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# Biological Sciences

December 20, 2016 AY 16-17 #147

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## *Announcements*

**Miriam Ferzli and Lisa Paciulli were awarded a STEM Initiative Grant for their project.**

The title and description are below.

**Increasing Student-Centered Learning in Introductory Biology through  
Innovative Technologies: Makerspace**

*This project aims to enhance student-centered learning by providing students with the opportunity to build biological models using Makerspace. It will integrate existing student projects/activities done as part of the TH!NK program with the opportunity for Makerspace development at D.H. Hill and James B. Hunt libraries. Makerspace will give students another avenue for expressing science concepts in creative ways. Students could build electronic prototypes of molecules, print cells in three dimensions (3D), make 3D digital models of multicellular organisms, etc., to enhance their creative and critical thinking skills and be part of the STEM to STEAM movement.*

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**The CHHE has announced this year's pilot projects. Congratulations to the 9 Biological Sciences members shown below.**

*“Investigating the Interplay between Genetic and Environmental Mechanisms Underlying Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Etiology”*

**PI: Michael S. Bereman**, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Carolyn Mattingly, Dept of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Debra Tokarz, Dept. of Population Health and Pathobiology, NCSU

Co-I: Antonio Planchart, Dept of Biological Sciences, NCSU

*“The Role of C/EBP $\beta$  in Regulating p53 Pro-Apoptotic Transcriptional Activity in Response to UVB Solar Radiation”*

**PI: Jonathan R. Hall**, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: John S. House, Bioinformatics Research Center, NCSU

Co-I: Yoshiaki Tsuji, Dept. Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Robert C. Smart, Dept. Biological Sciences, NCSU

*“Impact of Phthalate Exposure on Paternal Programming of Offspring Neurological Phenotype”*

**PI: Emilie Rissman**, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Sarah Robertson, Robinson Research Institute, Adelaide

Co-I: John Schjenken, Robinson Research Institute, Adelaide

*“The Role and Regulation of p66Shc by Nrf2 in Cellular Antioxidant Response to Xenobiotics”*

**PI: Yoshiaki Tsuji**, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Jun Ninomiya-Tsuji, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

Co-I: Masaki Miyazawa, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

*“Reducing Pollutant-Induced Hypospadias: is Nrf2 Driving the Rescue?”*

**PI: Krista A. McCoy**, Dept. of Biology, ECU

Co-I: Michael S. Bereman, Dept. of Biological Sciences, NCSU

*“A Bioinformatics and Molecular Modeling Approach towards Understanding Epigenetic Targets and Genotoxic and Mutagenic Biological Pathways of Azo Dyes within Organisms”*

**PI: Melissa A. Pasquinelli**, Dept. of Textile Engineering, Chemistry, and Science, NCSU

Co-I: Rachelle Bienstock, Dept. of Textile Engineering, Chemistry, and Science, NCSU

Check out the CHHE website for more information

<https://chhe.research.ncsu.edu/>

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**Amanda Hale, a Zoology graduate student working with Ann Ross, was awarded CRC Press Grant Award!** In collaboration with the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF), CRC Press donated

to the top-scoring FSF Student Travel Grant candidate an “instant library” of pre-selected books (\$1,500 list price) that will be presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The “FSF/CRC Press Student Travel Grant and Book Prize” has an overall value of \$3,000.

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### **From University Transportation:**

As part of the University's energy savings efforts, all University parking decks will be closed during the Winter Holiday **EXCEPT the first two levels of the Centennial Biomedical Deck (CVM), the first two levels of the West Deck and the Centennial Campus Poulton Deck. (Coliseum Deck will also be open on December 29 for an event).**

Parking decks (except those mentioned above) will close late Friday afternoon December 23 (beginning around 3 p.m.), and will reopen prior to the start of business on Tuesday, January 3. Entrances and exits of the closed decks will be barricaded and signs posted.

Additionally, lighting in four surface parking lots will be turned off and signs posted. Affected lots are Main Campus Drive (RS) - except for December 31 City of Raleigh event, Oval Drive Storage Lots (RS), Varsity Lot and Centennial Biomedical Campus North Lot (near Ramada In).

If you plan to be on campus during the Winter Holiday, please park in available surface parking lots.

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From Lara Mekeel:

Dear faculty, staff, and postdocs,

This is a reminder of the **Leave System Calendar Year End (December) Closeout**. Please note, if you are a leave-earning employee or supervise leave-earning employees, you have a few actions to take prior to the end of the calendar year:

- If you are a leave-earning employee, please print your monthly breakdown report for December 2016. The report must be signed by the employee and supervisor. Please turn the form in to Margaret Huffman, who will ensure the leave administrator signs off.
- It is imperative that you record (enter and approve) all leave for calendar year 2016 by December 31, 2016. Any leave transactions for 2016 that are logged in 2017 may not be recorded properly. Please alert Lara Mekeel if you forget to log leave for 2016 so your leave balance can be corrected.
- Any leave requests for 2017 should be recorded in 2017 - please do not submit these requests until after the start of the new year. If you have already submitted and/or approved a request for 2016, please alert Lara Mekeel.

- All negative annual and sick leave balances must be cleared for SHRA employees. If you or one of your employees are carrying a negative balance, please work with Lara Mekeel to zero it out before Wednesday December 14, 2016. If the negative balance is not resolved, your paycheck may be adjusted to reflect the overdrawn leave.

Thanks! Please let me know if you have any questions about the Leave Calendar Year End Close.

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## Save-the-Date



**WINTER HOLIDAY**  
ENERGY SAVING INITIATIVE  
**DEC. 24 >>>>> JAN. 2**

You can reduce NC State's energy use and greenhouse gas emissions by preparing your office, lab or room for winter holiday energy savings.

### **BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR WINTER HOLIDAY...**

- 1 TURN OFF LIGHTS AND OFFICE/LAB EQUIPMENT.
- 2 UNPLUG NON-ESSENTIAL ELECTRONICS.
- 3 SHUT THE FUME HOOD SASH IN LABS.
- 4 CLOSE ALL EXTERIOR DOORS AND WINDOWS.



Submit exemption requests to [go.ncsu.edu/setback](http://go.ncsu.edu/setback) no later than Dec. 7 at 5 p.m.

Nominations are now being accepted for the **2017 Equity for Women Awards**. Nominations will close on **Monday, January 23, 2017 at 5pm.**

The NC State University Council on the Status of Women invites you to nominate NC State faculty, staff and students for the Equity for Women Award. This award is made annually to recognize faculty, staff and students for their outstanding leadership in establishing equity for women at NC State University. Nominations are solicited from all members of the campus community, including faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners. This year, we will be awarding up to three individuals.

Not sure whom to recommend? Think about faculty, staff and students of any gender who are passionate, ambitious, inspired, courageous, and strong leaders with a commitment to advocacy of gender equity in everyday life at NC State University. Nominees should demonstrate excellence in one or more of the following areas over the past 12 months:

- Leadership: Taking action to promote gender equity on and beyond campus through leadership roles
- Service: Supporting equity for women through job-related or voluntary roles
- Scholarship: Contributing new knowledge and informing policy and practice related to women's well-being and equality

Criteria for rating these areas will be based on commitment to leadership, service, and/or scholarship as well as the impact of the nominee's efforts. Please note: Current members of the Council of the Status of Women are not eligible for the award and should not be nominated. Please check the current [roster](#) if you aren't sure who is on the council.

Please nominate worthy candidates for any category by completing the nomination form which can be found [here](#).

Attached please find an informational flyer for distribution.

Please contact Lisa LaBarbera-Mascote at [919-515-2012](tel:919-515-2012) with any questions.

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