

# HENSON SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

### Spring Newsletter – March 2022

#### Angela Freeman Invites You to Play!

SU biology folks are invited to play along *in March Mammal Madness*, a world-wide game where you pick your 'teams' to take the championship. Mammals (and other species from various taxa) go head-to-head in battle in this organismal take on the popular basketball tournament. Battles are live-tweeted on @2022MMMlets go and spectators are encouraged to cheer on their picks using hashtag #MMM2022. For more info, see the poster board across from the main office, or find Dr. Freeman! The games begin March 14, but anyone can join in on the fun at any time!

#### Summer STEM Academy Hosted by Henson

Mary Gunther will be representing Biology for the STEM Academy hosted by Henson. The STEM Academy is an interactive experience for middle school students interested in any area of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The academy consists of 10 sessions – two sessions per day – led by SU STEM faculty. Students work closely with their peers as they put their problem-solving, creativity and collaboration skills to the test. STEM is all about designing, creating, building, exploring and discovery, and at the SU Summer STEM Academy, students do just that! For more information click the link below.

<https://www.salisbury.edu/administration/academic-affairs/summer-academies/stem.aspx>

#### BIOL 105 Visits the Salisbury Zoo

Mary Gunther's History of Zoo's Class went to the Salisbury Zoo February 26. The students looked for examples of animal enrichment and conservation projects. They also made note of their favorite exhibits choosing one to write about in detail. It was a chilly day, but we got to hear the red wolves howl!



## Krispen and Jocelyn Do Dallas!

Krispen Laird and Jocelyn Bunting attended McGraw Hill's Engagement and Relevancy in the Biology Classroom Symposium which was held in Dallas, Texas on March 3-5, 2022. Attendees accessed and experimented with different McGraw Hill online functionalities that sought to improve biology education for non-majors. Some of the software capabilities highlighted were Connect, SmartBooks, BioNow, Ricochet Science, Connect Master 2.0: Why Biology, and Relevancy Modules. Both Krispen and Jocelyn enjoyed learning about new strategies to reach non-majors while also working alongside biology instructors from across the country.



## Trafficking Class Posters on Display in Guerrieri AC

Mary Gunther taught the inaugural section of HONR 21 Wildlife Trafficking in Fall 2021. Posters from this course are on display on the third floor of the AC. Take the main elevator to the third floor! The poster will be up through the spring semester.



**From Noah Bressman**

Zachary Crum's MS project (mentored by Dr. Noah Bressman) investigating the feeding ecology of invasive blue catfish has made it to several big news outlets including Field and Stream. Dr. Noah Bressman also happened to be featured for his work on invasive plecocs. During a visit by Governor Hogan, he gave him a tour of the downtown lab at the Rommel Center and talked to him about the research being conducted in his lab. Dr. Bressman has his artwork displayed and gave a print to Governor Hogan.



**Papers Published:**

**Jocelyn Bunting:** Bunting J. 2021. Creating, Implementing, and Evaluating Forensics Activities Kits in a Remote Learning Modality Journal of Forensic Science Education. 3(2).

## New species of frog – and it's chocolate!



<https://news.mongabay.com/2022/02/chocolate-frog-anyone-new-species-uneearthed-in-amazon-peatlands/#:~:text=New%20burrowing%20frog%20species%20uneearthed%20in%20Amazon's%20rare%20peatlands,-by%20Liz%20Kimbrough&text=Researchers%20dug%20up%20a%20new,for%20its%20distinctive-looking%20snout>

## Zoo Lecture Series

The Zoo FLC is hosting several talks at the zoo – thank you to Aaron Hogue for organizing as well as speaking and to Angela Freeman and Kim Quillen for speaking.

# Night at the Zoo

## LECTURE SERIES

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Monday, March 28th, 6:00 pm**

*"Unexpected discoveries in  
animal behavior"*

by Angela Freeman, Assistant Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University.

**Monday, April 11th, 6:00 pm**

*"Global threats to wildlife and the surprisingly  
simple way you can help save them"*

by Dr. Aaron Hogue, Associate Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University.

**Monday, May 16th, 6:00 pm**

*"Bring the zoo to you: Building a biodiversity  
bonanza to improve your health right at home"*

Kim Quillin, Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences, Salisbury University.



Salisbury  
UNIVERSITY

Seats are Limited

Located in the Zoo's ESBA Education Building

Please RSVP to [mseemann@salisbury.md](mailto:mseemann@salisbury.md)

## **On the Road Again!**

Study Abroad is back and Dr. Eric Liebgold and Mary Gunther will once again be taking to students to Costa Rica to study biodiversity in January 2023. Please spread the word!

The winter program, Biodiversity in Costa Rica, runs for 15 days in January. Two – three days are spent in classes on campus at Salisbury University and eleven in country. The program is designed to give students the opportunity to experience and study the vast biodiversity of Costa Rica. The program has three course options- students enroll in the program and choose one course (IDIS 399 or BIOL 299/399). Starting on The Caribbean Coast in Tortuguero - nesting ground of sea turtles - the class explores many different tropical habitats. Visits to Tirimbina Biological Reserve and La Selva Biological Station acquaint students with tropical research. In Monteverde, students experience the rain forest canopy via zip lines and hikes in the Monteverde Biological Reserve. In the Guanacaste Region, students will visit Palo Verde National Park via boat, snorkel a coral reef, and visit Las Baulas National Marine Park to see nesting sea turtles. For information on this program please contact Ms. Gunther or Dr. Liebgold.

### **Study Abroad Link:**

<https://studyabroad.salisbury.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=10600>



## **First Spring for SUPP**

The student scientists in the Salisbury University Phenology Project (SUPP) are waiting, watching, and collecting data as spring erupts. This is the first spring of our long-term project in introductory biology (Biol 201/202) measuring the timing of seasonal events on campus. Many thanks to our partners, including the Salisbury University Arboretum, the Department of Geography and Geosciences, and the USA National Phenology Network. (Photo credits: Kyla Scherlag, Lilly Fooks, Kim Quillin)  
Check us out on Instagram @whatsupp1101



## **Biology Department Giving Day Links**

**Biological Sciences for Giving Day - <https://givingday.salisbury.edu/campaigns/biological-sciences>**

Your gift will help the Biological Science department provide our students with an unmatched comprehensive educational program. Your investment will provide much needed assistance in equipment upgrades, research grant assistance and new equipment purchases.



**Patti Erickson Scholarship for Giving Day - <https://givingday.salisbury.edu/campaigns/dr-patti-erickson-memorial-scholarship-1#/>**

The Dr. Patti Erickson Memorial Scholarship was created by her parents, Alfred and Patricia Taranto, to help support students who, like their daughter, love to learn and are dedicated to the pursuit and application of knowledge in the biological sciences. Please consider donating to remember Patti's legacy and support her passion for science education.

**Mark Holland for Giving Day - <https://givingday.salisbury.edu/campaigns/mark-holland-memorial-scholarship-1>**

Mark Holland was the heart, soul, spirit, and face of the biology department for 27 years. Mark would share with students his scientific interests and passions to let them experience biology through his eyes and mind. This scholarship not only benefits a rising junior from the Biology department, but also celebrates the memory of Mark Holland's incredible impact on Salisbury University and its students.

**STUDENT & ALUMNI MATCH:** Wayne '89 and Melissa '89 Judkins will match all student and alumni gifts to any area of campus (up to \$50 per person).

**Featured Charity:**

World Central Kitchen: <https://wck.org/>

*WCK is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. We build resilient food systems with locally led solutions.*

***A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this newsletter from your guest editor!***

