Welcome back! We hope you got some rest & relaxation this summer. Campus has been quiet without you all here and we are all looking forward to the hustle and bustle that the semester brings. This is our first ever Biology Department newsletter. We are planning to send out a few newsletters each semester to alert you to important events, new courses, scheduling changes, and upcoming due dates. We will also be looking for stories and feedback from you so please share those by contacting the general department email (biology@uwosh.edu). If you did any fun biology stuff (research, fun hiking adventures, etc.), please let us know! We’d love to hear what you’ve been doing.

Have a great start to your semester!

What’s Happening in the Biology Department

- Dr. Michalski & Dr. Pillsbury are on sabbatical this semester.
- **Greenhouse Open House!** All are welcome 3:00-5:00 pm (Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1).
- Check out the **Biology Club Table at Titan Fest** on September 6th, 11:00 -2:00 pm.
- Looking for on-campus employment, check our department jobs board for opportunities.

Meet the Department

Hello Biology, Microbiology, Environmental Health, Biomedical Science, and Medical Imaging students! I am one of your possible professors, **Dr. Sabrina Mueller-Spitz**. Through educational training, I am a microbiologist. My educational path leading me to UWO is long and twisty. As an undergraduate at UW Madison, I only took ONE microbiology class during my senior year graduating with BS in Soil Science. It was my graduate work and post-doctoral training at UW Madison, University of Cincinnati, and UW Milwaukee that expanded my interest in applied and environmental microbiology. Today, my research focuses on assessing and understanding freshwater microbial communities and individual populations for our region (Fox-Wolf Watershed and Lake Superior) and characterizing the function and occurrence of the “pink” bacterial genera of *Deinococcus*. I also dabble into microbiology related to human health and disease transmission related to human microbiome and food related microbes. I generally teach a broad mixture of courses from Epidemiology (Bio 303), Environmental Toxicology (Bio 338), Microbial Physiology (Bio 450/650), Public Health and Food Microbiology (Bio 339/539), and Special Topics in Environmental Health (Bio 445). I also oversee and advise the Environmental Health major. Please stop by to chat. I look forward to meeting you. My office is Halsey 151.

Fun Stuff

**Chocolate Chip Cookie Recipe Submitted by Dr. Dilkes**

2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour (you can substitute gluten-free flour)
1 ¼ tsp salt
½ tsp baking soda
2 sticks unsalted butter (room temperature)
¾ cup packed light brown sugar
¾ cup granulated sugar
2 large eggs (room temperature)
2 tsp pure vanilla extract
2 cups chocolate chips

1. Whisk flour, salt, and baking in a large bowl.
2. Beat butter, brown sugar, and granulated sugar in a bowl until light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla. Add in dry ingredients and mix until combined. Stir in chocolate chips. Cover and refrigerate for one hour.
3. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Drop one tablespoon of dough two inches apart. Bake for 8 minutes or until the edges are light brown.
4. Enjoy!

Makes about 36 cookies.

Fond Du Lac/Fox Campus News

- **Dr. Sonja Jeter** begins teaching Human Anatomy at the Fox Cities campus this Fall. Welcome, Dr. Jeter!

Biology Club Corner

Upcoming Events:

- **Biology Welcome Party.** Learn about the Biology department, degrees, classes, careers, research, and clubs. September 8th, 3:00-5:00 pm Halsey Greenhouse
- ‘Making Cheese with Microbes’ with Dr Samantha DeWerff Sept 22, 3:00 pm (location to be determined).