



INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY • ODUM SCHOOL OF ECOLOGY

CELEBRATING ECOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

REUNION AND SYMPOSIUM

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF ECOLOGY AT UGA

FRIDAY, JAN. 12, 2018

4:00 – 7:00 p.m. **“First” Friday Welcoming Reception** (Ecology Building/Ecology Tent)
The reunion symposium officially begins 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.

Odum School Art Exhibit (Ecology Seminar Room)

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. **Ecotones** | “UGA's ecologically-minded co-ed a cappella group” (Ecology Auditorium)

6:00 p.m. **Slideshow** of alumni and current and past faculty (Ecology Auditorium)

SATURDAY, JAN. 13, 2018

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast and Registration** (Forestry Building 2 Auditorium)
Coffee and pastries available

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. **Session I: Opening Plenary Session** (Forestry Building 2 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** (Ecology Tent)

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. **Session II: Foundational Research and Current Connections: Alumni Perspectives** (Forestry Building 2 Auditorium)

- **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. **Ecology and the University of Georgia** | **JERE MOREHEAD**, President, University of Georgia (Forestry Building 2 Auditorium)

^Immediately
Following

Group Photo (Ecology Building)

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch** (Ecology Building/Ecology Tent)

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. **Session III: Foundational Research and Current Connections: Faculty Perspectives** (Forestry Building 2 Auditorium)

- **JOHN DRAKE** | *Disease ecology*
- **VANESSA EZENWA** | *Behavioral / evolutionary ecology*
- **ELIZABETH KING** | *Conservation ecology*
- **CRAIG OSENBURG** | *Community ecology*
- **CATHERINE PRINGLE** | *Aquatic 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** (Forestry Building 2 Auditorium)
 A panel discussion that relates experiences, ideas, and programs to enhance human diversity and generate inclusive and supportive environments in labs, academic units, and other places of work.
- **JOHN DRAKE** | Distinguished Research Professor, Associate Dean, and Director of the Population Biology of Infectious Diseases REU Site at UGA
 - **SONIA HERNANDEZ** | PhD '08, graduate of Odum and DVM from UGA; Director of the ICON graduate program at UGA
 - **JOHN KOMINOSKI** | PhD '08, Assistant Professor at Florida International University
 - **NARKE NORTON** | Program Coordinator, Office of Diversity Affairs, UGA College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences
 - **KELSEY SOLOMON** | Odum PhD student, Director of EcoReach
- Moderator: **KRISTA CAPPS** | *Assistant Professor, Odum*
- 3:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Coffee Break** (Ecology Tent)
- 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. **Session V: Alumni Rapid-fire Updates** (Ecology Auditorium)
 A chance to hear what colleagues and friends are up to these days— 90-second updates!
- 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. **Session VI Reception** (Ecology Building)
Student Poster Display (Ecology Hallways)
Communal Art Activity (Ecology Building)
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Session VII: Drop-in Networking** (Ecology Building)
 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** (Mahler Hall, Georgia Center)
- Welcome from **DEAN JOHN GITTLEMAN**
 - Recognition of Emeritus Faculty
 - **ALLISON WALTERS** | Development and Alumni Relations Coordinator
- 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

- 8:00 a.m. **Pastries and Coffee** (Ecology building/Tent)
- 9:00 – 10:30 a.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.
- 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Guided Tours** | (9:00 departure from Ecology)
The Georgia Museum of Natural History
 A visit to the Georgia Museum of Natural History led by **JOHN WARES** (Current President, Friends of the GMNH) and **JIM PORTER** (Curator of Marine Invertebrates, Emeritus).
State Botanical Garden of Georgia
 A tour/bird walk at our State Botanical Garden led by **RICHARD HALL** (Assistant Professor, Odum)