On the Move

Kyle Risser accepted a position as Entomologist at the National Audubon Institute Insectarium and Butterfly Garden in New Orleans, Louisiana. He officially begins that position on May 1. He will defend his Ph.D. dissertation this summer.

Special Notice

Sincere sympathy is express to Dr. James Webster, retired USDA, whose mother, Marion Webster, passed away in Lexington, Kentucky on April 13, just three weeks shy of her 102nd birthday.

May Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sam Byrd</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaicey Colvin</td>
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<td>James Webster</td>
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<td>Elise Houston</td>
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<td>Jessica (Lynn) Smith</td>
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<td>Tan Leon</td>
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<td>Jeanmarie Verchot</td>
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<td>Leah Pietroforte</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Farriester</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abena Ocran</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan White Eagle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hassan Melouk</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>Dayna Collett</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>Stephen Marek</td>
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<td>Pam Thomas</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Chase Singleton</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lizbeth Pena</td>
<td>31</td>
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May Calendar of Events

- Pre-finals Week: May 1-5
- Undergraduate Research Symposium: May 5
- Finals Week: May 8-12
- Defense Seminar – Omar Arias: May 8
- Graduation Celebration: May 11
- Graduate College Commencement: May 12
- Undergraduate Commencement: May 13
- Ag Access Tour: May 17-19
- Summer Session 1 Begins: May 22
- Faculty Meeting – 9:00 a.m.: May 22
- Memorial Day – University Holiday: May 29
- Advance Registration Due for APS Annual Meeting: May 31

June Calendar of Events

- Oral and Poster Presenters Registration Deadline for APS: Jun 7
- Summer Session 1 Ends: Jun 9
- Summer Sessions 2 and 3 Begin: Jun 12
**Spring Graduates**

David Bradt has titled his M.S. thesis, “Trap Type and City Influences Mosquito Communities and Vector Potential in Oklahoma.” Dr. Wyatt Hoback has been his advisor. David will reenter the Active Duty Army as a Medical Entomologist but the location is unknown at this time. He received his B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in 2016.

Haley Butler has titled her M.S. thesis, “Abiotic and Landscape Factors that Affect Spotted-wing Drosophila (Drosophila suzukii) Populations in Oklahoma.” Her advisor has been Dr. Eric Rebek. Haley is joining the Peace Corps and will conduct environmental education of children and adults in Paraguay. She received her B.S. degree in Natural Resource Ecology and Management with an option in Wildlife Ecology and Management from OSU in 2015.

Natalie Gahm has titled her M.S. thesis, “The Ecology of Grassland Leafhoppers (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) with Emphasis on the Genus Balclutha.” Dr. Astri Wayadande has been her advisor. Natalie is currently looking for employment. She received her B.S. degree in Entomology from OSU in 2015.

Casi Jessie has titled her Ph.D. dissertation, “Diversity, Relative Abundance, Movement and Fitness of Insect Predators in Winter Canola Agricultural Landscapes in the United State Southern Plains.” Her advisor has been Dr. Kris Giles. Casi will continue to work in Dr. Giles’ laboratory on sugarcane aphids on sorghum. She received her B.S. degree in Natural Resource Ecology from the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at OSU in 2009 and her M.S. in Entomology from OSU in 2012.

Ankur Limaje has titled his M.S. thesis, “New Sources of Sorghum Resistance to Sugarcane Aphid and the Effects of Grow Lights on these Interactions.” Dr. Wyatt Hoback has been his advisor. Ankur is currently looking for employment. He received his B.S. degree from Mohota Science College in 2010, his M.S. degree in Zoology from Hislop College in 2012, and his Bachelor of Education degree from Green Heaven College of Education in 2013, all in Nagpur, India.

Sarah Ball, Jeanette Luong, and Faithful Williams are completing their B.S. degrees in Entomology.

A Graduation Celebration for our spring and summer 2017 graduates will be hosted by the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology on Thursday May 11 at 3:00 p.m. in the third floor Entomology Atrium.

**Congratulations!**

Barbara Brown received the Outstanding Staff Award during the OSU President’s Leadership and Service Award Ceremony on April 6.

Sulochana Paudyal was a Sheryl Benbrook Women for OSU Scholarship winner for 2017.

Tracey Payton Miller won a Women’s Faculty Council Student Research Award and was recognized at a reception on April 27.

**Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America**

The 65th Annual Meeting of the SWB of the ESA was held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Austin, Texas on April 9-13. Several students won awards in the student paper and poster competition:

- **Justin Turner** – 1st Place Undergraduate Poster
- **Rylee Wilson** – 2nd Place Undergraduate Poster
- **Thomas Hess** – 3rd Place Undergraduate Poster
- **Victoria Pickens** – 1st Place Undergraduate Ten-Minute Paper
- **Daniel St. Aubin** – 1st Place Master’s Poster
- **Jacob Farriester** – 1st Place Master’s Ten-Minute Paper
- **Tracey Payton Miller** – 1st Place Ph.D. Ten-Minute Paper

OSU Team #1 won the Linnaean Games and will represent the SWB at the national meeting in Denver. Members of the team are David Bradt, Tracey Payton Miller, Sulochana Paudyal, and Kyle Rissier. They are coached by Dr. Wyatt Hoback.

Dr. Wyatt Hoback received the ESA Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching.

Dr. Justin Talley is the 2017-2018 SWB President and Dr. Eric Rebek is the Vice President.

**Undergraduate Research Symposium**

Sarah Ball, Kate Nichols (BMB), Hannah Paradis, Justin Turner, and Rylee Wilson will give their Capstone ENTO 4800 final research presentations on May 5 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 216.