTEP) about sponsoring a workshop that she would run for Falmouth, Bourne, and Mashpee teachers to help them explain the concept of photosynthesis to children.

While the WHSTEP executive committee was supportive of the idea, committee members doubted that the schools would be able to purchase the books, given current school budget constraints. The WHSTEP representative from the MBL’s Ecosystems Center brought the news to her colleagues. Would they be willing to chip in a few dollars each to buy books for the schools?



Grand Prize winner: *Developing Megalops*, by Chris Rieken

MBL 2009 Scientific Photography Contest Winners

The 2009 MBL Scientific Photography garnered 35 stunning entries from MBL students, staff, course faculty, researchers, and community members. Judging was done in early October and the Communications Office went straight to press with several of the winners in *MBL Catalyst*, the MBL holiday card, Annual Fund Appeal, and on the web. Prizes were donated by Zeiss and included Zeiss Conquest 8x30T Binoculars, CD Cases, LED Keyring Lights, memory sticks, backpacks, and water bottles.

2009 Judges:

Greenfield “Kip” Sluder, University of Massachusetts Medical Center and co-director of MBL’s Analytical and Quantitative Light Microscopy course
Kasia Hammar, research assistant in the Bay Paul Center
Nipam Patel, UC Berkeley/HHMI and co-director of MBL’s Embryology course

2009 Contest Winners:

First (Grand) Prize: *Developing Megalops*
Chris Rieken, Bay Paul Center, MBL

Second Prize: *Disguised Squid*
Vincent Forman Pasque, The Gurdon Institute, Cambridge UK, and MBL Embryology course

Third Prize: *Portrait of a Jumping Spider*
Chris Rieken, Bay Paul Center, MBL

Fourth Prize: *Aequorea Jellyfish*
Naoki Noda, Cellular Dynamics Program, MBL

Honorable Mentions: *Diatom Arachnoidiscus*
Michael Shribak, MBL

Neuronal Growth in the Mouse Embryo
Erin Kaltenbrun, University North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and MBL Embryology Course

See all winning images at: www.mbl.edu/photo_contest/photo_archive2009.html

The 2010 Contest is officially underway! Please find rules and eligibility information on the website: www.mbl.edu/photo_contest. All registered MBL community members (18 years plus) are invited to enter.

Parking Update

Thank you! to the entire MBL community for your patience and cooperation with the reduced parking situation we've experienced on campus this fall as a result of the Loeb renovation. We expect continued parking limitations in the coming months, especially when the spring conference season begins in February. Any new information regarding parking will be communicated via laball messages.

2010 MBL Parking Permits

With the New Year comes new campus parking permits. This year, in an effort to remain paperless, all parking permit registrations must be completed online. There will also be new procedures for applying for a green sticker (if you are entitled to one) and any additional parking stickers, so please read the instructions carefully.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO RECEIVE A MBL PARKING PERMIT

1. Completed online application
2. Your previous year's sticker if you had one
3. Your MBL ID card

HOW TO APPLY ONLINE:

Go to <http://gosnold.mbl.edu/parking/parking.asp>
After accepting the MBL Parking Policy and completing the form, bring your old sticker (if you have one) to the Building Services, Transportation, and Grounds Office L-10 and receive a 2010 sticker.

NOTE This link is also available on the MBL website. From the MBL Home Page, click on 'Services' in the left menu. On the 'Services' page choose 'Parking/Shuttle Service'. On the top of the new page click 'MBL Parking Policy and Sticker Renewal Application', to apply online.

Any special requests for green stickers must be made via e-mail to lburdge@mbledu from the individual's supervisor or PI.

Additional parking pass requests can be made by registering your second car on line and asking for the additional pass when picking up your original pass.

The following schedule will apply for picking up your new sticker in Lillie 10 (down the hall from the mailroom):

Tuesday, January 12, 2010	9:00 - 11:30 AM
Wednesday, January 13, 2010	1:30 - 4:00 PM
Thursday, January 14, 2010	9:00 - 11:30 AM

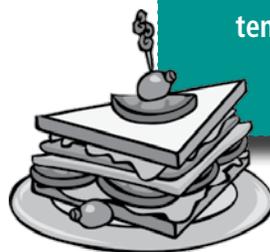
Carpooling By The Numbers

Did you know that the carbon footprint for the MBL from employees commuting to work everyday is approximately 1,402 metric tons of CO₂ per year? If only 10% of the MBL population were to carpool to work it could save a total of 93 metric tons of CO₂ per year from MBL's overall carbon foot print. If MBL could increase the number of employees car pooling to 20% it would equate to a total savings of 187 metric tons of CO₂ per year. The following table shows some percentages if folks were to carpool to work—something for everyone to think about. For more information on carpooling, please contact Larry Burdge at x7530.

Percentage of (270) People Car Pooling	# of People in Car Pool	Cars	Total mtCO ₂	Savings of mtCO ₂
100%	270	90	467	935
90%	243	108	561	841
80%	216	126	654	748
60%	162	162	841	561
40%	108	198	1028	374
20%	54	234	1215	187
18%	49	238	1234	168
16%	43	241	1252	150
14%	38	245	1271	131
12%	32	248	1290	112
10%	27	252	1309	93
8%	22	256	1327	75
6%	16	259	1346	56
4%	11	263	1365	37
2%	5	266	1383	19
0%	0	270	1402	0

Did You Know?

Cafe Swope offers a 15% discount to all MBL employees who use their MBL Card for purchases. Also, after purchasing ten lunch specials, the next one is free!



Great EsCapes:

Skating Away . . .



Are you looking for something fun and challenging to do this winter? How about learning to skate, or even play hockey!? The Cape is big on skating—there are five full-size indoor rink facilities to choose from offering programs from adult and youth hockey to theatre on ice and rock nights for kids! Most facilities offer skate rentals, pro shops, and food concessions. (Check individual websites for details, hours, and fees.)

UPPER CAPE

Falmouth Ice Arena

9 Skating Lane, Falmouth, MA
508-508-7080
www.falmouthicearena.com

Owned and operated by Falmouth Youth Hockey League, the rink provides a wide array of activities for youngsters and adults alike.

Public Skating
Public Stick Time
Powerskating Lessons
Figure Skating Lessons
Learn to Skate Programs
Youth and Adult Hockey
Summer Camps and Clinics

Amenities: Snack Bar, Pro Shop

Gallo Ice Arena

231 Sandwich Road, Bourne, MA
508-759-8904
www.galloarena.com

Gallo Ice Arena is “home” to many sessions and programs.

Public Sk8 (for all)
Senior Sk8 (for those 50 & up)
Public Hockey (for all)
Senior Hockey (for those 50 & up)
Learn to Sk8
Just Tots Program
Learn to Play Hockey
Power Sk8ing (for hockey players)
Private Lessons
Synchronized Sk8ing
Theater on Ice

Amenities: Snack Bar, Pro-Shop

MID CAPE

Hyannis Youth and Community Center (formerly Kennedy Skating Rink)

141 Bassett Lane, Hyannis, MA
508-790-6345
www.hyannisyouth.org

The brand new community center has two NHL regulation-size ice rinks.

Learn to Skate Programs
Hockey Programs
Tots Programs
Theatre on Ice
Family Skate nights
Rock Nights

Amenities: Snack Bar, Indoor Walking Track

Tony Kent Arena

Gages Way, S. Dennis, MA
508-760-2400
www.tonykentarena.com

Tony Kent Arena is open year-round and offers something for everyone from tots to grandparents:

Stick and Puck Time
Youth and Adult Hockey
Public Skating
Learn to Skate Programs
Figure Skating Lessons
Parent and Tot Classes
Rock Nights

Amenities: Snack Bar, Pro-Shop

LOWER CAPE

Charles Moore Sports Center

O'Connor Way, Orleans, MA
508-255-5902
www.charlesmoorearena.org

The Moore Sports Center’s mission is to provide a safe and positive environment for skaters of all ages and abilities.

Hockey
Figure Skating
Theatre on ice
Learn to Skate
Rock Nights
Adult Stick Time
Birthday Parties

Amenities: Snack Bar, Pro-Shop, Video Game Room



Emergency Storm Closings

In the rare case that the MBL has to delay or cancel work before 8 AM due to weather conditions, the following radio stations will be notified by the MBL at approximately 5:30 AM:

WCIB 101.9 FM and WMVY 92.7 FM.

We have no control over the actual announcement schedule, but expect the first announcements to be made at approximately 6 AM. Lab closings or delays in openings will usually be based on the anticipated weather conditions for 8 AM in Woods Hole and the condition of the MBL parking lots specifically. For information about MBL Operations Status, call (508) 289-7MBL.

Weather in your area may differ considerably from Woods Hole. Therefore, on days when the MBL is open, but weather conditions are questionable, you must gauge your own safety risk based on these conditions. If you believe that conditions warrant no travel, you may exercise the MBL's Attendance Policy Section 6.0. All employees are required to notify their supervisor or the Human Resources Office if they are unable to report for work on a storm day.

Under the MBL Attendance Policy, employees unable to get to work safely may take leave without pay or a vacation day (if the employee has sufficient accrued vacation time). MBL personnel are expected to report to work if conditions allow. All "Essential Personnel Category 1: Winter Storm Conditions" are expected to report for snow removal and clean-up.

The Collecting Net is published quarterly by the MBL Communications Office. Comments and questions may be directed to x7423; comm@mbl.edu

MBL Biological Discovery in Woods Hole

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www.mbl.edu

