



# News fEEB

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Monthly Newsletter

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## Discussion Question

*How can we better utilize the power of storytelling to communicate our research to a diverse audience?*

## Have an announcement?

Fill out the Google Form [HERE](#) or tag **#TAMUEEB** on Twitter!

## Postdoctoral opportunity

*Postdoctoral position available in Dr. Gabe Hamer's lab in the Department of Entomology. Click [HERE](#) for more information!*

## Farewell, Gil!

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to our very own Dr. Gil Rosenthal- he is Italy-bound! Gil accepted a position at the University of Padua in Padua, Italy where he will be a professor in the Department of Biology. As we all know, his research focuses on the mechanisms, evolution, and consequences of mate choice- primarily in swordtail fish. The Rosenthal lab's main study site is located at the CICHAZ research station, in the Sierra Madre Oriental of Hidalgo, Mexico where natural hybrid zones of swordtail fish occur. We hope to keep up with your future research and adventures "across the pond", Gil!

Gil is a co-founder of our EEB Program, an exemplary mentor, and an inspiration to so many who have had the privilege of working with him. None of us would be here now were it not in part for Gil's integral efforts in creating the EEB Program. He has worked tirelessly over the years to provide opportunities for its students and build it into a nationally competitive program. His work has paid off, as TAMU EEB's Program now houses dozens of PhD students from across numerous departments and is arguably a leading EEB program in the country. From all of us, a heartfelt **THANK YOU** for all of your hard work, dedication, and contributions!

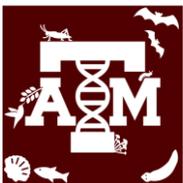
## Congratulations to the following EEB students and faculty!

*Tori Spencer for receiving the [NSF GRFP](#), & Natalie Aguirre for [GRFP](#) Honorable Mention*

*Dr. Jessica Light for receiving the [ACE Diversity Service Faculty Award](#)*

*Michael McCloy for receiving the ESA's [Graduate Student Policy Award](#)*

*Milton Torres-Ceron for getting a book chapter accepted for publication! Torres-Ceron, M. et al. (2022). PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL WATER QUALITY FROM A HYBRID SYSTEM FOR WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. In Rojas, R et al. (eds). Biocontrol Systems and Plant Physiology in Modern Agriculture. Apple Academic Press.*



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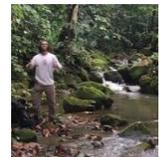
For more information visit: [eeb.tamu.edu](http://eeb.tamu.edu)

# Lab Spotlight

In honor of Dr. Gil Rosenthal's new position at the University of Padua, we wanted to highlight students in the Rosenthal lab for this month's EEB newsletter. You can find more info about the Rosenthal Lab and its members [HERE](#).



Dr. Gil Rosenthal

	Name	Department	Interests
	<b>Angie Achorn</b>	PhD Candidate, Anthropology	Angie is pursuing her Ph.D in Anthropology under Dr. Sharon Gursky. Her research investigates relationships between testosterone, coloration, intestinal parasites, and mate choice in Sulawesi crested macaques. She's also working with the Rosenthal lab given her shared interest in mate choice and the evolutionary mechanisms involved.
	<b>Amanda Beckman</b>	PhD Candidate, EEB	Amanda researches Wild Turkeys, including Rio Grande Wild Turkey cooperative behavior. Additionally, she studies the genetic structure of the Rio Grande subspecies and extent of subspecies hybridization using feathers samples collected from researchers and hunters.
	<b>Stephen Bovio</b>	PhD Candidate, EEB	Stephen joined the Rosenthal lab in 2016. His interests focus broadly on the effects hybridization and mate choice have on speciation. In the <i>Xiphophorus</i> genus, many species can produce viable and fertile hybrid offspring.



**Owen Dorsey**

PhD student, EEB

Owen joined the Rosenthal lab in 2019. He is broadly interested in studying the fitness consequences of inbreeding and the evolution of pre- and post-copulatory mechanisms to avoid inbreeding. He plans to investigate the “cost-benefit” to inbreeding in swordtails.



**Mateo Garcia**

PhD Candidate, EEB

Mateo’s research consists of carrying out transgenic studies (in vivo and in cell culture) in swordtails to characterize the modifying effect that genes have on Sc-tumor development.



**Emma Lehmborg**

PhD student, EEB

Emma joined the Rosenthal lab in 2018 and is working on untangling the relationship between speciation rates and post-zygotic reproductive isolation in live-bearing fishes in of the Poeciliinae. To do this, she is using a phylogenomic approach to examine genetic differentiation in species that nourish their young using placenta vs. ones that do not.



**Breann Richey**

PhD student, EEB

Breann is a second-year PhD student interested in how anthropogenic influences affect hybridization in the Italian wall lizard, *Podarcis siculus*. Her research contains elements of both speciation and mate choice with an emphasis on how human activity can affect these processes. Breann is co-advised by Dr. Gil Rosenthal and Dr. Michelle Lawing.



**Paola Fascinetto-Zago**

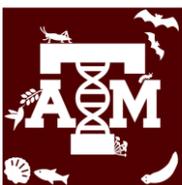
PhD student, EEB

Paola’s research interests are focused around behavioral ecology and evolutionary biology. She studied at Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, earning a Master’s in Physiological Sciences working in the courtship behavior of *Xenotoca variata* fish. She currently is interested in the relationship between animal personality, learning and mate choice.

## *TAMU EEB Fun Fact*

# 12

The number of academic departments represented by EEB core faculty!



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