

# ECONEWS

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## Important Upcoming Events

**EGSA Meeting:** December 4th at 5:30PM, 2120J Wickson. Pizza will be provided.

**EGSA Happy Hour:** December 12th at 5:30PM at Cantina Del Cabo.

## ***Position Available!***

Hey Ecology students,

After three fulfilling years as retreat coordinator, I (Harry) am stepping down. We are therefore looking for someone to take over and enjoy this position of power.

Doing the retreat is not that much work, and has a few perks: you get to schedule the whole thing around your convenience; you get to plan all aspects of it to your liking (food, events, etc.); you get to meet most of the new students in GGE; and you will probably not be bothered for any other EGSA responsibilities.

Seriously, it's actually fun, and I have all the info organized so it's pretty straightforward. The ideal candidate would be someone who has been on the retreat at least once, but that is DEFINITELY not a prerequisite.

If you are interested, contact either me or Silvia.

-Harry Spanglet (hjspanglet@ucdavis.edu)  
(former) EGSA Retreat Coordinator

## ***Presentation opportunity!***

The annual conservation ecology AOE student seminar series is planned for winter quarter, and we need volunteers/nominations for student speakers. This is an excellent opportunity to present previous conservation-related research, preliminary research results, research proposals, or ideas/theories that you just think are cool in an informal and supportive setting. The seminar provides a forum for students in the AOE (and ecology at large) to share our research with one another and get feedback at various phases of the research process. Not to mention honing our presentation skills.

Currently the seminar is planned for Thursdays from 12-1pm, winter quarter. The way this has worked in the past is that it is set up as an

ECL 290, with only the presenters getting credit. Hence another inducement to present: get one of those pesky 290 requirements out of the way!

If you are interested in presenting, or would like to nominate someone else to present, please e-mail me at the address above. Non-conservation students are also welcome to present, so long as the presentation has some conservation-oriented content.

Thanks! Hope to hear from many of you soon --  
Theo (tslight@ucdavis.edu)

## ***A note from the cookie guru.....***

Hey y'all,

Hopefully you've all noticed the return of cookies and juice at the Thursday seminars. The reemergence of this fine tradition is due to the cookiephilia of your fellow ecology grad students. The quarter is almost over and as the cookie coordinator I'm looking for volunteers for next quarter. All you have to do is buy a bunch of cookies and juice and bring them to the seminar. It's an easy task and means that everyone gets a bit of a sugar buzz to stave off that afternoon nap that we all need. If you're interested in adding to this most excellent tradition e-mail me.

And one final threat, if nobody volunteers, the cookie tradition will once again die a sad death. So shoulder the burden and commit to providing us all with some sugary Thursday afternoons!

Thanks,  
Christy (cabrigham@ucdavis.edu)

## ***Another useful web site***

Looking for a listing of seminars and events relating to biology? Check out this web site:  
<http://www2.dbs.ucdavis.edu/seminars/>. It also contains instructions for adding your own listings.



## **Silvia Says:**

I will be taking the entire Winter break off along with you (December 26 through January 3, 1997)! If you would like to come over to my house and help bake cookies, let me know. AND if you need to take care of any business before the end of 1996 - please **PLAN AHEAD!**

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**RESULTS OF THE resurrected Salsa and Guacamole Taste-Off.** There were about 60 people who attended. The food was fabulous - lots of great Mexican-ish dishes. Music was great - and you missed Susan Harrison dancing salsa with Emilio Bruna! All in all we had a great time. The event ended early (9ish), but participants headed out to two other parties AND some wound up on campus to see "The Shining".

Here are the winners of the salsa and guacamole contest:

### **Medium Cooked:**

First Place: Carlos Davidson  
Second Place: George Malyj  
Third Place: Laurie Malyj

### **Medium Fresh:**

First Place: David Ronemus  
Second Place: George Malyj  
Third Place: Dorrie Panayotou

**Hot Cooked:** There was only one entry. Apparently, it was so hot that ONE of the judges assigned it to Second place! We won't say who the judge was OR who the entry was from! Hummm.

### **Hot Fresh:**

First Place: George Malyj  
Second Place: Marc Commandatore

### **Guacamole:**

First Place: Alberto Palleroni and spouse, Amy Wolf  
Second Place: Silvia  
Third Place: Lucia Palacios

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**PEOPLE'S CHOICE Salsa:** David Ronemus  
**PEOPLE'S CHOICE Guacamole:** Silvia

**Thank you** to the three judges: Andrea Erichsen, Eddie Gilmartin and Mary Madison. AND a big thank you to Emilio for promoting the dancing. Next year a dance contest too!

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**FELLOWSHIP Stuff:** Applications will be available next month. I'll send out a notice via the list server. You can either pick up an application in my office or in Graduate Studies office in 252 Mrak Hall.

### **HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE:**

Scheduled for Friday, December 6th at 2PM in 2124 WICKSON. Here's the Format: You bake your favorite holiday cookie, bring enough to eat and we each get to divide and take home the leftovers. I provide punch and napkins. YUM - please plan on attending, and feel free to be creative as long as it's gastronomically correct. In other words no prune cookies!

Have a great end of the quarter, stop by and say hi before you head out for the break.

-Silvia



## **Minutes from the November EGSA Meeting**

The EGSA met Wednesday, November 6. The topics generating the most lively discussion were the health center referendum (which passed!), and Lara's admissions committee report. The latter raised the issue of funding, and the GGE's inability to guarantee long-term support to newly admitted students or to offer much security to continuing students. We agreed (and Martha and Christie volunteered, thank you!) to gather information on where most students currently receive support, and we will undoubtedly return to this discussion at later meetings.

Additionally there was brief discussion of Carlos' development for a diversity committee. Any folks interested in helping to recruitment a more diverse range of students for the graduate group should contact Carlos (cdavidson@ucdavis.edu).

There was also some continuing discussion of the creation of a new GGE purchasable item this year. If anyone is interested in creating item ideas (mugs, travel cups, tote bags, boxer shorts....) or organizing the creation of such an item come to the next EGSA meeting (and get the concomitant advantage of free pizza for your labor) or contact the Chairs.