Lake Erie Center Director named Distinguished University Professor

The LEC’s faculty, students, and staff congratulate Director Dr. Carol Stepien on her recent promotion to the university’s highest faculty rank — Distinguished University Professor. In addition to serving as LEC Director, Dr. Stepien is Professor of Ecology in the Dept. of Environmental Sciences, College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics. She has been at UT eight years; under her leadership, the LEC has become a dynamic and active research and education facility.

Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Stepien received the University’s Outstanding Research Award in 2008 and the Dion D. Raftopolous Sigma Xi Outstanding Research Award in 2010. She has authored over 80 peer-reviewed articles and a book, *Molecular Systematics of Fishes*, which was printed in 1997 and reprinted in 2002. She serves as an editor for several academic journals, including *Biological Invasions, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, and the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*. She has mentored dozens of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as several visiting international and postdoctoral scholars, and numerous high school students. She is the PI for the LEC’s Gk-12 program, which is concluding its very successful 5-year run this year, and also serves as a PI on the NSF URM program.

For more about Dr. Stepien and her Great Lakes Genetics/Genomics Lab at the LEC, please visit: http://www.utoledo.edu/nsm/lec/research/glgl.

Table of Contents

LEC Director named Distinguished Univ. Prof.; Upcoming events........... 1
Photo contest winners................................................................. 2
Interdisciplinary team swims together to track fish killer......................... 3
LEC research labs in brief; Become a Friend of the LEC!.......................... 4

Upcoming Events

*All events will take place at the LEC, 6200 Bayshore Road, Oregon, OH*

**Public Lecture Series**

7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 17: Dr. Thomas Johengen, Cooperative Institute for Limnology & Ecosystem Research. “Thirty Years after Ballast Water Exchange: Pending Changes and Challenges for Controlling Invasive Species Introductions via Shipping over the Next Decade”.

7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 21: Dr. Patrick Lawrence, Professor and Chair, UT Department of Geography and Planning. “A River that Runs Through Toledo (and Point Place!): An Environmental History of Tenmile Creek/Ottawa River, Ohio”.

7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 21: Dr. Alan Steinman, Director, Annis Water Resources Institute and Professor of Water Resources at Grand Valley State University. “Ecosystem Restoration from the Everglades to the Great Lakes: Fact, Fiction, and (occasional) Frustration”.

7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 18: Dr. Jiquan Chen, UT Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sciences. “Harmonizing Humans and Nature for the Changing Globe”.

2013 Art Contest Now Open!

Express your creativity in our annual Art Contest! Artists of all ages, and skill levels are invited to submit a piece of 2D or 3D art that fits our contest theme, “The Nature of Maumee Bay and Our Region.” Prizes will be given in five age categories: adult, special needs adult, teen, youth and junior youth. Art in 2D and 3D formats accepted. Winning entries will be put on exhibit at the LEC for six months. *Contest entries due April 19, 2013*. For complete details, visit our website, www.utoledo.edu/nsm/lec.

For the latest news and event information, connect with us online:

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Web: www.utoledo.edu/nsm/lec