FEATURED FACULTY
Dr. Helen Michaels is an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and has been a faculty member at BGSU since 1990. Dr. Michaels is currently teaching General Botany (BIOL 3430) this spring and will be teaching Restoration Ecology (BIOL 4220) in the fall.

What is your favorite organism and why?
That's easy! Sundial Lupine...I've been fascinated by this plant ever since I came to BGSU. It provides food for rare butterflies, has beautiful flowers in various colors, and makes seeds that vary in color too which explosively disperse like fireworks in early July. It is also a nitrogen fixer, so it supports whole ecosystems of prairies and oak savannas like the Oak Openings.

What area of biological research is most interesting to you and why?
Pollination ecology has fascinated me since I was very young and still does. The amazing adaptations in both plants and their pollinators are ancient, yet continually changing mixtures of art and science in the natural world.

What do you like most about BGSU?
The size…it's small enough that you can get a small school atmosphere, but big enough to support a wide variety of people, programs, and activities.

What advice do you have for current biology undergraduates?
Try new subjects, approach professors and TAs before or after class, and explore opportunities for new experiences even if they are small, volunteer activities of an hour or two a week.

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
Have you stopped by the Office of Pre-Professional Programs in 101 University Hall or looked at the resources on the website - https://www.bgsu.edu/pre-professional-programs.html? Also, students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology and planning to apply for graduate programs in dentistry, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, physician assistant, and veterinary medicine have the option to add a specialization in pre-health biology to their degree program. To view the check sheet, go to https://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/catalog/Spring-2019/arts-and-sciences/Biology-Pre-Health.pdf.

SPRING BREAK TRIP
The BIOL 4750 (Marine Biology Field Experience) class traveled to the Tampa Bay/Sarasota Area to experience a number of marine biology fields - including the University of Florida’s Tropical Aquaculture Lab, the Mote Marine Aquaculture Park and Aquarium, the University of South Florida’s campus, the Tampa Electric Company’s Manatee Viewing Center, and the Florida Aquarium’s Center for Conservation. Sixteen students participated and some partook in deep sea fishing while others went snorkeling.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
Student organizations provide opportunities for undergraduates to get involved in the biology program beyond the classroom. Below are several that may be of interest to students in the biological sciences. The Office of Campus Activities offers a directory of the student organizations at BGSU and can be found at http://bgsu.orgsync.com.

- American Medical School Association (AMSA)
- American Society for Microbiology (AMS)
- Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta)
- Ecology and Conservation Association (ECA)
- The Herpetology Association (H.A.)
- Marine Biology Association (MBA)
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine Association (PVMA)

RESOURCES

Need help with a particular subject or study skills? Visit the Learning Commons in 140 Jerome Library (https://www.bgsu.edu/learning-commons.html).

Interested in undergraduate research? Thinking about applying to graduate school? Have questions about courses required for the biology degree? Speak with your faculty mentor (listed in MyBGSU). To find out more about the research interests of the biological sciences faculty visit https://www.bgsu.edu/arts-and-sciences/biological-sciences/faculty-and-staff.html.