

Student Researcher and Resource Center (SRRC) moves ahead

The recently approved Student Researcher and Resource Center (SRRC) will give students their own multi-function space dedicated to learning and community building. The SRRC will be located just inside the main entry of the "C" wing of the Life Sciences complex and will include not only a meeting place for students, but also cutting-edge computing facilities and an extensive network of resources.

One of the primary drivers on this project was Will Hendricks, president of Associated Students for Biotechnology (ASB), an ASU student organization. He proposed the idea to faculty and administrators, and collected student signatures in support of the Center. Hendricks said, "This center will become a major force in defining research and learning experiences for ASU SoLS students by providing crucial resources for us that enhance these (learning) experiences. The establishment of this center indicates to us, the SoLS students, that the university is dedicated to filling the educational needs of its students."

For the full story go to [| Adobe PDF file |](#).

Leah Gerber awarded NSF Career Grant

Congratulations!

Assistant Professor Leah Gerber has received a prestigious 5-year NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program Grant, totaling \$499,998. The title of her project was CAREER: Integrating Behavior and Demography in Marine Mammal Conservation.

"This NSF Career support will allow me to more effectively apply my prior research and teaching experience to conservation problems of international importance and to launch an innovative and integrated teaching and research program on marine mammal behavior and demography in the Gulf of California, and to establish an internationally recognized education and research program in conservation biology at ASU. I hope to build an integrated research and education program aimed at bridging the gap between behavioral ecology and population dynamics. Furthermore, I hope to provide future generations of conservation biologists with knowledge, skills and modern techniques that will advance the discipline.

Gerber's proposed program will train graduate students from the US and Mexico in genetic, behavioral, population and community level processes in conservation biology. In addition, she will recruit US minority students at ASU to participate in a hands-on field course in marine mammal biology and conservation in the Gulf of California.

Faculty Searches

Thursday, April 8 **Alan Townsend**
-Biogeochemistry/
Microbial Ecology Seminar -3:00 LSE 104
Research Discussion Follows

Monday, April 12 **Bongkeun Song**
-Biogeochemistry/
Microbial Ecology Seminar -3:30 LSE 104
Research Discussion Follows

Thursday, April 15 **Susanne Neuer**
-Biogeochemistry/
Microbial Ecology Seminar -3:30 LSE 106
Research Discussion Follows

SoLS representatives on winning team for President's Award

Elena Ortiz Barney, Cameo Hill, and Charles Kazilek were on the team from CES (Center for Environmental Studies) that received the ASU President's Award for Innovation for their work on Ecology Explorers at the President's Recognition Reception on March 24, 2004. Team leader was Monica Elser.

The President's Award for Innovation recognizes ASU individuals or teams for innovations that improve the educational, administrative, or other organizational processes through creative approaches. This is the second year in a row that Hill and Kazilek have received the award, with their first award received for the development of Ask a Biologist.

Wandering skeletons

If you saw staff and faculty moving skeletons and bones through the halls a week ago, it was for SEE ASU on March 26 and 27. About 2,400 K-12 students, mostly in middle school, converged on Wells Fargo Arena on Friday, along with another 500 to 1,000 home school students and their families on Saturday.

The SoLS exhibit was popular with the bones, animal skull guessing game, Ask a Biologist and other games including mystery image jigsaw puzzles. Involved SoLS faculty and staff were Cameo Hill, Tracy Johns, Charles Kazilek, Dennis McDaniel, Laura Morse, Allyson Moskovits, Elena Ortiz-Barney, Patti Thorn, and Patti's daughter, Taylor. For a photo of Laura Morse, Life Sciences Graduate Student majoring in Plant Physiology, readjusting the head of a human skeleton as part of a display at SEE ASU, go to the link below.

<http://www.asu.edu/ia/photogallery/seeasu04/3.htm>

