



Newsletter for Science Chairs

tips and news of interest to FAS Science Chairs, from the Office of the Provost


SPRING SEMESTER SPOTLIGHT
SCOTT STROBEL

Congratulations to MB&B Chair Scott Strobel, who has been awarded the prestigious Schering-Plough Research Institute Award. The award is given by the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology for outstanding research contributions to biochemistry and molecular biology by early-career investigators with no more than 15 years postdoctoral experience.



Along with maintaining his award-winning research program, Scott has been serving as the chair of MB&B since July, 2006, and has recently guided the department through a rigorous external review.

In addition to his many research and administrative responsibilities, Scott also places great emphasis on teaching and mentorship, having won both the Graduate Mentoring Award in the Sciences, and the Dylan Hixon Prize for Teaching Excellence in the Natural Sciences. For the 2nd year, Scott has offered the innovative new course MB&B 230B – Rain Forest Expedition and Laboratory, where students travel to a tropical rain forest to collect samples, and upon their return to New Haven define a scientific question of interest and develop their own individual research projects, continuing this research full-time through the summer. The course was developed through funding from Scott's prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professorship award, and allows students at the undergraduate level to gain a comprehensive experience in the scientific process.

We applaud Scott's many successful efforts as Chair, researcher, and educator.



Scott and the 2008 MB&B 230 students, during this year's spring break trip in Ecuador. (Sarah Strobel photo)

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, SCIENCE CORES TRANSITION

We are sad to announce that Elizabeth Prescott, who has served as the first Associate Director of the Science Cores since May, 2007, left her position at the end of April. During her tenure, Elizabeth did an outstanding job of raising the awareness of the science cores, working to ensure their compliance with federal charging and accounting requirements, increasing the dialog between core staff and faculty to maximize use and the efficiency of these resources, and implementing new core initiatives such as the newly-opened Science Research Software Core. As a result of her efforts, the science cores are becoming an increasingly valuable resource for the sciences at Yale. We thank Elizabeth for her many contributions and wish her success in her new endeavors in the Pacific Northwest.



We are very pleased, however, to announce that Elizabeth's position has been filled by **Lisa D'Angelo**, who is excited to continue Elizabeth's efforts in supporting and growing the science cores. Lisa received a PhD in Neurobiology in 2007 from Wesleyan University, and has most recently been working as a postdoctoral fellow in Mark Yeckel's lab in the Neurobiology Department at the Medical School. Lisa assumed her position on April 28th, and is excited to begin her duties in supporting the cores and continuing Elizabeth's work in improving and growing these resources to benefit the sciences at Yale. Lisa's office will be located in Gibbs, and she can be reached at lisa.bertetto.dangelo@yale.edu.

BEST PRACTICES TIPS

#16-18 From the "23 Best Practices for Chairs" list:

16. Be explicit about how faculty members fulfill their teaching obligations, including interdisciplinary teaching outside the department
17. Proactively assign teaching to faculty so that everyone contributes equitably to the department's educational mission
18. Provide faculty with information about campus resources for improving their teaching skills.
19. Carefully consider days and times in scheduling undergraduate and graduate courses: use all available time slots and spread courses across the five-day week.

UPDATE ON SCIENCE CORES

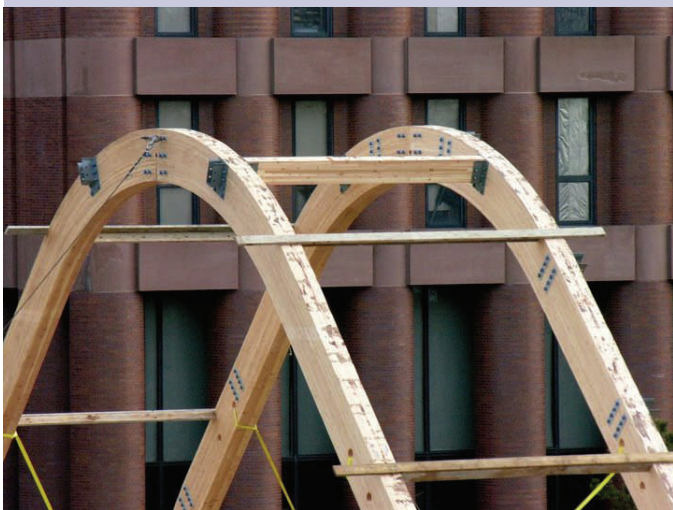
The **Science Research Software Core** has now begun operations. This new core provides specialized software and support for research in the physical sciences, initially in Applied Physics, Computer Science, Chemistry and Physics. The core is physically located in room 157 in Sterling Chemistry Laboratory. New licensing agreements have already been made for widely-used software in the sciences and engineering, such as Matlab, Mathematica, and LabView, greatly reducing their cost. More specialized software will also be available.



To provide the support for the core, we are pleased to announce the hire of Mikhael Guy, who most recently has been a consultant specializing in sensitivity studies and statistical modeling for market research. Mikhael is now available to consult with faculty and research staff regarding applications support and software evaluation. Appointments can

be scheduled by emailing srcs.support@yale.edu, or walk-in support is also available.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



The first two Douglas Fir GluLam trusses installed on the Kroon Building, with KBT in the background. The new building, which will house the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, is currently scheduled for occupancy in December, 2008. *(Peter Otis Photo)*

NEW SALARY PLAN FOR POSTDOCTORAL APPOINTEES

The University practice for postdoctoral salaries has been to set the Yale minimum postdoctoral salary to the Year 0 NIH NRSA stipend. The NIH has recently announced that their salary scale will remain unchanged for a third consecutive year. Yale's minimum salary for first-year postdocs will therefore remain at \$37,000.

For subsequent years of postdoctoral experience, Yale has now instituted a new salary scale in recognition that postdoctoral salaries have fallen behind the rate of inflation. Our peer institutions have adopted or now exceed the NRSA stipend scale across all years of postdoctoral training.

For the 2008-09 fiscal year beginning July 1, the minimum Yale salary standards below will be adopted. Alternatively, the NIH scale, also provided below, is strongly recommended, as the new Yale minimums are generally below both the NIH scale and the average salary for current Yale postdoctoral appointees in any given year.

Year	NIH	Yale Minimum
1	\$36,996	\$37,000
2	\$38,976	\$38,000
3	\$41,796	\$40,000
4	\$43,428	\$42,000
5	\$45,048	\$43,500
6	\$46,992	\$45,500

For FY08-09, new appointees with no postdoctoral experience should receive at least \$37,000. It is recommended that new appointees with prior postdoctoral experience (at Yale or another institution) receive salaries based on the number of years of experience. Please note that faculty are no longer required to seek prior approval from Postdoctoral Affairs to appoint a postdoctoral scholar for a fifth or sixth year of training.

UPDATED SEARCH AND APPOINTMENTS DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

To assist you in your search and appointments efforts this year under the new tenure policies for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FASTAP), the Provost's Office has posted a series of templates and check lists that will assist you in this process and identify all of the documents departments need to submit for tenure and promotion cases. You can access the lists at the following URL: <http://www.yale.edu/fas/html/policies.html>

The documents are located through the link titled **Search and Appointment Documents 2007-08**, and are grouped by promotion/appointment type. These documents should be used for all new searches, as well as any appointments, reappointments or promotions for non-tenured faculty who are on the new tenure and appointment system.

Questions or comments? Email robert.burger@yale.edu or call 203-432-4448

Division of Science and Technology, Office of the Deputy Provost for Science, Technology and Faculty Development