

May Graduates

Dr. Hannah Justen

“Mapping seasonal migration in a songbird hybrid zone -- heritability, genetic correlations, and genomic patterns linked to speciation.”

Chair: Dr. Kira Delmore

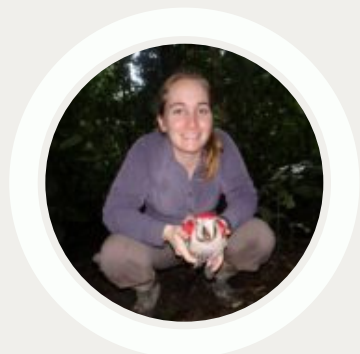


Hannah also won the Ethel Ashworth-Tsutsui Memorial Award for Research in February, and in April she was awarded the Graduate and Professional School’s Distinguished Dissertation Award. Hannah is also the first person to take advantage of the new EEB publication grant which helped provide funding for her PNAS article published in April. Congratulations on all your hard work, Dr. Justen!

Kelley Sampeck

MS

Chair: Dr. Don Brightsmith





Congratulations! Meet your newly elected 2024-2025 EEBISO Leadership (from L to R):

President: Vivian Peralta Santana, Song Lab

Treasurer: Steve Caird, Yorzinski Lab

Outreach Chair: Shannon Harris, Mateos Lab

Events Chair: Ruby Mustill, Fitzpatrick Lab

EEBISO is still seeking a Seminar Representative. If you are interested please contact [Vivian](#).

Thank you to our 2023-2024 EEBISO Leadership Team for all their hard work: Maria Hurtado (President), Lydia Morley (Treasurer), Nicole Stevens (Events Chair), Breann Richey (Seminar Representative), and Ali Lira-Olguin (Communications Chair).



The Graduate and Professional School's 2024 awards ceremony celebrated Dr. Justen's Distinguished Dissertation as well as Graduate Mentoring Award winners.

- Dr. Sarah Hamer, Outstanding Graduate & Professional Student Mentoring Award for Faculty
- Heather Baldi, Outstanding Mentoring Award for Graduate & Professional Students

Congratulations!

EEB Executive Committee Election Results

Dr. Hojun Song

- Chair-elect

Dr. David Bapst

- Curriculum Chair

Dr. Heath Blackmon will transition to Chair and Dr. Lee Fitzgerald will transition to GRAC Chair (Past Chair) Aug 1 along with Dr. Song and Dr. Bapst in their new roles. Huge thank you to Dr. Anna Armitage for serving EEB the past two years as Curriculum Chair as well as Dr. Spence Behmer for once again filling the GRAC role when needed.





LT Jordan Fellow - fellowship for international research
2024 winners (L to R):

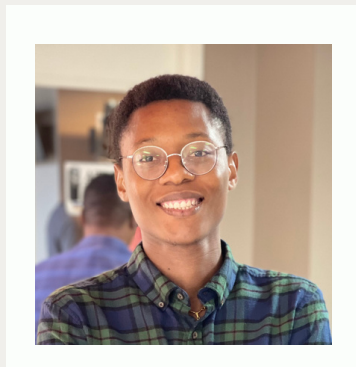
Breann Richey and Adam Bower

Breann and 2 of the undergrads she supervises with Dr. Lawing. Fun fact: 3/5 recipients were from the Lawing Lab!



Ruby Mustill
Fitzpatrick Lab
2024 Graduate Research
Excellence Grant (GREG) R. C.
Lewontin Early Award from
the Society for the Study of
Evolution (SSE)

Oluwaseun Ajileye
Light Lab
2024 Texas A&M College of
Agriculture & Life Sciences
Graduate Research
Improvement Grant



Myles Wagner
Strader Lab
NSF GRFP Honorable Mention



Congratulations
to the recipients of EEB's
\$1500 Research Grant!



Adam Bower; Brighsmith Lab

*Adeyinka Adeyemi, Bhagya
Weththasinghe, & Malith
Viduranga; Spalink Lab*

Alanna Fulkerson; Mateos Lab

Allison Collins; Gursky Lab

Ben Lake; Yorzinski Lab

*Breann Richey & Maria Hurtado;
Lawing Lab*

Briana Sebastian; Armitage Lab

Elena Duran; Grace Lab

*Griffin Nicholson, Isis Davis, &
Nicole Stevens; Fitzgerald Lab*

Jackson Linde; Song Lab

*Meredith Anderson; S. Hamer
Lab*

Myles Wagner; Strader Lab

Oluwaseun Ajileye; Light Lab

Ruby Mustill; Fitzpatrick Lab



EEB kicked off spring semester events with the Taco Par-tee followed by the Recruiting social hosted at the Behmer home. In April, there was EIS and its afterparty hosted at the Fitzgerald home and EEBISO's Crawfish Boil hosted at the Hamer home. The Optimal Foraging Lunch Program Initiative was also adopted in spring and has been a huge success! Thank you to all participants!



Dr. Rachel Busselman
S. Hamer Lab
2024 Graduate
Research Association of
Former Students,
Distinguished Graduate
Student Award in
Research



The College of Arts & Sciences 2024 Faculty and Staff Awards were held May 2nd.

- Staff Excellence Award: Lieu Jean, Senior Administrative Coordinator BIOL
- Research Impact Award: Kira Delmore, Assistant Professor BIOL
- Research Impact Award: Alex Keene, Professor BIOL

Welcome!

New EEB Core Faculty

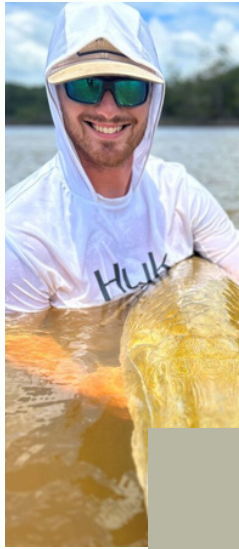
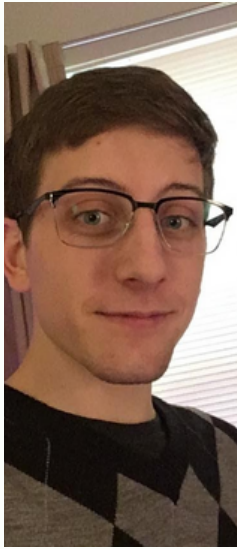
Dr. David Bapst

- Instructional Assistant Professor
- GEOL & GEOP

Dr. Vivienne Foroughirad

- Assistant Professor
- MARB



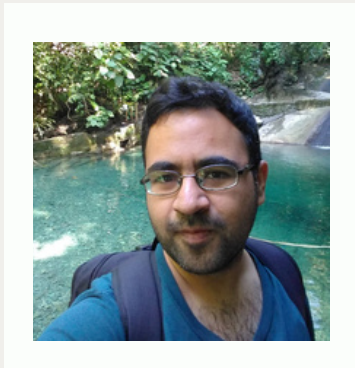


Congratulations on being Admitted to Candidacy (L to R):
Meredith Anderson, S. Hamer Lab; Chris Brennan, Behmer
Lab; Elena Duran, Grace Lab; Ben Fry, Winemiller Lab;
Griffin Nicholson, Fitzgerlad Lab; Brooke Torjman,
Armitage Lab

2024 Dissertation Fellowship Winners

Jordan Salomon, S. Hamer Lab

Milton Torres Cerron, Fujiwara Lab



Passed Prelims or
Proposal Defense



Carolina Bertuol
Voelker Lab



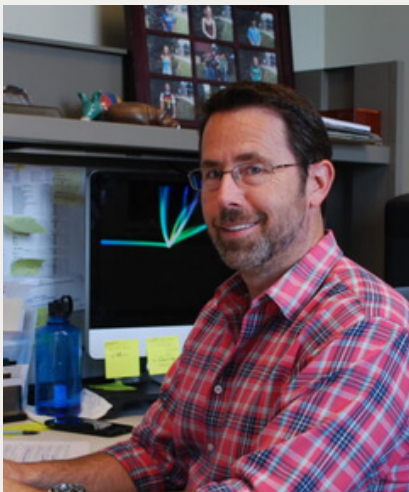
Andie Miller
Sword Lab



Audélie Mehti
Sword Lab



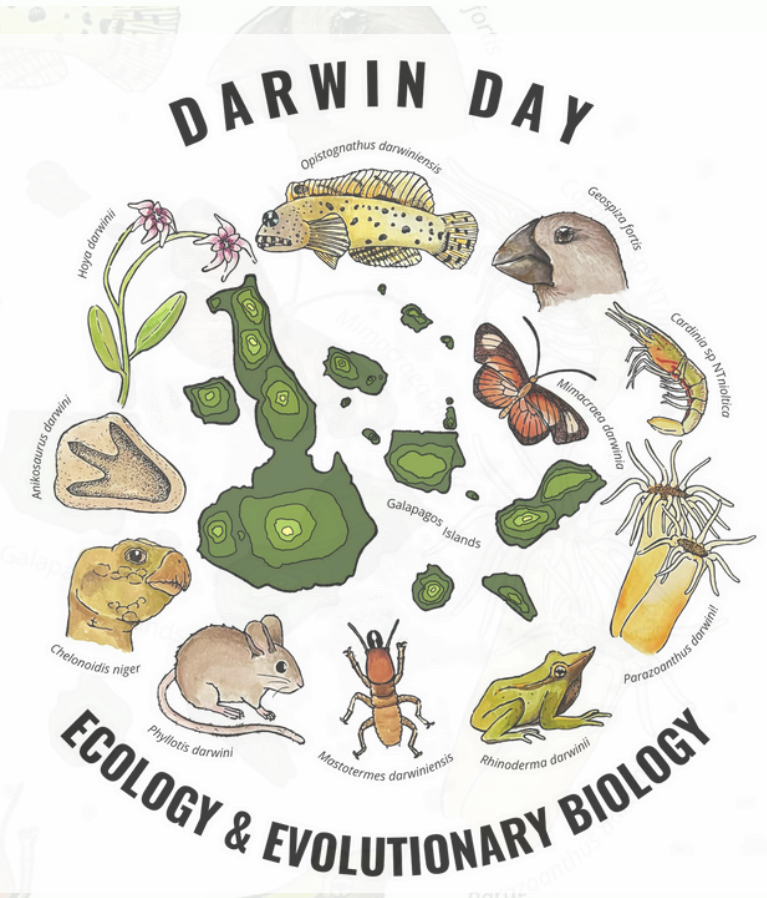
Vivian Peralta
Santana
Song Lab



Dr. William Murphy, VIBS, was one of 120 new members elected, and the only professor from Texas A&M, recognized this year by The National Academy of Sciences in recognition of his distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Congratulations!



This year Darwin Day was held on March 1st, almost 2 weeks after the 215th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth. Leading up to Darwin Day, EEB students were featured on a segment of The Thr3e on KBTX and in an article in The Battalion. Darwin Day boasted over 42 booths affiliated with Texas A&M College Station and Galveston, Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History, local wildlife and nature artist Wendy Wright, Opossum Town, and many more. Over a dozen undergraduate and graduate students were also able to share their scientific research with the community in a come and go poster session. Rio Brazos Audubon Society directly attributed the success of their birding event on March 2nd to all the participants that were at Darwin Day. With over 1400 visitors this year, it's easy to see why!



Huge thank you to Taylor Black, in Rachel Moran's lab, for creating a new logo for Darwin Day featuring organisms named after Darwin.

Faculty Mentor and Success Award (awarded in 2024)

Dr. Heath Blackmon

Cheers to incoming EEB Chair, Dr. Heath Blackmon, for his mentoring award from A&M's Genetics IDP.

