Welcome EEB Students!

It's fall quarter at UC Davis and the temperature is starting to fall and the smell of pumpkin spice lattes are in the air. The leaves will change color from verdant green to shades of fiery red and crisp orange... and there is also this funny thing called class and work that happens too. The EEB major is offering a myriad of exciting coursework this year that includes: ecology & evolution of animal-plant interactions (EVE 181), marine ecology (EVE 115), global change ecology (EVE 120) and many other great courses that are applicable for graduation requirements. If you would like any assistance in course planning, checks on graduation requirements or general questions contact the advising staff listed here. Feel free to email us or visit during drop-in office hours or make an appointment.

EVE Fall Courses

- EVE 100—Introduction to Evolution
- EVE 101—Introduction to Ecology
- EVE 102—Population and Quantitative Genetics
- EVE 117—Plant Ecology
- EVE 149—Evolution of Ecological Systems
- EVE 181—Ecology & Evolution of Animal-Plant Interactions
- EVE 190—Undergraduate Seminar, “Climate Change and Conservation Biology”

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Inside this issue:
New Academic Peer Adviser, Larson Ankeny
EVE Undergrad Website
Graduation Checklist
Bodega Marine Lab
Bodega Marine Lab Classes
Interview with Graduate Student Jessica Abbott

Evolution, Ecology & Biodiversity Major Newsletter
Fall 2012
Hello to all of my EEB colleagues! My name is Larson Ankeny and I am the Peer Adviser for the Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity major for the 2012-2013 academic year and I’d like to welcome all of the new and returning students and wish you well for this year! I am very excited to be your peer adviser and am more than happy to answer your questions pertaining to the EEB major; classes, research opportunities, career planning and anything else you have in mind. I have taken many of the courses offered by the EEB major including animal communication, invertebrate biology, and ecology of tropical systems and I have conducted research with our faculty for the past 2 years. I hope to be a strong resource for all of you and I can be contacted by email: lkankeny@ucdavis.edu or stop by my office (Storer 2202) and visit when I hold office hours on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-4 and Tuesdays 1-5. Those times are subject to change and I am also free to make appointments as well.

EVE Undergraduate Website

Ever curious what EVE classes are going to be offered or want to know what classes you need to take to graduate? Check out the EVE/EEB website (http://eve.ucdavis.edu/undergrad/) to find all that information and much more! The EVE website also has information on career planning and lists the EVE faculty with their research interests as well as their lab’s website which you can you use to figure out potential research and internship opportunities!

Graduation Checklist!

Thinking it’s about time to graduate and move onto the big, scary real world? Make sure you refer to the graduation checklist posted on the EVE website, http://www.eve.ucdavis.edu/undergrad/gradchk.html. It outlines all the deadlines for filing to graduate, as well as registering for commencement. Also make sure to meet with your undergraduate adviser, Sherri Mann, to check that you have fulfilled all major requirements and request a degree check from the College of Biological Sciences at room 202 in the Life Sciences Building. For those of you planning on graduating in spring, the College of Biological Sciences will update its commencement page in February.
Being a student in Davis may seem at times like living in the middle of Farmville, but the beach and ocean are actually closer than you'd think. A two hour drive from Davis brings you to the Bodega Marine Lab (BML) located on the Sonoma coast. BML is a facility where research on both marine and terrestrial biology is done by UC Davis faculty as well as visiting scientists. BML offers 362 acres of protected nature including rocky coves with numerous tide pools, mudflats with expansive eelgrass beds, sandy dunes and beaches and research vessels. These resources are also available to students through classes taught onsite! Classes are offered both in spring quarter as well as during the summer sessions (see below for class offerings) and onsite housing is available for students. In classes, students will get small class sizes, hands-on learning with real organisms, personal attention from their professors as well as the opportunity to carry out their own research. For more information about BML, the classes, how to apply and what it’s like to live there, check out the website (http://bml.ucdavis.edu/) or contact the on campus BML recruiter, Wilson Sauthoff through email, wwsauthoff@ucdavis.edu, or visit him during office hours in Storer 2202 on Thursdays from 11-12.

### Classes Offered at BML

#### Spring Quarter:
- NPB 141: Physiological Adaptation of Marine Organisms
- NPB 141P: Advanced Laboratory Research in Physiological Adaptation of Marine Organisms
- BIS 122: Population Biology and Ecology
- BIS 122P: Advanced Laboratory Research in Population Biology and Ecology
- NPB 141P: Advanced Laboratory Research in Physiological Adaptation of Marine Organisms
- BIS 123: Undergraduate Colloquium in Marine Science
- EVE 106: Mechanical Design in Organisms
- EVE 114: Experimental Invertebrate Ecology
- EVE 111: Marine Environmental Issues
- BIS 124: Coastal Marine Research
- ETX 127: Environmental Stress

#### Summer Session I
- Sequence I Marine Organisms and Ecology of the Californian Coast
- ESP 152: Coastal Oceanography
- GEL/ESP 150C: Biological Oceanography
- BIS 124: Coastal Marine Research

#### Summer Session II
- Sequence III Oceanography
- ESP 152: Coastal Oceanography
- GEL/ESP 150C: Biological Oceanography
- BIS 124: Coastal Marine Research

Application due dates for the summer sessions are to be announced.
Jessica Abbott, Population Biology PhD student in Jay Stachowicz’s Lab
Interview with PhD student Jessica Abbott

LA: How do you like the Bodega Marine Lab (as a resource)?
JA: I think BML is awesome! It’s huge and has a lot of space for doing experiments, it has an awesome flow-through sea water systems so you can set up mesocosms and other indoor experiments that require flow-through sea water, it has a great community and there a lot of resident grad students and faculty, and weekly seminars where you can learn what other research is going on at BML and in marine biology and ecology at large from visiting scientists. It’s a pretty tight knit community where you can interact with other labs and get help and borrow stuff (laughs); it’s been great there!

LA: What is your favorite/ best part of your research?
JA: That’s a tough question… I think for me, part of it is running the experiments and getting the results and seeing what I predicted was correct or not. And the other part is interacting with really cool people. I feel like I learn so much from interacting with professors, other grad students, students and techs and just everyone around me is smart and doing really cool things.

LA: Any future plans after grad school?
JA: Oh that’s a loaded question (laughs), I always thought I wanted to be a professor and wanted to go down the academic route but now, I’m not entirely sure if that’s what I want to do but I’m still considering it a possibility. I’m more considering working with nonprofit groups or doing some more education and outreach like working at a museum or at a smaller non research oriented college but I don’t know yet. I want to do something that keeps me doing field work and be outside.

LA: Advice to those looking to go to grad school?
JA: If you don’t know what you want to do or not sure if you want to do a PhD then think doing a masters or some time as a tech, and regardless, I’d suggest working sometime in a job related to field you want to go into because once you get into a PhD it’s a 5-7 year commitment which is longer than the average marriage (laughs). Along those same lines it’s important to find an adviser who is interested in you and what you’d like to work on as well as someone who you are compatible with, almost like in a relationship and a good way to do that is to talk to grad students because it’s also important to get along with because they’ll be people who you spend a lot of time with. So, do your homework before diving into a program!

Thank you Jessica for taking the time to answer these questions and for the advice!