**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, technically it’s second Friday.)

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

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. **Ecotones**  
“UGA’s ecologically-minded co-ed a cappella group”

6:00 p.m. **Slideshow** of alumni and current & past faculty

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**Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast & Registration** in Forestry Auditorium  
Coffee and pastries available

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Session I: Opening Plenary Session** in Forestry Auditorium  
Welcome from Dean John Gittleman
  - Pamela Whitten, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
  - Peter Raven, President *Emeritus* of the Missouri Botanical Garden and former Home Secretary of the *National Academy of Sciences*

**Ecosystems and the Ecology of Change | Plenary Address by Monica Turner, PhD ’85**

Monica Turner, a member of the *National Academy of Sciences* since 2004 and 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.

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Coffee Break**

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. **Session II: Foundational Research and Current Connections from O.S.E.**
  - Christopher D’Elia, PhD ’74
  - Weixin Cheng, PhD ’89
  - Evelyn Gaiser, PhD ’97
  - Christina Faust, B.S./M.S., ’09

11:30 – 12:00 p.m. **Jere Morehead, President, University of Georgia**  
Ecology and the University of Georgia

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch**
1:30 – 2:15 p.m. **Session III: Foundational Research and Current Connections from O.S.E.**
- John Drake | disease ecology
- Vanessa Ezenwa | behavioral / evolutionary ecology
  Elizabeth King | conservation ecology
- Craig Osenberg | community ecology
- Catherine Pringle | marine ecosystem ecology
- Nina Wurzburger | terrestrial ecosystem ecology

2:15 – 3:15 p.m. **Session IV: Moving Forward to a Stronger, More Diverse and Inclusive Ecology**
A panel discussion with 6 panelists: 2 Emeriti Faculty or Alumni, 2 Current Faculty, 2 Current Students

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Coffee Break**

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. **Session V: Alumni Rapid-fire Updates** *(Tentative venue: Ecology Auditorium)*
Here’s a chance to share what you’re up to these days with a short talk—3 minutes max! Alumni Presenters will be invited to self-identify.

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. **Session VI:**
- Reception *(Venue: Courtyard (weather permitting))*
- **Student Poster Session** *(Tentative venue: Ecology Hallways)*
- **Communal Art Activity** *(Tentative venue: Ecology Hallways)*

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Session VII: Drop-in Networking** *(Venue: Ecology Building (weather permitting))*
Modeled on the successful Conservation Careers Speed Networking session held during the Conservation Ecology and Sustainable Development Graduate Program’s 20th 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.

6:30 p.m. **Alumni Weekend Banquet and Closing Plenary Session** *(Magnolia Banquet Hall)*
- Welcome from Dean John Gittleman
- Recognition of Emeritus Faculty
- Allison Walters, Development and Alumni Relations Coordinator, introducing alumni and development initiatives

**Why (paleo)ecology matters | Plenary Address by Beth Shapiro, BS/MS ’99**
Beth Shapiro, received a MacArthur “genius” grant in 2009, studies molecular and genetic evolution and ancient DNA to understand how 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** *(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.

8:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Guided Tours | (8:30 departure from Ecology)**
- **The Georgia Museum of Natural History**
  If Alumni (and families!) would like a quick visit to the *Georgia Museum of Natural History*, tours will be led by Dr. John Wares (Currently President, Friends of the GMNH) and Dr. Jim Porter (Curator of Marine Invertebrates, *Emeritus*).
- **State Botanical Garden of Georgia**
  A tour/bird walk at our State Botanical Garden led by Dr. Richard Hall.