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News fEEB

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Newsletter



Crawfish Boil

The annual EEB Crawfish Boil took place this year on April 29 at the Hamer house! We had large participation from both students and faculty and went through 140 pounds of crawfish. The silent auction was also a huge success and raised several hundred dollars for EEB. Thank you for organizing, EEBISO!



EEB Elections

EEB elections email was sent out this week and voting is due this Friday, May 19th. Thank you to our nominees! We are still seeking nominations for the new Communications Chair. Please email njacobsen@tamu.edu if you would like to nominate someone (or yourself) for this position!

Program Updates

- The Fall 2023 EEB cohort is set! We have 11 amazing students joining the EEB community this fall. Please be ready to welcome them at the EEB general meeting in August!
- EEB student grant research grant decisions will be released soon!
- Do you have EEB Course additions or edits? See instructions [here](#)

Student Updates

A big congratulations to Dr. Natalie Hamilton on her successful dissertation defense! She defended on May 9th and the title of her talk was “Ecology and Population Genetics of Townsends’s Big-eared Bats.”



On May 15-16th, the Behavioral Plasticity Research Institute, a NSF funded organization including universities across the US, hosted a symposium on phenotypic plasticity in Houston. There were incredible keynote speakers and breakout sessions for participants to work together to promote interdisciplinary and integrative research. For more information, click [here](#).



On May 6th, a group of herpetology-focused students led a “Salamander Saturday” outreach event at Lick Creek Park! We had live animals, coloring sheets, and information focused on salamander conservation and our three local species.

Dr. Nick Jacobsen, Thank You for Your Service to EEB!

After four years as our EEB program coordinator, Dr. Nick Jacobsen will now be moving on to the University of Houston as the Instructional Assistant Professor in Energy and Sustainability. Thank you for your years of service leading seminar, journal clubs, events, and dealing with the daily struggles of EEB life. Good luck and you will truly be missed!



EEB ISO Elections

Nominations ended on May 12th for EEB ISO (student leadership) positions and voting will take place soon! Position descriptions are as follows:

EEB ISO President: Organizes and leads meetings, attends executive committee meetings, does various other tasks (like signing forms, applying for funds) and often works closely with the EEB program coordinator and EEB chair.

Treasurer: Organizes payments for EEB ISO events and is responsible for fundraising (including T-shirt sales and the silent auction at the Crawfish Boil).

New Positions (Previously, “General Officer”):

Events Chair: Leads outreach and social events including the Crawfish Boil, happy hours, fall picnic, Darwin Day, and various outreach events. Can set up committees to plan these events.

Communications Chair: The point person for communication of information relevant to EEB students. Responsibilities include taking notes at EEB ISO meetings, communicating information from EEB ISO (i.e., event advertisements, important news), and addressing updates for the EEB website. Position could be integrated with communications committee and EEB social media. Since this is a new role, there is a lot of room to further define it.

Seminar Representative: Goal of this position is to be on the seminar committee, communicate student perspectives or concerns about seminar, report seminar news to the EEB ISO leadership, and help with the organization of seminar (i.e., pizza lunches, attendance, seminar invites). This is also new position for EEB ISO so there is a lot of room to establish this role.

Email gnicholson@tamu.edu with any questions!

If you have any EEB-related special announcements (events, accomplishments, etc.) or would like to contribute something to a future newsletter, email amhelms@tamu.edu. We truly want to hear from you and help you celebrate!