

AIBS *news*

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AIBS Announces Awards to Brewer, Eldredge, Levin, and Murdoch

The AIBS Board and Awards Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the following awards, which will be presented at 1:30 p.m. on 14 May during the AIBS annual meeting:

- **Education Award:** Carol A. Brewer, University of Montana, Missoula
- **President's Citation Award:** Niles Eldredge, American Museum of Natural History, New York
- **Distinguished Scientist Award:** Simon A. Levin, Princeton University
- **Outstanding Service Award:** William Murdoch, University of California, Santa Barbara

Recipients of the Print Media Award and the Broadcast Media Award will be announced later.

To register for the AIBS annual meeting, please visit www.aibs.org/annual-meeting/annual_meeting_2007.html.

AIBS Emerging Public Policy Leader Award Winners Named

AIBS is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2007 Emerging Public Policy Leader Award: Amber Szoboszlai, of California State University, and Sarah Wright, of the University of Wisconsin.

Szoboszlai and Wright receive an AIBS membership, including a subscription to *BioScience*, and will travel to Washington, DC, to participate in a congressional visits event on 18–19 April, sponsored by the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition and the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions. They will meet with members of Congress and their staffs and attend briefings on federal funding for research by senior members of the science policy community.

Amber Szoboszlai is a graduate student in marine science at the California State

University's Moss Landing Marine Labs at Monterey Bay, California. In research for her master's degree, which she expects to complete in May 2007, Szoboszlai is examining how some species of algae growing in the intertidal zone may modify environmental conditions to promote the settlement and growth of the juvenile stages of another coexisting algal species. Szoboszlai was awarded a 2007 California Sea Grant State Fellowship with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) to coordinate biological research projects conducted at MBNMS with management needs and goals. Following her fellowship in September 2007, she will begin her PhD research in marine ecology at the University of California, Davis.

Sarah Wright is a doctoral candidate in botany at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship in 2006 for her dissertation research examining the effects of climate change on the range limits and timing of the life cycle of wild lupine, the only host plant of the endangered Karner blue butterfly. Wright is engaged in a number of science education and outreach activities, including the University of Wisconsin's Center for Biology Education Adult Role Models in Science Program and the National Phenology Network Implementation Team's Citizen Science and Outreach working group. She intends to pursue a career in science education after she completes her PhD.

"AIBS is committed to improving the public understanding of science and communicating its value to society," said AIBS executive director Richard O'Grady. "We are pleased to recognize Amber Szoboszlai and Sarah Wright for exemplifying this commitment through their work."

Kyle Brown, a doctoral candidate in organismic and evolutionary biology at Harvard University, and Jennifer Jadin, a doctoral candidate in behavior, ecology, evolution and systematics at the University of Maryland, received honorable mention.

Initial NEON Candidate Core Sites

NEON, Inc., has announced the initial group of 20 candidate core sites across the United States that will be included in the NEON Project Execution Plan.

The NEON, Inc., observing strategy and site selection process is based on systematic sampling across the largest scales of ecological variability to provide a basis for "scaling up" analyses across the nation. NEON has divided the United States into 20 climate domains to capture ecoclimatic representativeness. The conterminous United States and Puerto Rico comprise 17 domains, and Alaska and Hawaii add three more. (See the detailed NEON domain map at <http://research.esd.ornl.gov/~hnmw/neon/withindomainrep2/>.)

The NEON core wildland sites (largely natural vegetation, not intensively managed) form the stable, fixed elements of observatory design, which also includes

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