

Welcome!

Fall 2021 Newsletter Series

Upcoming Events:

ZoGSS Meetings

- Monday, Sept. 27th
- Monday, Oct. 25th
- Monday, Nov. 29th

All meetings are at 10:00 AM. Currently hybrid format – through Zoom or in person in LSW 102 with a mask.



Departmental Seminars

Fridays at 3:30 PM
Dates TBA

Lunchtime Seminars

Mondays at 12:00 PM
Dates TBA

Workshops

Dates & Times TBA

Happy Hour

Fridays at 5:30 PM
Location will vary each week,
but always at outdoor venues

Stay tuned for more...

- Homecoming Walk-around Fundraiser
- ZoGSS Olympics



ZoGSS Newsletter

September 2021

Before we dive into the newsletter, we on ZoGSS Exec wanted to take a moment to address the social challenges faced by everyone, but particularly by those grad students who have joined our department over the last year. Fortunately, many of you seem to have found some sort of social niche to help you adjust to life in our department, but we wanted to take a more proactive (re)welcoming approach this fall and be more inclusive in spite of the pandemic!

Everyone's comfort levels during this pandemic are a little different, so we want to encourage you all to make an effort to socialize with your new labmates and fellow grad students this semester in a way that works for you. Consider a couple of the following low-to-no-risk options if you are unsure where to start:

- **Outdoor activities**
hiking, birding, herping, disc golf
- **Online activities**
video games, role-playing games like D&D

If you are new(ish) to the department, please feel free to suggest an activity you enjoy on the [ZoGSS Facebook page](#)! Odds are you will find someone (or multiple someones) who enjoy the same thing!



Pay your ZoGSS dues!

You are only eligible for ZoGSS awards if you are a dues-paying member. **If you pay your dues by our next meeting (Monday, September 27th), they are only \$10.00.** Any time after that, the cost increases to \$15.00.

Pay your dues to Taylor Carlson. Checks should be made out to ZoGSS. Cash can be given to Taylor directly, and she also uses apps such as Venmo, Facebook Pay, Cash App, Zelle, and PayPal (see the August meeting minutes for more information).



Welcome Social at Lake Carl Blackwell!

ZoGSS is hosting a social at Lake Carl Blackwell in the afternoon on **Saturday, September 18th**. We have reserved a pavilion with ample outdoor space for everyone to hang out and stay comfortably distanced. There are several picnic tables and we will also be bringing the ZoGSS canopy.

This will be a potluck-style get-together, but we ask that everyone be sure to bring utensils to serve their food with so we don't have dozens of hands reaching into the same bowl.





Integrative Biology hats, mugs, and pint glasses are still on sale!

Contact Shauni (shauni.dna.windle@okstate.edu) for purchase.

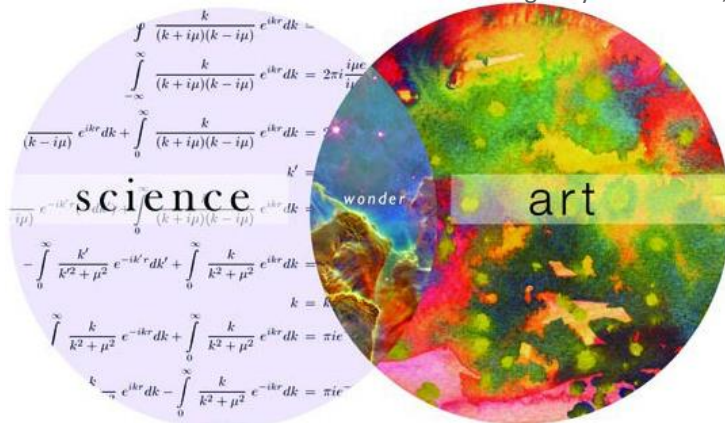
Merchandise will be up on the departmental website for purchase soon.

Expanding Your Horizons STEM Conference

Victoria Roper– along with many other graduate students and faculty at OSU – is involved in planning a conference focused on maintaining STEM interest in middle school girls. This conference already exists in 11 other states, and now they are working to bring it to Oklahoma this coming spring! Click this [link](#) to learn more.

Reach out to Victoria (victoria.roper@okstate.edu) if you are interested in getting involved in a leadership position or as part of a subcommittee.

Credit: “Stem vs. Steam: Do the Arts Belong?”
The Imaginary Foundation, 2015



Now requesting science-themed artwork for the ZoGSS display!

ZoGSS has been given use of the lobby display across from the venomous snake tanks. **Ryan Koch, the planning committee chair, is looking for science-related pictures, paintings, specimens, or digital artwork that can be put on display.** Contact Ryan (ryan.koch@okstate.edu) by **Monday, September 13th** if you have artwork you want to donate!





PSA: Please treat the 5th floor computers well.

It was brought to our attention that some of the computers and keyboards in the 5th floor computer lab suffered some serious use and abuse over the summer. **Many grad students rely on that computer lab to access essential programs for their research that otherwise are prohibitively expensive.** Furthermore, we are fortunate to have access to a computer lab such as that and do not want our access to be revoked for misuse of the equipment.

Please feel free to reach out to Emily Geest (egeest@okstate.edu), the Technology Committee chair, with any concerns about desired programs, slow computers, or broken equipment.



Credit: jmblue2010

Upcoming Award/Grant Deadlines

- **GPSGA Awards** – Wednesday, October 20th
Includes travel awards and research materials awards
- **NSF GRFP** – Monday, October 18th

Outreach GroupMe



Outreach Committee Update

Use the QR code to the left to join the Outreach GroupMe to receive information regarding upcoming outreach events. *Feel free to email the Outreach Committee (Teri Cocke, Michael Ellison, and Victoria Roper) with any other ideas.*

Into the Streets – ZoGSS plans to participate in this event, which usually takes place in late October.

BioBlitz – most of the participation will end up being virtual, but there may be some in-person events as well in October.

2021-2022 ZoGSS Budget



If your committee wants to use ZoGSS funds for activities or events you are planning for this academic year, please email Taylor Carlson (taylor.carlson11@okstate.edu) and let her know the requested amount and justification for the funds by Friday, September 10th so she can add that to our proposed budget.





Graduate Student Spotlights:

Teri Cocke – NextGen Under 30 Leadership Award Recipient



The NextGen Under 30 Leadership Award recognizes and encourages the next generation of innovative, creative, and inspiring individuals who push the boundaries in various careers. Award winners are nominated and selected based upon their participation and contributions to their community. I was nominated in the category of Science for my work with ZoGSS, OSU, and OSU Insect Adventure doing volunteer work and science outreach with communities across Oklahoma. I will get the opportunity to go to the Capital and network with other winners and government officials.



Dani Kirsch – OSU Distinguished Graduate Fellowship Recipient



The Distinguished Graduate Fellowship recognizes outstanding, full-time OSU graduate students from any disciplinary or interdisciplinary program. These students show dedication, involvement, and evidence of interdisciplinary creative activities and scholarly contributions through awards, honors, research projects, publications, presentations at professional meetings, and leadership activities.





Recent Publications

Austin Leone – Leone, E.A. & French, D.P. (In press).
Evaluating science identity, communication self-efficacy, value, and skills gained in a hybrid CURE lab. Proceedings for the National Association of Biology Teacher Research Symposium, 13, 1-6.

Source: Lego Grad Student



Avoiding his work by gorging on carbs, the grad student chooses a flavorful way to spiral out of control.

Don't forget to join our Facebook page "OSU Zoology Graduate Student Society" for more day-to-day updates.

Source: Lego Grad Student



Carving out an entire day to do uninterrupted work, the grad student promptly loses all motivation and watches movies instead.



Contact Us

Executive Committee:

James Erdmann – *President*
 Shauni Windle – *Vice President*
 Dani Kirsch – *Secretary*
 Taylor Carlson – *Treasurer*

Fundraising Committee:

Shauni Windle & Victoria Roper

Planning Committee:

Ryan Koch

Seminar Committee:

Taylor Carlson

Award Committee:

Austin Leone

Technology Committee:

Emily Geest

Graduate Committee:

Michael Ellison

Lunchtime Seminars:

Bailee Augustino

Faculty Council:

Angela Riley, Taylor Carlson, &
 Colton Herzog

GPSGA:

Victoria Roper & Colton Herzog

Outreach Committee:

Teri Cocke, Michael Ellison, &
 Victoria Roper

Workshop Committee:

Victoria Roper

Meet Your Peers

Baum lab – David Berman, Teri Cocke, Eric Duell*, Emily Geest, Carrie Klase*, Ashley Knoch, Tyler Spresser*

Belden lab – Sarah Hileman, Carrie Klase*, Will Mimbs, Adriana Townsend, Ryan Grewe, Shauni Windle*

Bolek lab – Ryan Koch, Ryan Shannon, Allison Bryant

Bruck lab – Rachel Hamrock*, Paige Stevens*

Cabrera-Guzmán lab – Taylor Carlson*

Dzialowski lab – Bobby Bowser, Samuel Miess

Fox lab – Taylor Carlson*

French lab – Austin Leone

Grindstaff lab – Kiley Cox, Angela Riley, Victoria Roper, Sierra Williams

Jeyasingh lab – Parna Ghosh, Yetkin Ipek

Lovern lab – Brooke Hoover, Jay Walton, Rachel Hamrock*, Paige Stevens*

Luttbeg lab – Scott Goepfner, Dani Kirsch, Jamie Najar

McCullagh lab – Sabiha Alam, Racheal Brodsky, Amita Chawla, Jessica Hurd, Luberson Joseph

McMurry lab – Shauni Windle*

Minghetti lab – MD Ibrahim, Justin Scott

Moen lab – Mitchell Aldridge

Reichert lab – Jonathan Albers, James Erdmann, Himidu Himansi, Alejandro Marcillo, Jain PK

Van Den Bussche lab – Denise Thompson

Waldman lab – Bailee Augustino, Michael Ellison, Samantha Garza, A.J. Hager, Ben LaFond, Sourjya Nath

Wilder lab – Jacob Reeves, Tyler Spresser*, Colton Herzog

Wogan Lab – Sneha Dharwadkar, Calvin Schaefer, Desi Wilson

**indicates co-advised grad students*

ZoGSS serves as the representative organization and voice of the graduate student body of the Department of Integrative Biology at Oklahoma State University. Our mission is to provide professional and social opportunities for the graduate students in our department.
