



Montcalm Community College

2800 College Drive, Sidney, Michigan 48885-9723 / 989-328-2111 / www.montcalm.edu



Welcome! We eagerly invite you to the **Spring 2008 MCCB Conference**, hosted by Montcalm Community College. Our small campus awaits you and a chance to show off the Stanley P. Ash Building (our new science building). But first we'll meet Friday and have some fun learning why it's good to be green in Greenville. Saturday morning begins with breakfast and tours followed by 6-10 seminars presented throughout the day. Two FREE field trips, directly on campus, will be hosted immediately following the conference. New MCCB polo shirts may be available as a benefit of membership and conference attendance so don't miss out. Check the MCCB website (www.mccb1.org) between now and the conference for updated agendas, maps, and additional information.

To register, complete the Conference Registration Form included with the Spring 2008 MCCB newsletter or download one from the website.



Can't wait to see you!

CONFERENCE HOST:

Heather Wesp
(989) 328 – 1270
hwesp@montcalm.edu

COST: \$40 for both nights or \$25 for a single day

DATES, LOCATIONS, and TIMES:



Doser Building (view from parking lot)



Ash Building (view from campus)

Friday, March 28th – Doser Building, Montcalm Community College

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|----------------|--|
| 4:00 – 5:30 pm | Governing Board Meeting (Doser 305) |
| 5:00 – 6:00 pm | Registration (Doser 303) |
| 6:00 – 7:00 pm | Dinner (Doser 303)
<i>Meat and Vegetable Lasanga with Salad, Herb Garlic Breadsticks, Coffee or Lemonade, and Dessert</i> |
| 7:00 – 8:30 pm | MCC Vice President of Academic Services, William Tammone
Kevin Hoffman , United Solar Ovonic Corporation
<i>“USO’s Solar Cell Technology”</i> (Doser 305) |

Kevin Hoffman, United Solar Ovonic Corporation
“USO’s Solar Cell Technology”

A brief history of solar cell development will lead to a summary of today’s situation. This will be followed by a comparison of technology options with criteria to estimate usefulness. The concept of Energy Payback Time will be introduced as a key metric to compare technologies. To illustrate United Solar’s approach to the technology problem, amorphous silicon multi-junction solar cells will be discussed in detail, outlining the science and engineering principles. Comparisons will be made to “conventional” (i.e. crystalline) solar cells to emphasize the strengths and weaknesses of United Solar’s strategy. Finally, there is planned a brief review of products and applications with speculation about the future, including R&D opportunities.

Saturday, March 29th – Ash and East Buildings, Montcalm Community College

- 8:00 – 9:00 am Breakfast – Sliced seasonal fruits, muffin and bagels with various toppings available, and assorted juices and coffee (Ash 133)
Tours (Building, Labs, Equipment)
- 9:00 – 10:15 am **Dr. Michelle Gibson, MCC Biology Faculty**
“Instant Response System in a Science Classroom”
East 108
- Dr. Dwayne Etter, MI DNR**
“Estimation of Black Bear (URSUS AMERICANUS) Abundance in the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan using Microsatellite DNA Markers”
Ash 137
- 10:15 – 10:45 am Visit a Vender and Snacks (Ash 133)
- 10:45 – 12:00 pm **Dan Snook, MCC Skills Development Coordinator**
“Want Students to Read the Textbook? Try Reading Response Papers”
East 108
- Brent Rudolph, MI DNR - Rose Lake Wildlife Research Center**
“Practice and Purpose of Monitoring Michigan’s Deer Population”
East 102
- Vern Stephens, DNR - Private Lands Office**
“Michigan Prairie Ecosystems: Restoration and Management”
Ash 137
- 12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch – Deli Sandwiches, Italian pasta salad, seasonal fruit salad, brownies, assorted fruit juices and soft drinks (Ash 133)
General Assembly (Ash 137)
- 1:15 – 2:30 pm **Dr. Lynnda Skidmore, Wayne County Community College Biology Faculty**
“Liven Up Your Lectures”
East 108
- Ruby Heie, AmeriCore Groundwater**
“Protecting Water Quality”
Ash 138
- 2:30 until fun stops
- 1 - Nature Trails Savanna Restoration and Outdoor Education Stations
Led by Heather Wesp, Meet in Ash 138
 - 2 - Montcalm Heritage Village (local historical buildings and artifacts)
Self Tour, Meet in Ash 137

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

Dan Snook, MCC Skills Development Coordinator

“Want Students to Read the Textbook? Try Reading Response Papers”

Problem: My students aren't reading the textbook. Potential Solution: Reading Response Papers. Simply asking students to write about what they read won't solve the problem alone, but link writing with frequent mini-quizzes and the results can be impressive— for instructors and students alike. Find out how one instructor has used this very flexible format to encourage students to get students to do the reading and learn something as they do it.

Dr. Michelle Gibson, MCC Biology Faculty

“Instant Response System in a Science Classroom”

This presentation will demonstrate the use of an instant response system in the classroom. This system, Classroom Performance System (CPS), is marketed by einstruction and is easily incorporated into any lecture class. It can be integrated into your PowerPoint lectures or used separately, be used to take attendance, be used to get instant feedback from your students or even set up to give tests which are graded by the system. I have used this system in both Microbiology and Anatomy and Physiology II this semester and have found that it keeps students paying attention, makes them more active learners and makes lectures more fun. Early feedback from the students themselves has been positive. If nothing else, you will get to play with a “clicker” if you come to this presentation!

Dr. Lynnda Skidmore, Wayne County Community College Biology Faculty

“Liven Up Your Lectures”

Group discussion and sharing of simple, engaging activities to liven up biology lectures. The idea is to help reinforce information, assess understanding, and involve students in their learning. Come and share with fellow biologists. Please submit your own ideas and activities ahead of time to Linda at skid823more@hotmail.com or 248-594-4438.

Dr. Dwayne Etter, MI DNR

“Estimation of Black Bear (URSUS AMERICANUS) Abundance in the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan using Microsatellite DNA Markers”

The estimation of black bear population abundance is a difficult task, however valuable when justifying harvest quotas and managing populations. Recent advancements in molecular genetics have provided a means to identify individual bears using DNA contained in tissue and hair samples. In 2003 and 2005, we used barbed wire snares to non-invasively collect hair samples during several weeks each summer and we collected tissue samples from harvested bears in fall. We genetically analyzed hair and tissue samples with 5 microsatellite loci and quantified genotyping errors using samples from harvested bears. We estimated the population of yearling and adult black bears in the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan with a capture-recapture model that accounted for genotyping error.

Brent Rudolp, MI DNR - Rose Lake Wildlife Research Center

“Practice and Purpose of Monitoring Michigan's Deer Population”

I provide an overview of Department of Natural Resources (DNR) policies, discuss several key issues facing deer management in Michigan, and describe the primary tools used to monitor deer

population status. Important monitoring tools include periodic opinion surveys, annual hunting and harvest surveys, and the Sex-Age-Kill population estimator. I conclude by describing how these sources of information are used by DNR staff and policy-makers when making decisions that impact the use, enjoyment, and future status of deer in Michigan.

Vern Stephens, DNR - Private Lands Office

“Michigan Prairie Ecosystems: Restoration and Management”

This presentation will cover pre-settlement grasslands in Michigan, current grassland status, and grassland ecology. In addition, I will discuss remnant restoration and management techniques.

Ruby Heie, AmeriCore Groundwater

“Protecting Water Quality”

This presentation will cover the availability and value of Earth’s water, the water cycle, soil porosity and permeability as it relates to groundwater, contamination (what, where, how), simple things you can do to prevent contamination around your home. There will be a hands-on demonstration using a groundwater flow model. Handouts will be provided including volunteer opportunities, regional programs, and regional contact information.

MCCB CAMP for KIDS

We will have 2-4 experienced sitters, ages 12-14, available to watch your children on campus while you attend the conference. Friday night will consist of pizza, a movie, and games. Saturday options include using the gym or pool (professional lifeguards present), playing outdoors, visiting the nature trails, fun science camp activities, and more games as well as just hanging out. Saturday breakfast, snacks, and lunch are included all for the price of \$30 per child. Currently registration is limited to 5-10 children, depending on ages, on a first come-first serve basis. All children (and parents) must complete and return a waiver of liability. Please contact Heather Wesp at hwesp@montcalm.edu if interested.

MCCB POLO SHIRTS

All MCCB members who attend the Spring 2008 Conference will receive a polo shirt with the updated logo embroidered in white. Polo shirts are embroidered in white and available in a variety of sizes.

EXHIBITORS/ADVERTISORS:

Morton Publishing – Harry Benson

Hayden-McNeil Publishing – Moira Donovan

Pearson – Allision Roland and Tony Krncevic

Jones and Bartlett - ShoShawna Grossman (Potential)

RAFFLE:

Nasco (Kevin Hart) - \$25 Gift card

SPONSOR:

W.H. Freeman (Jill Olson and Kathryn Trepkowski) – Watch for them at the Fall 2008 Conference!

LODGING – *all are approximately the same distance from the Sidney campus (15 minutes)*

	Address Phone Website	Cost per night	Number of rooms	Amenities
Westwood Inn	109 S. Greenville West Dr, □ Greenville, MI 48838 (616) 754- 8734	\$58.00 + tax	20	In room coffee Free wireless
AmericInn	2525 W Washington St, Greenville, MI 48838 616-754-4500 http://www.americinn.com/hotels/MI/Greenville	\$89.90 + tax	69	Coffee & cookies 24/7, free wired/ wireless, pool, continental
Winter Inn	100 N Lafayette □ Greenville, MI 48838 (616) 754-7108 http://www.winterinn.biz/	\$62.00 + tax	14	Historic, Continental, downtown and restaurants/bars nearby