



School of Natural Resources
University of Missouri



June 2021

SNR MONTHLY READER



<https://harc.missouri.edu/>

DIRECTOR MARKET – SNR ACTIONS

- Met with incoming Soil Health Assistant Professor Jordon Wade
- Continued meeting to discuss the Climate Hub-Missouri Extension Agriculture and Food Research Initiation Request for Proposal [AFRI RFP]
- Meeting to finalize the proposal for the online MS in Sport Recreation
- Meeting to finalize the Great Rivers Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit [CESU] budget and update website
- Meeting with Associate Dean / Senior Program Director Rob Kallenbach in the CAFNR Office of Extension to discuss Administrative Efficiencies
- Discussions about potential collaboration with the Children Learning Through Outdoor Experiences [ChLOE] Project



HONORS AND AWARDS



Assistant Professor **Alba Argerich** received the 2021 Provost Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award. This award recognizes junior faculty for teaching excellence and dedication to the teaching-learning process inside and outside of the classroom; superior advising; and demonstrating potential for publications and scholarly activities related to teaching and advising.



Professor Emeritus **Clark Gantzer** received the Associate Editor Excellence Award from the Soil and Water Conservation Society. This award recognizes associate editors for their contributions to the success and development of the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation in advocating the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. (Submitted by **Steve Anderson**.)

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Mr. Dan Hawblitzel, BS 2002, has accepted the job of Meteorologist in Charge at the National Weather Service Office in the Twin Cities, Minnesota Office. (Submitted by **Tony Lupo**.) Photo from and more of the story at: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2021/06/01/twin-cities-nws-office-gets-new-meteorologist-in-charge>

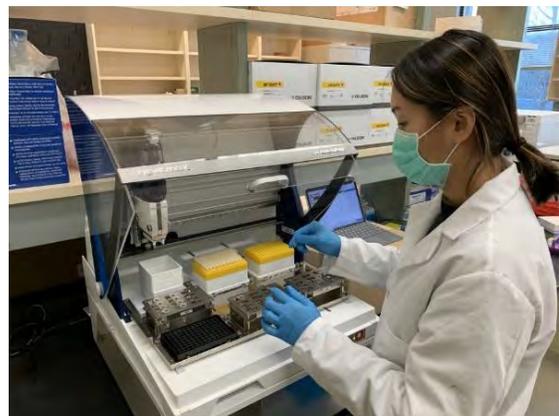
G. Frandson, B. Landwer, and **A. Argerich**. Macroinvertebrate community structure, substrate composition, and gravel augmentation in an impounded Ozark stream. Society for Freshwater Science Annual meeting. Virtual. Oral presentation.

J. Wilson and **A. Argerich**. Exploring temporal and spatial drivers of nutrient dynamics in an urban stream receiving mine drainage. Society for Freshwater Science Annual meeting. Virtual. Oral presentation.

A. Argerich and **A. Colon-Santiago**. Spatial and temporal variability in stream water quality along a rural-to-urban gradient. Society for Freshwater Science Annual meeting. Virtual. Oral presentation.

F. Guerrero, J. Hatten, S. Johnson, and **A. Argerich**. Biogeochemical and erosional controls of long-term POC exports from headwaters. Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography [ASLO] 2021 Aquatic Sciences Meeting. Virtual Meeting. Oral presentation.

The ongoing COVID wastewater research project to help the state of Missouri track the delta variant of COVID-19 through wastewater from Missouri's sewage systems by **Chung-Ho Lin** and Marc Johnson has been highlighted in national news in the past couple of weeks: Media coverage has been extensive: 32 stories about this aspect of the research project have been created. Featured placements include [NBC News](#), [MSN](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Daily Mail](#) in the UK, the [Kansas City Star](#) and [KY3-TV](#) (NBC affiliate, Springfield). In total, these stories have *potentially* reached more than 464 million people, and have been shared nearly 2,400 times on social media. (Eric Stann, Research News Strategist, MU News Bureau provided the statistics for this story; Photo submitted by Chung-Ho Lin.)



EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Baskett Brief

Meet the summer crew!

The BWREC buzzes with activity in the summer, providing a wide variety of opportunities for students through internships or research experiences. This month, we'd like to feature students and staff working at BWREC this summer.



Drew Anderson: Drew is a Research Specialist at BWREC and an alumni from the SNR forestry program. He provides support for the many ongoing studies and projects at BWREC. You can find him hiking the local parks or playing with his band around Columbia.



Aaron Fujiki: Aaron is an undergrad with an emphasis in Terrestrial Ecosystems. He enjoys being outdoors, fishing, and getting plugged into the Columbia community. Aaron moved from Hawaii in August 2020. He is working on establishing a large forest dynamics plot at BWREC.



Joshua Galmiche: Joshua is a Senior in biological/biomedical engineering. His project at BWREC this summer focuses on building and testing an automated system for measuring methane ebullition, and assisting graduate students with data field collection.



Abby Huffman: Abby is an M.S. student who studies issues with oak regeneration. This summer she will monitor planted oak seedlings and collect data on seedlings in long term forest monitoring plots.



Taylor Hurley: Taylor is a sophomore in the Forest Resource Management emphasis area and an officer with the MU Forestry Club. She enjoys going on hikes and runs, as well as traveling around the country. She will be working on establishing a large forest dynamics plot at BWREC.



Bella Kamplain: Bella is a sophomore studying environmental science with an emphasis in land and soil. She is a research assistant with the MOFLUX project, and her duties involve data collection and measuring spatiotemporal temperature variations across vegetation plots.



Josh Meyer: Josh is a senior in the Forest Resource Management emphasis. He is working on a variety of projects at BWREC, including maintenance of a black walnut plantation. He enjoys hiking and fishing, and he plans to go to graduate school and then work with the US Forest Service.



Sloane Scott: Sloane is pursuing a B.S. in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Forestry. She obtained her B.A. in English, Poetry from Northwestern University, which fatefully led her back to forestry in her hometown. She is monitoring long-term forest dynamics at BWREC.



Brian Widmer: Brian received his MS degree in conservation biology from Central Michigan University prior to starting a Research Specialist II position with the MOFLUX project at BWREC. His duties include coordinating and conducting day-to-day field activities and data collections, managing and repairing scientific instruments, and curating biological databases.

For more information, contact Ben Knapp, Superintendent (knappb@missouri.edu)

IN MEMORIUM

Carol S. Comer JD (1967 -2021)

[A remembrance from **Shibu Jose**]

Earlier this month (June), SNR and CAFNR lost a great friend, Carol S. Comer JD, Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It was heartbreaking to hear about her passing. Prior to joining MDNR, she served with then-Governor Mike Pence as the Indiana Department of Environmental

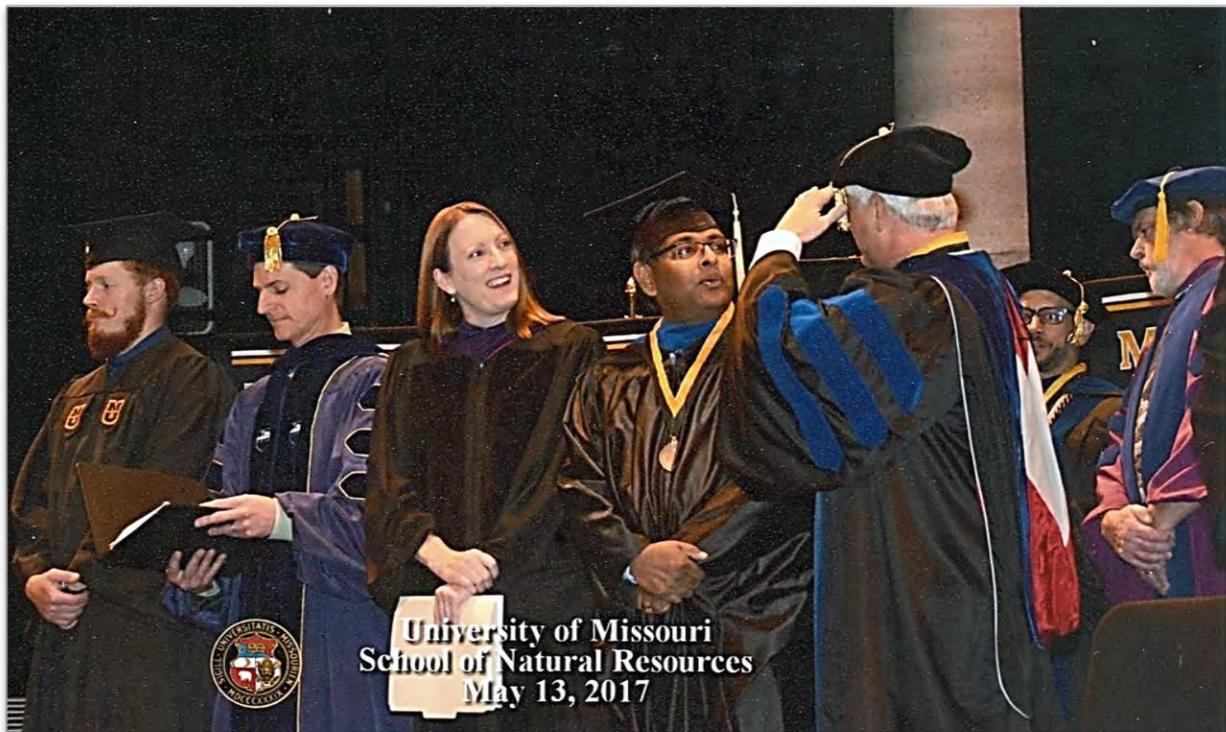
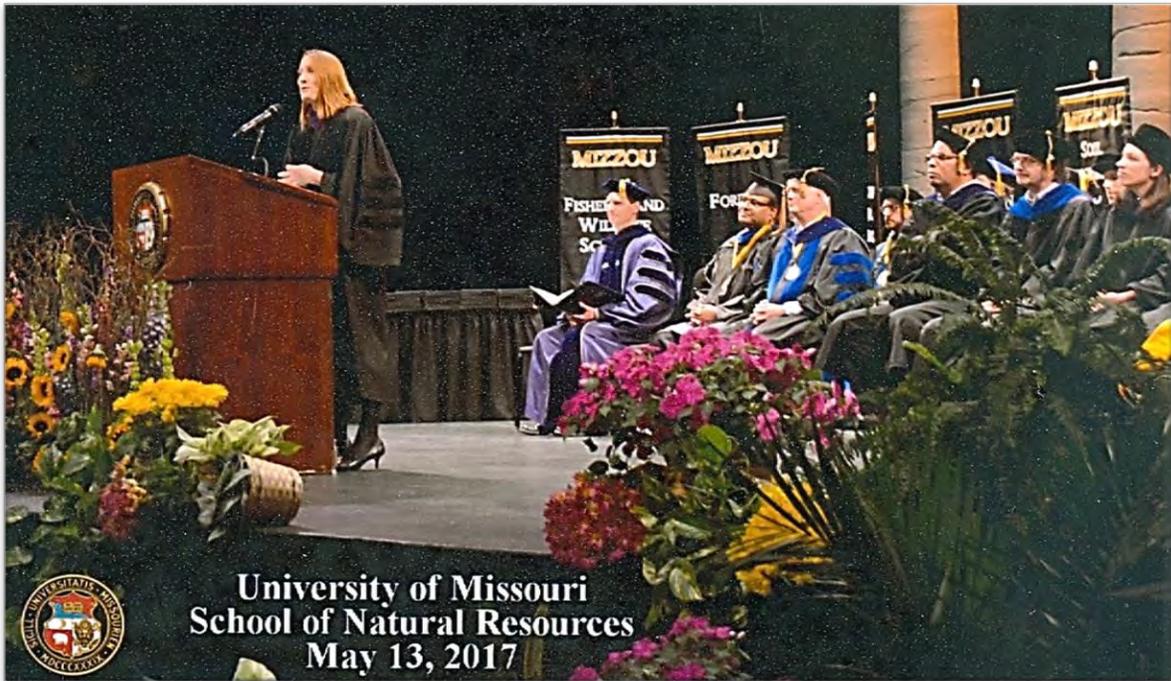


Management Commissioner. I had the great pleasure of getting to know Carol first during my time as the SNR Director and subsequently in my current role as the Associate Dean for Research in CAFNR. I took her out for lunch with then Associate Director of SNR Dr. Keith Goynes shortly after she moved to Missouri in early 2017. In addition to welcoming her to Missouri and Mizzou, it was an opportunity to introduce her to SNR and CAFNR and showcase the wonderful relationship we enjoy with MDNR. I fondly remember her finding the time to shop at Tiger Garden and visit some of our labs in ABNR. She even posted a Facebook picture from the lab during her campus visit! Later on, I invited Carol to be the spring SNR graduation speaker (pictures included here are from that graduation), and she gladly accepted the invite. She was inspirational and struck a chord with our graduating class! She shared with them what she called the “Ten Skills for Kicking Ass in Life.” In memory of Carol, I share the complete list below:

- “See failure as a beginning, not an end”
- “If you don’t go after it, you won’t have it”
- “Always do more than is expected of you”
- “Teach others what you know”
- “Assume nothing and question everything”
- “Make peace with the past”
- “Stop thinking so much and start acting!”
- “Never compare yourself to others”
- “Never let success go to your head”
- “Never stop dreaming”

She started with her favorite of the ten “see failure as a beginning, not an end.” And, she continued, “If you don’t fail at least once, you are not trying. You are not challenging yourself and you are not growing. Failure is not failure unless you fail to rise again”. She concluded her remarks by reminding the graduates to dream for the next generation. She said, “By almost any measure, the environment today is cleaner and healthier than it was when I was born. So, I am confident that we are leaving our communities in better condition than we found them. I have every faith that you will do the same for the generations that come after”.

Carol continued her strong support for several of the existing programs in CAFNR. She also helped initiate new partnerships. Carol's passing is a huge loss to us. She will certainly be missed. (Pictures from SNR graduation ceremony, May 13, 2017.)



SPOTLIGHT ON SNR FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS

Small World: What a coincidence that was! You see a name that sounds vaguely familiar and then the light comes on.

That is what happened to me recently. I had just finished James Raffan's book, *Ice Walker: A Polar Bear's Journey Through the Fragile Arctic* (a refreshingly cool read during these hot summer days!) and noticed in the Further Reading Section he touted a book by Evelyn Fox Keller about the accomplishments of Barbra McClintock, a Nobel-winning plant geneticist.

Barbra McClintock! Plant geneticist. Whoa! The little light came on. Could that be the same Barbara McClintock that I wrote about in the July 2017 issue of Weekly Reader?

I prepared that article based on information supplied by Dr. Jeff Crane, Assistant Professor of History at Culver Stockton College. According to his research, she was the first "resident scientist" to occupy the E. Sydney Stephens Hall built in 1936 to house the newly formed Fish and Wildlife Research group (one of the early beginnings of SNR). Barbara was neither a fish or wildlife biologist but was a budding corn geneticist that went on to receive a Nobel Prize for her many discoveries into the secrets of genetic organization especially that of transposable genetic elements.

Here is the gist of the information from Dr. Crane's account:

"Maize geneticist, Barbra McClintock was recruited as an Assistant Professor by MU in the spring of 1936 to participate in a major genetics center. She was assigned an office in the Wildlife Building (Stephens Hall). Returning to her office late one night she could not find her keys and a nightwatchman refused to let her in. Her response was to climb a tree and get into her office through an open window!"

I subsequently checked out by Evelyn Fox Keller's book ("A Feeling for the Organism: The Life and Work of Barbra McClintock") from the Daniel Boone Regional Library. It too was a fascinating book. And, yes Barbara was quite the eccentric gal. She died at the age of 90 in 1992. (Submitted by **Joe Dillard**.) Joe's latest interview with Paul Pepper can be found at this link: <https://youtu.be/iU04uQ1J7dY>



The *SNR Monthly Reader* will be distributed electronically the last working day of the month (except during breaks). Please send announcements (or if you'd like to unsubscribe) to Cindy Greenwood, Editor (greenwoodci@missouri.edu).



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