

In October, Mark A. Batzer, Andrew C. Pereboom Alumni Departmental Professor of Biological Sciences at LSU, was elected as a Fellow of AAAS, the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Batzer was bestowed this honor in recognition of his advancement of comparative genomics research through the study of mobile DNA elements and their significant impact on the architecture of host genomes (e.g. human, chimpanzee, and rhesus macaque). In his career thus far, Dr. Batzer has published more than 200 papers in well-regarded peer-reviewed journals, including *Science* and *Nature*.

AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society and publishes the internationally renowned journal, *Science*, in which research from Dr. Batzer's laboratory was recently featured. Dr. Batzer's research team here at LSU participated in the recent sequencing project of the rhesus macaque genome, focusing its efforts on the analysis of mobile element composition and their evolutionary history (*Science*, April 13th, 2007).

In an AAAS tradition dating back to 1847, Dr. Batzer was first nominated to the AAAS Steering Group for the Section on Biological Sciences. Upon approval by this group, Dr. Batzer's nomination was forwarded to the AAAS Council, along with other nominees, for final approval. A ceremony officially presenting the society's newest Fellows will be held at the 2008 AAAS Annual Meeting in Boston, MA in February.

This announcement appeared in the AAAS News & Notes section of the journal *Science* on October 26th, 2007. Readers can find out more about AAAS at the society's website (<http://www.aaas.org/>) and about Batzer Lab research at his website (<http://batzerlab.lsu.edu/>).

