

Bio-Bits

**A Newsletter from Brookdale's Biology Department
May 2007**

NEW IN SCIENCE at BCC...

ENVIRONMENT AND EARTH SCIENCES OPTION

Beginning Fall, 2007, Brookdale will offer students a new option in "Environmental and Earth Sciences" as part of the Math/Science Associate Degree program. A variety of courses from the environmental field of study will be offered, from oceanography and marine biology to meteorology and geology. Students in the program will develop a fundamental base of scientific knowledge which will be utilized to understand the societal and economic implications of humans influence on the natural world. For more information about this option, contact your counselor or Dr. Cari Gigliotti at cgigliotti@brookdalecc.edu.

3-CREDIT BIOLOGY COURSE OFFERED ON-LINE

Beginning Fall, 2007, Brookdale will offer a 3-credit biology course on-line. "Exploring Biology: Cycles of Life" will cover topics at an introductory level to provide students with an overview of biological science and its relevance in the world. For more information about this course, contact Carey Fox at cafox@brookdalecc.edu or 732-224-2874.

DUAL ADMISSIONS PROGRAM: BCC and GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY

A Dual Admissions agreement between Brookdale Community College and Georgian Court University will allow students *simultaneous admission* to both schools and assure *smooth credit transfer* to the four-year university. Students in Brookdale's Math/Science Program (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, and Science Options) will be able to *transfer all credits* toward a four-year degree in one of the following science areas: Allied Health Technologies, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Physics. Non-science programs, (i.e., Education), are also included in the agreement. Any currently enrolled Brookdale student who is not in the last semester of the Associate's degree program is eligible to participate. For more information, call (732)224-2570 and request a Dual Admission Application/Information Sheet.

BROOKDALE SCIENCE CLUBS...

BIOLOGY CLUB NEWS

Contact biologyclub@brookdalecc.edu for information.

HORTICULTURE CLUB SPRING PLANT SALE

The Horticulture Club is holding its annual Spring Plant Sale in the Brookdale Greenhouse from Tuesday, May 1st through Friday, May 4th. A huge selection of plants, including Heirloom tomatoes, annuals, herbs, vegetables and houseplants will be available (at great prices!). Hours are Tuesday and Friday, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM; Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM. The Greenhouse is located between Collins Arena and the Automotive Building. For more information, contact Leslie VanCleve at 732-224-2387.

BCC WATER WATCH

Earth Day 2007 - Brookdale's Chapter of NJ Water Watch joined with other environmental organizations on Earth Day to clean sites along the Navesink and Swimming Rivers. More than 100 volunteers removed shopping carts, tires, scrap metal and bottles from the water bodies! NJ State Senator Joseph Kyrillos and Middletown Mayor Gerard Scharfenberger, Ph.D., were among the speakers that addressed the crowd. (See Mayor Scharfenberger's Township "GreenMessage" at www.middletownnj.org/AboutMT/GreenMayormessage.asp)

Next Clean-Up Date - The next scheduled Water Watch activity is a cleanup with the Marlboro Environmental Commission on Saturday, May 19th at 9:00 AM.

Summer Employment – Water Watch is offering a number of summer employment opportunities - organizers and canvassers are needed. Contact campus organizer Katie Feeney at bcc@njwaterwatch.org for details.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 8th – Last Day of Spring Term Classes
May 20th – Graduation! *Class of 2007*
May 21st – First Day of Instruction – Summer I
May 30th – First Day of Instruction – Summer II
June 2nd – Last Day to Complete Spring 07 Incompletes
July 9th – First Day of Instruction – Summer III
Sept 6th – First Day of Instruction – Fall 07 Term

GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVE CONTEST

Congratulations to Alessandra Pereira, winner of the Biology Department's *Green Campus Initiative* contest. Alessandra's suggestion to *beautify the campus on Earth Day* by asking members of the Brookdale Community to *bring a flowering plant to school for planting* was randomly selected from the pool of qualifying suggestions. For her idea, Alessandra was

given a \$25 Gift Certificate to the Scroll and Pen Book Store (also good at the Paddock Convenience Store).

SCHOLARSHIPS AND CONTESTS

Benjamin Cummings Allied Health Student

Scholarships – Five \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to students for “sharing their ideas, experiences and solutions regarding public health”. Students currently enrolled in a course in anatomy and physiology or microbiology, and students that have completed these courses within the past two years are eligible (June 2005 through November 2007). Students apply by filling out a simple application form and submitting a 1-2 page answer to a question regarding public health. Deadline: November 1, 2007. For more details, go to www.aw-bc.com/scholarships/allied.html. Information is also posted on the Biology Bulletin Board.

Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) “Science Idol: the Scientific Integrity Editorial Cartoon” Contest – If you are artistic (and a wee bit clever), this science contest is for you! The UCS, troubled by growing “censorship, manipulation and suppression of federal government science”, is asking contestants to create an editorial cartoon that “lampoons the misuse of science while communicating the dangerous effects of this political interference”. The winner will receive \$500, an all-expenses paid trip to Washington DC, lunch with *Washington Post* cartoonist Tom Toles, and publication in the 2008 UCS Scientific Integrity calendar. Twelve runner-ups will also have their work featured in the calendar. Deadline: May 22nd, 2007. For details, visit www.ucsusa.org/scientificintegrity/scienceidol/. Information is also posted on the Biology Bulletin Board.

Additional Scholarship information can be obtained by going to the BCC Homepage (www.brookdaleecc.edu) and clicking on “Current Students” (left column), “Financial Aid” (left column), and “Scholarship Information” (left column). Click on the scholarship links provided.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Student Life and Activities is currently accepting applications for BCC Student Ambassadors. If you are interested in developing leadership skills by helping fellow students, prospective students and members of the community, pick up an application in the Student Life and Activities Office, SLC 101 (lower level of the Student Life Center). Applicants for these *paid positions* must be available for summer training and have a minimum GPA of 2.5. For more information, call 224-2392.

SCIENCE OFF-CAMPUS

7 Concerts, 7 Continents, 7/7/07: To raise awareness of global warming, more than 150 musicians will perform in 7 concerts on 7 continents, 7/7/07. Brainchild of Save our Selves (SOS) founder Kevin Wall, a media-blitz and twenty-four hours of continuous music are planned. The US venue will be held at Giants Stadium, with Bon Jovi, Alicia Keyes, Sheryl Crow and Kanye West among the scheduled performers. Concert proceeds will be used to form a global organization to combat the global crises headed by Vice President Al Gore. See www.liveearth.org for more details.

On-Line Learning Opportunity: The National Wildlife Foundation is offering free online classes about wildlife and wild places. For information about courses, visit www.nwf.org/wildlifeuniversity

Eco-Friendly Products. The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is an environmental action group committed to protecting the earth. NRDC recommends purchasing paper products from the following eco-friendly companies:

<u>Paper Napkins</u>	<u>Toilet Paper</u>
Bella	Ambiance
Marcal	April Soft
Seventh Generation	Best Value
365 Everyday Value	Cascades
Facial Tissue	CVS 1000
Fluff Out	Doucelle
Seventh Generation	Earth Friendly
<u>Paper Towels</u>	Fiesta
Atlantic	Marcal
Best Value	Natural Value
Cascades	Pert
Doucelle	Planet
Fiesta	Seventh Generation
Marcal	Sofpac
Pert	Trader Joe's
Planet	365 Everyday Value
Seventh Generation	
365 Everyday Value	

TV: Newton's Dark Secrets, Tuesday May 1st, 8:00 PM, Channel 13.

Books:

The Rough Guide to Shopping with a Conscience by Richie Unterberger and Duncan Clark; Rough Guide Manufacturers, 2007. Explores ecotourism, the cosmetic industry, local versus organic foods and other topics. Informative and easy to read.

The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals, by Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, 2006. Investigates the American Diet and why we eat the way we do. A good (and surprising) read if you want to eat healthier and help the environment.

Websites:

www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org outlines a pledge signed by nearly 200 college and university presidents to reduce carbon emissions at their schools.

www.bushgreenwatch.org is a website created by *Friends of the Earth the Earth* that monitors the Bush Administration's environmental record.

www.protectourfood.org is a website sponsored by the Union of Concerned Scientists that monitors food crops that are genetically engineered to produce drugs and industrial chemicals.

“If we are saying that the loss of species in and of itself is inherently bad – I don't think that we know enough about how the world works to say that” - Craig Manson, Assistant Secretary, US Interior Department, 2001 – 2006, appointed to oversee the Endangered Species Act (LA Times, 11/12/03).