

THE SFAAS “NEWSREEL”

Number 27 / May & June 2024

Summer is in full swing – ponds are stocked, critters are spawning, and the labs are going full tilt.

On a sad note, Kevin Wang will be leaving us at the end of the summer. He has accepted a position at the University of Florida. His short time with us has been very productive. We wish Kevin and his family well and look forward to continuing collaborations.

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



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

NEW RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Tommie Kennedy Cone will soon join the AUMERC staff. She is from Joppa, Alabama and is completing a BS in our program.

Her work will be focused on the near-shore nutrient pollution project funded by EPA. She will also contribute to other ongoing studies.

Tommie's career goal is to work in the areas of environmental education and coastal restoration.





NEW STAFF MEMBER

Hanna Gustafson will soon join the AU Shellfish Lab staff as an aquaculture technician.

She is originally from Prattville and holds a BA in Psychology and a BS in Biology, both from the University of South Alabama.

Hanna currently lives in Mobile with her husband, Austin, and cat, Ollie.



NEW MS GRADUATE

Thomas Pullen recently defended his thesis. The topic was the effects of catch-and release on black bass populations in an Alabama reservoir.

Matt Catalano served as his major professor. Rusty Wright and Taryn Garlock served on his committee.

Thomas has accepted a position as an assistant fisheries biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Tyler.



NEW PhD STUDENT & FELLOW

Alicia Krause is our latest recipient of a **Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship**. She will be working in Nathan Whelan’s lab.

Alicia is from La Crosse, Wisconsin and holds a BS in Biology from the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay and a MS in Natural Resources from UW – Stevens Point.

Her dissertation topic is not yet defined but will be in the area of conservation of freshwater species.

Alicia hopes to direct a conservation genetics lab in an academic setting.



NEW PhD STUDENT

Annaleen Swanepoel has joined Ian Butts' research group. She is from South Africa and holds a BS in Animal Sciences from the University of Pretoria as well as a MS from our program.

For her dissertation work she will focus on improving husbandry techniques for larval largemouth bass.

Her career goal is to work in the fields of larval fish nutrition and husbandry techniques.



NEW MS STUDENT

Quinn La Fontaine has joined Taryn Garlock's research group. She is from Dexter, Michigan and holds a BS in Zoology from Michigan State University.

For her thesis work she will assess demand for red drum, crawfish, and oysters in southeastern super markets and restaurants.

After her MS program, Quinn hopes to pursue a PhD and work in the area of sustainable aquaculture.



NEW MS STUDENT

Alexandra Nowicki has joined Ian Butts' research group. She is from Vermont and holds a BS in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Northeastern University.

For her thesis topic, she will work on cryopreservation techniques to improve activation of thawed sperm in the Eastern oyster.

Alexandra's career goal at this point is to become well versed in oyster reproductive techniques and research.



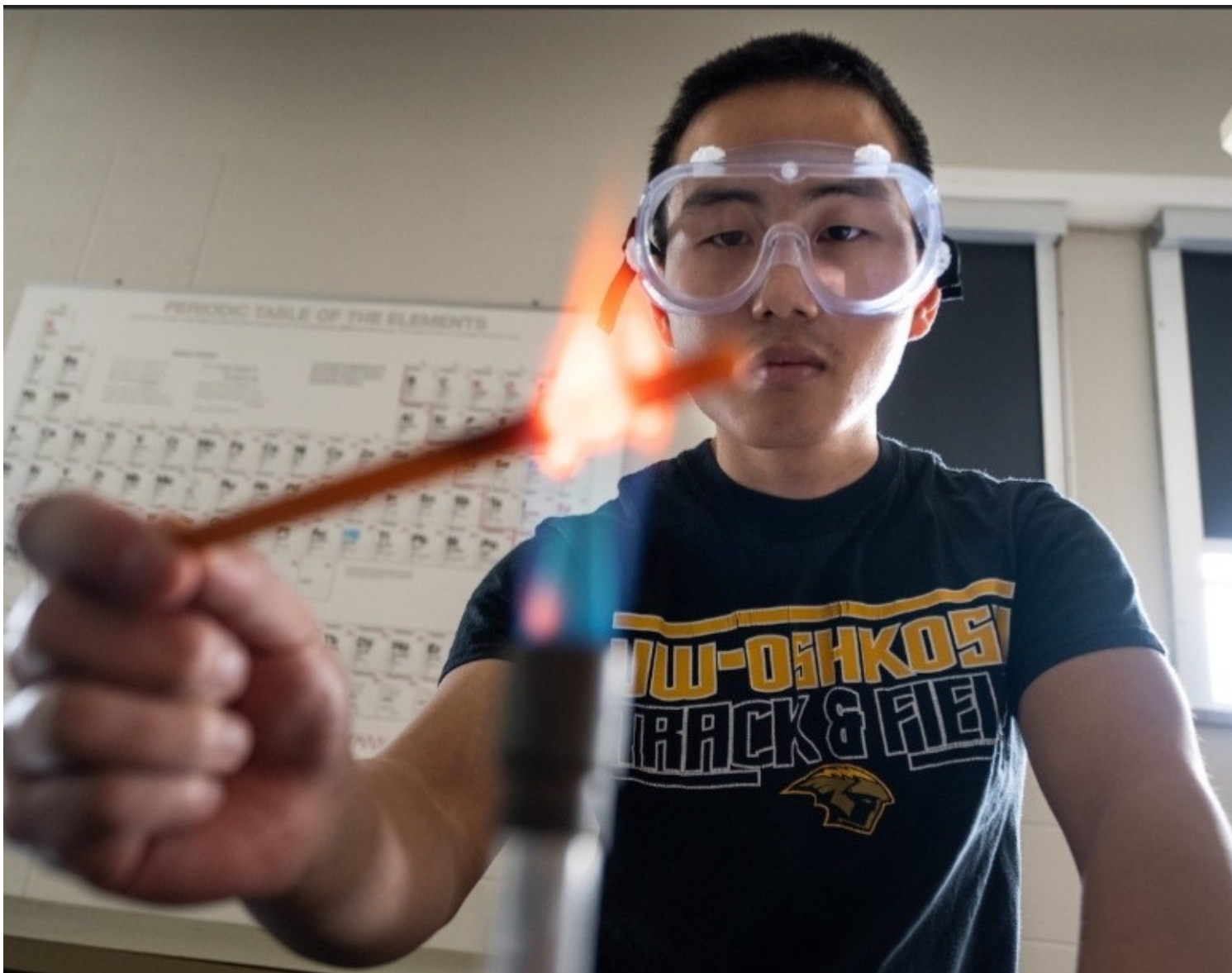
NEW MS STUDENT

Dustin Goodman has joined Ian Butts' research group. He is from Auburn and holds a BS from our program.

Dustin will be a non-thesis student, but he will be working in the lab on reproductive studies.

Dustin hopes to have a career in international development activities.

NEW MS STUDENT



Ellison Nabi has joined Tham Hoang's research group. He is from Fon du Lac, Wisconsin and holds a BS from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in both chemistry and environmental health.

Ellison's thesis work will be on the toxicity of some herbicides and pesticides to invasive snails.

Dustin hopes to have a career in environmental toxicology.

RECOGNITION SOUTHEASTERN SETAC



Sean Parham
2nd Oral
(Hoang & Brewer)



Ali Boardwine
1st Poster (UG)
(Hoang)



Ashley
Hennessey
1st Oral
(Wilson)



Safeerul Hashmi
1st Poster
(Hoang)



MOST CITED FACULTY MEMBERS

Not only do our faculty, staff and students publish a lot, but other scientists read and cite their work. In calendar 2023, our most-cited faculty members (according to Google Scholar) were:

Allen Davis	1,233 citations
Alan Wilson	941 citations
Kevin Wang	836 citations
Rex Dunham	721 citations
Taryn Garlock	447 citations

Maybe we should have baseball cards for scientists with their citation metrics on the back?