



## Alumni Reunion and Symposium: The Past, Present and Future of Ecology at the University of Georgia

Jan. 12-14, 2018  
Odum School of Ecology

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

#### Friday, Jan. 12, 2018

4:00-7:00 p.m.

#### **“First” Friday Welcoming Reception**

The reunion symposium officially begins in the Ecology Building with a welcome reception featuring food, beverages, music and the opportunity to catch up with friends and classmates. (OK, it's technically second Friday.)

**Registration and packet pick-up** will be available in the Ecology lobby.

6:00 p.m. We will host a special screening of the award-winning documentary film *Chasing Corals*, with a prologue from Dr. Jim Porter, in the Ecology Auditorium

#### Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018

7:00-8:00 a.m.

#### **Early morning walk at HorseShoe Bend**

Meet in the Georgia Center lobby for a guided walk.

8:00-8:30 a.m.

#### **Breakfast & Registration** at the Odum School of Ecology.

Coffee and pastries available.

8:30-10:00 a.m.

#### **Opening Plenary Session** in Forestry Auditorium

Welcome from Dean John Gittleman

Plenary Address by Monica Turner, PhD '85

Introduction by Peter Raven, President Emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden and former Home Secretary of the National Academy of Sciences

Monica Turner, a member of the National Academy of Sciences since 2004 and immediate past president of the Ecological Society of America, is a landscape ecologist who studies the ecosystem effects of fire and other disturbances and the ecological effects of climate and land use change.

10:15-11:15 a.m.

#### **Session I: Research from OSE, Past and Present**

10:15-10:35 a.m.: Speaker 1

10:35-10:55 a.m.: Speaker 2

10:55-11:15 a.m.: Speaker 3

11:15-11:30 a.m.

#### **Coffee Break**

11:30-12:30 a.m.

#### **Session II: Research from OSE, Past and Present**

11:30-11:50 Speaker 4

11:50-12:10 Speaker 5

12:10-12:30 Speaker 6

- 12:30-2:00 p.m.      **Lunch**  
 Pick up a boxed lunch in the Ecology building lobby and find a spot to meet with friends for lunch.  
 Join Discussion Groups focused on (i) The Future of Diversity at the Odum School, or (ii) Forming an Ecology UGA Alumni Association
- 2:00-2:45 p.m.      **Panel Discussion: Meeting the Challenges for the Next Decade of Ecology**  
 2:00-2:20 Opening remarks  
 2:20-2:45 Discussion
- 3:00-3:45 p.m.      **Alumni Rapid-fire Updates**  
 Here's a chance to share what you're up to these days with a short talk—3 minutes max!
- Student Poster Session**
- 4:00-5:00 p.m.      **Ecology Careers Speed Networking**  
 Modeled on the successful Conservation Careers Speed Dating session held during the Conservation Ecology and Sustainable Development Graduate Program's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, this session provides alumni an opportunity to present information about careers in their organization or general field of interest to current students in an informal setting.
- 4:00-6:00 p.m.      **Reception** in the Ecology courtyard (or lobby, depending on weather)
- 6:30 p.m.              **Alumni Weekend Banquet and Closing Plenary Session** in the Magnolia Banquet Hall  
 Welcome from Dean John Gittleman  
 Introduction to alumni and development initiatives by Allison Walters, Development and Alumni Relations Coordinator  
 Plenary Address by Beth Shapiro, BS/MS '95
- Beth Shapiro, who received a MacArthur "genius" grant in 2009, studies molecular and genetic evolution and ancient DNA to understand how populations and species change through time in response to environmental change. Her most recent book, *How to Clone a Mammoth: The Science of De-Extinction*, was published in 2015 by Princeton University Press.

**Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018**

- 7:00 a.m.              **Breakfast** in the Ecology building.
- 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.      **John K. Spencer Memorial 5K Run-Walk**  
 Join the Odum School Graduate Student Association for this annual fun run-walk held in memory of John K. Spencer, MS '17. Proceeds support the Spencer Memorial small grants fund.
- 10:00-11:00 a.m.      **Optional guided tours of the Georgia Museum of Natural History, Georgia Museum of Art, State Botanical Garden of Georgia**