



Department of
**Ecology and Evolutionary
Biology**



Spring
Graduates

2017

The Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
is proud to announce the program completion of
its spring 2017 graduates.
Congratulations and best wishes to our alumni.

Master of Arts Graduates



Karen Veronica Olson

- **Faculty Mentor:** Rafe Brown
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** February 24, 2017
- **Thesis Title:** Using genomic data to test biogeographic hypotheses of landmass fragmentation and population divergence in a model island archipelago
- *Currently a doctoral student in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology graduate program at the University of Kansas*



Che-Ling Ho

- **Faculty Mentor:** Craig Martin
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Honors
- **Master's Defense:** March 16, 2017
- **Thesis Title:** First Finding of Succulence and C4/CAM-cycling Photosynthesis in a Grass: Ecophysiology of *Spinifex littoreus* in coastal regions of Taiwan
- *Admitted to the doctoral program in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia*



Abdelkafar Alkische

- **Faculty Mentor:** Town Peterson
- **Degree:** M.A. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Master's Defense:** April 10, 2017
- **Thesis Title:** Climate change influences on the potential geographic distribution of *Ixodes ricinus*, vector of Lyme borreliosis and tick-borne encephalitis virus
- *Admitted to the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology doctoral program at the University of Kansas*

Doctor of Philosophy Graduates



Theodore Harris

- **Faculty Mentors:** Frank deNoyelles, John Jones, and Val Smith †
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Honors
- **Dissertation Defense:** February 10, 2017
- **Dissertation Title:** Factors effecting local, regional, and global scale cyanobacterial dominance and secondary metabolite occurrence
- *Currently conducting postdoctoral research at the Landbouwhogeschool, Wageningen, The Netherlands*



Kyungjin Min

- **Faculty Mentor:** Sharon Billings
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Dissertation Defense:** 29 March, 2017
- **Dissertation Title:** Temperature responses of microbial soil organic matter decomposition and associated respiration at various scales, ranging from exo-enzymes to populations and communities



Boryana S. Koseva

- **Faculty Mentor:** John Kelly
- **Degree:** Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- **Dissertation Defense:** April 28, 2017
- **Dissertation Title:** Application of RAD-seq in Evolutionary Genomics of Non-Model Organisms
- *Currently a Bioinformatics Specialist with the K-INBRE Bioinformatics Core at the University of Kansas*