HONORS and AWARDS

The SNR Alumni Association honored Laura Hertel at the “Trivia in the Wild” Fundraising event last Friday night by establishing the “Laura J. Hertel School of Natural Resources Scholarship Endowment Fund”. The Scholarship is intended as an incoming freshmen scholarship for SNR. As you know an incoming freshmen scholarship is a priority need in SNR. Laura has touched the lives of thousands of our students over the years and the SNR Alumni Association has recognized her contributions through this well-deserved honor. Please join me in congratulating Laura and thanking Mr. Greg Snellen (President), the board, and members of the SNR Alumni Association for their timely and thoughtful gesture. Attached is a picture from the announcement at Trivia. In addition to Laura and me, you will also see Mr. Snellen and Darcy Wells, Senior Executive Director of CAFNR Advancement, in the picture. (Submitted and photo by Shibu Jose.)
Parks, Recreation and Sport Students Attend Missouri Park and Recreation Association (MPRA) Annual Conference & Expo at the Lake of the Ozarks. Students volunteered at the event, attended educational sessions on topics in the industry, and networked with many professionals and potential employers. Twelve Mizzou students were awarded scholarships during the awards banquet, totaling $5,500! The twelve scholarship winners are: Jenny McCarthy, Samantha Hayworth, Shelby Dawson, Anna Cheng, Makia Hoorman, Tristan Lander-Morris, Madalyn Mussey, Patrick Lacey, Lily Bennett, Alexis Kerman, Adam Ziervogel, Tyler Young. Pictured above are some of the scholarship students along with other PRS students: Front row L-R: Shelby Dawson, Alexis Kerman, Madalyn Mussey, Patrick Lacey, Anna Cheng, Mark Robinson; Middle row L-R: Tyler Yount, Tristan Landers-Morris, Samantha Hayworth, Jenny McCarty, Adam Ziervogel, Lily Bennett; and Back row L-R: Zane Jacoby, Trevon Marsaw, James Hurley (Submitted and photo by Jason Young.)
Roscoe Righter (center) was the 29th inductee into the Missouri Recreation and Parks Hall of Fame. Righter is a resident of Blue Springs and has made extraordinary contributions to the parks and recreation movement in Missouri. Righter’s legacy stems from 5 decades of saying “yes” to just about every request, from just about everybody. As a young adult, knowing full well what “yes” meant, he recognized value in formal education. After the School of the Ozarks said “yes, we’ll take you,” he graduated, but then said “yes” to the University of Missouri and the University of Georgia. After that, three years of NRPA Executive Development School might have been enough, but not for “yes-man” Roscoe. Internships with the cities of Columbia and Springfield solidified Righter’s commitment to the profession of parks and recreation. When Sedalia was convinced this would lead to better things in their city, Righter said “yes” to becoming the first professional Recreation Director there. Then he said it again when the City of Blue Springs needed their first professional director. He served admirably there for 32 years, retiring in 2011. Righter has been very involved with the University of Missouri-Columbia, influencing parks and recreation students for over 45 years and with the National Parks & Recreation Association, serving on the Council of Affiliate Presidents, the Great Lakes Regional Council, and Congress Local Host Committees. He has supported the Missouri Park & Recreation Association (MPRA) in both volunteer and elected roles: conference and constitution committees, professional certification, and Hall of Fame. His leadership in the huge initiative resulting in the acquisition of the Musco Lighting Building as MPRA’s “home” is unmatched. Righter has also made a commitment to human-kind, by helping orphans in Africa through trips and many fund-raising efforts. He continues to say yes to education, yes to small towns, yes to big cities, yes to individuals, yes to elected office, yes to other countries, yes to thousands of miles on the road, yes to talking to politicians, yes to young people, and to life-long friends. (Photo and story provided by MPRA; Submitted by Jason Young.)

About the Missouri Recreation and Parks Hall of Fame: The Missouri Recreation and Parks Hall of Fame award was developed by the Missouri Park and Recreation Association in 2009 to honor professionals and special individuals who have made outstanding, unique, lasting and extraordinary contributions to the recreation and park movement in Missouri. Twenty nine individuals have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since its inception. All have been outstanding professionals working to heighten the profession of parks and recreation and enhance the quality of life to our citizens.
Craig Feldt (third from the left), Recreation Superintendent, O’Fallon Parks and Recreation Department, was honored with the Missouri Park and Recreation Association’s highest honor, Fellow Award, at their annual conference in Osage Beach, MO. After graduating from the University of Missouri–Columbia with a bachelor’s degree in parks, recreation, and tourism, Feldt began his career as a recreation supervisor. During his 27-year career, he has had stops with the City of Bridgeton, Shrewsbury, Fenton, and O’Fallon, MO along with Keller, TX. From running softball leagues to opening the doors of two brand new recreation facilities, he has displayed leadership at a variety of levels. You can find him volunteering at department events, flipping pancakes or serving queso to the public. Feldt has proven to be a strong and effective leader as he worked his way up from a recreation supervisor to his current position as Recreation Superintendent. As a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional, he’s not only served his community, he’s also dedicated time to the Missouri Park & Recreation Association, serving as a Region Director, Director At Large, and as the Awards and Citation Chair since 2011. Over the years, Feldt has been responsible for training and supervising hundreds of staff members at various recreation facilities, some of which have entered the field because of his influence. He understands a department is only as successful as the employees make it. He leads by example and is willing to pitch in no matter when the task might be. (Photo and story provided by MPRA; Submitted by Jason Young.)

About the Missouri Park and Recreation Fellow Award: The Missouri Park and Recreation Fellow Award is given to one member of the association each year. The recipient must have at least 10 years of experience as a leader, instructor, supervisor, director, administrator, or a combination of same in the field of recreation and/or parks and must be certified by a certifying board recognized in the field of parks, recreation and leisure services. They must also contribute to the association and display distinctive and innovative leadership. For more details, the MPRA Awards code can be found at mopark.org/mpracitationsandawards.html.

About the Missouri Park and Recreation Association: The Missouri Park and Recreation Association, whose members work to provide opportunities for all the state’s citizens to enjoy quality leisure activities, is dedicated to promoting public support for parks and recreation and public awareness of the contribution of recreation to a balanced life. The association works to ensure the growth and improve the quality and accessibility of urban and rural parks, open spaces and recreation lands, facilities and programs for all Missourians. It promotes research and information dissemination on parks, conservation, recreation, and leisure issues.
MU Alum Bettie Yahn-Kramer, is a 2018 MPRA Retirement Award Winner. Bettie has enjoyed a stellar career in parks and recreation and has earned each and every position, promotion, and recognition she received throughout her 39 year career of dedicated service to the field. Bettie rose from a position of Horticulturist for the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department to eventually become the Director of what is considered to be one of the largest and oldest county park systems in the country. She earned it every step of the way; as a Park Supervisor, District Manager, Park Superintendent and Assistant Director over the course of 23 years with Jackson County. Her professional affiliations are too numerous to mention; highlighted by involvement with NRPA's Council of Affiliate Presidents and executive positions on the Great Lakes Regional Council as well as appointed to the prestigious American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. She served MPRA in many roles on the Executive Board including as President and recipient of the Fellow Award. Bettie was a guest teacher, served on the Advisory Council, and was honored as the commencement speaker for the University of Missouri School Of Natural Resources. She has been featured as a speaker at numerous local, state, and national conferences. When Bettie became the Director of St. Charles County Parks and Recreation in 2001, the Department consisted of 600+ acres and three parks open to the public. During the ensuing 16 years under Bettie's leadership, thirteen additional parks were added to the system and a total of 3,000+ acres were acquired, highlighted by the full donation of Spring Bend, a 100 acre tract in the heart of St. Charles with an estimated worth of $11 million. Bettie's impact on staff, officials, administrators, co-workers, peers, and especially park visitors is immeasurable. Award Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ4IVtUV4z4 (Photo and story provided by MPRA; Submitted by Jason Young.)
MU Alum Nick Donze (third from the left), is a 2018 MPRA Retirement Award Winner: Nick retired in November of 2017 from the St. Charles Parks & Recreation Department where he was the Parks Superintendent. Nick worked for over 34 years for various Departments throughout the State of Missouri including the City of St. Charles, St. Charles County and Jefferson City. From 1979-1983 Nick attended the University of Missouri in Columbia receiving his Bachelor's Degree. In 1984, Nick began working for the Jefferson City Parks & Recreation Department as a Parks and Landscape Planner. Over the next 14 years, he moved through the system becoming Superintendent of Construction in 1989 and Division Director of Parks Resources in 1993. Nick was one of the first employees hired in 1998 to the newly established St Charles County Parks and Recreation Department as the Assistant Director of Parks. He was instrumental with the development of the new parks system with land acquisition, park planning and design, policy development and hiring staff. During his career with St Charles County, Nick received the Distinguished Service Award from MPRA in 2005. From 2007 to 2011 Nick left the Public Sector and went to the dark side while working for Musco Sports Lighting! While there he worked with Universities, Cities, School Districts and private organizations on planning, designing and installing athletic field lighting projects. In 2011, Nick became the Parks Superintendent for the City of St. Charles. During this time, he reorganized the Maintenance Division structure, developed energy efficiency projects such as the use of propane in fleet mowers and LED lighting for parks street lights and buildings. He was also instrumental in the passing of Prop P, the 1/2 cent parks and storm water sales tax that was passed in 2016 by the residents of St. Charles. Nick's love for parks didn't stop when he left work as he is married to Mary Donze, a planner for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for over 34 years. Their daughter Claire assists with distributing low income housing grants for the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC. Truly a family of dedicated service to the public. Award video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5juUWK288b4 (Photo and story provided by MPRA; Submitted by Jason Young.)
John H. Schulz (PhD, Human Dimensions of Natural Resources; Advisor: Sonja Wilhelm Stanis) received the annual Audubon Society of Missouri (ASM) Graduate Research Scholarship in support of his research evaluating a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service outreach program encouraging deer hunters to use non-lead hunting ammunition on 54 national wildlife refuges across the upper Midwest. ASM is dedicated to the preservation and protection of birds and wildlife habitat, environmental education, and wildlife conservation practices related to people and wildlife.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS


THE WEEK IN SNR WITH DIRECTOR JOSE

Met with Steven Lawry, Director – Equal Opportunities, Gender, Justice and Tenure, Center for International Forestry Research, and attended the CIFOR-USAID/PRESTATI student presentations of their research
Attended the Missouri Soil and Water Districts Commission Meeting with Steve Anderson
Met with Rudi Roeslein, CEO of Roeslein Industries, and Noel Aloysius to discuss modeling prairie restoration and its impact on water quality and quantity in the Mississippi River Basin
Attended MANRRS meeting and presentation by Rebecca Rodriguez and Michelle Dobbins
Attending the 82nd Conservation Federation of Missouri Convention
Dear Colleagues –

Our School has experienced a lot of change in the recent past, but we also has had a lot to celebrate. Thank you for everything you do to make our School great!

As I mentioned at our joint faculty and staff meeting last Friday, the #MizzouGivingDay is right around the corner. Many of us missed this giving opportunity last year. I want to make sure that you are aware of this wonderful opportunity to support SNR, CAFNR and our great University, which is set for noon on March 14 to noon on March 15. Your support will encourage the future success of our students, faculty and staff. In particular, we ask that you consider a gift to SNR. Here are a few of our SNR-specific giving opportunities:

SNR Development Fund
SNR Alliance
Atmospheric Sciences Development Fund
Fisheries and Wildlife Development Fund
Forestry Development Fund
Parks, Recreation and Sport Development Fund
Soil Science Development Fund

All you need to do is to access the Mizzou giving Day website where you can choose CAFNR and specify the fund you wish to support in the memo box. You may choose other specific funds that are not listed above as well. By donating early, your #MizzouGivingDay gift to SNR could be matched twice! First, Sheena and I are pledging $2,000 to match your donation to SNR up to $100 per person. Second, Vice Chancellor and Dean Daubert has committed $50,000 in funds provided by an anonymous donor to match up to $500 per person.

In advance, we appreciate your support on #MizzouGivingDay, and thank you again for making a difference in our School and investing in our future! Please spread the word! Thank you!

Shibu,
Professor and Director
The School of Natural Resources
103 ABNR Bldg.
University of Missouri
Natural Resources Careers Academy
School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri, Columbia
A Summer Residential and Experiential Course for Missouri High School Students
July 8 – 13, 2018

Want to learn about careers in natural resources?
Up to thirty high school rising juniors & seniors will be selected based on scholastic achievement and their interests in the natural world, conservation and environmental studies. Applicants must be Missouri residents. Please go to the link below for registration. The application is due April 20th, 2018.

Opportunities
- To learn about a diverse array of careers in forestry, nature interpretation, fisheries, environmental sciences, outdoor recreation, tourism, soil science, atmospheric science and wildlife at School of Natural Resources;
- To connect with professionals and to stay in residence halls on MU campus.

For Registration, please go to the webpage and download the form
https://cafn.missouri.edu/summer-academies/natural-resources-careers-academy/
For more information, contact Dr. Christine Li, (573) 882-0613, lij@mizzou.edu or Amber Edwards, edwardsaamb@missouri.edu, School of Natural Resources 105A, Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building, Columbia, Missouri, 65201
SPOTLIGHT

Sustain CoMo intern and SNR student exceeds all expectations: the Sustain CoMo internship is offered through the City of Columbia Sustainability Office and is open to any college student seeking a degree related to sustainability. Recently, Allison Pittman (pictured below), a senior majoring in Forestry at the MU School of Natural Resources completed her internship with the City’s community conservationist, Danielle Fox. Allison’s ambition is to become a leader in environmental education to teach children the importance of our natural resources and how they may help to conserve those resources. Allison’s project objective was to work with the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department to create a natural resource conservation curriculum for their summer programming. However, opportunities for collaboration with Parks and Recreation were limited and Allison had to develop relationships with external partners. Together Allison and her mentor worked together to identify potential partners that Allison could work with to help integrate conservation into their educational programs. Through this process Allison was introduced to several outdoor education professionals in Columbia. In Allison’s words, “The Sustain CoMo internship helped me not only get a head start in gaining contacts in my field, but also made me realize the importance of these connections and the amazing things you can accomplish by having them.” After several weeks of meetings and communications, Allison was able to partner with the Wild Folk Unschool that focuses on teaching mindful ecology to homeschool children ages 5-14 years old in a mixed age class through place-based education. The structure of the Unschool was new to Allison and introduced her to a different way of teaching children. Working with Unschool showed Allison that traditional teaching methods are not always the best way to communicate a message to children. Sometimes getting them outside, playing in the dirt, and interacting with their environment is the most effective way to communicate that message. Allison designed a forestry curriculum to be used with the Unschool’s non-traditional approach to teaching. This experience provided Allison the opportunity to explore a different teaching method and develop her skills as an educator and leader. Unfortunately, Allison never had the chance to teach her forestry class to Unschool students because of a change in Wild Folk’s staffing. Though Allison was disappointed that her time with Wild Folk never came to fruition, her additional volunteer hours with other partners gave Allison experience teaching children of different ages in a traditional and outdoor classroom setting. As a general rule, I [Allison’s mentor]
only provide guidance when an intern asks it of me and typically when Allison asked for my input on an issue she already had the solution but needed the reassurance that it was a good decision. As time progressed and the more issues Allison faced, I noticed that she rarely asked for my input anymore as her confidence grew with her experience. Watching Allison transform from a student to a young professional has been the most rewarding part of being her mentor. I am confident that Allison’s work ethic and aptitude for learning combined now with the skills of a leader will take her far in any career that she pursues. In fact, following her internship Allison received several summer job offers and will be taking a position with Wonderland Camp in Kansas as a camp facilitator where she will be developing curriculum and teaching a variety of people about the natural resources. (Submitted by Danielle Fox, Community Conservationist, City of Columbia, F&W Grad 2012, member of the SNR Alumni Board.)

In regard to her experience with the Sustain CoMo internship Allison said, “The Sustain CoMo internship caters to the individual and allows students to create their own internship experience. Danielle was a great mentor because she saw my strengths and helped me realize and use them in the right manner. My internship didn’t turn out the way we intended in the beginning and before I would have been upset about this. However, Danielle helped me realize that it’s okay when things don’t turn out how you expect them. The important thing is that I adapted, learned a lot, and gained a lot of experience to help me in my future career.”

This Weekly Reader will be distributed electronically every Friday (except during breaks). Please send announcements to Cindy Greenwood, Editor (greenwoodci@missouri.edu) by Thursday @ 5 p.m. If you’d like to unsubscribe from the Weekly Reader, please email Cindy. Thanks to Laura Hertel for the Weekly Reader Tiger logo.