



# BioscienceHorizons

The National Undergraduate Research Journal

Julian Park, University of Reading  
and Centre for Bioscience

Presented at the Centre for Bioscience's  
Scottish HE Biology Teachers' Meeting

# The team

- **Celia Knight, Leeds University**
- **Martin Luck, Nottingham University**
- **Alison Fletcher, Chester University**
- **Julian Park, Reading University**
- **Alan Jenkins, Oxford Brookes University**
- **Jac Potter, Trinity College Dublin**
- **Jonathon Crowe, Oxford University Press.**

# Background

- High quality undergraduate research
- Some important research is “lost”
- Allow students to showcase their work
- Demonstrate the link between research and UG teaching
- An aid for those starting research projects

# Biolog-e



Issue 5  
Summer 2006

## Biolog-e

The Undergraduate  
Research Journal



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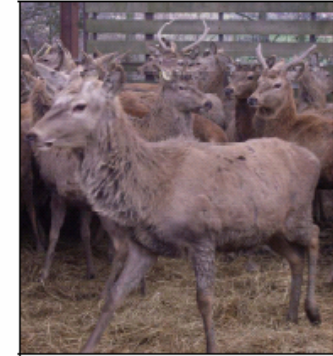
### Undergraduate Research

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## The Assessment of Temperament in Farmed Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*) and its Relationship to Stress and Carcass Quality at Slaughter



Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*)

Helen Croton

020-201-793

Submitted in part fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of  
Animal Nutrition and Physiology (Hons)  
March 2005  
School of Biology  
University of Leeds

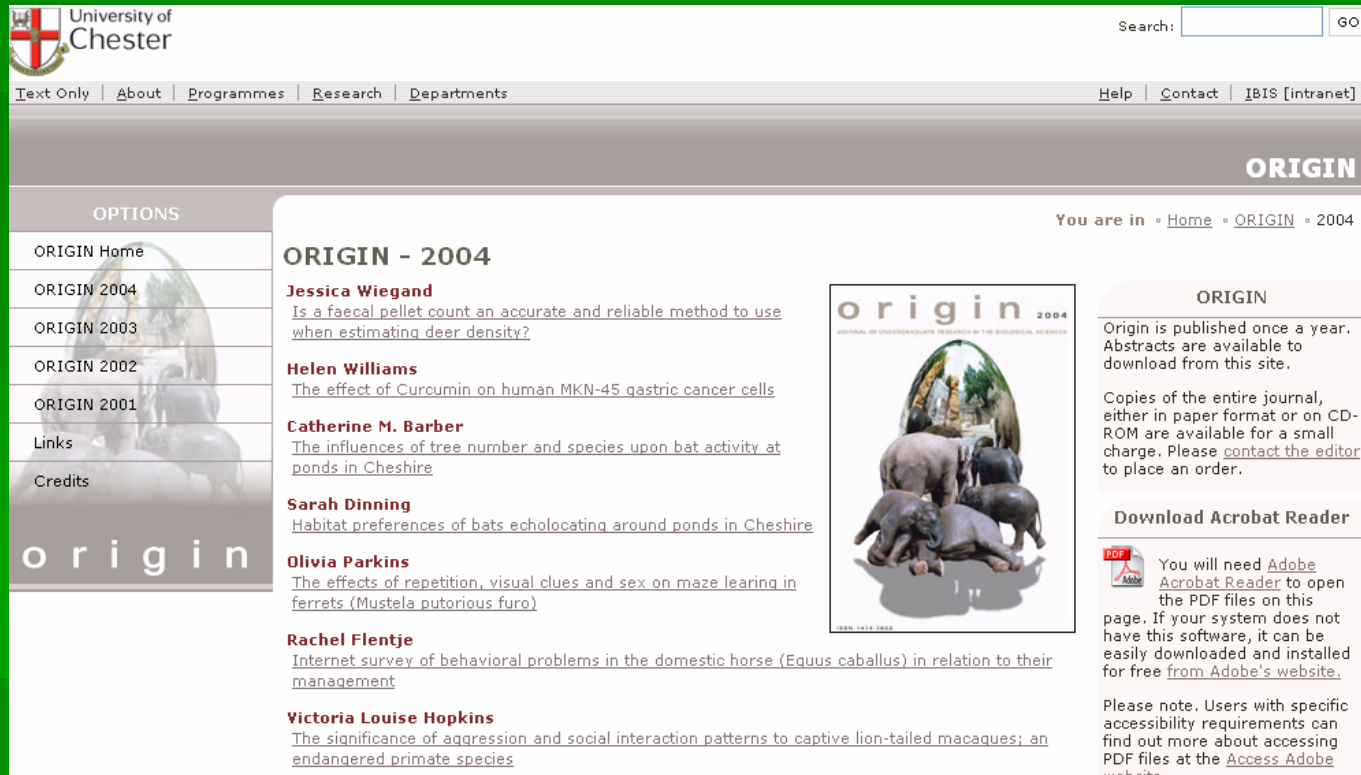


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**Victoria Louise Hopkins**  
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# Is it a good idea?

- Survey in 2006 elicited 63 responses
- On the whole very positive

*“This initiative is to be applauded. The opportunity for undergraduates to see their research in print should help to encourage the next generation of scientists, and raise the bar for existing projects.”*

*I think such a journal would inspire UG students carrying out their projects and act as a benchmark of quality for UG projects nationwide”*

# Objectives of the journal

- To promote the link between teaching and research in Higher Education
- To provide a repository of high quality undergraduate research which will be useful to other students and staff
- To provide a forum for students, their supervisors and Universities, to showcase high quality undergraduate research work
- To illustrate the student skill base to prospective employers.

# Will it happen?

Publishing agreement with OUP

Journal has a webpage, see

[www.biohorizons.oxfordjournals.org](http://www.biohorizons.oxfordjournals.org)

OUP will publish two pilot editions in  
2007/08

Published as an e journal

Requests for nominations to be sent by  
end of July 2007



# Where are we now?

- Received 37 nominations from 25 different universities
- 27 female, 10 male. 13 post 1992, 12 pre 1992.
- All except one marked as first class by their University
- We have asked the majority of these to write full article by end of September
- We will send full articles out for review
- Hope to be in the position to publish 20-30 articles in two editions in 2008

# Example titles

- An evaluation of bat detector sensitivities and implications of any differences for bat survey methods.
- The effects of immune challenge on locust salivary glands in vitro
- The thermal biology of lizards in relation to body surface temperature and lizard length.
- Scientific Truth: Acupuncture as an alternative treatment (lit review)
- The potential effect of coffee phenols on nicotine metabolism: CYP2A6 inhibition by caffeic acid and quercetin in vitro

# Editorial issues

- The team is acting as editorial board for the pilot year
- Departments asked to submit (with student agreement)....abstract 300 words
- One/two pieces of high quality assessed work per School/Dept
- Research project or literature review
- 5000 words limit, asked to resubmit at the end of September.

# Common queries/issues

- If it is published in Bioscience Horizons can it be published elsewhere as well?
- What about authorship?
- I do not think we can easily decide on just two nominations?
- I do not think I can convince colleagues to engage with this
- The supervisor of our best UG project wants to publish in another journal

# Concluding comments

- Remember this is a pilot
- We know there are lots of potential problems
- We need continued support from Departments if this is going to be a runner and be sustainable
- You may be asked to review a paper...I hope you will!

## Contact

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