



EEOB GSA Newsletter

eeobnewsletter@gmail.com

2019 Summer Ed.

Graduate Student Recognition

The UCR Department of Evolution, Ecology, & Organismal Biology serves three main functions: undergraduate instruction, graduate education, and research in basic biology. Here, we highlight the accomplishments of our graduate student body. These include publications, conference presentations, awards and grants (both external and intramural), advancement to candidacy, dissertation defense, post-doc positions, outreach success, and undergraduate mentorship.

Publications

- **Green, M. D. [Anderson Lab]**, and T. E. Miller. 2019. Germination Traits Explain Deterministic Processes in the Assembly of Early Successional Coastal Dune Vegetation. *Estuaries and coasts*.
- Griebel A., Metzen D., Boer M.M., Barton C.C., Renchon A.A., **Andrews H.M. [Jenerette Lab]**, Pendall E. Using a paired tower approach and remote sensing to assess carbon sequestration and energy distribution in a heterogeneous sclerophyll forest. *Science of the Total Environment*. [to be published Jan 2020, vol. 699]
- **Gardner, S. [Campbell Lab]**, J. L. Grindstaff, and P. Campbell. n.d. Placental genotype affects early postpartum maternal behaviour. *Royal Society Open Science* 6:190732.

Conferences & Presentations

- April Arquilla (Saltzman Lab) presented a poster at the Animal Behavior Society in Chicago: "Effects of prenatal stress on paternal care in California mice (*Peromyscus californicus*)"
- Peggy Brady (Springer Lab) gave a poster presentation at the 2019 North American Paleontological Convention: "Chasing a More Complete Mammalian Phylogenetic Tree: A Pseudoextinction Analysis"
- Samantha Levell (Reznick Lab) gave a talk at Evolution and the 8th Annual poeciliid meeting: "Can females differentially allocate resources to offspring sired by different males?"
- Jessica Tingle (Garland Lab) gave a poster presentation at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Snow Bird, Utah: "What determines vertebral count in snakes?"
- Anna Cassady (Anderson Lab) presented this summer at the International Conference on Ecology and Transportation in Sacramento, California: "Wastewater treatment plants and endangered & threatened wildlife species overlap in California watersheds"

- Matthew Green (Anderson Lab) and Lyons, R. Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Consortium Spatial Data Interface. University of Redlands. Redlands, CA. 2019.
- Green, M.D. Spatial Community Ecology: Biodiversity and Food Web Dynamics. UC Riverside Grad Division “Get Connected.” Riverside, CA. 2019.
- Green, M.D. High Elevation Aquatic Biodiversity. Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Consortium Spring Meeting; Mammoth Lakes, CA. 2019.

Awards & Grants

- Andrea Keeler (Rafferty Lab) received the Dr. Jean H. Langenheim Endowed Graduate Fellowship in the Ecology and Evolution of Plants to support her 2019 and 2020 summers at the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab.
- Matthew Green (Anderson Lab) earned a number of honors this summer:
 - Sequoia Science Learning Center Research Grant Program 2019
 - Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserves Graduate Student Research Grant 2019
 - Irwin M. Newell Graduate Research Fund; UCR Dept. Biology 2019
 - EEOB Departmental Conference Travel Award 2019

Dissertation Defense

- In June, Katie Johnson (Clark Lab) defended her thesis: “Sharing a Song: Vocal Learning in the Costa's Hummingbird.” We wish her well in her future endeavors!

Outreach

Our outreach events started in earnest this Fall. Those events will be highlighted in the next issue!

Mentorship

- Andrea Keeler (Rafferty Lab) mentored an REU student this summer. Erin Paulson was an undergraduate sophomore (now junior) from Southern Oregon University. Together, they developed a summer field project related to the effects of drought and early snowmelt on legume-soil microbe mutualisms, collected and analyzed samples and data, and wrote a paper on their results. Erin presented her work in a talk at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) symposium in August 2019 and plans to give a talk to her department this academic year. Andrea also co-lead a workshop on Diversity and Inclusion for the second summer in a row at the RMBL. She helped create and teach an active learning undergraduate workshop focused on implicit biases, impostor syndrome, and stereotype biases.

- Albreto Castro (Garland Lab) mentored college-bound high school students from low-income areas in Southern California this summer. His students came from diverse backgrounds and represented many future first-generation scholars. The TRIO upward Bound program at UCR provide free academic tutoring, mentorship, financial guidance, application assistance, and fun enrichment activities. Coursework and activities were focused on anatomy and physiology, including many medical case studies, heart dissections, muscle EMGs, auditory and reaction, and basic exercise physiology. Alberto and his students' work was made possible in collaboration with our very own Jon Allen.
- Samantha Levell (Reznick Lab) mentored two RISE (Research in Science & Engineering) students this summer.
- Clara Woodie (Anderson Lab) mentored 6 undergraduate students in a RISE this summer. They presented posters at the RISE symposium.



Dr. Kurt Anderson and Clara Woodie mentored many undergraduate researchers this summer (in their appropriate PPE!).



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Calls for newsletter submissions will go out every quarter. Please send your submissions to eeobnewsletter@gmail.com. Be sure to include relevant dates, places, titles, credit to co-authors and images, and any other details you may feel are important. Thank you!

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Marcell D Cadney
PhD Candidate
Garland Lab

Newsletter/Website Coordinator
Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology
Graduate Student Association
University of California, Riverside