

## EEB WELCOMES NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

### NEW FACULTY

In August, 2018 EEB will welcome Dr. **Daniel Bolnick** as our newest Professor. Dan comes to EEB from The University of Texas at Austin where he was a Professor in the Department of Integrative Biology.

Dan says he is “excited to be moving home to New England after more than 20 years away.” Dan left the northeast after graduating from Williams College in 1996. After graduation, Dan spent time in the US Peace Corps teaching biology and math in northeastern Tanzania.

Dan completed his Ph.D. in 2003 at the Center for Population Biology at UC Davis. He began his first faculty position at the University of Texas at Austin in Fall 2004. While at UT Austin, Dan worked on a wide variety of subjects including the maintenance of genetic variation within populations, ecological effects of dietary variation within populations, predator-prey interactions, host-parasite coevolution, divergence-with-gene-flow, speciation, biomechanics, and habitat choice. His current focus is on the immunological and genetic mechanisms of host-parasite coevolution. He has taught undergraduate courses as well as a variety of graduate classes including biostatistics, Bayesian linear modeling, speciation, evolutionary immunology, and graduate introduction to evolution.

Dan was the Chair of the Graduate Program at UT from 2014-2017. He currently serves as Editor-In-Chief of *The American Naturalist*; and is helping with the revisions for a third edition of *The Waterfalls of the White Mountains (New Hampshire) Hiking Guide*. When he gets to Connecticut, Dan is eager to re-establish a long-neglected hiking, climbing, and skiing habit.

### NEW HERBARIUM MANAGER

Dr. **Sarah Taylor** joined EEB as the Manager of Scientific Collections (Herbarium) in November, 2017. Sarah received her Ph.D. in Plant Biology from the University of Texas at Austin in 2012. Prior to joining EEB, she was the Collections Manager for the University of South Carolina Herbarium.

### NEW STAFF

**Nick Boston** is a 2016 graduate of UConn. He is a Program Assistant whose responsibilities focus on Human Resources and Payroll for faculty and staff as well as travel reimbursements and purchasing.

**Madeline Hennessey** is a Program Assistant whose responsibilities focus on Graduate student payroll and admissions, class scheduling, and purchasing. She received her MFA in poetry from the Bennington Writing Seminars in 2016. Before coming to EEB, Madeline taught English at Sun Yat-sen University in Zhuhai, China. She published her first book of poetry in 2017, *Body of Water*, which received a 2018 Adirondack Literary Award for “Best Book of Poetry.”

## FAREWELLS

“Parting is such sweet sorrow. . .” wrote William Shakespeare. It was with mixed emotion EEB said farewell to several friends and colleagues during the past year. We wish them well as they begin new adventures in their retirement.

Dr. **Kentwood Wells** retired on January 1, 2018 after more than 40 years with UConn. Kent joined the EEB Department as an Assistant Professor in 1977 when the Department was known as the Biological Sciences Group. Kent was educated at Duke and Cornell; he joined EEB from his position as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama.

Kent was promoted to Associate Professor and then full Professor; in 2006 he began his tenure in the dual capacity as Professor and Department Head, a position he held until 2013.

Between 1998 and 2016, Kent, and his colleagues produced and revised four editions of *Herpetology*, a textbook for undergraduate and graduate-level courses and a comprehensive source of information about amphibians and reptiles for professional biologists, hobbyists and interested laypersons.

In 2007 Kent produced the definitive publication entitled, *The Ecology and Behavior of Amphibians*. This 1400 page book covers all aspects of the biology of the more than six thousand species of amphibians (more diverse than mammals), found on every continent save Antarctica. It synthesized 70 years of research on amphibian biology.

Dr. **Felix Coe** retired from his position as Assistant Professor at the Hartford Campus on June 1, 2018. Felix completed his Ph.D. with Greg Anderson in 1994. He joined the Hartford Campus in 2004 and specialized in the fields of botany, dendrology, economic botany, ethnobotany, and systematic botany.

Felix has published books and numerous articles and abstracts on ethnobotany, vascular flora and ethnopharmacopoeia of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Mexico.

Dr. **Robert Capers**, Manager of Scientific Collections (Herbarium) retired on September 1, 2017. Bob is a UConn alum earning both his Masters (1999) and Ph.D. in Botany (2003). His advisor for both his Masters and his Ph.D. was Don Les. Bob joined EEB in the Biological Collections (Herbarium) in 2006. He also oversaw the expansion of the Herbarium Database—CONN—(<http://bgbaseserver.eeb.uconn.edu/database.html>) to more than 200,000 specimens and images. Bob was a Co-PI on a \$5,000,000 NSF grant which proposed to expand science communication courses and develop tools to measure their effectiveness.

After 34 years with the University of Connecticut, and 19 years with the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department, **Kathy Tebo** retired as the Department’s Administrative Assistant on October 1, 2017. Kathy was one of those rare professionals who handled not only administrative tasks for faculty and graduate students but also helped with departmental event organization, web design, as well as scheduling EEB courses — to name but a few of the many responsibilities she coordinated during an average day.

## Bug Week AntU Day: July 26, 2018 UConn Biology/Physics Building lobby and the EEB Greenhouses, 12noon – 4pm



### AntU Event for Bug Week!

Launched by a 2016 NSF Collections in Support of Biological Research award to EEB, the Carl and Marian Rettenmeyer Army Ant Guest Collection's broader impact component has become a truly remarkable University-wide initiative—AntU! With content driven by the amazingly complex biological system of army ants and their guests, faculty, staff and students across UConn have been working together on creative collaborations with Poetry, Digital Media and Design, Engineering, Puppetry, Human Rights, and others. AntU Day

Join us Thursday July 26 at noon for a lively 30-minute lunchtime talk with Dr. Janine Caira, then “Be Our Guest” for an afternoon of unique learning opportunities for all ages.

From 12:30-4pm you can meet members of the AntU team at our microscope and database stations, share YOUR creative ideas, and pick-up some fun giveaways. You can also tour the Collections and the UConn Rainforest, or visit the Dairy Bar truck parked nearby with FREE Dairy Bar ant-topped ice cream.

Check the Army Ant Guest Collection Facebook page for project updates and additional information: <https://www.facebook.com/UConnArmyAntGuests/>

AntU Day is presented by the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History. UConn Extension Bug Week is a College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources annual event: <http://bugs.uconn.edu/>

— Article written by Beth Barbeau and Jane O'Donnell

A periodical cicada (*Magicicada septendecim*) emerges after 17 years underground in an experimental research plot behind the EEB greenhouses. This cicada is part of a larger project to rear periodical cicadas in order to investigate their life cycles.



Photo by: John Cooley

## 2018 PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

**Don Les** has published his labor of love, *Aquatic Dicotyledons of North America* (CRC Press, 1334 Pages with 338 Illustrations). A decade in the making, it is a monumental achievement, compiling a vast array of resources from the primary literature, herbaria and other sources, documenting over 1500 species.

**Robert Thorson's** *The Guide to Walden Pond*, was published in March by Houghton Mifflin. It is the first guidebook to Henry David Thoreau's defining locale.

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

**Augyte, S., Lewis, L., Lindeberg, E. B., Neefus, C. D., & Yarish, C.** (2018). Speciation in the exposed intertidal: the case of *Saccharina angustissima* comb. nov. & stat. nov. (Laminariales, Phaeophyceae). *Phycologia* 10.2216/17-40.1.

**Bagchi, R., L. M. Brown, C. S. Elphick, D. L. Wagner, and M. S. Singer.** 2018. Anthropogenic fragmentation of landscapes: mechanisms for eroding the specificity of plant-herbivore interactions. *Oecologia*. doi.org/10.1007/s00442-018-4115-5

**Bagchi, R., Swamy, V., Farfan, J.-P. L., Terborgh, J., Vela, C. I. A., Pitman, N. C. A. & Sanchez, W. G.** (2018) Defaunation increases the spatial clustering of lowland Western Amazonian tree communities. *Journal of Ecology*. DOI:10.1111/1365-2745.12929

**Baker, E. A.G., Wegrzyn, J. L., Sezen, U. U., Falk, T., Maloney, P. E., Vogler, D. R., Delfino-Mix, A., Jensen, C., Mitton, J., Wright, J., Knaus, B., Rai, H., Cronn, R., Gonzalez-Ibeas, D., Vasquez-Gross, H. A., Famula, R. A., Liu, J., Kueppers, L. M., & Neale, D. B.** (2018). Comparative Transcriptomics Among Four White Pine Species. *G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics* 200257.2018. <https://doi.org/10.1534/g3.118.200257>

**Caira, J. N., C. J. Healy, F. P. I. Marques, and K. Jensen.** 2018. Three new genera of rhinebothriidean cestodes from stingrays in Southeast Asia. *Folia Parasitologica* 64: 008 (18 pp). doi: 10.14411/fp.2017.008.

**Caira, J. N., K. Jensen, and C. A. Fyler.** A. 2018. A new genus of tapeworm (Cestoda: Onchoproteocephalidea) from sawfish (Elasmobranchii: Pristidae). *Journal of Parasitology* 104: 133–144. doi: 10.1645/17-165.

**Chen, W. and Adams, E. S.** 2018. The distribution and habitat affinities of the invasive ant *Myrmica rubra* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) in southern New England. *Environmental Entomology*, doi: 10.1093/ee/nvy042.

**Chen, W., O'Sullivan, A. and Adams, E. S.** 2018. Intraspecific aggression and the colony structure of the invasive ant *Myrmica rubra*. *Ecological Entomology* 43:263-272.

**DeSimone, J. E.D. Clotfelter, B. Black, S.A. Knutic.** 2018. Avoidance, tolerance, and resistance to ectoparasites in nestling and adult tree swallows. *Journal of Avian Biology* 49: jav-01641 doi: 10.1111/jav.01641

**Dong S., J.-Y. Xue, S. Zhang, L. Zhang, H. Wu, Z. Chen, B. Goffinet & Yang Liu.** 2018. Complete mitochondrial genome sequence of *Anthoceros angustus*: conservative evolution of mitogenome in hornworts. *The Bryologist* 121:

## 2018 PUBLICATIONS CON'T

**Evans, A.E.<sup>g</sup>**, B.R. Forester, **E.L. Jockusch**, and **M.C. Urban**. 2018. A widespread salamander does not show predicted morph frequency shifts despite 40 years of climate change. *Ecography*, online early. doi: 10.1111/ecog.03588

**Finiguerra, M.**, Avery, D.E., Dam, H.G. Case Study: Testing for Adaptation. February 26, 2018. National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science

Gabor, C., **S.A. Knutie**, E. Roznik, J.R. Rohr. 2018. Are the adverse effects of stressors on amphibians mediated by their effects on stress hormones? *Oecologia* 186:393-404. doi: 10.1007/s00442-017-4020-3

**Garcia-Robledo, C.**, Chuquillanqui, H., **Kuprewicz, E. K.**, & Escobar-Sarria, F. (2018). Lower thermal tolerance in nocturnal than in diurnal ants: a challenge for nocturnal ectotherms facing global warming. *Ecological Entomology*, 43(2), 162-167.

**Herrick, S. Z.**, **K. D. Wells**, **T. E. Farkas**, and **E. T. Schultz**. 2018. Noisy neighbors: acoustic interference and vocal interactions between two syntopic species of ranid frogs, *Rana clamitans* and *R. catesbeiana*. *Journal of Herpetology* 52:176-184.

**Knutie, S.A.**, C. Gabor, K.D. Kohl, J.R. Rohr. 2018. Do host-associated gut microbiota mediate the effect of an herbicide on disease risk? *Journal of Animal Ecology*. 87:489-499. doi: 10.1111/1365-2656.12769

Kress, W. J., **Garcia-Robledo, C.**, Soares, J. V., Jacobs, D., Wilson, K., Lopez, I. C., & Belhumeur, P. N. (2018). Citizen Science and Climate Change: Mapping the Range Expansions of Native and Exotic Plants with the Mobile App Leafsnap. *BioScience*, 68(5), 348-358.

La Sorte, F.A., C.A. Lepczyk, J.L. Burnett, A.H. Hurlbert, **M.W. Tingley**, & B. Zuckerberg. 2018. Opportunities and challenges for big data ornithology. *Condor* 120:414-426.

**Marshall, D.C.**, Max Moulds, **Kathy B.R. Hill**, Benjamin W. Price, **Elizabeth J. Wade**, **Christopher L. Owen**, **Geert Goemans**, Kiran Marathe, Vivek Sarkar, **John R. Cooley**, Allen F. Sanborn, Krushnamegh Kunte, Martin H. Villet, and **Chris Simon**. 2018. A molecular phylogeny of the cicadas (Hemiptera: Cicadidae) with a review of tribe and subfamily classification. *Zootaxa*, in press. 65 pp.

Mauerhofer, V., T. Ichinose, B. D. Blackwell, **M. R. Willig**, C. G. Flint, M. S. Krause, and M. Penker. 2018. Underuse of social-ecological systems: A research agenda for addressing challenges to biocultural diversity. *Land Use Policy* 77:57-64.

**McManus, H. A.**, **Fučíková, K.**, **Lewis, P. O.**, **Lewis, L. A.**, & Karol, K. G. 2018. Organellar phylogenomics inform systematics in the green algal family Hydrodictyaceae (Chlorophyceae) and provide clues to the complex evolutionary history of plastid genomes in the green algal tree of life. *American Journal of Botany* 105(3):315–329. <http://doi.org/10.1002/ajb2.1066>

**Medina R., M.** Johnson, **Y. Liu**, N. Wilding, T. Hedderson, **N. Wickett** & **B. Goffinet**. 2018. Evolutionary dynamism in bryophytes: Phylogenomic inferences confirm rapid radiation in the family Funariaceae. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 120: 240–247.

**Mocko\*, K.** , **A. B. Nicotra**, **C. S. Jones**. 2018. Extent of solar tracking differs between two co-occurring, congeneric geophytes that differ in leaf shape. *International Journal of Plant Sciences* 179: 162-173 doi: 10.1086/695698



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**Moore\*, T. E., C. D. Schlichting**, M. Aiello-Lammens, **K. Mocko\*** and **C. S. Jones**. 2018. Divergent trait and environment relationships among parallel radiations in *Pelargonium* (Geraniaceae): a role for evolutionary legacy? *New Phytologist* 219:794-807. doi: 10.1111/nph.15196

Mullins, Daniel A., Daniel Hoyer, Christina Collins, Thomas Currie, Kevin Feeney, Pieter François, Patrick E. Savage, Harvey Whitehouse, and **Peter Turchin**. 2018. A systematic assessment of 'Axial Age' proposals using global comparative historical evidence. *American Sociology Review*, published on line.

Newman, E.A., J.B. Potts, **M.W. Tingley**, C. Vaughn, & S.L. Stephens. 2018. Chaparral bird community responses to prescribed fire and shrub removal in three management seasons. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 55: 1615-1625.

Peregrine, Peter N, Rob Brennan, Thomas Currie, Kevin Feeney, Pieter Francois, **Peter Turchin**, and Harvey Whitehouse. 2018. Dacura: A new solution to data harvesting and knowledge extraction for the historical sciences. *Historical Methods* (published on line).

Pfeifer, M., Lefebvre, V., Peres, C.A., Wearn, O. R., Marsh, C. J., Banks-Leite, C, Butchart, S. H. M., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Barlow, J., Cerezo A., **Cisneros, L.**, D'Cruze, N., Fariah, D., Hadley, A., **Klingbeil, B. T.**, Kormann, U., Lens, L., Medina-Rangel, G. F., Morante-Filho, J.C., Olivier, P., Peters, S., Pidgeon, A., Ribeiro, D. B., Scherber, C., Schneider-Maunory, L., Struebig, M., Urbina-Cardona, N., Watling, J. I., **Willig, M. R.**, Wood, E. M., Ewers, R. M. 2018. Global creation of forest edges has a global impact on forest vertebrates. *Nature*. doi:10.1038/nature24457.

Piotr Łukasik, **Katherine Nazario**, James T. Van Leuven, Matthew A. Campbell, Mariah Meyer, Anna Michalik, Pablo Pessacq, **Chris Simon**, Claudio Veloso, John P. McCutcheon. 2018. Multiple origins of interdependent endosymbiotic complexes in a genus of cicadas. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 115(2):229-432. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2017.10.008>

Povilus, R., **Diggle, P.K.**, Friedman, W.E. 2018. Evidence for parent-of-origin effects and interparental conflict in seeds of an ancient flowering plant lineage. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, B* 285: 20172491

**Presley, S. J., L. M. Cisneros**, C. L. Higgins, **B. T. Klingbeil**, S. M. Scheiner, and **M. R. Willig**. 2018. Human-modified landscapes filter functional and phylogenetic biodiversity of bat communities. *Biotropica* 50:135-145

Prussing†, C., M. Moreno, M. P. Saavedra, S. A. Bickersmith, D. Gamboa, F. Alava, **C.D. Schlichting**, K. J. Emerson, J. M. Vinetz, J. E. Conn. 2018. Decreasing proportion of *Anopheles darlingi* biting outdoors between long-lasting insecticidal net distributions in peri-Iquitos, Amazonian Peru. *Malaria Journal* 17: 86. DOI: 10.1186/s12936-018-2234-4

**Ray\*, D.** and **C. S. Jones**. 2018. Scaling relationships and vessel packing in petioles. *American Journal of Botany* 105. doi:10.1002/ajb2.1054

**Santoferrara L.F.**, Rubin E., McManus G., 2018. Global and local DNA (meta)barcoding reveal new biogeography patterns in tintinnid ciliates. *Journal of Plankton Research*, doi: 10.1093/plankt/fby011

Simon A., **B. Goffinet**, N. Magain & E. Sérusiaux. 2018. High diversity, high insular endemism and recent origin in the lichen genus *Sticta* (lichenized Ascomycota, Peltigerales) in Madagascar and the Mascarene archipelago. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 122: 15–28. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2018.01.012>

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Smith S., Song W., Gavrilova N., Kurilov A., Liu W., McManus G., **Santoferrara L.F.**, 2018. *Dartintinnus alderae* n. g., n. sp., a minute brackish tintinnid (Ciliophora, Spirotrichea) with dual-ended lorica collapsibility. *Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology*, 65(3): 400-411.

Srinivasan, U., P.R. Elsen, **M.W. Tingley**, & D.S. Wilcove. 2018. Temperature and competition interact to structure Himalayan bird communities. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 285: 20172593.

Staci M Amburgey, David AW Miller, Evan H Campbell Grant, Tracy AG Rittenhouse, Michael F Benard, Jonathan L Richardson, **Mark C Urban**, Ward Hughson, Adrienne B Brand, Christopher J Davis, Carmen R Hardin, Peter WC Paton, Christopher J Raithel, Rick A Relyea, A Floyd Scott, David K Skelly, Dennis E Skidds, Charles K Smith, Earl E Werner. 2018. *Global change biology* 24: 439-454

**Tsai, T., Diggle, P.K., Frye, H.A., Jones, C.S.** 2018. Contrasting lengths of *Pelargonium* floral nectar tubes result from late differences in rate and duration of growth. *Annals of Botany* 121: 549–560

**Urban, M. C.** & R. Roehm. 2018. The road to higher permanence and biodiversity in exurban wetlands. *Oecologia* 186: 291-302.

Van de Perre, F., **Willig, M. R., Presley, S. J.**, Beeckmann, H., Boeckx, P., Cooleman, S., de Hann, M., De Kesel, A., Dessein, S., Grootaert, P., Huygens, D., Janssens, S., Kearsley, E., Lachenaud, O., Leponce, M., Van den Broeck, D., Verbeeck, H., Wursten, B., Leirs, H., and Verheyen, E. 2018. Reconciling biodiversity and carbon stock conservation in an Afrotropical forest landscape. *Science Advances* 4:eaar66032.

Vangestel, C., Eckert, A. J., **Wegrzyn, J. L.**, St Clair, J. B., & Neale, D. B. (2018). Linking phenotype, genotype and environment to unravel genetic components underlying cold hardiness in coastal Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *menziesii*) Tree Genetics & Genomes, 14(1), 10. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11295-017-1225-x>

**Velotta, J. P.**, S. D. McCormick, A. W. Jones, and **E. T. Schultz**. 2018. Reduced swimming performance repeatedly evolves upon loss of migration in landlocked populations of Alewife. *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* 91:814–825. doi: 10.1086/696877)

Wang, L., Jiang, Z., Huang, D., Duan, J., Huang, C., Sullivan, S., Vali, K., Yin, Y., Zhang, M., **Wegrzyn, J.**, Tian, X., & Tang, Y. (2018). JAK/STAT3 regulated global gene expression dynamics during late-stage reprogramming process. *BMC Genomics*, 19(1), 183. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12864-018-4507-2>

Widhalm T.J., F.R. Bertoletti, M.J. Asztalos, J.A. Mercado-Díaz, J.-P. Huang, B. Moncada, R. Lücking, N. Magain, E. Sérusiaux, B. **Goffinet**, N. Crouch, R. Mason-Gamer & H. T. Lumbsch. 2018. Oligocene origin and drivers of diversification in the genus *Sticta* (Lobariaceae, Ascomycota). (in press). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2018.04.006>

Wu, H., Zhang, J., **Yarish, C.**, He, P., & **Kim, J. K.** (2018). Bioremediation and nutrient migration during the Ulva blooms in the Yellow Sea, China. *Phycologia*, doi:10.2216/17-32.1.

Fujisawa, Tomochika, Takuya Koyama, Satoshi Kakishima, **John R. Cooley**, **Chris Simon**, Jin Yoshimura, and Teiji Sota. 2018. Triplicate parallel life cycle divergence despite gene flow in periodical cicadas. *Communications Biology* in press. DOI: 10.1038/s42003-018-0025-7

**Knutie, S.A.**, K.M. Gotanda. (2018). A non-invasive method to collect fecal samples from wild birds for microbiome studies. *Microbial Ecology*. doi: 10.1007/s00248-018-1182-4

## AWARDS

### FACULTY

**Eric Schultz** received the *UConn-AAUP Excellence Award* for service to the University. Eric has been a stalwart for years for his service contributions, and this award is richly deserved.

### GRADUATE STUDENTS

The EEB Department awarded nearly \$25,000 in awards to 21 graduate and undergraduate students during its annual award competition this spring.

Awards for botany research were granted to: **Amy LaFountain, Kristen Nolting, Nicholas Russo, Eileen Schaub, Lauren Stanley, Elizaveta Terlova, and Tanisha Williams.**

Awards for zoology research were granted to: **Lauren Albert, Samantha Apgar, Laura Bizzari, Elizabeth Clifton, Rebecca Colby, Annette Evans, Melinda Gosselin, Eliza Grames, Kevin Keegan, Tanner Matson, Jackson Phillips, Andrew Stillman, Katherine Taylor, and Theresa Wisneskie.**

**Becca Colby**, Eric Schultz, advisor, received an award from the Lerner-Gray Memorial Fund for Marine Research of the American Museum of Natural History. Becca also received the 2018 Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Saul Saila Best Student Paper Award.

**Kaitlin Gallagher**, Janine Ciara, advisor, received a Mark Dresden travel award from the American Society of Parasitologists.

**Austin Spence**, Morgan Tingley, advisor, received a Bleitz Award from the American Ornithological Society. Austin has also received a Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for Fall 2018.

**Andrew Stillman**, Morgan Tingley, advisor, received a Hesse Award from the American Ornithological Society.

**Katherine Taylor**, Charlie Henry, advisor, was awarded a 2018 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for Fall 2018.

**Lisa Terlova**, Louise Lewis, advisor, received a Grant-in-Aid of Research award from the Phycological Society of America.

**Alex Trouern-Trend**, Jill Wegrzyn, advisor, received an award from UConn's Center of Biological Risk.

**Tanisha Williams**, Kent Holsinger/Carl Schlichting, advisors, received the Botanical Society of America's Public Policy Award.

**Sumaira Zaman**, Jill Wegrzyn, advisor, was granted a full travel award to present her software package, OrthoQuery, at the Galaxy Community Conference in Portland, OR.



## AWARDS

### UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The following undergraduates, working with EEB faculty, received awards at the 2018 Biology Undergraduate Research Colloquium:

**Nick Russo** (Morgan Tingley) received the 2018 Margaret F. Ertman Award. The Ertman Award is the highest undergraduate academic award in the Biological Sciences at UConn. Nick also was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in 2018.

**Madison Caballero** (Jill Wegrzyn) received 2018 Applied Genomics/CGI Award.

**Zoe Mandese** (Charlie Henry) received the 2018 Outstanding Senior in EEB Award.

### SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FUND (SURF) AWARDS

The following undergraduate students, mentored by EEB faculty, received 2018 SURF Grants. This is the largest number of SURF awardees for EEB in recent history.

**Lauren Albert** (2019) is working with Sarah Knutie. Lauren's research project is titled: *Effect of Temperature on the Avian Immune Response to Parasitic Nest Flies*. Lauren also received a 2018 Savaloja Research Grant from the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union.

**Melinda Gosselin** (2019) is working with Eric Schultz. Melinda's research project is titled: *Macro-and Microevolution of Salinity-specific Ionocyte Morphologies in Euryhaline Fishers*

**Laura Jones** (2019) is working with Robert Bagchi. Laura's research project is titled: *Impact of Climate Change on Mutualistic Soil Fungi and Their Interactions with Native Maple and Oak Seedlings*

**Ryan Mayer** (2019) is working with Elizabeth Jockusch. Ryan's research project is titled: *Effects of Soil Conditions on Morph Frequencies in a Woodland Salamander, *Plethodon cinereus**

**Sarah Rumsey** (2019) is working with Morgan Tingley; she was selected as a SURF Treibick Scholar. Her research project is entitled: *Connecticut Climate Change: A Historical View through Avian Migration Phenology*

### IDEA GRANTS

EEB undergraduate researchers who won recent IDEA grants include:

**Olivia Maher** (2019) won a research award for her project, *Transcriptomic Analysis of the Needle-Dropping Period for the Eastern Larch (*L. laricina*)*. Olivia is working in Jill Wegrzyn's lab.

**Ben Ranelli** (2019) won a research award for his project, *Causes in Synchrony in Food Provisioning to Nestlings and Its Relationship to Nest Success in Forest Fragmentation*. Ben is working in Chris Elphick's lab.

**Mackenzie Watkins** (2018) award winning project is entitled *Crypsis in Simple Systems: Do Brown Trout Background Match in Controlled Experiments?* Mackenzie is working in Margaret Rubega's lab.

## AWARDS

### UNDERGRADS

Undergraduate **Ciara Hayes**, working in Janine Caira's lab, received a Marc Dresden travel award from the American Society of Parasitologists.

### POST DOCS

**Dr. Christina Baer**, working in Carlos Garcia-Robledo's lab, received a joint second place 2018 inaugural Post-Doctoral Seed Grant award from UConn for her outstanding proposal entitled, *Predicting climate-driven changes in tropical communities through temperature preferences and experimental warming*.

**Dr. Johanna Harvey**, working in Sarah Knutie's lab, received a research grant from the American Ornithological Society for her proposal entitled, *Evolution of host defenses against introduced parasites of Darwin's finches*.

### ALUMNI

**Nora Mitchell**, Ph.D., 2017, Kent Holsinger, advisor, was awarded the 2018 Greg and Mona Anderson Best Dissertation Award. The cash award and certificate are presented for the best thesis in the general areas of systematics and/or ecology and evolution.

## COLLECTIONS AND TOURS

The EEB's Biodiversity Research Collections reflect the richness of the world's biodiversity. The vertebrate holdings consist of fish, bird and mammal collections, with a particularly strong emphasis on South American mammals. The invertebrate holdings focus on insects of New England, army ant "guests," parasites of Connecticut vertebrates and tapeworms from sharks and rays from around the world. In combination, the George Safford Torrey Herbarium and the EEB greenhouses maintain remarkable fossil, preserved and living plant collections with special concentrations in native New England plants and the region's imperiled and invasive species.

There is always something interesting and exciting happening in the Collections. For the most up-to-date news, please visit the Collections and Greenhouse websites at: <https://biodiversity.uconn.edu/> and <http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu/>

The EEB Greenhouse may be toured between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. To set up a group tour please contact the Greenhouse Manager, Clint Morse, at [clinton.morse@uconn.edu](mailto:clinton.morse@uconn.edu)

The UConn Campus Arboretum Committee has recently completed an update to the *Campus Tree Touring Guide*. The **self-guided tour** of campus trees of special interest takes approximately one hour. Copies of the *Campus Tree Touring Guide* may be picked up at the Lodewick Visitors Center, the Information Desk in Wilbur Cross, and at the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center in downtown Storrs. A map may be downloaded here: [www.uconnarboretum.uconn.edu/.../tree\\_guide\\_campus\\_walk.pdf](http://www.uconnarboretum.uconn.edu/.../tree_guide_campus_walk.pdf) For additional information about the Tree Campus USA initiative at UConn, please visit: <https://ecohusky.uconn.edu/tree-campus-usa/>