ECCB NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue No.1 April 2022

ECCB Award Ceremony
Join us in celebrating this year's faculty, staff, and student awards.
Wednesday, May 4th 3:00 pm
WFES 1st Floor Interior Lobby

ECCB Brain Break
CDEI Committee invites you to a come-and-go “Final Exam Treats”
Wednesday, May 4th 1:30–3:00 pm
WFES 3rd Floor Elevator Lobby

UPCOMING EVENTS

Brought to you by the Climate, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
Nurturing diversity, denouncing intolerance, and promoting acceptance

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Faculty Highlights

Dr. Georgianne W. Moore recently accepted a position as Professor and Chair of Biology at Georgia Southern University.

Staff Highlights

Former ECCB Business Administrator, Victoria Binns, accepted a new position at the Institute for Advancing Health through Agriculture.

Graduate Student Highlights

Dr. Jacquelyn Grace lab

Michael McCloy received the 2022 Emerging Public Policy Leadership Award through the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Viridiana Martinez received the 2022 Schubot Director’s award from the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Science.

Undergraduate Student Highlights

Dr. Winemiller Aquatic Ecology lab

Yasmin Quintana
She is 1 of 13 women published in the World Wildlife Fund website blog
Meet 13 Women making waves in conservation

Moore Ecohydrology Lab

Miriam Catalán
Recipient of 2022 Gamma Sigma Delta ECCB Department Outstanding PhD Student

Stephani Gartrell
is participating in an exchange program at Osaka University in Japan for the Fall semester of 2022!

Sidney Sanchez
is participating in a paid conservation internship at UC Santa Cruz this summer!
Presentations and Publications

**Texas Water Observatory Workshop**

Miriam Catalan and Marisa Collura presented their research in February.

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**Ecological Integration Symposium**

Several ECCB undergraduate and graduate students presented their research at EIS in April.

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Congratulations to the Best Poster Presentation Winners (in no particular order):

- Miriam Catalan
- Kasuni Daundasekara
- Sophia Gartenstein

Congratulations to the Best Oral Presentation Winners (in no particular order):

- Jennifer Rhinesmith-Carranza
- Katie Sanbonmatsu
- Liam Wolff

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Congratulations on these recent publications! Click on picture for link.

[Exponential rise in the discovery of endemic plants underscores the need to conserve the Indian savannas](https://doi.org/10.1111/biot.14532)

[Journal of Biogeography]

A global analysis of mosses reveals low phylogenetic endemism and highlights the importance of long-distance dispersal

Katie Kobara Sanbonmatsu, Daniel Späth

First published: 04 March 2022 | https://doi.org/10.1111/biot.14533

Handling Editor: Alain Vanderpoorten

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[Taxonomic scale and community organization impact observed latitudinal gradients of parasite diversity](https://doi.org/10.1111/biot.14533)

Whitney C. Presser, Adrian A. Castellanos, John M. Kimball, Ronald Vargas, Eugenio González ...

First published: 04 March 2022 | https://doi.org/10.1111/biot.14532

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[Beyond RuBiSCO: convergent molecular evolution of multiple chloroplast genes in C₄ plants](https://doi.org/10.1111/biot.14532)

Claude Caste et al.

[PeerJ]
Rusty Feagin - Coastal Ecology and Management Lab
Matthew "Jake" Madewell graduated with his Masters's degree with a focus on wetland hydrologic restoration, and is now working as a Research Associate on new wetland restoration projects with Dr. Rusty Feagin and Dr. Thomas Huff.

Dr. Thomas Huff, Assistant Research Scientist, has been awarded his first externally-funded grant as the lead Principal Investigator (PI) by the Texas General Land Office for roughly $300,000 to work on wetland restoration at Welder Flats along Guadalupe Bay.

Dr. Daniel Spalink
Received a NASA grant in December titled: "Integrating remote sensing and biodiversity observations to map and monitoring plant taxonomic, phylogenetic, and functional beta-diversity in the Greater Cape Floristic Region." He will be working with collaborators in South Africa and the University of Maryland. They will be linking hyperspectral remote sensing data gathered from fancy NASA planes to floristic surveys across the Cape to model turnover in plant community composition (species, traits, and phylogenetic lineages), ground-water dependent communities, and the impacts of fire and invasive species on plant biodiversity.

Beth Brooks celebrated her birthday on April 16th. She works with Patriot Paws with a dog named Porkchop.

Alaya Keane - Dr. Thomas Lacher
Alaya Keane is currently in Brazil assessing the effect of agroforestry systems in Brazil’s Atlantic Forest on native marmosets. Pictured here is her study species (Callithrix kuhlii).
SUBMIT content for the ECCB Newsletter

The ECCB Committee for Climate, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity invites you all to submit news, announcements, and accomplishments to celebrate all things within our department, both academic and non-academic. Check out the google link below to submit your news and/or files (photos). We will collect responses all semester using the same link and release monthly newsletters as an initiative to improve department climate.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1ST AT 5-PM

HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/KPT28WPDCAIACKPSVA

Thank you!