

FACS Review.. Jan '10

Welcome...

All the latest news from the 2009-10 cohort of FACS students.



Hydrology with **Dr Kate Heppell** on the Norfolk fieldcourse

The fieldcourse led by staff from both Biology and Geography was run successfully but for the last time in north Norfolk. The next cohort will be trained in field skills in the catchment of the River Frome, Dorset at the Freshwater Biological Association's River Laboratory



Mud, glorious mud, with **Dr Rob Hughes**, Brancaster Staithe



Considering river restoration strategies for the River Glaven, with **Dr Gemma Harvey**

Science, Policy & Management ran before Christmas with external speakers from the **Environment Agency, DEFRA, CEFAS** and **CEH** contributing lectures and workshops. There was also a trip to the Wildlife & Wetlands Trust at Barnes on a frosty and foggy December day.

This year, those students that elected to take Specialist Organism modules such as **Plankton** or **Fishes** are already attending classes and practicals

Where are they now?

- ◇ **Haley Cohen (2008-09)** recently has started work for the Inuit government's (Nunatsiavut Government) fisheries research and management in Labrador
- ◇ **Murray Thompson (2008-09)** is roaming around the UK evaluating sites for his PhD on management of rivers for river flies, sponsored by the John Lewis Partnership and hosted by the Natural History Museum
- ◇ **Doris Pichler (2007-08)** has been 'sampling' several rivers around Scottish distilleries for her PhD research... the outputs from that should be interesting!

So... What's new?

Currently, the students are investigating project options with various supervisors. We are keen to align their research opportunities to those of our PhD students and Post-Docs, so that they can maximise potential outputs via publishable quality work and bolster their CVs.



Mark Trimmer & Jon Grey have just received a small grant from NERC to age the methane, and hence identify the true source, that they have discovered to 'fuel' food webs in chalk rivers such as that above.

Meanwhile, Jon's PhD students **Rick Hayes & Michelle Jackson**, have been busy securing small grants to examine the spread of invasive crayfish around SE England via microsatellites and the impacts of invasive crayfish on other invasives, respectively.

We are hoping that keen FACS students will take the opportunity to work on these exciting topics

The latest version of the **Handbook** for prospective students (2010-11) contains all the modifications and is available to download on the FACS webpages.

If you have specific academic questions re these changes, then please email me (below)