This is what summer looks like for SNR Limnology Lab students who are busy collecting water samples for the Statewide Lake Assessment Program (SLAP). They will be visiting over 50 lakes this summer to help us better understand lake water quality throughout Missouri. They are collecting water samples on Little Dixie Lake, along with Assistant Professor Rebecca North.
DIRECTOR MARKET – SNR ACTIONS

- Met with Extension Specialist candidates [The successful candidate will be expected to expand the MU Extension’s Missouri Woodland Steward Program. Teaching responsibilities will include the preparation and delivery of four undergraduate courses]
- Attended CAFNR Faculty and Staff Meeting
- Attended Office of Undergraduate Research Office poster session [in collaboration with SNR Research Day]
- Attended SNR Research Day
- Attended Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences Graduate Student Organization's [WAFSGSO] Spring Picnic
- Screened candidates for the Great Rivers Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit [CESU] Interdisciplinary Research Coordinator position
- Continued work on updating CESU website
- Finalized hiring for a Non-Tenure Track position in Parks, Recreation and Sport
- Continuing discussion about the Aquatic Institute with Shawn Poore, CAFNR Executive Director of Advancement

HONORS AND AWARDS

Assistant Professor Robin Rotman is the 2022 recipient of the Provost’s Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award which recognizes junior faculty for superior teaching and advising on the MU campus. She is pictured (right) along with the 2021 recipient of the Provost’s Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award, Assistant Professor Alba Argerich (left). [Many award ceremonies this year celebrated previous year’s winners since those events may not have been in-person.]
Dr. Craig Paukert was awarded the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Scientific Excellence Award 2021. This award is given to one Cooperative Research Unit scientist nationwide (out of almost 100 scientists) and is based on research productivity, student engagement and placement, and collaboration with cooperators. In addition to Craig’s research productivity (12 publications last year), his students and post docs have recently received jobs throughout the country with natural resource organizations and agencies, including five recent post-docs/doctoral students being hired as Research Scientists with the Cooperative Research Unit Program. In 2021, Craig was also invited to provide a Capitol Hill briefing on his research synthesizing climate change effects on North American fish and fisheries to inform adaptation strategies. However, what was most impressive is Craig’s relationship with collaborators: the nomination packet included letters of support from the Missouri Department of Conservation, USGS Climate Adaption Science Center, and several former students/post-docs expressing appreciation for his mentorship. (Submitted by Lisa Webb.)

May’s Advising Shout Out Award, was awarded to Jenna Fusinatto, Senior Academic Advisor. The award recognizes two undergraduate advisors each semester who have demonstrated the qualities associated with outstanding undergraduate student advising. The winning nomination from one of Jenna’s advisees: “Jenna is easily one of my favorite people on this campus. She is so helpful to me and so many others. I am a double major & I went into Jenna's office and broke down in tears about how I couldn't graduate in time & would lose my scholarships. Jenna was so kind. She first comforted me & then walked me through my options. She went out of her way to learn the degree plan & audit of my second major & helped me map out a grad plan that would allow me to graduate in time, even with elective classes & summer classes. I can even talk about classes that have given me a tough time & she is so attentive & then goes as far as to check in with me weeks later. She offers me advice about grad school & internships & I just know she really knows & cares about me. Mizzou and CAFNR are lucky to have her!” Jenna was also the recipient of the Dana Brown Haynes Distinguished Service Award from the CAFNR Alumni Association. This award recognizes an outstanding University of Missouri and CAFNR faculty or staff member, alumni or student who has demonstrated a long-term commitment of service to CAFNR.

https://cafnr.missouri.edu/accolades/jenna-fusinatto-receives-distinguished-service-award-from-cafnr-alumni-association/
**Greg Rotert**, Support Systems Administrator, Division of IT, CAFNR, was the recipient of the True Tiger Volunteer Award presented by the CAFNR Alumni Association. This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources through volunteer efforts and a sincere dedication to the University.


**Cindy Greenwood** (left) and **Hadley Boehm** (right) were honored with the Outstanding Staff and Graduate Student awards presented by the Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences Graduate Student Organization (WAFSGSO) at its annual picnic.

In recognition of their efforts to prepare themselves professionally to engage in the process of research and scholarship, students are awarded **S.T.A.R. recognition**. The **Student Training for Advancing Research** program was conceived to engage students in the high-impact practice of research, with topics ranging from “Getting Started in Research,” to responsible conduct of research, basics of human subjects research, discussions with alumni, and engagement with faculty researchers from across campus. **Maddie Carter**, Parks, Recreation & Sport, represented SNR.
US Representative Vicky Hartzler’s Congressional Staff visited MU to meet with Missouri Water Center research faculty, staff, and students and tour research facilities. The event was coordinated by the Missouri Water Center Co-Directors Damon Hall and Baolin Deng (Civil & Environmental Engineering) and MU Government Relations. SNR faculty participants included: Noel Aloysius, Alba Argerich, Neil Fox, Pat Market, Rebecca North, Robin Rotman, Post-doc Sarah Fischer, and undergraduate student Elli Castonguay. The Congressional Staff were excited to see the work on water at MU and energized by meeting the students and faculty. [Submitted by Damon Hall; Photos by Baolin Deng.]
CAFNR International Programs offered a special funding call in spring 2022 for development of collaborations with the CGIAR International Research Centers. Working with CGIAR centers helps MU faculty develop solutions to global problems and brings their research to the world stage. Funding recipients from SNR are: Assistant Professor Robin Rotman, Water Governance in Collaboration with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Associate Professor Mark Morgan, Development of Novel Fish Protein with WorldFish.


**EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Graduate students, post docs, and research staff from SNR volunteered with Missouri River Relief for the “Missouri River Days” program. This year’s program provided experiences on the Missouri River with Columbia, Missouri 4th graders for 1,203 students and 69 teachers. SNR volunteers presented multiple activities for the Meet a Fisheries Biologist station. Students got up close and personal with live fish, crayfish, and turtles, learned about ecology, played an animal adaptation game, and had the opportunity to meet with scientists with a variety of backgrounds. For more information about Missouri River Relief education programs: [https://riverrelief.org/programs/river-education/](https://riverrelief.org/programs/river-education/) SNR volunteers pictured L to R; Kiah Wright, Wesley Fitzsimmons, Emily Tracy-Smith, Alli Schumacher, Mischa Schultz, Devyn McGregor, and Brittany Harried. (Submitted by Emily Tracy-Smith).
Hands-on learning through prescribed burning at the Baskett Forest

Every spring and fall, smoke rises from the Baskett Forest. Students suit up in yellow, fire-resistant shirts, grab drip torches and various hand tools, and head to the fireline. A network of plots scatter the old fields along the ridgelines, providing opportunity to study the effects of prescribed fire on successional dynamics. Some plots are burned every year, some every two years, some every five years; moreover, these fire frequencies are applied in both the spring and the fall.

In partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation, students have the opportunity to earn professional certification (the “Red Card”) through the FOREST 3207 course and the Baskett Forest plots.

Prescribed fire has become an increasingly important land management tool for a wide variety of reasons. The hands-on experience at the Baskett Forest helps prepare career-ready natural resource graduates, provides valuable demonstration sites for observing fire effects, and offers research insights into fire ecology. So keep an eye out for smoke over Ashland Lake, and know the torch is being passed to another passionate group of natural resource students.

For more information about activities at Baskett Forest, contact Ben Knapp (knappb@missouri.edu)
SPOTLIGHT ON SNR FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS

Another look at summer field work: Below are pictures from Assistant Professor Samniqueka Halsey’s research team conducting field work and outreach with high school students at Prairie Fork Conservation Area.
And a few more pictures from the Missouri River Relief event:
Participating in Mizzou’s Arbor Day Event was critical for Mizzou’s re-application for Tree Campus USA status; pictured from L-R: Guillermo Hernandez; Johnnie Swizdor; Josh Yantis; Associate Professor of Forestry Extension Hank Stelzer; Owen Steins; Trent Teegarden; Josh Meyer; Chris Schrader. (Submitted by Hank Stelzer and Bill Ruppert; Photo by Bill Ruppert.)

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).