

Sierra Nevada Research Institute Student Symposium 2009

Friday, 14 August, 2008
Yosemite Valley, East Auditorium
FREE and Open to the Public

Morning Session: Yosemite Leadership Program

8:50 – 9:00 Introduction (Eric Berlow, UC Merced Sierra Nevada Research Institute)

9:00 – 9:15 Morgan Runyan (UC Merced)
The domino effect: Educating students about climate change in Yosemite National Park

9:15 – 9:30 Jorge Castro (UC Merced)
Building passion without walls

9:30 – 9:45 Sydney Montroy (UC Merced)
Where is the bathroom?

9:45 – 10:00 Chris Fox (UC Merced)
A fishy subject: the trout of Yosemite

10:00 – 10:15 BREAK

10:15 – 10:30 Matthew McClintock (UC Merced)
Yosemite and it's plant problem

10:30 – 10:45 Abigail Shapiro (UC Merced)
Taking Yosemite home: Furthering children's outdoor experience beyond the park visit

10:45 – 11:00 Richard Chien (UC Merced)
Large woody debris impact on wildlife habitat in the Merced River"

11:00 – 11:15 Johnny Moua (UC Merced)
Organizational health assessment of Yosemite Association (The Patient)

11:15 – 11:30 Yesenia Medina (UC Merced)
People in Yosemite

11:30 – 11:45 Andres Estrada (UC Merced)
Half Dome: Know before you go and what makes a survivor

11:45 – 12:00 Gil Ayala (UC Merced)
Leaving no trace in Yosemite

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon Session: Research Experiences for Undergraduates program

1:00 – 1:10 Introduction (Benoit Dayrat, University of California Merced)

1:10 – 1:30 Emily Tummons (Kansas State University)
Exploring the causes of Yosemite Toad population decline

1:30 – 1:50 Timothy Holling (CSU Stanislaus)
Temperature and radon signatures of Chilnualna Creek

1:50 – 2:10 Kathrine Thomas (MIT)
Tracking and predicting smoke plumes from wildfires in Yosemite National Park

2:10 – 2:30 Raymond Gutteriez (CSU Fresno)
Effects of forest structure on the Californian Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*)

2:30 – 2:50 BREAK

2:50 – 3:10 Ashley Dickinson (UNC)
An exploration of the diversity of Sierra Nevada freshwater invertebrates: Part 1, field survey

3:10 – 3:30 Alla Sbeta (Modesto Junior College)
An exploration of the diversity of Sierra Nevada freshwater invertebrates: Part 2, insights from modern tools

3:30 – 3:50 Renee Smith (UC Merced)
Vegetation and hydrology: Making the connection in Tuolumne Meadow

3:50 – 4:10 Roxanne Diaz (Miami Dade College)
Unlocking the mystery of Giant Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) genetics