Fishing and Aquatic Sciences POE

**New Program of Emphasis in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences**

The program in fisheries and aquatic sciences is designed to provide students with a wide range of knowledge, skills, and abilities needed by professionals to conserve and manage our aquatic resources. An abundance of aquatic ecosystems in the region including the Raystown Field Station on Raystown Lake combined with the active research of faculty in the ESS department provide unique opportunities to enhance education and research opportunities for students.

Numerous professional occupations require as their basis an expertise in the aquatic science. The POE will prepare students for several common professional positions including fisheries biologists, fisheries managers, conservation officers, environmental inspectors, consultants, aquaculturists, and numerous other specialties directly linked to the health of aquatic ecosystems. The program is also unique in that it prepares students for professional certification as a fisheries biologist by the American Fisheries Society. With aid of advisor, careful planning of courses and external experiences will allow students to specialize in an area of particular employment interest or to prepare for the pursuit of advanced degrees in graduate school.

**AFS Certification**

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) Certification is an extra certification, beyond your college diploma, to show employers that you meet the standards of education and experience for fisheries professionals (Adelman et al. 1997). Job applicants who are certified easily stand out to employers in a competitive job market.

AFS Certification is not a requirement of the Fisheries and Aquatic Science program at Juniata. However, taking a few additional courses, students will easily meet the requirements to apply for the certification after graduation.

For more information about the American Fisheries Society and Certification, please visit:

http://www.fisheries.org/membership/
http://pa.fisheries.org/

**Juniata College Student Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**

Now that we have established a Fisheries and Aquatic Science POE, Juniata will move forward with forming a student chapter of the American Fisheries Society. This club will give students the opportunity to network with fisheries professionals around the state, region and continent. Since this club is only in its conception, as an incoming student you will have the opportunity to help form this chapter and steer its direction.

Beyond forming relationships with other fisheries professionals, students who apply for the AFS Certification will receive a discount on certification for being a member of AFS. Student members get all the benefits of Professional Membership plus reduced registration fees for meeting attendance and FREE access to all AFS journals on line. Also, your AFS Certification is not valid if you are not a current dues paid member of AFS.

Student dues are $20 for AFS membership at the national level (called the parent society).

Student dues are $5 for membership at the PA State Chapter Level, which is highly recommended for the local events that take place.