

Undergraduate Office

Field Trip Season Continues!!

MSCI 311 (**Meyer-Gutbrod, Sefah-Twerefour, Petersen**and **Contract**) took students to the Baruch Marine Field lab to study how various parameters including elevation, vegetation, and BMA, affect crab burrow density along a transect. They also conducted a marine bird survey. More available pics <u>here</u>.



MSCI/BIOL 537 (Leo Rose) took students to the Walhalla State Fish Hatchery to observe the facility where brown, brook and rainbow trout are farmed before releasing into state waters to help stock recreational fishing locations. Each student was able to get their hands on a fish and strip some trout eggs. *That sounds like an Egg-celent experience!!*



Hannah Lewis, President of Gamecock SCUBA, initiated a fundraiser with SEAS (Students Engaged in Aquatic Sciences) to raise money for the upstate and North Carolina for Hurricane Relief after Hurricane Helene. They hit their Goal of \$1,000!! Thank you to everyone who donated. To celebrate this achievement our Undergraduate Director, Joe Jones, took a pie to the face.





Grad School Panel

Thank you to Ademar Fernandez, Abby Kreuser, Connor Chilton and Lance Tully on their words of wisdom to the undergraduate students who attended the event. Applications to graduate programs is approaching. Miss the panel and want more information...? Contact your advisor and Alexa and Gray are happy to connect you.





2 more events coming up:

Professional track grad programs panel, Nov 1st 2-3pm in JONES 120
Internship track, Law, etc. (non-research)

Careers Panel with SEOE alumni, Nov 15th 2-3pm in JONES 120
Not interested in grad school... Where does your degree take you? What kind of jobs have previous students gone on to?

Environment Faculty/Student Mixer was a great success! Thank you to everyone who participated!! Students were presented a challenge to find which faculty member was the answer to <u>these insights</u>. Test yourself and see how you do.

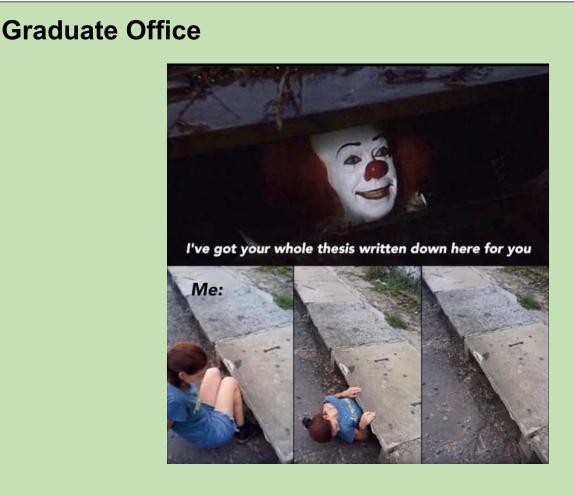














SEOE and **Biology Graduate students** donated **\$550 of supplies** for Western North Carolina organized by the United Campus Workers of South Carolina and **Monica Barra**. *Nice work y'all*!!

GRADUATE DAY Conference - Nov 15th - Mark your calendars!!

This SEOE Conference will showcase the incredible research by graduate students and post-docs throughout our department (MSCI, GEOL, and MEERM) **More details to come**



Qualifying/Comprehensive Exams

Congratulations to **Ademar Fernández** on his GEOL PhD Comprehensive Exam on Crustal Structure Underneath South Carolina Determined by Receiver Functions; Resolving the Crustal Configuration Under the Elgin–Lugoff Seismic Swarm. *Nice job Ademar*!!

Way to go **Ekaterina Rojas Kolomiets** on successfully completing her GEOL PhD Comprehensive Exam on Molybdenum systematics and fluxes in Aleutian sediments: a compositional control and implications for sediment recycling. *Nice job Katia!!*

Well done **Darcy Perin** on a successful completion of her MSCI PhD Qualifying Exam on Investigating sediment nitrogen dynamics in three different environments along the freshwater-marine continuum. *Yay Darcy!!*

<u>Defenses</u>

Congratulations to **Jesus Rivera Hernandez** on the successful defense of his MSCI PhD Defense on Caribbean Fisheries Management and Conservation Genomics: Population Demographics and Stock Connectivity of Data-Poor Fishes. *We are so proud you soon-to-be Dr Hernandez!!*



Way to go **Courtney Lewis** on a successful defense of her MEERM Defense on Mapping the Distribution of Phragmites australis on the Santee Coastal Reserve Using High-Resolution Aerial Imagery. *Congratulation Courtney!!*



Around the Department News

The Marine Culture and Aquarium Laboratory (MCAL), previously known as the Baruch Wet Lab, is managed by the Baruch Marine Field Lab. On campus management is now assisted by part-time technician, Levi Wagner. All groups using the MCAL for seawater and/or space should complete and submit a user agreement to put on file for billing purposes. You can also reference their rates and guidelines. Contact Bruce Pfirrmann for any questions, comments, or concerns.





McKissick museum Educational Collection Specimen available. There are 27 boxes of various rock (petrified wood), mineral, fossil (shark teeth galore), and HUGE shell specimen they would like to see find a good home. Katherine Ryker, Andrew Leier and Emily Baumann checked out the collection today and were kids in a candy shop!! They would have nerded out for hours if allowed. The museum employees plan to open the opportunity for faculty to call dibs on their favorites. More info will be available at the next faculty meeting...



KUDOS!!

Awards:

Congratulations to **Archana Venkatachari** on winning the Phillip M. Fields Scholarship Award from the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society (SCAPMS). This is a \$5,000 award to students working in an area related to the biology, ecology or management of aquatic plants in the Southeast. *Way to go Archana!!*

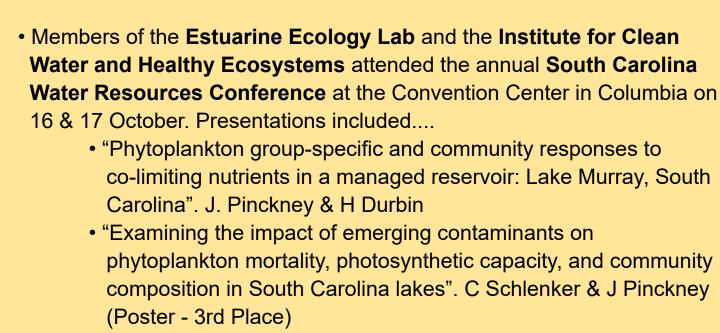


Alicia Wilson has been awarded a grant for "Risks, Impacts, and Strategies for Coastal Communities: Advancing Convergent Science to Support Climate Change Adaptation and Community Resilience". This is a 4-year project funded by NSF and a collaboration with the College of Charleston and the University of Delaware. The total anticipated award to USC is **\$398,418**. *Well done Alicia!!*

Publications

 Dan Frost and his lab attended the Eastern Section of the Seismological Society of America meeting in Atlanta. Ademar Fernandez presented his work on the crustal structure of South Carolina.





 "Cyanobacterial dynamics and phytoplankton community structure in Lake Murray, SC (2021 – 2024)". G Madgett, H Guy & J Pinckney (Poster)

 "Introducing...The USC Institute for Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems". T Richardson (Poster)



In the News

• **Claudia Benitez-Nelson** was featured in an article in The Hill on "<u>How</u> <u>climate change is intensifying storms like Hurricane Helene</u>". *Way to go Claudia!!*

• Erin Meyer-Gutbrod was quoted in a NYTimes article "<u>Can 70 Moms</u> <u>Save a Species</u>?" about the danger that right whale mother's face in waters filled with vessels and fishing gear.



• **Dan Frost** was interviewed by WACH FOX about earthquakes near Coronaca, SC. Watch his interview <u>here</u>. *Nice job Dan you did great!*

Let the department know about the wonderful things you and the people around you are doing!! Is there something/someone you are proud of? Let us know <u>Kudos Form</u>.

The SEOE honors the life and legacies

Chris Kendall

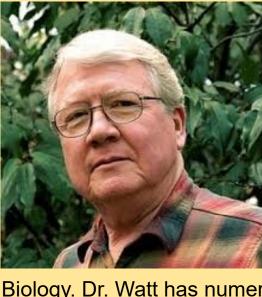
In 1983, Dr Kendall joined the University of South Carolina as an Assistant Professor in, what was then, the Department

of Geology. He continued to teach and research here at USC for 25 years, until he retired as Professor in 2008. Throughout his career, he worked in both the oil industry and academia, conducting research, and teaching sedimentary stratigraphy and the effects of relative sea level rise and fall on marine and coastal sediments, with a focus on their relationship to petroleum occurrence. From 2010 to 2017, he served as the chief editor of SEPM's STRATA, a premier web site on sequence and sedimentary stratigraphy. He built



and maintained the site, which is visited by thousands of people worldwide each month. Chris has multi-authored (with students and colleagues) 516 scientific publications: 9 books; 119 refereed papers; 165 abstracts of talks and posters at national and international meetings; 18 unpublished reports; and 220 published book reviews. During his years here, Chris supervised 22 Ph.D., and 23 M.S. students. Directed 1 post-doctoral and two visiting professors.

Ward Watt



Dr. Ward Watt was Yale educated from BA to PhD. Dr. Watt had a long, influential and distinguished career in evolutionary biology. He also served in the military as a captain in the Medical Service Corp of the U.S. Army. He began his academic career at Stanford University in 1969 as an Assistant Professor until retiring as Professor in 2013. That same year, he moved to Columbia with his wife Dr. Carol Boggs and began teaching at USC in

Biology. Dr. Watt has numerous accolades and author of more than 90 peerreviewed articles and co-editor of a book, Butterflies: Ecology and Evolution Taking Flight. His legacy lives on through his many students who are now faculty at research universities around the world.

Upcoming Events: <click to see the google calendar

Nov 4th - Jonathan Hybarger MEERM Internship Defense @9am in EWS 210 Nov 4th - 8th - Priority Registration Week Nov 5th - General Election Day (No Classes) Nov 6th - Last day to drop without a WF!!
Nov 8th - GEOL Faculty/Student Mixer @2pm in Green Quad Learning Center
Nov 11th - 15th - General Registration Week
Nov 15th - SEOE Career Panel @2pm in JONES 120 (Zoom link avialable)
Nov 25th - 29th - Thanksgiving Break (No Classes) Nov 28th - 29th - University Closed
Dec 6th - Last Day of Classes (LDOC!!)
Dec olli - Lasi Day VI Classes (LDUC!!)

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