

MEEC Speaker Schedule

Saturday, April 6th,

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Poster Session A

Science East Building

Presenter	Title	University
John De Abreu	Global Patterns of genetic Diversity and Species Delimitation in <i>Cladia aggregata</i> : A Restriction Site Associated DNA Sequencing Analysis (RADseq) Across Neotropical, Australasian, and Asian Populations	DePaul University
Christian Graca	The Effects of Preservation Method on the Stomach Contents of Round goby on DNA Nanopore Metabarcoding	DePaul University
Sarah Pascarella	Investigating neurocranial diversity in the cichlids of Lake Malawi: a rapidly evolving clade of fish	DePaul University
Sofia Cortez	Application of CT Scans for Teaching in STEM-Based-ologies: Mammals of the Great Lakes Region	DePaul University
Iveth A. Villalobos	Postweaning Skull Growth in Living of Didelphid Marsupials: The Case of <i>Gracilinanus agilis</i> and <i>Cryptonanus chacoensis</i>	DePaul University
Matt Villalta	Woodpecker Detector: Using Computer Vision to Analyze Camera Trap Data	DePaul University
Jesse Grooms	Testing for ecological dipoles in mast-seeding, small mammals & bird populations	DePaul University
Adrianna Yoder	Habitat Characteristics and Seasonality of Red-Headed Woodpecker Cavity-Use	DePaul University
Lauren Hunt	Geospatial Analysis of Rat Complaints and Influential Factors Across Chicago	DePaul University
Brianna Ortiz	Late Cretaceous marine vertebrate fossils from the 'upper' Hartland Shale from north-central Kansas	DePaul University
MJ Fitzpatrick	Late Cretaceous sharks from the middle-upper part of the Pfeifer Shale Member of the Greenhorn Limestone in Russell County, Kansas	DePaul University
Mikko Fredrick	The first occurrence of the Late Cretaceous bony fish, <i>Pachyrhizodus caninus</i> , from the Fairport Chalk of the Carlile Shale, Kansas	DePaul University
Amanda Shirmer	A Seasonal Decomposition Comparison between Forest and Turf Habitats: Implications for Climate Change	DePaul University
Kiley Chernicky	New kids on the block: Tree recruitment dynamics in the boreal-temperate ecotone	DePaul University
Dominic Radcliffe-Hines	Evaluating the Timing of White Spruce and Balsam Fir Reproductive Output	DePaul University

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Elene Maria Drosos	Impacts of air quality on native plants in Chicago	DePaul University
Emma Blair	Determining Filled Versus Empty Seeds in Coniferous Trees	DePaul University
Lizette Arroyo	Mammalian Pathogen Prevalence in the Atlantic Forest of South America: A Review	DePaul University
Joseph Patrick Sharon	The first report of the shark genus, <i>Squalicorax</i> (Lamniformes: Anacoracidae), from the Upper Cretaceous Hartland Shale in northcentral Kansas	DePaul University
Austin Salvino	Fossil marine vertebrates from the mid-Graneros Shale (Upper Cretaceous: mid-Cenomanian), Russell County, Kansas, USA	DePaul University
Owen Laser	Fossil Marine Fish Assemblage from the Jetmore Chalk (Upper Cretaceous) in Republic County, Kansas, USA	DePaul University
Alyssa Dessieux	Fossil sharks from the Upper Cretaceous Arcadia Park Formation in Dallas County, Texas	DePaul University
Antonio G. Armagno	Fossil vertebrate diversity and paleoecological implications of a new fossiliferous horizon from the Upper Cretaceous Smoky Hill Chalk, western Kansas	DePaul University
Jessica Kuca	Observation of Microplastics in the Stomach Contents of a Benthic Minnow	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

MEEC Speaker Schedule

Sunday, April 6th,
10:00-11:30 AM

Poster Session B

Science East Building

Presenter	Title	University
Samantha Rodriguez and Carter Wemhof	Developing microsatellite markers for evolutionary genetics in <i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	DePauw University
Alexia Marconi	The influence of habitat quality on presence of bee functional groups along a tropical elevational gradient	Eastern Kentucky University
Amelie Mwilambwe	Pollen diet and the gut microbial community and health of bumble bees	Illinois State University
Madeline Koeplin	Frequencies of Deleterious Alleles in Small, Highly Isolated Populations	Illinois State University
Hannah Bey	Competition or Habitat: Which is Potentially More Influential in the Decline of a Northeastern Amphibian?	Miami University
Ellie Armstrong	Changes in Amphibian Biomass Production Associated with Pesticide Exposure and Number of Trophic Levels	Miami University
James Ramette	Genetic Diversity of <i>Ericymba dorsalis</i>	Missouri University of Science and Technology
Erik Bergstrom	Dynamics of laboratory nematode populations	Missouri University of Science and Technology
Shila Koju	Genetic Assessment of Blackstripe Topminnows (<i>Fundulus notatus</i>) in the Cuivre River Drainage	Missouri University of Science and Technology
Elliot Clouse	Assessing Multi-Scale Patterns of Woodpecker Density and Community Structure in a Bottomland Hardwood Forest	Murray State University
Riley Adams	Relationships Between Alternative Visual Methods To Quantify Tree Reproduction	Roosevelt University
Suzan Alhamid	Shedding light on fall tree phenology: Artificial light at night impacts the timing of leaf color change in <i>Acer rubrum</i> on St. Louis University's campus	Saint Louis University
Brett Sharp	Amidst the glow: Artificial light at night's impact on fall leaf chlorophyll levels between and within individual <i>Acer saccharum</i> trees	Saint Louis University
Ebun Maria Omole-Ohonsi	A Tale of Two Soils: Exploring Antibiotic Activity between Island and River Shores	Saint Louis University

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John Lehmkuhl and Grace Mraz	Sequencing and Characterization of the Fragmented Mitochondrial Genome of the Chewing Louse, <i>Geomydoecus centralis</i>	University of Northern Iowa
Natalia Agostini Schneider	Select female morphometric measurements predict egg size and, indirectly, offspring size in the Western painted turtle	Saint Louis University

MEEC Speaker Schedule

Sunday, April 7th,
3:00 - 4:30 PM

Poster Session C

Science East Building

Presenter	Title	University
Addis Moore	Combining EZ-Ject Lance™ with Native Seeding for Effective Invasive Honeysuckle Restoration	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Garima Ranabhat and Deja Johnston	A Comparison of Vegetation Diversity Among Southwestern Illinois Sand Prairies	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Jennica Stanley	Introductory study of a local population of <i>Aplectrum hyemale</i>	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Joseph Antwi	Locust-phase polyphenism in <i>Schistocerca piceifrons piceifrons</i> : exploring the contribution of the gut microbiome	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Payton Kinder and Emily Cretors	Cold tolerance and rapid cold hardening are rapidly diminished in aged fruit flies	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Alen Novi	Tool use as a competitive compensatory mechanism in a tool-using ant	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Mary-Margaret Benware	Genome-Wide Association Study of Resistance to Mycotoxin Production in Maize (<i>Zea mays L.</i>)	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Sydni Edwards	An investigation into <i>Pseudomonas</i> species and the connection to stress levels in <i>Anabrus simplex</i>	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Alexandra Firmin	Exploring climate change effects on seeds and seedlings of <i>Ammophila breviligulata</i> , an important dune-building grass species	University of Louisville
Sarah Fortner	Effect of web inclination on debris-induced damage in <i>Leucauge venusta</i> webs	University of Louisville
Mackenzie Fisher	Seasonal Dynamics in Zooplankton Abundance Across a Hydroperiod Gradient	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Bryce Liedtke	The Relationship Between Pull Strength, Pull Latency, and Age in Different Populations of Ornate Box Turtles	Washburn University
Carolyn Wilson	Impact of population on patterns of ornate box turtles (<i>Terrapene ornata</i>)	Washburn University
Mary Tyler	Examining Juvenile <i>Terrapene ornata</i> Behavior Types Across Populations	Washburn University
Timothy Sheer	Movement Ecology of Ornate Box Turtles (<i>Terrapene ornata</i>) across Different Life Stages	Washburn University

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Erica Guldner	Examining factors that may affect nesting times of Ornate Box Turtles in Western Nebraska	Washburn University
Christopher Timothy Preister	Ornate Box Turtles (<i>Terrapene ornata</i>): Defying the Expectations of Brumation Cohabitation	Washburn University
Allison Mettenburg and Isabella Hill	Temporal and Depth Effects in an Urban Lentic System	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

MEEC Speaker Schedule

Saturday, April 6th

Oral Session A

Science East Building -

Presenter	Title	Time
Maja Petros	Impact of Invasive Buckthorn on the Soil Mycobiome	10:30 AM
Mandi Montgomery	Effect of elevated salinity on predator-prey interactions of dragonfly nymphs and amphibian tadpoles	10:45 AM
Austin Calhoun	Are they ready? Immune priming against emerging infectious diseases in bumble bees	11:00 AM
Justin Bryant	Understanding the phenotypic canalization of dimorphic nematodes	11:15 AM
Alex Dunahoo	Predicting Hotspots of Mussel Biodiversity For Analysis of Conservation Priorities	11:30 AM
Maisha Marzan	Multihost Pathogen Creates Ecological Links Between Hosts and Influence Host Population Dynamics	11:45 AM
Fabio Giacomelli	Vegetation characteristics across bison use intensity gradients	12:00 PM
Jacob Decker	Does Resolution Matter?: Quantify Invasive Bush Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera maackii</i>) through remote sensing	12:15 PM

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Sunday, April 7th

Oral Session B

Science East

Presenter	Title	Time
John Moore	The Effects of Food Web Manipulations on an Amphibian Intraguild Predation Module	1:15 PM
Laura Rengifo	A molecular dissection of the role of genotype and sperm competition risk in nuptial gift investment in decorated crickets.	1:30:00 PM
Ethan Abercrombie	Pervasive but lagged responses in the composition of small mammal communities to a century of climate change	1:45 PM
Noah Pyles	Auxin-Producing Bacteria Isolated from the Roots of Illinois <i>Spiranthes</i> Orchids	2:00 PM
Keetan B. Munsell	Examining the Reproductive Ecology of the Ornate Box Turtle (<i>Terrapene ornata</i>) in Western Nebraska; a Multiyear Study	2:15 PM
Chathumadavi Ediriweera	Unlocking secrets of sex chromosome evolution in <i>Eulimnadia texana</i>	2:30 PM
Jeremy Howard	Examining Foraging Range and Genetic Health of Bumblebees Around St. Louis	2:45 PM