

OSU Department of  
**Integrative Biology**

*Welcome*

Recognition & Achievements

2025



## NEW HIRES / TRANSITIONS

Kenneth Arnold – Postdoctoral Scholar (Phillips Lab)  
Oscar Castillo – Academic Advisor  
David Hubert – from Postdoctoral Scholar to Research Associate (Phillips Lab)  
Katie Martin – Postdoctoral Scholar (Everson Lab)  
Alexis McQuillan – Academic Advisor  
Jason Podrabsky – Professor and Department Head  
Matt Powers – from Postdoctoral Scholar to Research Associate (Burke Lab)  
Jason Sickle – Academic Advisor  
Katherine Simpson – Executive Support Specialist (LubMenge Lab)  
David Sneddon – Postdoctoral Scholar (Everson Lab)  
Ato Tetteh – Academic Advisor  
Kaitlyn Tonra – Postdoctoral Scholar (Menge Lab)

## NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS (and previous degree)

Wilson Banini, Forsythe & Barreto Labs, BS, Kwame Nkrumah Univ of Sci & Tech, Ghana  
Reetu Deuba, Denver Lab, MS, Tribhuvan University, Nepal (arriving winter 2026)  
Laura Edwards, Menge Lab, BS, Univ of California, Los Angeles  
Margaret Mattson, Lytle Lab, BA, Scripps College Claremont  
Maya Mijares, Phillips Lab, BS, Western Washington University  
Ryan Robinson, Phillips Lab, BS, Univ of California, Irvine  
Deanna Sunnergren, Denver Lab, BA, Lewis & Clark College  
Claire Toney, Podrabsky Lab, BS, Santa Clara University  
Abby Tripler, Henkel Lab, MS, Northeastern University  
Ry Wilgenkamp, Everson Lab, BS, Penn State

## UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS & PARTICIPATION

**Castor canadensis Undergraduate Award:** Natalie Donato  
**Alexei Lubchenco Menge Research Fellowship:** Jerad Dotson, Talia LaForte  
**Bill & Martha Lovejoy Zoology Scholarship:** Angela Thompson, Alina Valle  
**Udall Scholar & Goldwater Scholar:** Natalie Donato  
**Rachel Noel Casper Memorial Scholarship:** Sarah Hornik  
**Experiential Learning Scholarship:** Candice Vo (Maria Ruggeri, mentor)  
**CoS Launching Undergraduate Research Experiences (LURE) fellowship:** Haley Nguyen (Cornelius Lab); Abigail Holland, Addison Johnson, Jenna Scott, Candice Vo (Weis Lab)  
**Honors Thesis & poster at symposium:** Joshua Reese (Everson Lab)  
**New Beginnings for Tribal Students:** Riley Aldridge (Megan Davis, mentor)  
**NOAA Hollings Scholarship:** Natalia Jacquez (Barreto Lab)  
**OSU Honors College & CEOAS funding:** Angela Zbaracki (Shelby Lawson, mentor) for project on personality and exploratory behavior in fledgling red-winged blackbirds  
**PRAX Art + Science Fellowship:** Natalie Donato  
**URSA poster session** – 34 undergraduates mentored by Sarah Gravem, Bruce Menge, and others

**URSA Engage:** Hallie Hoffarth, Madison Meeuwse, Alexis Menson (Cornelius Lab); Sylvia Burkhart, Kyla Kirkpatrick (Everson Lab); Francis Tor, Payton Maszy (Mentors: Carmen Harjoe, Nate Kirk); Emily Brouwers, Carmen Kerr, Niya Spehar, Westley Swindell, Laci Tipton (Lytle Lab); Riley Aldridge, Madeline Bass, Ella Beebe, Will Blansett, Nora Brandon, Ellie Chang, Camden Crawford, Camilla Douglas, Carolyn Duc, Marina-Rae Gill, Leah Gross, Katherine Hays, Emily Lynch, Evie Mitchell, Linnea Mitchell, Elizabeth Myers, Jordan Prado, George Privett, Katie Rumsey, Nora Smith, Anna Squitieri, Hamilton Zahn (all Menge Lab; Mentors: Audrey Vinton, Sarah Gravem, Delaney Chabot, Megan Davis, Sarah Sellke, Miles Rough) +22 other Biology and 6 other Zoology students

**SACNAS Chapter scholarship to attend NDISTEM conference:** Tyanna Pires (Weis Lab)

**STEM Leaders Program:** Nora Roesch (Audrey Vinton, mentor); Tyanna Pires (Weis Lab)

**SURE Science Scholars:** Eden Davis (Everson Lab); Itzel Delgado Lopez (Nate Kirk); Niya Spehar (Lytle Lab); Jerad Doston, Talia LaForte (Menge Lab); Noor Denolf, Yoshigei Diaz Hernandez (Weis Lab)

**REU Interns:**

**WIC Culture of Writing Award:** Siera Anderson

**BI 401 Research:** 41 students completed 100 credits; **BI 410 Internship:** 32 students completed 109 credits in 2024-25 (some students continued projects across more than one term)

**BS & HBS degrees awarded Summer '24/Fall '24/Winter '25/Spring '25:**

Biology: 158 BS, 21 HBS (92 with \*honors)

Biology at Cascades Campus: 15 BS, 1 HBS (5 with \*honors)

Zoology: 45 BS, 3 HBS (23 with \*honors)

Zoology Ecampus: 87 BS (27 with \*honors)

\*Cum Laude/Magna Cum Laude/Summa Cum Laude

## GRADUATE STUDENTS PASSING ORALS

Olivia Burleigh (Weis Lab)  
Ken Glynn (Cornelius Lab)  
Haley Hudson (Chan Lab)  
Isaac Julio-Pereira (Dalziel Lab)  
Brenna Prevelige (Denver Lab)

Lauren Schreck (Jolles Lab)  
Sarah Sellke (Menge Lab)  
Dot Zahor (Cornelius Lab)  
Angelina Zuelow (Henkel Lab)

## GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETING DEGREES

Rachael Aber, PhD, Statistics & IB (Dalziel & McLaughlin Labs), Research Scientist, Exponent, Bellvue WA

Marine Andriot, MS, IB (Barreto Lab)

Kris Bauer, PhD, IB (Barreto Lab) Postdoc, CIMERS, Hatfield Marine Science Center

Jessica Cunningham, MS, MRM (Gravem & Menge Lab)

Talia Davis, Non-Thesis MS, IB (Sponaugle Lab) works for Suquamish Tribe in Washington

Jade Derby, MS, IB (Blouin Lab)

Jalyn Devereaux, PhD, IB (Cornelius Lab) teaching at Portland Community College

Jared Freedman, PhD, IB (Lytle Lab) Postdoc, Cornell University

Kamron Kayhani, PhD, IB (Barreto Lab)

Aaron Klarenbach, MS, IB (Lytle Lab) contract work with Dept. of Justice

Angelika Kurthen, PhD, IB (Lytle Lab) Postdoc, UC Berkeley

Katie McHugh, PhD, IB (Burke Lab), Postdoc, University of Montana

Lucas Morimoto, MS, IB (Maddison Lab)  
Ricardo Noé Gerardo Reyes Grimaldo, PhD, IB (Jolles Lab) – Lane Community College  
instructor  
Arden Smith, MS, IB (Maddison Lab)  
Kaitlyn Tonra, PhD, IB (Menge Lab) – Postdoctoral scholar (Menge Lab)  
Erick White, PhD, IB (Weis Lab) – teaching IB labs fall term

## **AWARDS, HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS (Graduate)**

Rodrigo Alves – Oregon Lottery Graduate Scholarship  
Wilson Banini – OSU Provost's Distinguished Graduate Scholarship  
Emily Branam – NSF GRFP Honorable Mention  
Val Brewer – Paul A. & Mary Ann Roberts Graduate Fellowship  
Jun Cai – Paul A. & Mary Ann Roberts Graduate Fellowship  
Giovanni Crestani – *Castor canadensis* Graduate Student Award  
Jazlee Crowley – Society of Ethnobiology graduate fellowship for research in Hawai'i; 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Grad Research Photo Competition  
Jessica Cunningham – OMSI SciComm Fellow  
Reetu Deuba – OSU College of Science Scholarship  
Jalyn Devereaux – 2024-25 PRAX Art + Science Fellow; Graduate Dean's Catalyst Fellowship  
(spring 2025)  
Hannah Dugo – Paul A. & Mary Ann Roberts Graduate Fellowship  
Laura Edwards – NSF GRFP Honorable Mention; OSU Provost's Distinguished Graduate  
Scholarship  
Maya Feezell – Sea Grant Fellowship  
Serena Frazee – Grant-in-Aid of Research from American Society of Mammalogists  
Ken Glynn – 2025-26 PRAX Art + Science Fellow  
Brysyn Goodson – NSF GRFP Honorable Mention; Oregon Space Grant Consortium Graduate  
Fellowship  
Layla Gordon – Mamie Markham Research Award from HMSC  
Haley Hudson – 1<sup>st</sup> prize Grad Research Photo Competition  
Jessie Karr – OSU Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring by a Graduate Student  
Award  
Katie McHugh – Graduate Dean's Catalyst Fellowship (winter 2025)  
Timeyin Pajiah – Lerner-Gray Fund for Marine Research  
Emily Parker – NSF GRFP Honorable Mention; OSU Office of Graduate Education Scholarly  
Presentation Award; COS Student Travel Award to fund trip to the World Sponge Conference  
Brenna Prevelige – Fulbright US Student Scholar Award for research in Nepal  
Isaac Schuman – OSU MacVicar Animal Health Scholar Award  
Sarah Sellke – OMSI SciComm Fellow  
Arden Smith – 2024-25 PRAX Art + Science Fellow  
Erick White – IB Summer GRA  
Ry Wilgenkamp – Hanson Scholarship  
Dot Zahor – IB Summer GRA  
Angelina Zuelow – Nansie Gilfillan Jensen Graduate Scholarship

## PROMOTIONS, AWARDS, UPDATES (Faculty/Postdocs/Advisor/Staff)

Molly Burke – IB Director of Research and Graduate Studies; OSU Excellence in Postdoctoral Mentoring Award

Adam Chouinard – OSU Faculty Teaching Excellence Award

Eric Cole – *Castor canadensis* Faculty/Staff Award; Olaf Boedtker Award for Excellence in Academic Advising

Jamie Cornelius – sabbatical 2025-26 academic year

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert – IB Director of Online Degree Programs

Sally Hacker – IB Director of Faculty Affairs

Sarah Henkel – awarded indefinite tenure

Jane Lubchenco – Returned to OSU in January after nearly 4 years of service to the nation as the head of the Climate and Environment Team in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). She had been on loan to the White House from OSU, thanks to the support of OSU's leaders in IB (Dee Denver) and the College of Science (Deans Haggerty, Bokil, and Feingold), and Provost Feser and President Murthy, as well as the generosity of numerous funders. Her team of over 60 scientists and policy experts initiated historically ambitious, science-based policies across climate, biodiversity, ocean, polar, Indigenous Knowledge, and environmental health. She is excited to be back on campus and looking forward to sharing her experiences with colleagues, staff, and students.

Recognized as a Global Sustainability Thought Leader by the American Energy Foundation

Justin Preece – CoS Outstanding Faculty Research Assistant/Associate Award

Maria Ruggeri – received 3-yr. NSF postdoctoral fellowship to stay in Weis Lab

Megan Sandoval-Powers – OSU Postdoctoral Excellence Award

Audrey Vinton – OMSI SciComm Fellow

## FUNDING

IB faculty received \$2,434,383 in extramurally funded grants & contracts in the last fiscal year.

Jamie Cornelius, Nature Conservancy, “Shorebird Drought Physiology Study”

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert & Su Sponaugle, ODFW, “Measuring Fish Recruitment to Oregon's Nearshore Marine Reserves”

Katie Everson & David Sneddon, postdoc, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, “Ranges Imaging Mini-Award”

Katie Everson, Becca Terry, Dave Lytle, and David Kikuchi were awarded a Research Equipment Reserve Fund (OSU) as co-PIs

Bruce Menge, Kingfisher Foundation, “Sea Star Wasting Disease: Destabilization of Population and Community Structure and Lagging Recovery in the Context of Climate Change”

Jenna Sullivan-Stack & Kirsten Grorud-Colvert, Pew Charitable Trust, “Tracking Commitments to Our Ocean: Achieving Effective Ocean Protection through Accountability”

The endowment for the Valley Chair in Marine Biology (held by Bruce Menge and Jane Lubchenco) was recently nearly doubled, with a new generous \$5 million grant to the OSU Foundation to support education, research, and outreach by the Valley Chair-holders.

\$750 IB Research Award recipients: Fall cycle: Oluwaseun Adu, Luke Bobay, Valerie Brewer, Jun Cai, Delaney Chabot, Ian Clifford, Gio Crestani, Phoebe Morris, Olivia Noonan, Brenna Prevelige, Lauren Schreck, Emily Taylor, Jane Van Gunst

Spring cycle: Brittany Bowling, Hannah Dugo, Brysyn Goodson, Haley Hudson, Aaron Klarenbach, Angelina Zuelow

## STUDY ABROAD COURSES

Dee Denver & Brenna Prevelige led a class of 13 students to Nepal for the inaugural BI 382X Intersections of Biodiversity and Buddhist Cultures in Nepal. Ten students have registered for this fall's program.

Itchung Cheung & Dwaine Plaza (School of Public Policy) led a class of 21 students over spring break to Aruba for BI/ENSC/SOC 299 Special Topics/Coasts Compared: Aruba & Oregon.

Hathai Sangsupan & Jason McCarley (Psychology) led 15 students abroad in June for the new BI 386X Community-Based Conservation & Ecological Restoration in Thailand and PSY 399 Mental Life of Elephants.

## OUTREACH, SERVICE, INVOLVEMENT (examples among many)

Barreto Lab participated in LSAMP Bridge program and in SACNAS Annual Meeting conducting hands-on genetics activities at both

Russell Campbell and Olivia Noonan led an IB Club bird watching excursion for undergrads to Finley National Wildlife Refuge

Moumita Chakraborty participated in Discovery Days

Cornelius Lab: IB Club Weekend Camping and Birding Trip to central Cascades; Front Porch Presentation 2024 & 2025 - Grand Teton National Park, Murie Ranch; Elementary Schools Ornithology Unit Q@A - Fort Collins, CO; Ornithology Training for Camp Counselors - Teton Science Schools; 'Get Outdoors Day' event with the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex; 'Winter Wildlife Field Days' event with the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex; IB Club Bird watching excursion to Finley National Wildlife Refuge

Jazlee Crowley and IBGSA launched Grad Student Office Hour. They chatted with over 100 undergrads over 6 months at monthly or twice monthly drop-in sessions about grad school opportunities, advice about grad school and research, how to maximize a CV, about research passions and so forth. They are very proud of this project and will be continuing it this year!

Jazlee Crowley and Dee Denver volunteered at the Kaua'i Soto Zen Obon Festival in Hanapepe, Kaua'i in June

Talia Davis: volunteer mentor in *Explore + More Program* – a partnership between OSUPrecollege Programs, Siletz Valley School District, and Chemawa Indian School. She provided guidance and mentorship to high school students from the Siletz Confederated Tribes.

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert and Jenna Sullivan-Stack traveled to the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, France in June to present their research on effective conserved areas in the ocean. They spoke in side events along with International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the UN Environment Programme, Pew Charitable Trusts, WWF, and other international NGOs, and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

Research led by Jenna Sullivan-Stack and Kirsten Grorud-Colvert tracking international policy commitments for ocean conservation was featured at the Our Ocean Conference in Busan, South Korea. This is a legacy project, which began as an OSU seminar class! It has now expanded to annual reporting at this high-level meeting of world leaders.

David Hubert developed and taught an experimental design course at the College Hill alternative high school last year. It was a full course for which students received credit towards graduation. At the end David hosted a research symposium on the OSU campus where the high school students gave oral presentations of the research they conducted throughout the course. They are already setting up a repeat of the course this year!

Margaret Mattson participated in a Grand Canyon Youth science outreach river trip

Olivia Noonan helped facilitate the Winter Wildlife Field Days to teach kids about nature

HMSC Marine Science Day: Audrey Vinton, Sarah Sellke, Delaney Chabot, Emily Parker

OMSI After Dark - Wild West: Audrey Vinton, Sarah Sellke

Sarah Henkel: Presenter/data provider for MBARI EARTH Workshop for educators; Oregon Sea Grant Webinar: Monitoring Ecological Effects at PacWave; Led 2 STEM at Sea Days in spring and 3 days in fall; Presenter for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine: Impacts on Shipping and Commercial, Tribal, and Recreational Fisheries from Development of Renewable Energy on the West Coast Committee; POWC Webinar: What does it take to grid-connect offshore? Cable Laying and Monitoring at PacWave; Presented info on EMF effects via webinar to Humboldt Area Foundation/Redwood Region Climate & Community Resilience Hub.

Shelby Lawson has worked for 2 years with the Flocks Initiative, a DEI initiative to increase diversity and belonging among ornithological societies, which launched this summer. Shelby chairs the "Supportive Association for Neurodivergence and Disability" (SAND) flock, aka the Sanderlings.

Su Sponaugle Plankton Ecology Lab: exhibit and team presentation at HMSC Marine Science Day (~2,000 attendees)

Jenna Sullivan-Stack served as an invited presenter and panelist, as well as co-organizing two side events at the UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France; invited speaker, organizer and moderator at conferences in Korea; invited presenter, group co-leader, and symposium organizer at International Marine Conservation Congress in Cape Town, South Africa

Emily Taylor and Dee Denver led an Oxford Nanopore DNA sequencing workshop at the National Trust for Nature Conservation Main Office in Kathmandu, Nepal in March

Sylvia Yamada (Courtesy): Guest lecture in FW 426 at HMSC; presented talks to Tillamook Community College biology class, Oregon green crab group, Friends of Netarts Bay, and OSU FWCS; trapping demo and talk to BI 450 at HMSC

Angelina Zuelow presented “REU to PhD: Marine Heatwaves and Transferring Skills Across Ecosystems” at HMSC Summer Public Series and “Winners and Losers: Oregon Kelps” at Midcoast Watershed Council; Algae Cyanotyping Exhibit at HMSC Marine Science Day

## DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS & NEWS

Night at the Museum (Oct. 24, 2024) was a spectacularly spooky evening, blending natural history with hands-on fun! Student clubs, including IBC, Herpetology Club and Bug Club, teamed up to showcase fascinating collections, from the Arthropod and Braly Collections to the Herbarium and beyond.

The annual IB graduation ceremony and reception broke another attendance record with 197 graduates participating and their 1,079 family members and guests enjoying the festivities in Milam Auditorium and the MU Quad during 3 seatings. Thank you to the 2 dozen IB volunteers who made it happen!

Thank you to Dee Denver for 5 years of service as Head of IB! Welcome to our new Head, Jason Podrabsky. Thank you to Lori Kayes for your past and continuing service as Associate Head!

Enrolled as of 9-15-2025:

Graduate students – 70 IB; 4 other majors with IB major professor

Biology majors – 1,240 Corvallis; 80 Cascades

Zoology majors – 238 Corvallis; 613 Ecampus

## IB IN THE MEDIA

Serena Frazee: featured on Inspiration Dissemination podcast:

<https://share.transistor.fm/s/6d3ba177>

Katie Everson’s research published in *Nature Communications* was featured in [OSU Today](#) and a short video about the research was published on [OSU Social Media](#).

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert and team had a big paper come out last fall that got lots of media attention: Their research showed that only a third of the marine protected areas around the world are adequately protected, since many others allow activities that are destructive to biodiversity. One of many media links:

[https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2024/05/09/un-tiers-des-aieres-marines-protegees-le-son-t-reellement\\_6232376\\_3244.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2024/05/09/un-tiers-des-aieres-marines-protegees-le-son-t-reellement_6232376_3244.html)

Kirsten Grorud-Colvert was interviewed by the NYT about the U.S.’s progress report on ocean conservation areas in our federal waters: U.S. Plan to Protect Oceans Has a Problem, Some Say: Too Much Fishing.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/30/climate/united-states-conservation-30x30.html>

July 2025 Sarah Henkel appeared in *All Science No Fiction* feature on Oregon Public Broadcasting. <https://www.opb.org/article/2025/07/09/all-science-no-fiction-oregon-wave-energy-testing-facility-pacwave/>

*Climate Decoded* Podcast. Jane Lubchenco's interview with Kim Kenny, Producer. <https://climatedecoded.com/> and <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-ocean-is-too-central-to-ignore-a-climate-chat/id1713228043?i=1000705222809&l=pt-BR>

*Scientista* Podcast: [Jane Lubchenco: The Ocean Is Too Important to Ignore](#)

Shelby Lawson is credited as a scientific consultant in the episode "Unusual Suspects" in the National Geographic *Underdogs* series released this year on Disney+. Shelby had a heavy hand in the filming of the segment about brown-headed cowbirds in that episode.

Dave Lytle, "Ecological and evolutionary consequences of changing seasonality" in *Science*, <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.ads4880>

Oregon Ocean Science Trust research highlighted (Menge, Grorud-Colvert, Novak, Sponaugle Labs) [Nearshore Ocean and Coastal Research | Oregon Ocean Science](#)  
<https://www.kptv.com/video/2025/08/06/solving-sea-star-wasting-disease-mystery/>

Isaac Schuman – interviewed about Grand Canyon research for 2024 Wild Animal Initiative Annual Report

## NEW ENDEAVORS

Eric Cole, academic advisor → New Student Head Advisor for the College of Science  
Cody Duncan, academic advisor → Academic Advisor, Cornell University  
Olivia Goodfriend, academic advisor → joined her partner in Vancouver, B.C.  
Sarah Gravem, Menge Lab research associate → tenure track position at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo  
Dana Howe, FRA, Denver Lab → FRA, OSU Forest Ecosystems & Society  
Alex Jahn, FRA, Cornelius Lab → independent flamingo research in Argentina

## MARRIAGES

Delaney Chabot & Alex Ellsworth, 8-9-2025  
Jessica Cunningham  
Jared Freedman  
Audrey Vinton  
Hannah (Steinmetz) Wohlwend

## VERY PROUD PARENTS

Sulochana Wasala & Amila Liyanage: Aanya, born 1-28-2025