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Scanning Electron Microscope Image Claims Photo Prize for Bio Professor

Winthrop University

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Scanning Electron Microscope Image Claims Photo Prize for Bio Professor

Quick Facts

- Smith's photo, "Shhh...Baby's Asleep," was recently announced as the July 2014 winner.



ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — **Associate Professor of Biology Julian Smith III** has taken countless photos of organisms via electron microscopes throughout his career, but it was a recent photo of a local insect that won the **JEOL USA's Image Contest**.

His photo, "**Shhh...Baby's Asleep**," was recently announced as the July 2014 winner.

JEOL USA has been considered a world leader in the development of electron microscopes since 1949. Smith said new science equipment purchased last spring included a new **Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)**, replacing a vintage 1979 version.

Smith shot the image during a demo of the microscope model. The photo shows an insect from its underside, showing its numerous curled legs.

"Aside from the pose, I liked the juxtaposition of 'baby' with the thought, 'I'm awfully glad that thing isn't seven feet long and hungry,'" he said.

The insect was found in a leaf litter in the Winthrop Woods. Smith estimates it is a juvenile, but he said they have not been able to identify it closer than that.

Smith has a Ph.D. in zoology from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He has worked at Winthrop for more than 20 years, teaching courses on invertebrate biology, developmental biology, microscopic anatomy and more.

For more information on the **Department of Biology** contact the department at 803/323-2111 or [visit the website](#).

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