



AMERICAN MUSEUM  
OF NATURAL HISTORY

## CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

# Student Conference on Conservation Science - New York

October 7-9, 2015

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October 7-9, 2015

American Museum of Natural History

Organized by:



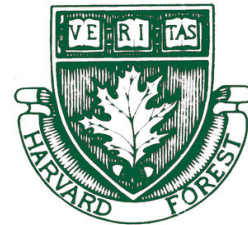
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

In partnership with:



Yale School of Forestry  
& Environmental Studies



The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation is grateful to the Edgar M. Cullman, Jr. Family, Vivian H. Donnelley, Strachan Donnelley Family Charitable Lead Unitrust, and an anonymous donor for their generous support of this conference.

Conference participation of students in the American Museum of Natural History's Science Research Mentoring Program is supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

# Student Conference on Conservation Science - New York

October 7-9, 2015

American Museum of Natural History

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The SCCS-NY website: [cbc.amnh.org/sccsny](http://cbc.amnh.org/sccsny)

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# **Student Conference on Conservation Science - New York**

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## **Acknowledgments**

The Student Conference on Conservation Science (SCCS) is the only international conference designed for students, post-doctoral fellows, and early career professionals pursuing or considering the field of conservation science. Interactions with established conservationists encourage collaborations and advance research.

SCCS-New York (SCCS-NY) is a sister conference to the highly successful SCCS-Cambridge, begun in 2000 by the University of Cambridge, as well as SCCS-Bengaluru, SCCS-Australia, SCCS-Beijing, and SCCS-Hungary.

The Student Conference on Conservation Science-New York 2015 is organized by the American Museum of Natural History's (AMNH) Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) in partnership with the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Arcus Foundation, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, the Harvard Forest at Harvard University, and the University of Cambridge. Collaborating institutions that have provided advisors, reviewers, and mentors include Applied Biomathematics, Bard College, Canisius College, City College of New York, College of Staten Island, Columbia University, FTI Consulting, Great Basin Bird Observatory, Long Island University, Orangutan Information Centre, Philadelphia University, Portland State University, Princeton University, Queens College, Rutgers University, Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Stony Brook University, Swarthmore College, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, University of Connecticut, University of Massachusetts Boston, University of Washington Bothell, Virginia Tech, Wildlife Conservation Society, Whitley Fund for Nature, World Wildlife Fund, and Yale University.

In conjunction with SCCS-NY, the American Museum of Natural History is proud to host the Mack Lipkin Man and Nature Series panel discussion.

### **SCCS-NY Content and Logistics Coordination:**

Felicity Arengo  
Kristin Douglas  
Margaret Law  
Ana Luz Porzecanski  
Eleanor Sterling

### **Technology Coordinators:**

Tony Alexander  
Pete Ersts

### **Program Design:**

Nadav Gazit

## General Information

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### Photography and Film Recording Policies

SCCS-NY is designed to foster dialogue and collaboration between the students, postdoctoral fellows, early career professionals, and established conservationists in attendance. We care deeply about preserving the integrity of the work, research, and personal interactions of our speakers, mentors, presenters, and attendees.

This event will be video recorded for archival and dissemination purposes. By participating in this conference, you grant permission to the CBC to use photographs of you for conference dissemination and outreach.

If you choose to present unpublished work during the conference but you do not wish for it to be disseminated publicly, we ask that you announce this at the beginning of your presentation. Portions of the event will be recorded and may be published online.

If using social media during the conference (Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, Google+, personal blogs, etc.) we ask that you be especially cautious about discussing the work that is being presented. Due to the nature of this conference you may be hearing about new or unpublished work that may not be suitable for sharing. Please keep in mind that our speakers and presenters have invested considerable time and effort in the development of their material and copyright laws apply.

Official, AMNH-contracted vendors and working journalists with approved press credentials will be permitted to photograph, film, audio tape, or publish written content about the conference sessions and special events/receptions. Conference organizers reserve the right to ask any other individuals filming or photographing with personal video/audio equipment or other recording devices (mobile phones, digital or film cameras, tape recorders) without prior permission from the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation or the American Museum of Natural History to cease recording or using these devices.

### Wireless Internet Access

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1. Open the menu of wireless networks on your device.
2. Select AMNH-GUEST from the networks presented and connect.
3. Your wireless device should automatically present you with a web page asking you to accept the terms and conditions for the use of AMNH-GUEST. Click on the “accept” button.
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## Agenda: Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>



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<b>8:00am</b>	Breakfast and Registration Mentor-hosted lunch tables sign up	<i>Grand Gallery, 77<sup>th</sup> Street Lobby</i>
<b>9:00am</b>	Welcome and Introduction  <i>Ana Luz Porzecanski, Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
<b>9:15am</b>	Plenary Address: How to do conservation science, implement it, and not die trying <i>Rodrigo Medellín, Senior Professor of Ecology, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Past President, Society for Conservation Biology</i>	
<b>10:00am</b>	Talk Session: Monitoring and managing populations in aquatic systems Session Chair: <i>Ana Luz Porzecanski, Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
	<b>Kara Pellowe-Wagstaff</b> <i>Brown University</i>	Spatio-temporal variation in target species diversity in Baja California Sur, Mexico
	<b>Kaia Tombak &amp; Emely DeJesus</b> <i>Princeton University</i>	Ecotourism and the demographic dynamics of oceanic blacktip sharks
	<b>Shambhu Paudel</b> <i>Kathmandu Forestry College</i>	Abundance, habitat, and conservation threats of the endangered river dolphins in Nepal
<b>11:10am</b>	Break	<i>Hall of Northwest Coast Indians, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</i>
<b>11:45am</b>	Talk Session: Landscape dynamics and wildlife conservation Session Chair: <i>Kim Landrigan, Assistant Director for Capacity Development, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
	<b>Rae Wynn-Grant</b> <i>Columbia University</i>	Carnivore mortality risk at multiple scales
	<b>Dwane Binns Jr.</b> <i>Pace University</i>	Carnivore statuses across urban-forest gradients along refuge habitats on ROWs in NY
	<b>James Herrera</b> <i>Stony Brook University</i>	Conserving evolutionary, functional, and species diversity in Madagascar
<b>12:40pm</b>	Lunch: Mentor-Hosted Tables	<i>Powerhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</i>

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**2:15pm** Speed Talk Session *Kaufmann Theater*

Session Chair: **Mark Birchette**, Associate Professor of Biology, Long Island University; Visiting Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History

<b>Beth Gerstner</b> <i>The City College of New York</i>	Distributional estimates for <i>Bassaricyon neblina</i> (Olinguito) in the Northern Andes
<b>Adriana Príncipe</b> <i>University of Lisbon</i>	Long term natural regeneration of holm oak woodlands after agriculture abandonment
<b>Vijay Ramesh</b> <i>Columbia University</i>	Identifying cryptic lineages within an endemic frog genus in the Western Ghats, India
<b>Jennifer Hoey</b> <i>Rutgers University</i>	Understanding the impacts of climate change on population connectivity
<b>Sebastien Desbureaux</b> <i>Université d'Auvergne &amp; CIRAD</i>	On community-based conservation in Madagascar: impact and mechanisms
<b>Corey Anco</b> <i>Fordham University</i>	Genetic diversity of the leopard, <i>Panthera pardus</i> , in Sub-Saharan Africa
<b>Mikael Cejtin</b> <i>Yale University</i>	Puma resource selection and implications for risk in San Guillermo National Park

**3:15pm** Speed Talk Discussion and Break *Hall of Northwest Coast Indians, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

**4:00pm** Talk Session: Population management in changing landscapes *Kaufmann Theater*

Session Chair: **Felicity Arengo**, Associate Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History

<b>Desalegn Chala Gelete</b> <i>University of Oslo</i>	Climate change impact on habitat range and genetic diversity of <i>L. rhynchopetalum</i>
<b>Yannick Neveux</b> <i>University of Alberta</i>	Exploring the effects of climate change on caribou management in Western Canada
<b>Monica Davis</b> <i>University of Massachusetts Amherst</i>	The biology, ecology, and control of <i>Callirhytis ceropteroides</i>

**5:00pm-7:00pm** Poster Session and Pizza Party *Astor Turret and Hall of Primitive Mammals, 4<sup>th</sup> floor*

**7:00pm** SciCafe: Seeing Inside Bats *Cullman Hall of the Universe, lower level*  
Free AMNH public event (for 21+ with ID)

## Agenda: Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>



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<b>8:00am</b>	Breakfast and Registration Mentor-hosted lunch tables sign up	<i>Grand Gallery, 77<sup>th</sup> Street Lobby</i>
<b>9:00am</b>	Welcome and Introduction  <i>Eleanor Sterling, Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
<b>9:05am</b>	Plenary Address: Ecological complexity in the coffee farm <i>Ivette Perfecto, George W. Pack Professor of Ecology, Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan</i>	
<b>9:50am</b>	Talk Session: Conservation in social ecological systems Session Chair: <i>Eleanor Sterling, Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
	<b>Mariya Chechina</b> <i>University of Alberta</i>	Effect of protected area management on socioeconomic conditions of forest communities
	<b>Suman Jumani</b> <i>Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment</i>	The 'damning' impacts of small dams
	<b>Sheyda Ashayeri</b> <i>Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation</i>	Exploring illegal hunting motivations in Golestan National Park, Iran
	<b>Karen Allen</b> <i>University of Georgia</i>	Landowner preferences for payments for environmental services in Costa Rica
<b>11:00am</b>	Break	<i>Hall of Northwest Coast Indians, 1<sup>st</sup> floor</i>
<b>11:35am</b>	Talk Session: Genetic tools for conservation Session Chair: <i>Anthony Caragiulo, Program Manager, Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, American Museum of Natural History</i>	<i>Kaufmann Theater</i>
	<b>Jennifer Day</b> <i>University of Washington</i>	Resource selection, connectivity, and genetics of large carnivores in southern Mexico
	<b>Otto Monge</b> <i>Universidad de Costa Rica</i>	Conservation genetics of the Scarlet Macaw in Costa Rica
	<b>Giang Cao</b> <i>Vietnam National University</i>	Inferring genetic diversity of threatened slow loris populations in Vietnam
<b>12:30pm</b>	Group photo	<i>Ross Terrace</i>
<b>12:50pm</b>	Lunch: Mentor-Hosted Tables	<i>Powerhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor</i>

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2:15pm

Speed Talk Session

*Kaufmann Theater*

Session Chair: **Mark Weckel**, *Manager, Science Research Mentoring Program, Education, American Museum of Natural History*

<b>Margit Bertalan</b> <i>University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill</i>	Footprint identification technology (FIT) in Eastern Mountain Bongo conservation
<b>Seth Cunningham</b> <i>Fordham University</i>	Ecological niche differentiation in the Nile crocodile species complex
<b>Lisanne Petracca</b> <i>State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry</i>	Use of interview data on a regional scale to identify correlates of jaguar occupancy
<b>Sarah Jane Wilson</b> <i>International Forestry Resources and Institutions Research Network</i>	Crisis restoration: ecosystem service scarcity drives local Andean forest transitions
<b>Madeleine Rubenstein</b> <i>Yale University</i>	Linking diversity to function in wood-rot fungal communities
<b>Erika Drazen</b> <i>Yale University</i>	Closing the gap: assessing gender dynamics in UN REDD Programme projects in Sri Lanka
<b>Marwa Daoud</b> <i>National Museum of Natural History, France</i>	ESU definition to establish better strategies for conservation threatened species
<b>Zach Farris</b> <i>Virginia Tech</i>	Improving conservation via spatio-temporal analyses: carnivore ecology, Madagascar
<b>Megan McSherry</b> <i>Princeton University</i>	Effects of grazing management on vegetation and soils: a comparison across continents

3:15pm-  
4:00pm

Speed Talk Discussion and Break  
*(Details continued on the following page)*

*Hall of Northwest Coast Indians, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*



**4:00pm** Mack Lipkin Man and Nature Series

*Kaufmann Theater*

## **This Year in Conservation**

Hosted by the American Museum of Natural History

Welcome and introductions by **Michael Novacek**, *Senior Vice President and Provost of Science; Curator, Division of Paleontology; Provost & Professor, Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History*

**Rodrigo Medellín**, *Senior Professor of Ecology, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Past President, Society for Conservation Biology*

**Ivette Perfecto**, *George W. Pack Professor of Ecology, Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan*

Panel discussion moderated by:

**Eleanor Sterling**, *Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History*

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**5:00pm** Break

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**5:15pm** Awards Ceremony *Astor Turret and Hall of Primitive Mammals, 4<sup>th</sup> floor*

In addition to awards for best talks, speed talks, and posters, we are excited to announce two special awards this year: a **Land Protection and Stewardship award** courtesy of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and a **software prize** for the top quantitative conservation poster from Applied Biomathematics!

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**5:25pm-7:00pm** Resource & Career Fair and Reception

Network and gather information about future careers and resources in conservation science! Featuring:

- Audubon New York
- Conservation Leadership Programme
- EcoHealth Alliance
- Fordham University Graduate School
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Island Press
- The Lincoln Institute for Land Policy
- Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP)
- Oryx
- Princeton University - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Richard Gilder Graduate School
- Society for Conservation Biology
- The Smithsonian Institution
- The Nature Conservancy
- Tropical Resources Institute
- University of Pennsylvania - Professional Programs in Earth & Environmental Science
- University of Florida - Wildlife Forensic Sciences and Conservation Program
- Whitley Fund for Nature
- Wildlife Conservation Society - Advanced Inquiry Program
- Wildlife Conservation Society - Glover's Reef Research Station
- WWF Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program
- Yale University Press

**8:30am-10:15am** **Successes in Primate Conservation: A Conversation with Whitley Award Winners Panut Hadisiswoyo and Inaoyom Imong, and CBC Scientist Mary Blair** *Powerhouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

This year we are introducing a new collaboration with the Whitley Fund for Nature, featuring a panel discussion with two of this year's prestigious Whitley Award winners. They will be discussing their work on primate conservation along with **Mary Blair**, Assistant Director for Research and Strategic Planning at the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation.

Panel discussion moderated by:

**Ana Luz Porzecanski**, *Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History*

**Panut Hadisiswoyo** was awarded the Whitley Award for Conservation in Ape Habitats, donated by the Arcus Foundation, for his work building local capacity for the protection of Sumatran orangutans and their habitat in Indonesia. **Inaoyom Imong** received the Whitley Award donated by the Garfield Weston Foundation for his work saving Cross River gorillas through community-based conservation in the Mbe Mountains of Nigeria. **Mary Blair** investigates the diversity of slow lorises in Vietnam and the patterns, scales, and drivers of illicit trade in these primates. All three panelists will also be actively participating as mentors throughout the conference. This event is made possible thanks to support from the Arcus Foundation.

*Join the conversation on Twitter!*

[#sccsny2015](#)

[@WhitleyAwards](#)

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## 10:30am Workshop Session I

Intro to Mental Modeler: a fuzzy-logic cognitive mapping software tool for integrating stakeholder knowledge into conservation decision-making

*Sackler Educational Laboratory, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

Led by: **Steven Gray**, *Department of Community Sustainability, Michigan State University*

When 9-1-1 is not an option: health and safety in the field

*Davis Classroom West, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

Led by: **A. Nicole Mihnovets**, *Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, Columbia University; Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, American Museum of Natural History*

Tips and tools for navigating USAJOBS and the Smithsonian hiring process

*Linder Theater, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

Led by: **Edith Tudae-Torboh**, *Office of Human Resources, Smithsonian Institution*

Red Listing of flora: results, perspectives and challenges of a megadiverse country

*Calder Lab, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

Led by: **Tainan Messina**, *National University of Tropical Botany, Brazil*

## Agenda: Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

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**12:15pm** Lunch Break and Collections Tours (*if you are registered for a Collections Tour, please meet at the registration desk outside the Kaufmann Theater on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. Tours leave 12:15pm SHARP.*)

Behind the scenes tours:

- Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics wet lab and the Ambrose Monell Cryo Collection for Molecular and Microbial Research
  - AMNH Herpetology Collections
  - AMNH Ichthyology Collections
  - AMNH Ornithology Collections
- 

### 2:00pm Workshop Session II

Great ape conservation in a changing world: challenges and opportunities  
*90 min. Davis Classroom West, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

Led by: Inaoyom Imong, *Cross River Gorilla Landscape Project at the Wildlife Conservation Society in Nigeria*; Panut Hadisiswoyo, *Community Agroforestry, Reforestation and Education (CARE) Programme at the Orangutan Information Centre, Indonesia*

Biocultural approaches to conservation  
*180 min. Rose Center Classroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

Led by: Georgina Cullman, *Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History*

What am I going to do with the rest of my life?! Exploring careers in conservation  
*180 min. Kaufmann Theater, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

Led by: Mary Blair, *Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History*; Alexandra Sutton, *Duke University*; Rae Wynn-Grant, *Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, Columbia University*

Making decision makers do the right thing  
*180 min. Calder Lab, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

Led by: David Johns, *School of Government, Portland State University*; *Wildlands Network and Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*

How to present your work...Visually!  
*180 min. Linder Theater, 1<sup>st</sup> floor*

Led by: Nadav Gazit, *Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History*



## Rodrigo Medellín

*Senior Professor of Ecology, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Past President, Society for Conservation Biology*

### How to do conservation science, implement it, and not die trying

Conducting research for conservation is, unfortunately, too often cut short or rarely implemented. I will discuss a few examples of research projects that have become official federal government programs with nation-wide implications. Mexico is the fifth country with the greatest biodiversity in the world. Challenges are thick and plentiful. Recently Mexico became the first country in the world to have an estimate of how many jaguars inhabit the country and the National Jaguar Strategy is fully in place and being implemented today. I will also speak about bighorn sheep and how a sustainable harvest has become the heart and soul of a strong conservation and development program for the Seri indigenous group. Bats represent about one-fourth of Mexico's mammals and they include critically endangered and endangered species. The lesser long-nosed bat has been a focal species for my research and after 20 years it was recently delisted from Mexico's Endangered Species List. The recovery implied lots of research, education, and specific conservation actions. The job of conservation professionals must include working with government and public to be effective.



## Ivette Perfecto

*George W. Pack Professor of Ecology, Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan*

### Ecological complexity in the coffee farm

Shaded coffee farms can harbor a high level of biodiversity, providing ecosystem services such as pollination and pest control. In this talk I will describe a complex web of ecological interactions that are connected to the reduction of pests in coffee farms in Chiapas, Mexico. Superficially, it appears that an arboreal ant species is a potential pest in coffee because it protects the green coffee scale. Upon closer examination we discovered that clusters of ant nests serve as refuge for the main biological control agent of the scale insect, a coccinellid beetle. This beetle uses ant pheromones to locate and hide their eggs on coffee plants that have the green coffee scale. Furthermore, the ant-hemipteran association provides conditions for the growth of a fungus that attacks the green coffee scale but is also a mycoparasite of the coffee rust disease. A fly parasitoid of the ant mediates these interactions through trait-mediated indirect interactions. Eliminating the shade trees from the coffee plantation will eliminate the keystone ant species that is at the center of this ecological network, threatening the pest control function of the network.



**Michael Allen**

*Rutgers University*

Refugia as a conservation tool for hayfield insects and their vertebrate predators

**Juan David Amaya-Espinel**

*Pontifical Catholic University of Chile*

Urban sprawl or compact cities? Importance of landscape matrix morphology configuration to urban bird conservation

**Shakifur Bhuiyan**

*Science Research Mentoring Program, American Museum of Natural History*

Comparison of camera trap and aerial Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) surveys for white-tailed deer

**Serj Danielian**

*California State University, Los Angeles*

The effects of frequency specificity of environmental noise on ecological synchrony

**Emily Detrick**

*Cornell University*

Curating botanical collections: professional development series for public gardens

**Eric Djomo Nana**

*Charles University in Prague*

Avian nesting success is influenced by vegetation structure on Mt. Cameroon

**Julia Donaton**

*Stony Brook University*

Quantifying variability in loggerhead sea turtle diet in New York waters

**Brianne Du Clos**

*University of Maine*

A tool for grower assessment of wild bee abundance in the wild blueberry landscape

**Amgad El Shaffai**

*Suez Canal University*

SOS for Egypt's dugongs: current status and conservation initiative for Red Sea mermaid

**Megan Evansen**

*The University of Maryland*

Planning for a biodiverse future: prioritizing conservation lands in Florida

**Henry Filosa**

*Science Research Mentoring Program, American Museum of Natural History*

Diversity and origin of *Boraria stricta*, an exotic millipede, in New York

**Nicole Fusco**

*Fordham University*

The effect of urbanization on genetic variation within a stream salamander population

**Trisha Gopalakrishna**

*Duke University*

Determining the importance of plant animal interactions in the Anthropocene

**Taylor Hains**

*Columbia University*

Does hybridization occur in a captive population of the Scarlet Macaw complex?

**Karla Gabriela Hernandez Aguilar**

*Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*

National jaguar conservation strategy: towards environmental policies in Mexico

**Liza Iegorova**

*State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry*

Modeling of tiger and its prey populations in Balkhash Lake Region, Kazakhstan

**Biba Jasmine Kaur**

*University of Maryland*

Identification of priority species under IDWH using a cumulative assessment method

**Solomon Kenyenso**

*Manchester Metropolitan University*

Impacts of satellite communities on protected areas: Kyabobo National Park, Ghana

**Katherine Kling**

*Stony Brook University*

Noisy neighbors: slow loris response to anthropogenic noise in West Java, Indonesia

**Giovanna Kupiec**

*Science Research Mentoring Program, American Museum of Natural History*

Landscape effects on fine-scale genetic connectivity in a Neotropical mesocarnivore

**Samuel Leslie**

*University of Kent; Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology*

Investigating long-term patterns of human-tiger conflict and intervention actions

**Kristy Lewis**

*George Mason University*

Exploring the land-loss fish production paradox in coastal Louisiana

**Lin Li**

*The City College of New York*

In Costa Rica, patches of primary forest sustain specialized interactions

**Erin McKenna**

*Science Research Mentoring Program, American Museum of Natural History*

Detection rates and spacial use patterns of coyotes in NYC Parks

**Tainan Messina**

*National University of Tropical Botany, Brazil*

Plant conservation in Brazil: are we actually Red Listing biodiversity?

**Stephen Ofori**

*A Rocha Ghana*

Sea turtle by-catch handling/release practice for fishers in Muni-Pomadze Ramsar site

**William Pangburn**

*Fordham University*

Health assessments of wild and captive Radiated Tortoises in Madagascar

**Harshil Patel**

*Veer Narmad South Gujarat University*

A survey of herpetofauna of Vansda National Park, Gujarat, India

**Sanjeev Poudel**

*Women in Environment-Nepal*

Outcomes of migration on sustainable livelihoods: case of Mali village of Nepal

**Carmen Julia Quiroga Pacheco**

*University of Kent*

Assessing the value of the Hairy Armadillo in Oruro, Bolivia

**Hari Prakash Ramesh**

*Urban Slender Loris Project*

Impact of urban sprawl on destruction of Slender Loris habitat in Greater Bangalore

**Sylvia Rojas**

*Universidad Andres Bello*

Effects of environmental pollution on the reproductive health of a bioindicator

**Christopher Rowe**

*Virginia Tech*

Estimating puma (*Puma concolor*) population densities using mark-resight models

**Hae Yeong Ryu**

*Stony Brook University*

Effects of spatial structure on species viability in a population dynamics model

**Christopher Satter**

*Virginia Tech*

Estimating leopard cat population abundance and density in Sumatra, Indonesia

**Jennifer Servis**

*City University of New York, College of Staten Island*

Genetic approaches for biodiversity: identifying Palmyra Atoll's marine invertebrates

## Guide to Posters

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### **Nathanael Stanek**

*Fordham University*

A range-wide molecular analysis of the forest hinge-back tortoise, *Kinixys erosa*

### **Dan Sulon**

*Philadelphia University*

Challenge of invasive species in the herbaceous layer for urban forest restoration

### **Jahdiel Torres-Cabá**

*Antioch University New England*

The role of introduced rats as seed dispersers in La Olimpia Forest, Puerto Rico

### **Charles Van Rees**

*Tufts University*

Tracking the fire thief: a first look at the movement of an endangered waterbird

### **Anthony Waldrop**

*University of Maryland*

Growth management policy impact upon housing growth in the wildland-urban interface

### **Lynn Waterhouse**

*Scripps Institution of Oceanography*

Can we call it a comeback? Nassau grouper spawning aggregation in the Cayman Islands

### **Connor Wood**

*University of Maine*

Intraspecific functional diversity of common species enhances community stability

### **Alexander Wright**

*University of Georgia*

Data are scarce but action is necessary: using agent-based models for conservation





## SCCS-NY Advisors, Reviewers, Mentors

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Special thanks are due to all those who have given so generously of their time and talents to advise, review, and mentor. They include:

**Resit Akçakaya**

*Stony Brook University*

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*Queens College*

**Robert Anderson**

*The City College of New York*

**Annie Arbuthnot**

*World Wildlife Fund*

**Felicity Arengo**

*American Museum of Natural History*

**André Baumgarten**

**Chanda Bennett**

*Columbia University*

**Erin Betley**

*American Museum of Natural History*

**Mark Birchette**

*Long Island University; American Museum of Natural History*

**Mary Blair**

*American Museum of Natural History*

**Anne Bower**

*Philadelphia University*

**Adriana Bravo**

*Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute*

**Megan Cattau**

*Columbia University*

**Kate Christen**

*Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation*

**Tara Cornelisse**

*Canisius College*

**Georgina Cullman**

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## CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) at the American Museum of Natural History was established in 1993 in response to concern among its scientists over rapid species loss and increasing ecosystem degradation around the world, and to leverage Museum resources to heighten public understanding and stewardship of biodiversity. Entering its third decade, the CBC transforms knowledge into conservation action through pioneering multidisciplinary collaborative research, capacity development, and by convening and connecting key actors. The CBC has developed a distinctive approach, fostering co-creative processes with strategic partners across all of our programs and projects. CBC staff members, including multiple conservation scientists and outreach specialists, work closely with communities and local partners to establish common goals and research priorities; design, implement, evaluate, and adaptively manage model conservation programs; and share results with people facing similar challenges. Thus our work spans the full cycle of conservation action, connecting diverse perspectives and sources of knowledge to conservation problems and solutions.