Department of Ecology and Evolution

Stony Brook University Retreat 2024 March 1 - 2



































Schedule at a Glance

9:30	Breakfast and Coffee	
9:55	Welcoming Remarks	
10:00	Talk 1	Tara Smiley
10:20	Talk 2	Megan Wyatt
10:40	Talk 3	Natasha Vitek
11:00	Talk 4	Yijie Tian
11:20	Coffee	
11:40	Lightning Talks	(see Page 2)
12:10	Lunch	
1:00	Excursions	(See Page 3)
2:30	Talk 5	Rafael D'Andrea
2:50	Talk 6	Jose Moscoso Nunez
3:10	Talk 7	Nils Volkenborn
3:30	Talk 8	Alexander Kwakye
3:50	Coffee	
4:10	Talk 9	Nicolas Anderson
4:30	Talk 10	Noah Dean
4:50	Talk 11	Heather Lynch
5:10	Talk 12	Alexandra Pamfilie
5:30	Award Deliberation and Social	
5:45	Awards Announcements	
6:00	Dinner	

Session 1 (10:00 - 11:20)

Chair: Anna Thonis

Coupled landscape and biotic evolution model reveals deep-time history of the topographic diversity gradient *Tara Smiley*

Spatial diversity and trait disparity of modern Heteromyidae (Rodentia) with implications for the relationship between dynamic landscapes and evolutionary history *Megan Wyatt*

Inferring plasticity in the fossil record: linking neo- and paleobiology Natasha Vitek

Connectivity and communication in the 5-6th century Little Hungarian Plain *Yijie Tian*

Coffee (11:20 - 11:40)

Lightning Talks (11:40 – 12:10)

Chair: Rafael D'Andrea

Fruitful channeling in feliform morphological evolution *Paul Barrett*

The macroevolutionary singularity of snakes *Pascal Title*

Drone-based photogrammetry reveals differences in humpback whale body condition across North Atlantic foraging grounds Chelsi Napoli

Integrated mechanisms of environment-host-virome interactions Kristen Rayfield

Inferring Species Interactions from Co-occurrence Patterns at Varying Spatio-temporal Scales *Caroline Fabian*

Do marine protists have herpes? Jackie Collier Lunch (12:10 – 1:00)

Excursions (1:00 - 2:30) - All excursions will depart together from the Village Center.

Port Jeff Brewery

Join Graduate Student Megan Wyatt at a local brewery where the # 1 priority is brewing beer with the highest quality ingredients and incredible attention to detail. Their grain is imported from the UK, their hops from the Pacific Northwest, and their yeast from points around the globe.

Kilwins Port Jefferson

Join Graduate Student Alejandro Gil-Gomez for some delicious ice cream! From the moment you walk in the door, your senses will be romanced by the sensuous aromas of chocolate and fresh, homemade waffle cones. With warm and friendly service, the world's best Mackinac Island fudge, their Original Recipe ice cream, and many decadent chocolate-dipped treats to choose from, a visit to Kilwins is the perfect complement to a morning of engaging science.

Local's Café

Join Graduate Student Sixto Taveras Lopez for some coffee-house fun! Local's is a modern café serving specialty coffee and a health conscious but delicious menu. At Local's they believe passionately in good food for the body, palate, and soul.

Tiger Lily Café

Join Graduate Students Anna Thonis, Caroline Fabian, and Immy Welles for some the funkiest alternative vegetarian eatery to be found! Tiger Lily is a café specializing in original, innovative vegetarian and non-vegetarian cuisine, including gluten-free dishes. They are known for their wraps, salads, juice bar, tea, and coffee.

Guided Bird Walk

Join Graduate Student Maddy Hallet for a guided tour of local birding spots to hear and see local avian biodiversity!

Ice Skating

You can also stay at the Village Center and relax or go ice skating at the lower level of the Village Center from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$12.00 adult admission \$6.00 skate rental

Session 3 (2:30 - 3:30)

Chair: Caroline Fabian

Biodiversity-ecosystem function relationships in pitcher plant microbial communities *Rafael D'Andrea*

Disentangling causes of microbiome variation using reciprocal transplants of *Schizoporella* sp. *Jose Moscoso Nunez*

Big questions - tiny sensors: Assessing ecophysiological responses of marine invertebrates to environmental changes *Nils Volkenborn*

Population dynamics during freshwater adaptation by marine Threespine Stickleback Alexander Kwakye

Coffee (3:30 - 3:50)

Session 4 (3:50 - 5:30)

Chair: Alejandro Gil-Gomez

Musseling a way home Nicolas Anderson

Assessing different management actions for the conservation of the grand skink *Noah Dean*

The What, Why, Who, and How of the Collaborative for the Earth *Heather Lynch*

Morphological Elongation as a Driver of Adaptive Radiation in Coastal Taxa Alexandra Pamfilie

Port Jefferson Map



Thank you all for helping!

Retreat Organizing Committee

Rafael D'Andrea Nils Volkenborn Melissa Cohen

Coffee Committee

Rupert Ikeh Urmi Poddar

Food Committees

Beth Watson Bob Thacker Dianna Padilla Josh Rest

Cleanup Committee

Jose Moscoso Nunez

Program Natasha Vitek

Cover Art

Immy Welles Anna Thonis

AV Committee

Megan Wyatt Pascal Title Krishna Veeramah

Photography Committee Alex Chege

Saturday Water Committee Marin Beaupré

Friday Campus Tour

Rupert Ikeh Sam Lavin

Friday Graduate Student Panel

Immy Welles Derek Fucich Ian Shuman Henry Chao Alex Pamfilie Alex Gil Gomez

Student Hosts

Maddy Hallet Sam Lavin Raisa Campos Rizzieri Sixto Taveras Lopez Sarah Vaccaro Evan Abreu Alex Chege Carlos Morantes Ariza Anna Thonis Nicolas Anderson Yijie Tian

Saturday Excursion Leaders

Megan Wyatt Sixto Taveras Lopez Alex Gil-Gomez Maddy Hallet Anna Thonis Caroline Fabian Immy Welles

And thanks to everyone else who helped!