BIOLOGY STINKS!!! Those of you who had to work in McGee Hall on Thursday know what I am talking about. Apparently, they had one of their freezers die. The stuff inside quickly warmed up and thawed. The bacteria then started their job of decomposing all the biological samples. As the bacteria worked, they were able to increase the temperature inside the refrigerator until it was a perfect environment for them: warm, moist, and anaerobic. When someone in biology finally opened the refrigerator...the smell was putrid (stated as delicately as possible). The smell spread through the entire building and even approaching the building, one could detect the smell of rotting flesh. So much for the old axiom: If it moves, it’s biology. If it smells, it’s chemistry. If you don’t get it, it’s physics. Biology can claim all three: it moves, it smells and I cannot understand why anyone would want it.

Physics and Chemistry courses restart on Monday.

Once again, let me part with these words: Keep cool and have a great week! Have a Happy Birthday, Tracy (age has been reported to be 29!). The coconut cake from Kelly was outstanding!

-- Lou

Department News

Board of Trustees Report
Items for the July Board of Trustees Report are due Today to Lou. This includes all accomplishments in April, May and June 2011. So far, I have had only two responses! Thank you.

For those of us who had a submitted manuscript rejected for publication...
Carefully read the editor’s rejection. It may in fact be a request for resubmission after major changes. The editor doesn’t want to appear generous because that would encourage you to resubmit a poorly revised manuscript, and he would feel obligated to accept it. A little humor helps: A politician says "yes" if he means maybe, "maybe" if he means no, and if he says "no" he’s not a politician. An editor says "no" if he means maybe, "maybe" if he means yes, and if he says "yes" he’s not an editor!

Tesfa G. Gebremedhin and Luther G. Tweeten,
Research Methods and Communication in the Social Sciences
**IDEA evaluation of June 4 week courses...**

Student evaluations of 4 week courses are 21 June through 28 June. This is probably the wrong time to have evaluations – students tend to panic before final exams. You have been sent links to share with your students.

**Summer Grade Due Dates**

The schedule for the remaining final grades for the summer is:

- May Eight Week: June 29, 2011 1:15 PM
- June Four Week: June 29, 2011 1:15 PM
- May Twelve Week: July 29, 2011 1:15 PM
- June Six Week: July 29, 2011 1:15 PM
- July Four Week: July 29, 2011 1:15 PM

**University News**

**TIAA-CREF Individual Consultant on Campus in June, July**

Setting up a long-term financial plan can be a complicated task. It involves evaluating your potential income sources, and then factoring in the impact of taxes, inflation and the larger economic picture. Meeting with a TIAA-CREF Individual Consultant can help you sort things out and make informed decisions. Paul Cimino, a TIAA-CREF Senior Individual Consultant will be at JSU to conduct individual counseling sessions on the following days:

- June 29th, 30th, July 25th, 26th, and August 16th in Bibb Graves Hall Rm. # 323

If you are interested in signing up for a counseling session, please call TIAA-CREF at 800-732-8353.

**Degenerate States**

**Scientific Phrase Translations: Part 2**

- The agreement with the predicted curve is...
  - excellent: fair
  - good: poor
  - satisfactory: doubtful
  - fair: imaginary
  - as good as could be expected: non-existent.
- The most reliable values are those of Jones: Jones was a student of mine.
- It is suggested that...: I think that...
- It is believed that...: I think that...
- It may be that...: I think that...
- It is generally believed that...: A couple of other guys think so too.
- It is clear that much additional work will be required before a complete understanding is reached: I don’t understand it.
- Unfortunately, a quantitative theory to account for these effects has not been formulated: Neither does anybody else.
- It is hoped that this work will stimulate further work in the field: This paper isn’t very good, but neither are any of the others in this miserable subject.
Contact Details

If you have items of news or interest that you would like included in the Department of Physical and Earth Sciences newsletter, then contact Tracy Casey before noon on Thursdays at: tscasey@jsu.edu or phone (256) 782-5232.