

Vetward Bound Newsletter

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Gumbo Limbo Hosts PVMA Turtle Walk

On June 12th, the PVMA joined City of Boca officials, FAU board members and local philanthropists to listen to a Turtle Talk at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center. Boca Raton beaches are a prime nesting site for Loggerhead, Leatherback and Green sea turtles each year. Sadly, as we continue to develop land along our coastlines, sea turtle nesting has continued to drop significantly. The City of Boca Raton works diligently to enforce regulations that help protect sea turtles, however, nesting numbers continue to drop each year. According to Gumbo Limbo staff, there used to be nesting numbers in the thousands. This year we'll be lucky to see 300 nests. Contributing factors to this decline may include ocean debris like fish hooks and plastics, run-off of fossil fuels into the water system, and frequent interaction with boat propellers and fishing lines.



In the face of this adversity, Gumbo Limbo Nature Center wants to step in and help. The park unveiled plans to open a sea turtle rehabilitation center this fall modeled after an existing rehab center at the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach. The LMC is able to rehabilitate 70% of the more than 40-50 injured turtles they receive each year. Staff at Gumbo Limbo hopes to provide mirror the success at the

LMC by providing similar services for injured turtles in the lower Palm Beaches.

The PVMA donated \$500 to support the new sea turtle rehab center through fundraising efforts with Jamba Juice in University Commons. The new turtle hospital will provide the opportunity for students to get involved and help save some of Florida's oldest residents! Go online for more details on how you can get involved too, <http://gumbolimbo.org/>.

HBOI Hosts Dolphin Festival

On Saturday, June 13th, HBOI hosted their second annual Dolphin Festival to honor Florida's state salt water mammal.

Throughout the day, FAU researchers shared some of their research on dolphins and environmental factors. The Ocean Conservancy, Florida Fish and Wildlife and other marine conservation groups provided hands-on

kids activities and crafts. HBOI launched hourly Eco Boat Tours to provide encounters with dolphins, manatees and birds in the Indian River Lagoon.

The Protect Wild Dolphins License Plate Program sponsored the whole event which drew a record 300 people in the first 3 hours. Purchase of this specialty



plate helps to support dolphin rescue, rehab, and research in Florida. Plates are available at your local tax collector's office or online: <http://www.fau.edu/hboi/LicensePlates/index.php>

VMCAS 2009 Opened June 1st

VMCAS 2009 opened up on June 1st this year and, once again, 6,000 applicants will try to jock for 2,100 open slots in one of 26 veterinary colleges across the US. Competition is usually quite fierce, however, this year's run could prove particularly challenging as each college tries to maintain a viable program with fewer resources and more budget cuts in the forecast.

In order to help FAU applicants stay competitive in this challenging market, the Pre-Health Professions Office will offer summer committee reviews. A committee review is much like a mock-interview for vet school, however, it has an added advantage in that committee members are able to assess and grade a student's performance in key areas such as academics, experience and knowledge of the field. At the conclusion of a review, the committee prepares a four-page letter of recommendation to provide a



3-D view of an applicant's strengths, educational goals and personality.

Committee reviews are typically conducted each fall, however, this year, the FAU Pre-Professional Office is encouraging all students to complete their reviews early in summer. "Students that complete their applications early in the cycle increase their chances to earn an interview with a prospective college," states Dr. Ingrid Johanson, Assoc. Dean of the Pre-Professional Office. "The early bird really does get the worm in this case."

To request a committee review, a student must have a minimum 3.0 GPA and a score of 1050 or higher on the GRE. Once GRE scores and reference letters are received, the office can assign a review date.

For more information on how to start a file, contact Alyssa Espinoza, PVMA Academic Coordinator at aespin08@fau.edu, or pick up an info packet in the FAU Pre-professional office. The office is located in the Science and Engineering, building, room 234 on the second floor. Go Owls!

"For in the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught."

~B. Dioum~

Dr. Juli Goldstein Wins Ms. Florida 2009



Usually, what happens in Vegas, usually stays in Vegas, however, when 50 beautiful, talented women gather in one spot, the

news travels fast! That's what happened during this year's Ms. United States Pageant in Las Vegas the week of July 11th through 17th.

The Ms. United States Pageant is dubbed "The Pageant with a Purpose" wherein women ages 12-59 who exemplify intelligence, confidence, beauty, and a commitment to family and community compete for scholarships that promote specific cause-related issues. Dr. Juli Goldstein, a marine

mammal veterinarian from Harbor Branch in Ft. Pierce, Florida represented Florida to promote marine conservation and education programs.

During her reign as Ms. Florida 2009, Dr. Goldstein will work to actively promote her campaign "Living Green Starts with Living Blue". Keep checking the PVMA website for announcements of events to support her cause, and don't forget to "Live Blue"! For more on the "Living Blue" campaign, visit www.drjuli.com.

PVMA Develops Ink/Toner Recycling Program

In today's economy, money is tight. There are fewer jobs out there, household expenses are up and wallets are thin. So, how do you encourage people to donate to non-profit groups in the community? You turn trash into cash. That's exactly what the PVMA is doing this year to continue to provide support for local non-profit groups.

Through the services of an online company called Recycle4Charity, the PVMA has developed a program in

which used ink and toner cartridges can be turned in for cash. By donating used ink/toner cartridges, people can help to reduce waste in our landfills and oceans, they can support the PVMA and they can continue to donate to local non-profits with little to no additional impact on their wallets. It's a win, win, win situation!

In this manner, the PVMA can continue to donate to groups like the American Cancer Society, Heart

Association, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, VetDogs K-9 Corp, Florida Humane Society, and Folke Peterson Wildlife Center. The money can also be used to support new educational programs like our Puppy Penny Drive at local elementary schools in Palm Beach County.

For information on how your business can help recycle in exchange for free advertising at PVMA community events, contact Christie Gonzalez at cgonza48@fau.edu.



PVMA Fall Events

See how the PVMA plans to increase our presence on campus this year:

Sept. 3rd-PBVS Meeting

The first Thursday of each month, the Palm Beach Veterinary Society hosts a dinner to socialize with area professionals and to discuss current topics in veterinary medicine. Sign up to attend a meeting today. Students will be assigned a meeting date according to seniority, monthly schedule availability and participation in club events. Contact Alyssa at aespino8@fau.edu to sign up.

Sept. 4th-Shadow Program

This fall, the PVMA will host a shadowing program with local veterinary practitioners to assist PVMA members in locating mentors within the community. For information or to sign up for a rotation, contact Alyssa Espinoza at aespino8@fau.edu.

Sept. 12th - Leadership Conference 9-4 PM

This event is hosted by Student Affairs to broaden students' perspectives and to teach leadership skills. A refundable \$20 deposit is required to reserve a spot. Contact Christie to sign up at cgonza48@fau.edu.

Sept. 15th - Wet Fest

Program Board is hosting a party on the housing lawn and you're invited! Come out and enter our Slip-n-Slide Relay Competition to raise money for Folke Peterson Wildlife Center. Animal ambassadors will be on-hand for photo ops.

Sept. 17th-Meeting 4-5 PM

The first general meeting of the year will be hosted in the Admin Building, room 234. Run for club chair positions, sign up for our volunteer events to earn service hours and be a part of the leadership team!

Sept. 17th-Vetward Bound Workshop 5-6 PM

Following the first general meeting, attend a "VetWard Bound" workshop to learn more about FAU programs that can help you plan for a successful career in today's veterinary field.

Sept. 26th-Puppy Tailgate

In cooperation with Florida Humane Society, the PVMA will host a Puppy Tailgate Party at each FAU home football game to socialize dogs from the shelter and to promote adoption from FHS. Join us in the Lockhardt parking lot 2-6 PM.

Dates and times are subject to change due to weather. Be sure to check our web site frequently for updates. Note: volunteers earn service hours that can be included on school transcripts!

Weekends are a bit like rainbows; they look good from a distance but disappear when you get up close to them.

~John Shirley~

Pre-Veterinary Medical Association

777 Glades Road
SU 203
Boca Raton, FL 33464

The purpose of the Pre-Veterinary Medical Association is to act as an organizational forum for students interested in careers in veterinary medicine.

Meet our 2009-2010 Executive Board:

President – Christie Gonzalez	cgonza48@fau.edu
Vice President – Eunike Stenersen	esteners@fau.edu
Secretary – Analisa Edell	aedell@fau.edu
Treasurer – Rachael Matyisin	rmatyisi@fau.edu
Academic Coordinator – Alyssa Espinoza	aespino8@fau.edu
PR Coordinator – Alexa Majdalawi	amajdal@fau.edu

Vet School 2009 Application Deadlines

VMCAS opens on June 1, 2009 7:00 AM and closes on October 1, 2009 11:30 PM.

Auburn, AL - VMCAS and GRE Oct 1st; supplemental Nov 30th

University of California, Davis - supplemental, GRE, and VMCAS Oct 1st

Colorado State - GRE Sept 1st; supplemental, VMCAS Oct 1st

Cornell, NY - Supplemental Oct 26th; GRE and VMCAS Oct 1st

U of Florida - VMCAS Oct 1st; GRE and supplemental Oct 30th

U of Georgia - VMCAS Oct 1st; Biology Subject Test and GRE by Nov 1st; no supplemental

U of Illinois - GRE Aug 31st; supplemental and VMCAS Oct 1st

Iowa State - GRE Oct 15th; supplemental and VMCAS Oct 1st

Kansas State - GRE Sept 1st; supplemental, VMCAS Oct 1st

Louisiana State - VMCAS Oct 1st; GRE Oct 15th; and supplemental Nov 15th

Michigan State - GRE Sept 30th; VMCAS Oct 1st; supplemental by invitation

U of Minnesota - VMCAS and GRE Oct 1st; no supplemental

Mississippi State - GRE Sept 1st; VMCAS and supplemental Oct 1st

University of Missouri – Two Options: (1) Direct Application due Nov 1st OR (2) VMCAS Oct 1st AND Supplemental Nov 1st

North Carolina State – GRE Sept 1st; VMCAS, and supplemental Oct 1st

Ohio State University- GRE Sept 30th; VMCAS and supplemental Oct 1st

Oklahoma State - GRE and Biology Subject Test Nov 30th; VMCAS, supplemental Oct 1st

Oregon State - GRE Sept 1st; VMCAS, supplemental Oct 1st

University of Pennsylvania - VMCAS, supplemental Oct 1st; GRE Nov 1st

Purdue, IN-VMCAS and GRE Oct 1st; no supplemental

U of Tennessee - VMCAS Oct 1st; GRE Dec 1st; supplemental by invitation

Texas A&M - GRE Sept 30th; Direct Application Oct 1st; no supplemental

Tufts, Boston– Direct Application Nov 1st; GRE Oct 1st; no supplemental

Tuskegee, AL – Direct Application March 30th; GRE Feb 1st; no supplemental

Virginia-MA Regional – GRE, supplemental and VMCAS Oct 1st

Washington State – GRE Sept 1st; VMCAS and supplemental Oct 1st

Western, CA – VMCAS Oct 1st; supplemental Oct 15th; GRE Sept 15th

U of Wisconsin – VMCAS, Data Form, supplemental and GRE Oct 1st

For more information on individual requirements for US colleges, go to the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) web site at: http://aavmc.org/vmcas/college_requirement.htm

We're on the Web!

<http://pre-vetmedicalassociation.blogspot.com/>

or visit us on Facebook at

Pre-Veterinary Students Association at FAU