Student Conference on Conservation Science - New York

October 11-13, 2017
Student Conference on Conservation Science – New York
October 11-13, 2017
American Museum of Natural History

The 2017 Student Conference on Conservation Science – New York is organized by the Center for Biodiversity and Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History.

Major funding for the 2017 Student Conference on Conservation Science has been provided by Marshall M. Weinberg.

Conference Partners:

Conference Contributor:
Pace University

Conference Collaborators:
Collaborating institutions who have provided advisors, reviewers, and mentors include American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program, Applied Biomathematics, Audubon Society, Big Ocean, Canisius College, City University of New York, Columbia University, Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program, EcoHealth Alliance, Field Museum, Fordham University, Hofstra University, Hunter College, ICF International, IXL Learning, Lincoln Land Institute, Marine Conservation Institute, Natural Resources Defense Council, The Nature Conservancy, New York City Audubon, New York City Parks Department, New York University, Pace University, Portland State University, Princeton University, Royal Ontario Museum, Rutgers University, Rutgers University-Newark, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation, Society for the Preservation of Endangered Carnivores & their International Ecological Study, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Swarthmore College, Syracuse University, United States Forestry Service, University of Connecticut, University of Washington, Wildlands Network, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund, Yale University, and 84 and Sunny.
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Full presentation abstracts are available on the SCCS-NY website: [amnh.org/sccsny](http://amnh.org/sccsny)

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Acknowledgements

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

The 2017 Student Conference on Conservation Science-New York (SCCS-NY) is a sister conference to the highly successful SCCS-Cambridge begun in 2000 by the University of Cambridge. Other SCCS conferences now include SCCS-Bangalore, SCCS-Australia, SCCS-Beijing, and SCCS-Hungary.

The 2017 SCCS-NY is organized by the American Museum of Natural History’s Center for Biodiversity and Conservation.

SCCS-NY Content and Logistics Coordination:
Felicity Arengo
Hellin Brink
Kristin Douglas
Margaret Law
Ana Luz Porzecanski
Eleanor Sterling

Technology Coordinators:
Tony Alexander
Pete Ersts

Program Design:
Nadav Gazit
General Information

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.

In order to find a balance between the expectations of presenters and attendees, and to make the meeting a safe and comfortable space for everyone, we have some basic guidelines.

Please keep in mind CBC’s meeting Code of Conduct and apply it to your communication online (and in person!). Harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form will not be tolerated. Our speakers and presenters have invested considerable time and effort in the development of their material and copyright laws apply.

We encourage open discussion on social media and ask attendees to share the science and ideas presented at SCCS with their followers. However, 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.

If you choose to write about the conference following the scheduled sessions, you must gain approval from speakers/presenters prior to quoting, publishing, or otherwise referencing their research on the Internet or through other forms of media.

Wireless Internet Access:
Please follow these steps to access the AMNH-GUEST network:
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 at the top right of the screen to complete your connection.
4. If the Terms and Conditions page is not automatically presented by your system, open your web browser and attempt to connect to a web page. Your browser will be redirected to the Terms and Conditions page. Click on the “accept” button at the top right of the screen to complete your connection.

Conference attendees receive a 10% discount in all museum shops with conference badge.
Code of Conduct

The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) works to promote a welcoming environment at its meetings that is safe, collaborative, supportive, and productive for all attendees, including volunteers, exhibitors, and service providers, and that values the diversity of views, expertise, opinions, backgrounds, and experiences reflected among the conference attendees. To that end, we expect all participants—attendees, speakers, mentors, and volunteers—to follow the Code of Conduct during the conference. This includes conference-related social events, and in related online communities and social media.

Expected Behavior

- Treat everyone with respect and consideration.
- Communicate openly and thoughtfully with others and be considerate of the multitude of views and opinions that are different than your own.
- Be respectful in your critique of ideas.
- Be mindful of your surroundings and of your fellow participants. Alert CBC staff if you notice a dangerous situation or someone in distress.
- Respect the rules and policies of all venues associated with the meeting.
- Uphold and support the CBC’s commitment and actions to improve the events environmental and social impacts.
- Behave in accordance with professional standards and applicable laws.

Unacceptable Behavior

- CBC and AMNH do not tolerate discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, marital status, partnership status, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, pregnancy, alienage or citizenship status, current or former participation in the uniformed services, status as a veteran, or national or ethnic origin, or on account of any other basis prohibited by applicable City, State, or Federal law.
- Sexual language and imagery, or any other potentially harassing material or behavior including but not limited to verbal comments, intimidation, inappropriate physical contact or unwelcome sexual attention, are not permitted at the conference and may not be incorporated into the visuals or presentations.
- Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately and to not repeat their behavior, or may be required to leave the conference, in the CBC’s sole discretion.
- Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to inappropriate comments related to any of the categories listed above; harassing photography or recording; threatening, intimidating or stalking anyone at the conference as an attendee, staff, or presenter or otherwise.
- Disruption of talks at the conference or other associated events organized by the CBC.

Consequences

- Anyone requested to stop unacceptable behavior is expected to comply immediately.
- CBC staff (or their designees) or Museum Security may take any action deemed necessary and appropriate, including immediate removal from the conference without warning or refund.
- The CBC reserves the right to prohibit attendance at any future meeting or conference organized by the CBC.
Reporting Unacceptable Behavior

If you are the subject of unacceptable behavior, have witnessed any such behavior, or have any other concerns relating to unacceptable behavior, please immediately notify a CBC staff member on-site (in-person, by phone or by email). CBC staff can be identified by the blue ribbon on their conference ID badge.

— Visit our information desk in the conference registration area.
— Call 212-769-5742
— Email biodiversity@amnh.org
— Individuals may also report unacceptable behavior confidentially or anonymously through the Museum’s Compliance Hotline, by calling 1-800-620-5571. This 800-number is managed by an outside, independent service provider.

Conference staff can provide support, including but not limited to:

— Contacting AMNH security or local law enforcement.
— Contacting AMNH Title IX officers in Human Resources:
  — Tracey Bessellieu: 212-769-5462, tbessellieu@amnh.org
  — Kala Harinarayanan: 212-769-5226, kharinarayanan@amnh.org
  — Daniel Scheiner: 212-769-5109, dscheiner@amnh.org
— Otherwise assisting those experiencing unacceptable behavior to ensure that they feel safe for the duration of the conference.
## Agenda: Wednesday, October 11th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Registration and Volunteer Check-In Breakfast</td>
<td>Grand Gallery / 77th Street Lobby Hall of Northwest Coast Indians</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
<td>Kaufmann Theater</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ana Luz Porzecanski, Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Plenary Address</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From Problems to Solutions: Moving Beyond Environmental Doom and Gloom</td>
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<td>Jeremy Jackson, Professor of Oceanography Emeritus, Scripps Institution of Oceanography &amp; Senior Scientist Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Talk Session: Species Distributions</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Session Chair: Rae Wynn-Grant, Conservation Science Research and Teaching Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jocelyn Akins, University of California, Davis</td>
<td>Distribution, connectivity, and conservation status of the Cascade red fox</td>
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<td>Dipankar Lahkar, Assam University &amp; Aaranyak</td>
<td>Tiger population recovery post ethno-political conflict in Manas National Park, India</td>
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<td>Jamie Kass, The Graduate Center &amp; City College of New York, City University of New York</td>
<td>Biotic predictors improve range estimates for migrating monarch butterflies in Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Hall of Northwest Coast Indians</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20am</td>
<td>Talk Session: Genetics</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Session Chair: George Amato, Director, Conservation Genomics, Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M. Elise Lauterbur, Stony Brook University</td>
<td>Genetic diversity estimates of small populations impacted by model choice</td>
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<td>Alexandra Decandia, Princeton University</td>
<td>Genetic underpinnings of disease susceptibility in Yellowstone wolves</td>
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<td>Stephen Gaughran, Yale University</td>
<td>Conserving tortoises, conserving genomes</td>
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<td>Ram Subramanian, CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>Effects of forest fragmentation on the endangered lion-tailed macaque</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Group Photo</td>
<td>Location to be announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch: Mentor-Hosted Tables</td>
<td>School lunchrooms, lower level</td>
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**Agenda: Wednesday, October 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</table>
| 2:20pm | **Speed Talk Session:** Social-Ecological Management  
Kaufmann / Linder Theaters  
Session Chair: Mary Blair, Director, Biodiversity Informatics Research, Center for  
Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History  
Md Safiqul Islam  
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München  
Jamin Wieringa  
The Ohio State University  
Melanie Leilà Dudley  
State of Hawai’i’s Department of  
Land and Natural Resources Division  
of Forestry and Wildlife’s Nāpuʻu Conservation Project & University of Hawai’i at Hilo  
Christina Corales  
University of the Philippines Los Baños  
Camilo Alejo  
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana  
| Illegal turtle trading at Bangladesh: extent, fluctuations and religious prospect  
Trace elements as a method for sourcing migratory tree bats  
He Hua i ka Noi’i Noelo the application of Hawaiian place names in scientific inquiry  
Accounting the true value of marine resources towards inclusive conservation  
Amazon conservation through sustainable livelihoods: the case of Astorcaryum chambira  
| 2:50pm | **Short Break**  
| 2:55pm | **Speed Talk Session, Continued**  
Kaufmann / Linder Theaters  
Caroline Beardsley  
Rutgers University  
Kristen Steele  
University College London  
Scott Martin  
The Ohio State University  
Jeffrey Brown  
Rutgers University  
Diana Seecharran  
University of Guyana  
| Impact of novel light sources on arthropod communities  
Fishing the critically endangered eel: management for sustainability in the UK  
Rising tides and shrinking shores: evaluating how coastal management impacts wildlife  
Loss of songbirds in a small urban protected area: a sign of things to come?  
Trends in the export of mammals, birds and reptiles from Guyana (2006-2015)  
| 3:25pm | **Speed Talk Discussion and Break**  
Hall of Northwest Coast Indians  
|
Agenda: Wednesday, October 11th

4:05pm  Talk Session: Landscape Stewardship & Management  Kaufmann / Linder Theaters
Session Chair: James Levitt, Manager, Land Conservation Programs, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Meghna Krishnadas  Yale University
Parks protect forest cover, especially where local human populations are high

Charles van Rees  Tufts University
Marsh birds in urban lands: do streams facilitate population connectivity?

Mariya Chechina  University of Alberta
Choosing species for reforestation in highly diverse tropical forest communities

5:00pm-7:00pm  Poster Session, Pizza Reception + Resource and Career Fair  Hall of Primitive Mammals and Ornithischian Dinosaurs, 4th floor
Poster presenters are asked to be at their posters for discussions with mentors and attendees between 6:00-7:00pm.

Come network and gather information about future careers and resources in conservation science!

Resource and Career Fair Exhibitors:

- Conservation Leadership Programme
- Consortium for Interdisciplinary Environmental Research
- EcoHealth Alliance
- Environmental Leadership Program
- Fordham University
- Foundations of Success
- George Mason University
- The Graduate Center of the City University of New York
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Island Press
- NASA DEVELOP
- Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP)
- Ocean Conservancy
- RAY Marine Conservation Diversity Fellowship
- Richard Gilder Graduate School (RGGS)
- Smithsonian Institution
- Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation / Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
- Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)
- Society for the Preservation of Endangered Carnivores & their International Ecological Study (SPECIES)
- Student Conservation Association (SCA)
- The Nature Conservancy
- University of Florida’s Wildlife Forensic Sciences and Conservation Program
- Wildlife Conservation Society - Advanced Inquiry Program
- Wildlife Conservation Society - Marine Program
- Wiley Publishing
- World Wildlife Fund - Russell E. Train Education for Nature program
- Yale University Press
### Agenda: Thursday, October 12th

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Plenary Address</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>#movingtheneedle: Increasing the Creative Capacity of Conservation for Greater Social Change and High Impact Collaboration</td>
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<td>Nai’a-Ulumaimalu Lewis, Artist and Creative Director of 84 and Sunny &amp; Coordinator, Big Ocean</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Introductionary remarks by Eleanor Sterling, Jaffe Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:50am</td>
<td>Talk Session: Human Dimensions</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<td>Session Chair: Eleanor Sterling, Jaffe Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<td></td>
<td>José Ochoa-Arguello &amp; Anahi Naranjo-Jara</td>
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<td>University of Washington &amp; Middlebury College</td>
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<td>Diana Bertuol Garcia</td>
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<td>Universidade de São Paulo</td>
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<td>Green heuristics: race, ethnicity, and environmental consciousness revisited</td>
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<td>Hoang Thach</td>
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<td>Rutgers University</td>
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<td>Slow loris trade in Vietnam: exploring diverse knowledge and values</td>
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<td>Alifa Haque</td>
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<td>University of Dhaka</td>
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<td>Shark finning: value chain analysis of shark products sourced from Bangladesh</td>
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<td>Vallari Sheel</td>
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<td>North Carolina State University</td>
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<td>Large-scale illegal trade in India’s tortoises and freshwater turtles</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:35am</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Hall of Northwest Coast Indians</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Talk Session: Freshwater Systems</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
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<td>Session Chair: Felicity Arengo, Associate Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daniel Gurdak</td>
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<td>State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry</td>
<td>Site fidelity of arapaima in the Lower Amazon: management in a sea of depletion</td>
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<td>Leah Nagel</td>
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<td>State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry</td>
<td>From egg to adult: factors influencing amphibian survival in small, isolated wetlands</td>
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<td>Charitos Zapitis</td>
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<td>University of Derby</td>
<td>Unionid mussels: bioremediation potential in eutrophic freshwater ecosystems</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch: Mentor-Hosted Tables</td>
<td>School lunchrooms, lower level</td>
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### Agenda: Thursday, October 12th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Chair/Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:20pm</td>
<td>Speed Talk Session: Species and Habitats</td>
<td>Kaufmann / Linder Theaters</td>
<td>Simon Queenborough, Musser Director of Tropical Resources Institute, Lecturer and Research Scientist, Yale University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kaia Tombak</td>
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<td>Princeton University, Dietary flexibility and health indicators in zebras facing nutrient declines</td>
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<td>Mariela Gantchoff</td>
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<td>Mississippi State University, Factors predicting alien species richness in Argentina’s national parks system</td>
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<td>Kelley Langhans</td>
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<td>Temple University, Unraveling the independent drivers of biotic homogenization</td>
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<td>Mahi Puri</td>
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<td>University of Florida, Examining large carnivore occurrence and conflict in central India</td>
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<td>Danielle Brown</td>
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<td>George Mason University, Urban humpback whales: sighting patterns in the New York metropolitan area</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Claire Goelst</td>
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<td>Columbia University, Mapping mortality to mitigate conflict: spatial variations in risk for African lions</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:55pm</td>
<td>Short Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Speed Talk Session, Continued</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Emily Chou</td>
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<td>Columbia University, Identifying potentially important humpback whale breeding areas in the Gulf of Guinea</td>
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<td>Julia Molina</td>
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<td>Universidade de São Paulo, From population to individuals: cross-level habitat selection in a dolphin population</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shannon Murphy</td>
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<td>Columbia University, Satellite tracking reef manta rays (<em>Mobula alfredi</em>) to inform conservation management</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catherine Stolfi</td>
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<td>NASA DEVELOP, Water parameters affecting Mississippi oyster reefs using NASA Earth observations</td>
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<td>Rachel Welt</td>
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<td>Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History, Delimiting species of Madagascar’s cryptic endemic iguanas (Opluridae)</td>
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<td>Noemí Moreno Salazar</td>
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<td>Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 24 years later: plasticity of bird community adaptation to conservation challenges</td>
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<td>Justine Albers</td>
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<td>Swarthmore College, Host-parasite response to landscape structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45pm</td>
<td>Speed Talk Discussion and Break</td>
<td>Hall of Northwest Coast Indians</td>
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**Student Conference on Conservation Science-New York**
Agenda: Thursday, October 12th

4:20pm  **Talk Session: Tools for Species Management**  Kaufmann / Linder Theaters

Session Chair: **Peter Galante**, Biodiversity Informatics Specialist, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vijay Ramesh</td>
<td>IUCN greatly underestimates threat levels of endemic birds in the Western Ghats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia University</td>
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<td>Adam Pekor</td>
<td>Fencing Africa’s protected areas: costs, benefits, and management issues</td>
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<td>Columbia University</td>
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<td>Matthew Kamm</td>
<td>Quadcopter drone photography as a means of characterizing habitat for birds</td>
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<td>Tufts University</td>
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5:00pm  **Awards Ceremony**  Hall of Northwest Coast Indians

Closing remarks and awards presentation for best talks, speed talks, and posters by **Ana Luz Porzecanski**, Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History and **Felicity Arengo**, Associate Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History.

We thank the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy, Yale University Press, Island Press, the Society for Conservation Biology, and Applied Biomathematics for their generous donation of conference prizes.

5:20pm-6:15pm  **Closing Reception**  Hall of Northwest Coast Indians

6:30pm-8:00pm  **Waves of Change: Challenges and Solutions from the Ocean**  Kaufmann Theater

Panel Discussion  
*Mack Lipkin Man and Nature Series*

With panelists:
- **Jeremy Jackson**, Professor of Oceanography Emeritus, Scripps Institution of Oceanography & Senior Scientist Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution
- **Nai’a-Ulumaimalu Lewis**, Artist and Creative Director of 84 and Sunny & Coordinator, Big Ocean
- **Merry Camhi**, Director, New York Seascape, Wildlife Conservation Society

Moderated by **Ana Luz Porzecanski**, Director, Center for Biodiversity and Conservation, American Museum of Natural History
### Agenda: Friday, October 13th: Workshops

Please check-in at the Kaufmann Desk at least 10 minutes before your session begins. There will be a break at noon for independent lunch.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>9:00am-12:00pm</th>
<th>Workshop Session I</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session I</strong></td>
<td>An Introduction to Adaptive Management - Practical Training for Tomorrow’s Leaders in Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session I</strong></td>
<td>Designing, Applying, and Interpreting Conservation Genetics Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session I</strong></td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics in R for Conservation Scientists</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session I</strong></td>
<td>Making Conservation Politically Effective: Representing Other Species’ Interests Before Decision Makers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session I</strong></td>
<td>What am I Going to Do with the Rest of my Life? Exploring Careers in Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<th>1:00pm-1:45pm</th>
<th>Behind-the-Scenes Museum Collection Tours</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Behind-the-Scenes Museum Collection Tours</strong></td>
<td>Check-in at Kaufmann Desk at 12:50pm</td>
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<tr>
<th>2:00pm-5:00pm</th>
<th>Workshop Session II</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session II</strong></td>
<td>Expanding Your Teaching Toolbox: An Introduction to Active Teaching and Scientific Teaching Approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workshop Session II</strong></td>
<td>Talking the Talk: Giving Effective and Engaging Presentations</td>
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<td><strong>Workshop Session II</strong></td>
<td>Spatial Analysis in R</td>
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Student Conference on Conservation Science—New York
Jeremy Jackson  
*Professor of Oceanography Emeritus, Scripps Institution of Oceanography & Senior Scientist Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution*

**From Problems to Solutions: Moving Beyond Environmental Doom and Gloom**

Rising temperatures, increasingly severe weather, sea level rise, and deeply unsound and cynical governmental policies gravely threaten the American environment, biodiversity, and human wellbeing. But at the same time there are rapidly increasing signs that the public and major components of the private sector have woken up to these threats and are already taking corrective actions. The rush towards renewables is unstoppable and entire states and local communities are rejecting “business as usual” to adopt genuinely sustainable energy policies. Likewise, increasing problems of soil loss, nutrient pollution, and superweeds are helping to refocus American agriculture on more sustainable farming and healthier food. We need to celebrate these successes to change the national and global political conversation from a sense of hopelessness to consistently aggressive corrective actions. All of this achievable despite the recent reversals of the new American administration.

Nai’a-Ulumai'malu Lewis  
*Creative Director, 84 and Sunny & Coordinator, Big Ocean*

**#movingtheneedle: Increasing the Creative Capacity of Conservation for Greater Social Change and High Impact Collaboration**

With every major socio-cultural, political or economic shift, disciplines and industries often face having to make significant changes in their practices or risk becoming irrelevant. As social norms and values have changed, conservation has responded by diversifying its workforce, incorporating more social sciences, developing citizen science opportunities, and investing in better understanding and integrating multiple knowledge systems.

However, as humanity endeavors to grapple with the information age, while simultaneously dealing with environmental threats of global proportion, conservation must be ready to make the next shift. As the most successful enterprise level companies and organizations globally are realizing—success and relevance tomorrow is rooted in building a resilient, creative workforce today—conservation must follow suit.

By broadening the range of skills expected from the conservation workforce and supporting them to bring the full spectrum of their interests and passions to the table, conservation will be better able to: develop and maintain relevance with a wider spectrum of people; utilize design or systems thinking; support innovative research for the long term; and be able to benefit from advances in other disciplines.

In her talk, Nai’a Lewis, walks us through the highlights of her career in conservation, the experiences that changed her views on the discipline, and the ways in which she was able to affect change as a social entrepreneur and artist through examples that include stakeholder engagement, human dimensions of large-scale marine protected areas management, integration of Indigenous knowledge and the creation of Big Ocean.
Guide to Posters (in alphabetical order by presenter’s last name)

Ayla Allen
Princeton University
Primates of Pacaya Samiria: population dynamics in a changing climate

Bolívar Aponte-Rolón
University of Michigan
Quality of leaf-litter and ant assemblages in shade-grown coffee in Chiapas, Mexico

Natalia Aristizabal
University of São Paulo
Land-use and a network of pest control providers in sun coffee farms

Michelle Barrera
American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program
Ready to be released? Health assessment of the endangered Burmese star tortoise in Myanmar

Kevin Bennett
Fordham University
Domestic cats: response to urbanization and impact on bird survival

Ethan Bott
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
Legend Lake bathymetric mapping

Catherine Bravo
University of Miami
Sensitivity to water limitation of tropical montane plants in the Peruvian Andes

Luke Carabbia
Princeton University
Parental food allocation in the greater ani: nestling gapes may act as supernormal stimulus

Aparna Chandrashekar
Hunter College
The demographic history of black-and-white ruffed lemurs in Ranomafana National Park

Megan Chellew
Oregon State University
Spatial relationships for vegetation and soils in coastal salt marshes

Nafilah Chowdhury & Desirée Pante
American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program
Role of Rivers in the speciation of the Blue-crowned Manakin (Lepidothrix coronata)

Kristi Colom
City University of New York, Hunter College
Aquatic urbànîtes—examining the presence of Tursiops truncatus in the New York Bight

Marisol Cruz Aguilar
University of Los Andes
Selva App: a mobile data collector for conservation in Bogota Eastern Hills Forest

Kathryn Didion
Princeton University
Education to combat land degradation in rural Kenya

Miranda Figueras
Hofstra University
Consumption and assimilation patterns of the eastern box turtle, a diet generalist

Ashley Fortner
George Mason University
Evaluating the effectiveness of behavior monitoring applications in the red panda

Meaghan Gade
The Ohio State University
Distribution patterns of salamanders across environmental and wildfire gradients
Alexis Garretson  
George Mason University  
Analysis of coyote activity around open-air compost site

Ann Marie Gawel  
Iowa State University  
Rats as seed predators or dispersers in a novel ecosystem

Harrison Goldspiel  
State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
Spatial and historical drivers of pool-breeding amphibians in central New York

Catherine Golubovsky & Joshua Boado  
American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program  
The Gotham coyote

Tatyana Graham & Alejandro Schmieder  
American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program  
Jaguar feeding ecology: advances from next-generation sequencing

Michelle Greenfield  
Princeton University  
Effect of anthropogenic injuries on the social associations of bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncates) in Sarasota Bay, Florida

Elizabeth Heppenheimer  
Princeton University  
Genetic variation in recently expanded eastern coyote (Canis latrans) populations

Leyla Hernandez  
City College of New York  
Combining environmental and trait data to predict biotic impacts of invasive anole

Camila Celestino Hohlenwerger  
University of São Paulo  
Landscape structure and the potential control of “pasture sharpshooters”

Sonia Howlett  
Princeton University  
Competition between native and introduced species in the food web of the Galápagos Island of Santa Cruz

Tyler Huntington  
Swarthmore College  
Relating traits and disturbance responses among tropical birds and dung beetles

Alicia Juang  
Harvard University  
Toxicokinetics of methylmercury in North Atlantic pilot whales (Globicephala melas)

Jessica Knierim  
Hunter College  
Using molecular techniques to determine provenance of illegal ring-tailed lemur pets

Amanda Mancini  
The Graduate Center of City University of New York  
Population genetic analysis of Varecia variegata in Ranomafana National Park

Ashley Massey  
Wynn Wynn Moving Pictures  
Lights! Camera! Conservation action! Conservation science in the media

M. Alejandra Munoz  
Tufts University  
Quantifying habitat suitability of an endangered Hawaiian waterbird for management

Quinn Parker  
Princeton University  
Assessing Microcebus ravelobensis (golden-brown mouse lemur) populations across anthropogenic landscapes in the Mahamavo forest region, Madagascar
Guide to Posters

Brielle Randall & Omari Romaine  
*American Museum of Natural History Science Research Mentoring Program*  
Humans and conflict with bears (oh my!)

Lyndsay Rankin  
*Northern Illinois University*  
Measuring the nearshore recovery of seabird islands following rodent eradication

Lily Reisinger  
*Princeton University*  
The role of vector-transmitted disease in declining Grevy’s zebra (*Equus grevyi*) populations

Christian Rivera  
*Columbia University*  
Assessing ecological and social success in chelonian conservation programs

Carla Rodriguez  
*Stony Brook University*  
Native species reforestation progresses toward natural forest structure in Madagascar

Neha Savant  
*Columbia University*  
Comparing genomic structure and connectivity of a threatened species at multiple scales

Karina Scavo  
*Boston University*  
Mangroves as potential reef refuges for Caribbean branching reef *Porites divaricata*

Patrick Shea  
*The Graduate Center of City University of New York*  
Metabarcoding approach for biodiversity assessment of Hawaiian coral reef ecosystems

Amanda Sigouin  
*American Museum of Natural History*  
How does engaging stakeholders affect conservation outcomes? An analysis of evidence

Stefanie Siller  
*Columbia University*  
Cultivating conservation knowledge in rural Kenyans schools, clubs and communities

Jaima Smith  
*Oxford Brookes University*  
The people’s voice: it’s what matters

Akshit Suthar  
*Gujarat Ecology Society*  
Occurrence of smooth coated otter *Lutrogale perspicillata* in Gujarat at new location

Jordon Tourville  
*University of Michigan*  
Herbivory, climate change and the future landscape of Isle Royale National Park

Marisol Valverde  
*McGill University*  
Impacts of an introduced predatory fish on the trophic ecology of a native predator

Flynn Vickowski  
*Fulbright U.S. Student Program*  
Andean bear prompts biodiversity survey and conservation of culture and environment

Irena Werner  
*Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden*  
Assessing urban oyster restoration through classical and next-generation approaches

Anna Willoughby  
*EcoHealth Alliance*  
Viral sharing in the bat metacommunity

Seth Wollney  
*Graduate Center & College of Staten Island, City University of New York*  
Bacterial communities in artificial v. natural ponds using environmental DNA
Special thanks are due to all those who have given so generously of their time and talents to advise, review, and mentor. They include:

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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.