



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 18 April 2014, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

"Coordination between chromatin and DEAD-box ATPase activity in pre-mRNA splicing"

Evan Merkhofer, Ph.D.
UC San Diego

Marine Speaker

Dr. Eric Sanford, from Bodega Marine Laboratory, UC Davis, will be giving a talk on Wednesday 16 April at 3 pm in CR 5201: "Impacts of ocean acidification on coastal populations of invertebrates."

MS Thesis Defenses

Elizabeth Lenz will defend her MS thesis on Wednesday 16 April at 10 am in the Granada Room of the USU: "An ecological and physiological assessment of tropical coral reefs to past and projected disturbances."

Brenton Spies will defend his MS thesis on Monday 21 April at 10 am in MG 4111: "The effects of temperature and latitude on larval traits of the endangered Tidewater Goby and its sister species the Arrow Goby."

Alumnus News

In the fall, **Hamid Joshua Davoudi** (BA '07, MS '11) will be entering a Physician's Assistant program in Massachusetts. Dr. **Steven Oppenheimer**, who advised him once upon a time, is thrilled.

Contributions to the Benthic Meetings

At the Benthic Ecology meetings this year, our Marine Biologists had another strong showing of presentations.

- **Alex Yarid** and Dr. **Peter Edmunds** spoke on, "Effects of ocean acidification on the response of massive *Porites* spp. to damage."
- **Heather Hillard** and Dr. **Robert Carpenter** presented on, "Acidification and algae, do they have interactive effects on corals?"
- **Amy Briggs** and **Carpenter**, "The influence of photosynthesis on the response of a tropical crustose coralline alga to ocean acidification."

- **Maureen Ho and Carpenter** presented a poster, "The effects of ocean acidification on algal–coral competitive interactions."
- Dr. **Steve Dudgeon** was a coauthor on a talk titled, "How the tempo of succession can close the window of opportunity for alternative states in the Gulf of Maine."

Student Receives Grant

Stephanie Benseman has received \$3000 from the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) in support of her research project, "Abundance and growth estimates of young-of-the-year Giant Sea Bass off of the Southern California coast."

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