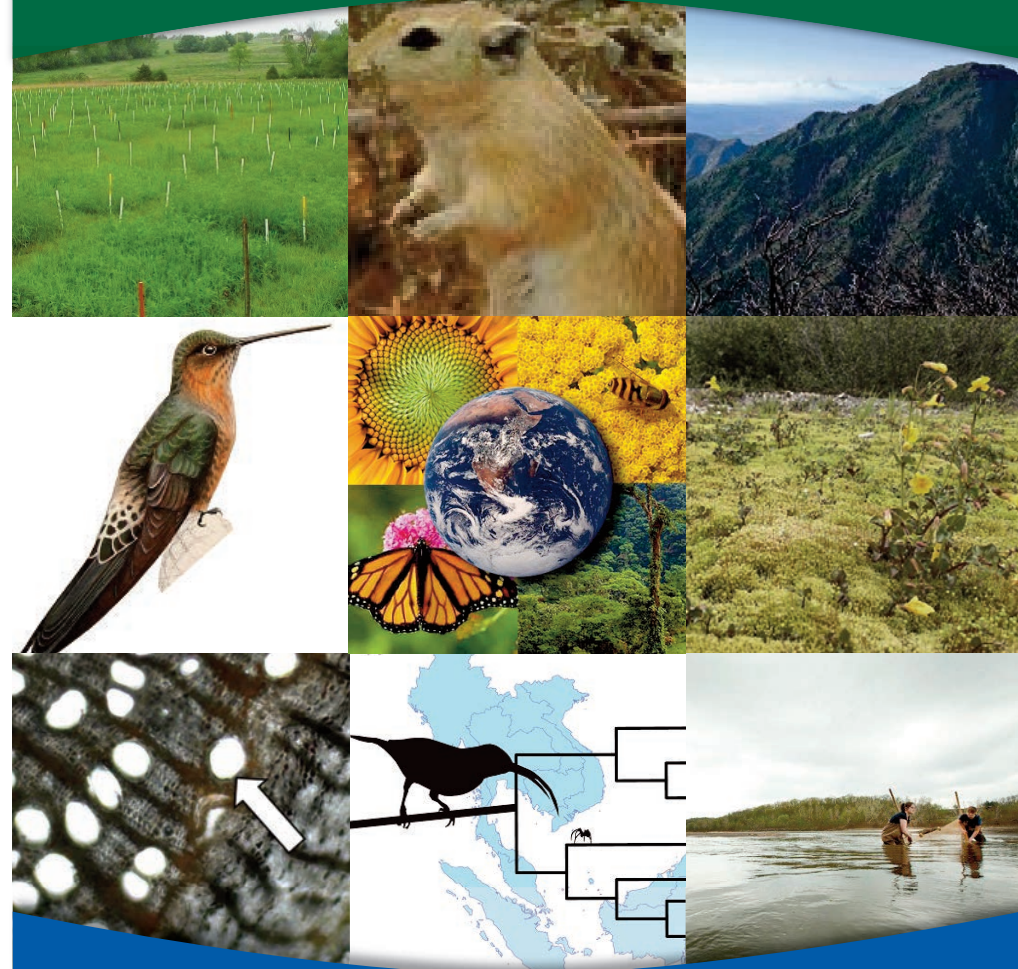


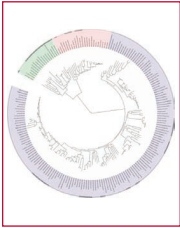
Department of
**Ecology and Evolutionary
Biology**



**Fall 2015 & Spring 2016
Graduates**

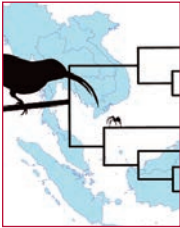
The Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology is proud to announce the program completion of its spring graduates. Congratulations and best wishes to our alumni.

Master of Arts Graduates



Xi Chen (fall 2015)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Justin Blumenstiel
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** September 4, 2015
- **Thesis Title:** A signature of an increased piRNA response with increased TE abundance in *Drosophila*: an evolutionary arms race between TE and genome defense provided by piRNA pathway.
- *Currently enrolled in the Master's program in Computer Science, School of Engineering, University of Kansas.*



Luke Campillo (spring 2016)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Rob Moyle
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** March 25, 2016
- **Thesis Title:** Use of genomic data to resolve gene tree discordance in a Southeast Asian genus: Readdressing paraphyly in the spiderhunter (Nectariniidae, *Arachnothera*) phylogeny.
- *Currently enrolled in the doctoral program at the University of Hawaii.*



Jacob Cooper (spring 2016)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Jorge Soberon
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** May 2, 2016
- **Thesis Title:** Testing stacked distribution models: Predicting species richness and community composition in hummingbirds.
- *Currently enrolled in the doctoral program at the University of Chicago.*



Alex Bittel (spring 2016)

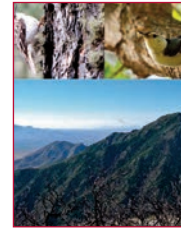
- **Faculty Mentor:** Bryan Foster
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** May 6, 2016
- **Thesis Title:** Historical contingency and biotic determinism in community assembly: a long-term experiment of grassland dynamics.
- *Currently pursuing a career in education and conservation.*

Doctor of Philosophy Graduates



Jacob Carter (fall 2015)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Joy Ward
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Dissertation Defense:** August 25, 2015
- **Dissertation Title:** Phenology and physiology of White Ash in relation to climate extremes.
- *Currently post-doctoral fellow with the Oak Ridge Institute for Science Education, EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.*



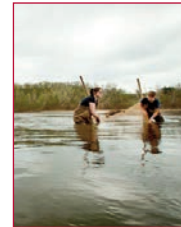
Joseph Manthey (fall 2015)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Rob Moyle
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Dissertation Defense:** December 11, 2015
- **Dissertation title:** Evolutionary biology of birds and their associated microbiota in the Madrean Archipelago Sky Islands.
- *Currently postdoctoral associate at New York University, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*



Patrick J. Monnahan (spring 2016)

- **Faculty Mentor:** John Kelly
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Honors)
- **Dissertation Defense:** March 21, 2016
- **Dissertation title:** Evolutionary implications of the standing genetic variation in natural populations of *Mimulus guttatus*.
- *Currently postdoctoral researcher at the John Innes Centre in Norwich, United Kingdom.*



Rachel E. Bowes (spring 2016)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Jim Thorp
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Honors)
- **Dissertation Defense:** May 6, 2016
- **Dissertation title:** Temporal analysis of river food webs.
- *Currently postdoctoral researcher with Professor Jim Thorp at the University of Kansas.*



Abdallah Samy (spring 2016)

- **Faculty Mentor:** Town Peterson
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Honors)
- **Dissertation Defense:** May 5, 2016
- **Dissertation title:** Geographic distribution modeling of infectious disease dynamics in space and time.
- *Currently assistant professor at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, and a postdoctoral researcher at the Erasmus Medical Research Institute, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.*