

THE SFAAS “NEWSREEL”

Number 22 / June 2023

In the last issue of the *Newsreel*, we recognized several students as they completed their degrees. In this issue, we welcome the “new crop” of students and wish them well in their studies.

We also recognize a new faculty member and three students who won special awards.

Please keep sending things in, so we can let people know what is happening...

Joe Tomasso
Professor & Director (and *Newsreel* editor!)

You can find past *Newsreels* at
<https://agriculture.auburn.edu/research/faas/newsletters/>





NEW FACULTY MEMBER

Taryn Garlock will join the SFAAS faculty in August as a tenure-track assistant professor with a 50% research / 50% extension appointment. Her focus is aquaculture and natural resource economics.

Dr. Garlock holds a PhD in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences from the University of Florida and is currently an Assistant Research Scientist in the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences at the University of Florida.

She and her husband, Aron, have a son, Peyton (age 6), and a daughter, Annabeth (age 4).



NEW PhD STUDENT

Justin Kowalski will soon join Dennis DeVries' and Rusty Wright's labs. He is from Wausau, Wisconsin and holds a BS in Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and a MS in Zoology from Southern Illinois University.

His dissertation work will be on the effects of dams on fish passage and movement in the Alabama River.

Justin's career goal is to continue to conduct research on the conservation of native fish species.

NEW MS STUDENT



Colby Lee will soon join Dennis DeVries' and Rusty Wright's labs. He is from Andalusia, Alabama and holds a BS from our program.

His thesis work will be on the effects of hydroelectric dams on migratory species in the Alabama River.

Colby hopes to become a field biologist for a state or federal agency.



NEW MS STUDENT

Jack Irwin will soon join Jim Stoeckel's lab. He is from Auburn and holds a BS from our program.

His thesis work will be on thermal and salinity tolerance in the eastern oyster.

Jack hopes to become an extension agent working on conservation activities.



NEW MS STUDENT

Brian De La Torre will soon join Shannon Brewer's lab. He is from Dalton, Georgia and holds a BS in Biology from Dalton State College.

His thesis work will evaluate tag retention and survival of tagged riffle beetles.

Brian hopes to eventually become a federal scientist and focus on environmental questions.



NEW MS STUDENT

Zane Walker Fuqua will soon join Shannon Brewer's lab. He is from Independence, Kentucky and holds a BS in Biology from Eastern Kentucky University.

His thesis work will examine the relationship between recruitment over time and dam operations on the Tallapoosa River.

Zane hopes to become a fisheries biologist that focuses on the conservation and management of river and stream ecosystems, preferable in the southeastern region of the United States.

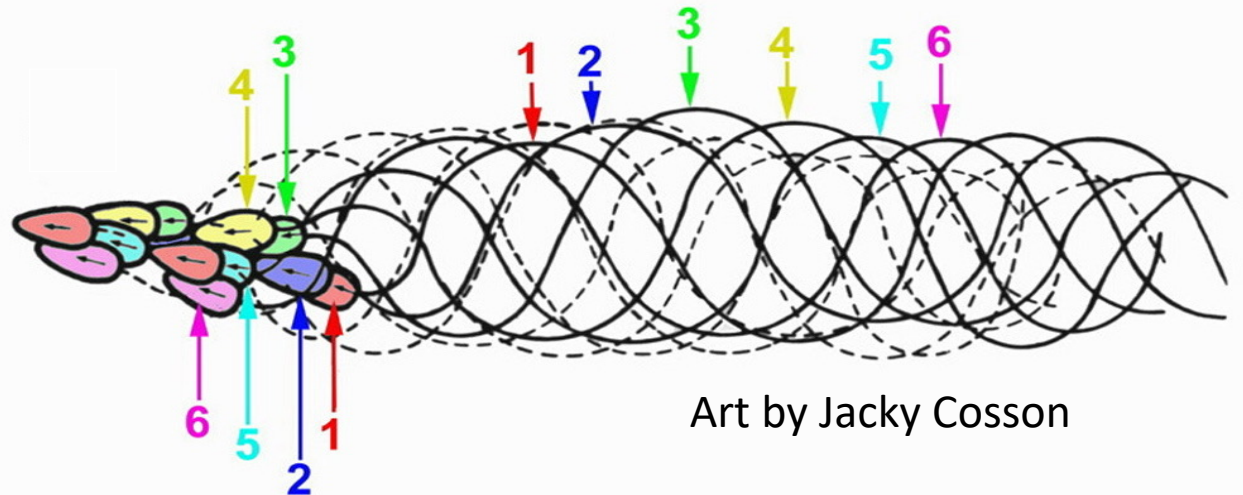
NEW MS STUDENT



Kyle Wood will soon join Ian Butts' lab. He is from Calvert, Maryland and holds a BS in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from Frostburg State University.

His thesis topic will focus on the impact of cryopreserved sperm on fertility and offspring performance in catfish.

Kyle's career goal is to improve aquatic animal reproduction and husbandry methods



Art by Jacky Cosson

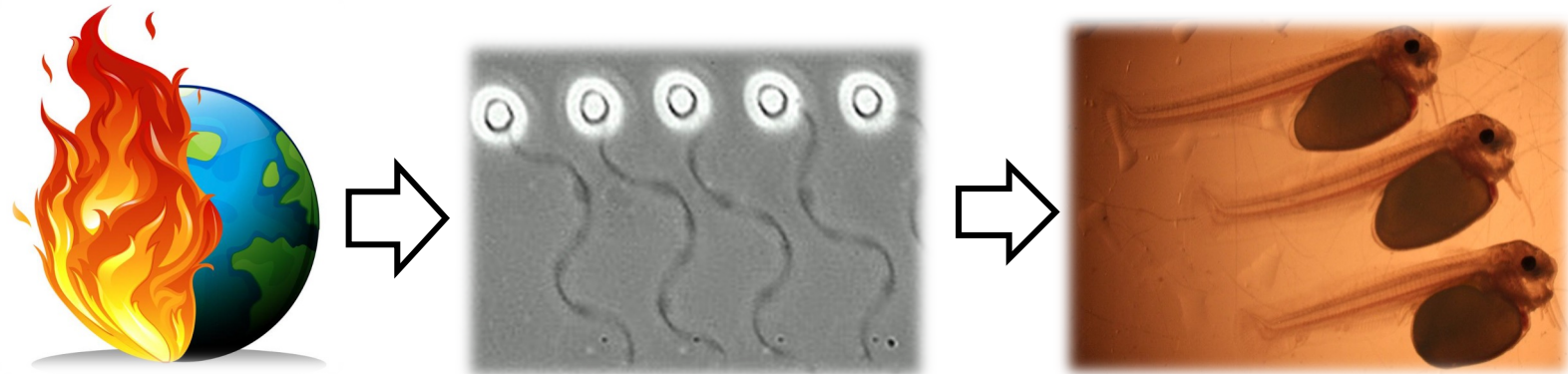
NEW MS STUDENT



Kaylan Martin will soon join Ian Butt's lab. She is from Highland Home, Alabama and holds a BS in Marine Science from Troy State University.

Her thesis topic will be the impact of environmental stressors on sperm quality and offspring performance.

Kaylan hopes to have a career in the conservation of aquatic species.



NEW MS STUDENT

Zophia Galván will soon join Andrea Tarnecki's lab. She is from Waldorf, Maryland and holds a BS in Wildlife & Fisheries Biology from Frostburg State University.

Her thesis topic will be on maternal effects and gamete quality in eastern oysters.

Zophia hopes to have a career in the field of reproductive biology of fish and shellfish.





NEW MS STUDENT

Kate Pottle will soon join Rex Dunham's lab. She is from Wilmington, North Carolina and holds a BS in Environmental Studies from Davidson College.

Her thesis topic is not yet defined but will be in the general area of xenogenesis in catfish.

Kate hopes to have a career in research, although she is not yet what direction this will take.

NEW MS STUDENT



Mariaguadalupe Vilchez will soon join Shannon Brewer's lab. She is from Miami and holds a BS in Natural Resource Conservation from the University of Florida.

Her thesis research will examine the relationship between successful fish hatching and the environmental conditions associated with dam operations.

Mariaguadalupe's long-term goal is to work for a government agency, engaging in collaborative research that can help implement effective management strategies to conserve our waterways and fisheries.

NEW MS STUDENT



Kalli Parauka will soon join Dennis DeVries' and Rusty Wright's labs. She is from Panama City, Florida and holds a BS in Biological Sciences from Arizona State University..

Her thesis work will be on fish movement and passage in the Alabama River.

After graduate school, Kali hopes to work for a federal agency on native salmonids in the Intermountain West.

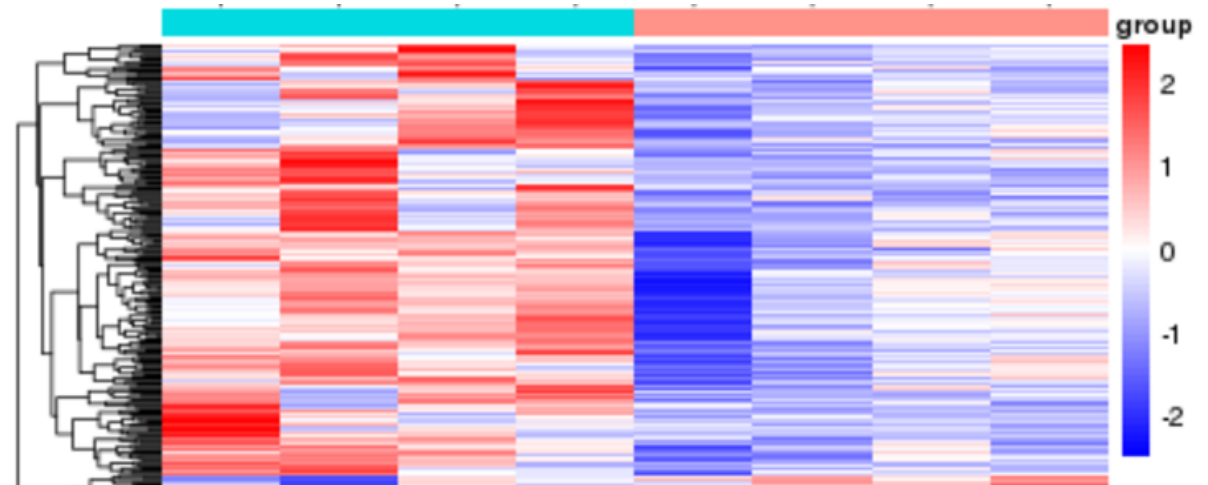
NEW MS STUDENT



Samitha Liyanage will soon join Ian Butts' lab. He is from Colombo, Sri Lanka and holds a BS in Fisheries & Marine Science from the University of Ruhuna.

His thesis topic will be the impact of paternal age on gene expression changes in testes and sperm of catfish.

Samitha hopes to have a career in reproductive physiology research.





NEW MS STUDENT

Chandler Schneider will soon join Tim Bruce's lab. He grew up in Suwanee, Georgia and holds a BS in Biology from Oakland University.

For his thesis project, he will study pathogens in largemouth bass.



NEW MS STUDENT

Owen Ledford will soon join Tim Bruce's lab. He grew up in Stafford, Virginia and holds a BS in Biology from Roanoke College.

For his thesis project, he will study bacterial pathogens in largemouth bass.

After he takes his MS, Owen hopes to be involved in the conservation of freshwater systems.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Mattie Brennan has joined Alan Wilson's lab as an undergraduate research assistant.

She is from Atlanta and is working toward a BS in Engineering.

Mattie hopes to eventually work in the area of alternative fuels.



RESEARCH AWARD WINNER

Samantha Donohoo has received the Graduate Student Research Award from the Society of Systematic Biology.

The grants are awarded to support the collection of preliminary data or to enhance systematic-based dissertation research.

Sam is a 1st year PhD student in Nathan Whelan's lab and is working on the systematics and phylogenetics of the freshwater snail genus *Lithasia*.

AFS SUBUNIT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Matt Gladfelter and Samantha Young are this year's winners of the AFS Subunit Scholarships. Matt is a PhD student working in Alan Wilson's lab. His goal is to remain in academia. Samantha is a MS student working in Matt Catalano's lab. Her goal is to work in fisheries management.



LEONARD LOVSHIN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

An endowed scholarship fund has been set up in the memory of Len Lovshin who recently passed away.

If you would like to contribute, please go to:

auburngiving.org/lovshin

