Andrews Offers Preparing for College Seminars at Lake Union Academies

Enrollment Management News Release

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National Science Foundation Awards Large Research Grant to Andrews University

On Sept. 15, the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a research grant totaling $300,000 to Andrews University and Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash., in collaboration with the University of Arizona. The award funds a study involving the prediction of animal behavior, specifically that of Glaucous-winged Gulls, on Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge in Washington state. The project is led by two Andrews professors, James Hayward, professor of biology, and Shandelle Henson, professor of mathematics, along with Joe Galusha of Walla Walla College (also an Andrews alum, M.A., ’72) and Jim Cushing from the University of Arizona.

The three-year grant is a renewal of one initially received from the NSF in 2003; however, this is a project that has been in process for more than sixteen years.

“Receiving this grant from the NSF is great for Andrews,” Henson comments. “It enables us to buy computers and supplies for the research and to hire lots of students. The research experience for both undergraduates and master’s students is wonderful. The grant also gives Andrews a chance to collaborate with other universities.”

Each summer, the investigators spend ten to 12 weeks on the island, counting the birds and studying their behavior. They are joined by groups of both undergraduate and graduate students from Andrews and Walla Walla, who participate in the research for two-week stints. Undergraduates participating in the summer study receive the Research Experience for Undergraduates fellowship from NSF, as well as the chance to co-author papers that are published in peer-reviewed journals.

Michael G. Scott, a physics major, and Brianna Payne, a biology major, count gulls from a high vantage point on Protection Island, Wash.

The goal is to develop mathematical models that will enable the prediction of animal behavior in these habitats. An understanding of the group dynamics of animals can help prevent some of the conflicts that arise between animal movements and humans, such as collisions between birds and aircraft. It can also be useful in learning about the patterns of animals that may be carriers of diseases such as bird flu.

“In terms of the science itself, we’re forging a new field—the mathematical theory of animal behavior,” Henson states. “We’re breaking new ground, and we’re proud of that.”

Andrews Offers Preparing for College Seminars at Lake Union Academies

Each year the Student Financial Services and Enrollment Management departments at Andrews University collaborate to conduct two seminars regarding the financial aid and admissions processes for colleges. The November Preparing for College 101 (PFC 101) seminar covers the types of documents families need to gather to properly fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form, along with general information helpful to funding college costs.

The Preparing for College 202 (PFC 202) seminars cover specific financial aid questions as well as Andrews University scholarship and application information. Both seminars are particularly helpful to senior high school students and their parents. Younger students, as well as students from any secondary school and their parents, are equally welcome to attend. These seminars will contain useful information applicable to any institution of higher learning.

Lake Union Academies Seminar Schedule for PFC 101 and PFC 202

| Andrews Academy | Nov. 8, 2006 (7:30 p.m.) Jan. 31, 2007 (7:30 p.m.) 269-471-3138 |
| Battle Creek Academy | Nov. 7, 2006 (7:00 p.m.) Feb. 6, 2007 (7:00 p.m.) 269-965-1278 |
| Grand Rapids Adventist Academy | Nov. 9, 2006 (7:00 p.m.) Feb. 7, 2007 (7:00 p.m.) 616-791-9797 |
| Indiana Academy | Nov. 19, 2006 (1:00 p.m.) Feb. 18, 2007 (11:00 a.m.) 317-984-3575 |
| Peterson-Warren Academy | Nov. 14, 2006 (6:00 p.m.) Feb. 13, 2007 (6:00 p.m.) 313-565-5808 |
| Wisconsin Academy | Nov. 18, 2006 (6:30 p.m.) Second date TBA 920-623-3300 |

To verify dates, times, and the location of the seminar you may call the respective academies.