

THE SFAAS “NEWSREEL”

Number 14 / April 2022

In this issue of *Newsreel*, we recognize our spring graduates, and an award winner.

We also have updates on people who have moved on and some information on a couple notable publications.

We are happy announce the completion of our dorm facility near Gulf Shores, a part of our efforts to increase research activity on the coast by our Auburn-based people.

Please keep information coming, so we can let everyone know of things that are happening.

Joe Tomasso

Professor & Director (and *Newsreel* editor!)

You can find past *Newsreels* at

<https://agriculture.auburn.edu/research/faas/newsletters/>





NEW PHD GRADUATE

Kaelyn Fogelman recently defended her dissertation. Jim Stoeckel served as her major professor and Hisham Abdelrahman, Rusty Wright, Brendan Higgans, and Brian Helms served as committee members.

Her dissertation topic was the feeding ecology and lethal thermal tolerances of North American freshwater mussels.

Kaelyn will step into a postdoctoral position in Jim Stoeckel's lab and hopes to eventually be a principal investigator at an R1 university.



NEW MS GRADUATE

Gabrella Elliott recently defended her thesis. Jim Stoeckel served as her major professor, and Matt Catalano and Shannon Brewer served as her committee members.

Her thesis topic was the evaluation of carbon dioxide and water flow as control techniques for the invasive Red Swamp Crayfish.

After graduation, Gabriella will join the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in Kansas City as an environmental analyst.



NEW MS GRADUATE

Christopher Rotar recently defended his thesis. Dennis DeVries and Rusty Wright served as his co-major professors, and Laura Bilenker and Eric Peatman served as his committee members.

His thesis topic was the evaluation of the effects of dams on fish movement and population connectivity using otolith microchemistry.

After graduation, Chris will join the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.



NEW MS GRADUATE

Hana Hess recently defended her thesis. Ian Butts served as her major professor, and Rex Dunham, Luke Roy, and Marie Strader served as her committee members.

Her thesis topic was the identification of molecular markers for male reproductive success in blue catfish.

After graduation, Hana will take a position as a natural sciences lab coordinator at Lincoln Memorial University.



NEW MS GRADUATE

Samuel Walsh recently defended his thesis. Allen Davis served as his major professor, and Tim Bruce and Luke Roy served as his committee members.

His thesis topic was use of feed effectors and passive acoustic monitoring during the semi-intensive production of Pacific white shrimp.

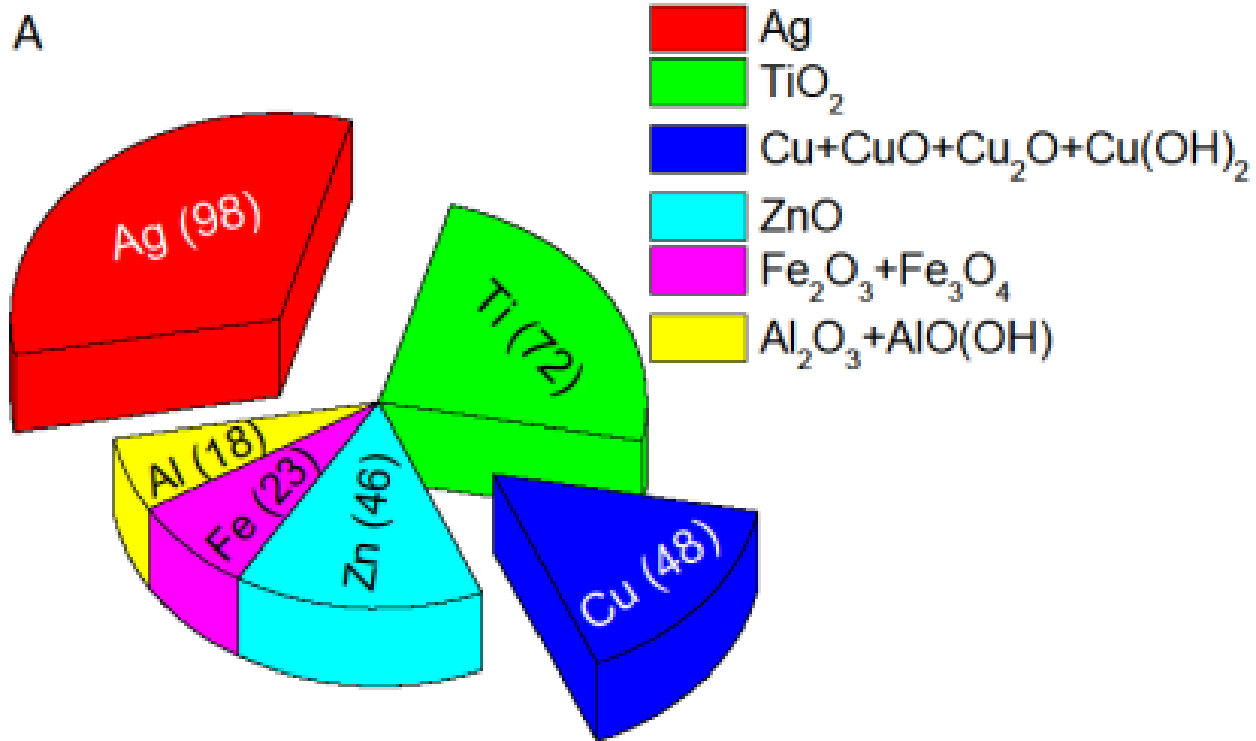
After graduation, Samuel plans to start an off-bottom oyster farm (Sharkbite Oysters) in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

DORM FACILITY ON THE COAST

Our new dorm facility at Claude Peteet Mariculture Center near Gulf Shores is finally complete. It will soon be available for students, staff, and faculty conducting research on the east and north sides of Mobile Bay. Within a few years, we hope to have a similar facility on the west side of the Bay.



NOTABLE JOURNAL ARTICLE



Kevin Wang is the lead author of a paper recently published in *Nature Nanotechnology* in which the research group described how the efficiency of pesticide application could be increased by encapsulating the pesticide molecules in nanoparticles, resulting in an increase in effectiveness and decrease in the amount of pesticide applied.

Nanoparticles with an affinity for the target organism of a pesticide, could further increase effectiveness and decrease pesticide use.

The full paper can be found at:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41565-022-01082-8>

AWARD WINNER

Aya ElSeadawy was recently recognized as an **Outstanding Doctoral Student** by the Graduate College.

Her dissertation topic is the thermal tolerance of Pacific white shrimp in low-salinity waters and the interactions of management strategies and bacterial communities. Allen Davis and Jim Stoeckel are serving as her advisors.

She expects to graduate in Fall 2022 and hopes to obtain a postdoctoral fellowship and then a faculty position

She is pictured here with her 2-week old daughter, Sophia.



ALUMNI UPDATE



Lauren Jescovitch (PhD 2017) is currently an Extension / Sea Grant Educator at Michigan State University.

The MSU College of Agriculture & Natural Resources recently recognized her as one of five Global Scholars in extension.

Early and mid-career Global Scholars will receive seed funding and travel support to “strengthen and expand their global linkages, networks, and collaborative programs...”.

The full article can be found here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/canr-honors-2022-cohort-of-global-scholars-in-extension?fbclid=IwAR3UxEtDjyoOO_GhSpeiKGRbJQ4syBQgDnN-dx7ftLSrrYit7qabWbdxR6k

RETIRED FACULTY UPDATE



Retired associate extension professor **Greg Whitis** continues a full schedule. Here he is participating in a field day at South Choctaw High School.

When not teaching kids about fish, he is promoting his new novel, *Nighthope*, and the print version of Dr Shell's history of the Auburn fisheries program.

More information on Dr Shell's book and Greg's novels can be found at:

www.gregorynwhitis.com

HIGHLY CITED PAPER

WILEY

Top Cited Article 2020-2021



Congratulations to:

Louis R. Dabramo

whose paper has been recognized as a **top cited** paper in:

JOURNAL OF THE WORLD AQUACULTURE SOCIETY

Achieving sustainable aquaculture: Historical and current perspectives and future needs and challenges



Claude Boyd

retired several years ago, but that has not slowed him down.

Dr. Boyd was the lead of twelve authors who

published an article in the summer of 2020. As of April 2022, the article has been cited 108

times. Lou D'Bramo was a coauthor and managed the submission process for the group.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdfdirect/10.1111/jwas.12714>