A Fond Farewell

~ Glenna Malcolm, PhD student, Horticulture

As Dave Mortensen often says, all of the Ecology graduate students are an integral part of the productivity of our program. External reviewers have noted the same. Even Ecology recruits notice the positive energy coming from the Ecology graduate students. Over the last several years, one graduate student’s name was linked with just about every single Ecology event. Jenny Edwards served the IGDP in Ecology as a graduate student, EGSO member, service assistant, and, after graduating, as the next Rosemarie Hibbler, and always with a big smile. She, along with Mary Hudson, was responsible for a mostly seamless transition as a program housed under IBIOS.

It was not surprising that a rather large crowd of Ecology students, post-docs, faculty, and friends convened at Dave Mortensen’s house in honor of Jenny Edwards. Dave was kind enough to host a wine and cheese on June 23rd, on the last day of work for Jenny as the Ecology program coordinator. The event gave us a chance to wish Jenny farewell and good luck, as she prepared to leave Happy Valley to pursue a PhD at Oregon State University. We’ll all be sad to see her leave State College in the fall, but have no doubt she’ll excel at Oregon State. Speaking for the rest of the IGDP in Ecology, thank you very much for all of your dedication to our program, and good luck with your future endeavors.

Ecology Alumnus Displays His Photography at the Central PA Festival of the Arts

~ JB Moon, PhD student, Geography

Ecology alumnus Whitcomb Bronaugh will be displaying his natural photography images at mall booth M-16 during this year’s Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts (July 12th - 16th). A regular at the Arts Festival, Bronaugh earned his MS degree in 1984 after studying “Prey selection, handling, and strike distance in four neotropical insectivorous birds”. He then went on to receive his formal photography training at Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, Calif. Bronaugh has since traveled the world showing his photographs in places such as London’s Natural History Museum and in magazines such as National Geographic. His world-recognized photographs, taken everywhere from the Galapagos Islands to Alaska, have won him numerous professional photography awards. Give Bronaugh a warm welcome back by visiting him during this week’s Arts Festival!
Life after Graduation?

Congratulations to the spring and summer graduates!

Some of the graduates told us about their plans…

PhD Graduates

Loren Byrne graduates this summer. He will begin a joint teaching and post-doc position at the College of Wooster and Ohio State (Wooster Campus) this fall.

Matt Ferrari graduated this spring. He is currently a Post-doc with Bryan Grenfell and is working on spatial and temporal dynamics of measles in West Africa, a project funded by WHO and CDC. Don’t forget to check out ENT597D Ecological Models and Data, co-taught by Matt and Ottar Bjornstad this fall!

Carrie Schwarz graduated this spring. She is enjoying the summer with the kids and will start a part-time post-doc position in the fall with Ottar Bjornstad and Jim Marden.

Ningning Kong graduated this spring. She recently moved to Lexington, KY to live with her hubby and her two month old Bill Fei.

Emily Rauschert graduates this summer. She is currently teaching BIO110 and will begin working as a post-doc in David Mortensen’s lab.

MS Graduates

Tiffany Bogich graduates this summer and will begin a PhD this fall at the University of Cambridge. She will be working with Andy Balmford and Rhys Green. Her research will focus on ecological decision making in agricultural systems, with the goal of determining management strategies to maximize biodiversity and minimize economic loses.

Casey Godwin graduated this spring.

Shawn Rummel graduated this spring and will be continuing in the Ecology program as a PhD candidate. Shawn will be working with Bill Sharpe on the effects of acidity and temperature on trout distribution in headwater streams.

Recent Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Student Publications

Graduate Students


Post-docs


We are always looking for news and stories. Please send submissions for the next newsletter to JB Moon at: jbm162@psu.edu