



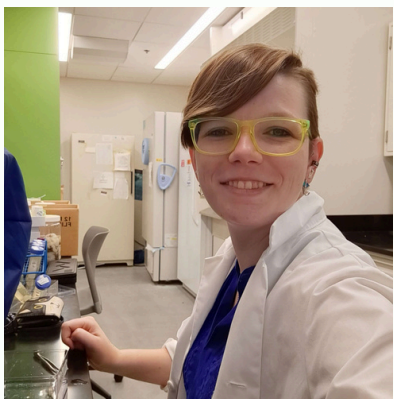
December graduates!



Dr. Jordan Salomon

“Identifying drivers of trophic interactions: Vector-borne zoonotic diseases as study systems.”

Chair: Dr. Sarah Hamer



Angela Haggard, MS

“Morphological characterization of the Sonoran Topminnow, *Poeciliopsis occidentalis sensu lato*, complex, with comments on their asexual hybridogenetic parasites.”

Chair: Dr. Mariana Mateos

Welcome! 2024 PhD Cohort

Alister Brown

- Gursky Lab
 - Anthropology
- MS - Central Washington University



Eliyashaib James

- Sword & Song Labs
 - Entomology
- BS - Rutgers



Loris Di Vozzo

- Lawing Lab
 - Ecology & Conservation Biology
- MS - Università di Pisa

Sierra Sanders

- Casola Lab
 - Ecology & Conservation Biology
- BS - Texas A&M University

Congratulations!

Texas A&M Geologist Receives National Recognition for Career Contributions to Coal Geology

Dr. Anne Raymond was honored by The Energy Division of the Geological Society of America for her lifetime of research and her decades of effort in training fossil pollen experts, many of whom have pursued extensive careers in the petroleum industry. She received the Gilbert H. Cady Award in September 2024.





Texas A&M College of Agriculture & Life Sciences 2024
 Dean's Outstanding Achievement Award Winners:
 Early Career Research: Dr. Sanjay Antony Babu, PLPM
 Student Relations: Dr. Jessica Light, ECCB



Association of Former
 Students College Level
 Teaching Award Winner:
 Dr. Juliana Rangel,
 Entomology

Lydia Morley
 Spalink Lab
 2024-2025 Future Faculty
 Fellowship (F3) Awardee



Ruby Mustill
 Fitzpatrick Lab
 Texas A&M Hagler Institute
 for Advanced Study
 Heep Graduate Fellowship
 Award

In the News:
 Breann Richey (Lawing
 Lab) was featured on
 KOAM News Now in Joplin,
 MO for her research on the
 invasive Italian wall lizards



**Yes! Italian Wall Lizards are in Joplin!
 They DON'T belong here!**

If they invade our glade habitats, they will eliminate native lizard populations.

Be on the lookout and report any sightings!
 Use the QR code to report directly to iNaturalist OR
 Email with a photo and GPS location to brichey@tamu.edu.

ANY GLADE SIGHTINGS SHOULD BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO
 MDC (Missouri Department of Conservation).



HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

Join our community science project and contribute to
 research!

The Italian wall lizard is a small (3-6 inches) invasive lizard living in this
 area. Help us understand where they live by taking a photo and posting it to
 iNaturalist. Your photo will help researchers study the spread of this lizard
 and its impact on local ecosystems.

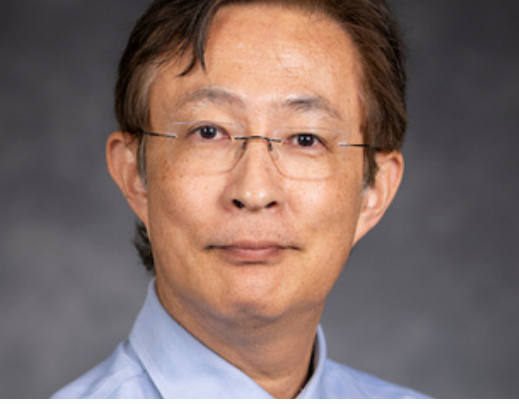


How to identify Italian wall
 lizards:

- 3-6 inches in length
- Solid colored chin and neck
 (usually white or green)
- Very fast.
- Color varies from bright green
 to tan

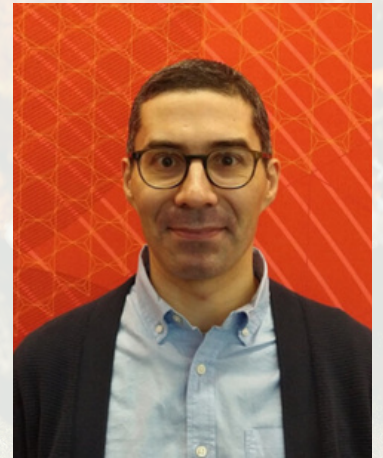
For more information about this project and to report without making an iNaturalist
 account, visit www.walllizards.com

tx.ag/walllizard



The following faculty were promoted on September 1 (from L to R):
 Dr. Masami Fujiwara, Ecology & Conservation Biology - Professor
 Dr. Tom Chappell, Plant Pathology & Microbiology - Associate Professor
 Dr. Anjel Helms, Entomology - Associate Professor

Welcome the newest core faculty members (from L to R):
 Dr. Sheila Kitchen, Marine Biology at TAMUG - Assistant Professor
 Dr. Brian Davis, Veterinary Pathobiology - Associate Professor and Director of VMB
 Dr. Ian Ausprey, Ecology & Conservation Biology - Assistant Professor
 Dr. Antonio Rodrigues, Ecology & Conservation Biology - Assistant Professor



Congratulations!

Three Texas A&M Biologists Receive Coveted MIRA Research Grant

Dr. Rachel Moran (BIOL) received the National Institutes of Health Maximizing Investigators' Research Award (MIRA) in the amount of \$1.9 million to better understand the complex social behaviors of darter fish, from the genetic and evolutionary mechanisms involved to the neural basis behind parental care.





EEB kicked off the fall semester with a Trivia Night.

Program award winners include (from top L to R):

Dr. Dave Bapst, GEOL - Faculty Excellence

Meredith Anderson, S Hamer Lab - Graduate Student Service

Dr. Courtney Fitzpatrick, BIOL - Faculty Excellence

Griffin Nicholson, Fitzgerald Lab - Graduate Student Service

Breann Richey, Lawing Lab - Graduate Student Teaching

Additional winners (from bottom L to R):

Nicole Stevens, Fitzgerald Lab - Graduate Student Service

Allison Collins, Gursky Lab - Graduate Student Teaching

Shelbie Weaver, Wicksten Lab - Graduate Student Teaching



Dr. Jordan Salomon

S. Hamer Lab

Emerging Southwestern
Ecologist Award from the
Southwestern Branch of the
Ecological Society of
America, 2024



Jorge Medina, Song Lab

2024 Dissertation Fellowship
Awardee

Winners!

Texas A&M Graduate &
Professional School Graduate
Student Research and
Presentation Travel Award

Ben Lake, Yorzinski Lab

Audélia Mechti, Sword Lab





Congratulations on being Admitted to Candidacy (L to R):
Ali Lira Olguin, Light Lab; Andie Miller, Sword Lab; Audélia Mechti, Sword Lab; Vivian Peralta Santana, Song Lab

2024-2025 Montague-
Center for Teaching
Excellence Scholars
Early-Career Award
Dr. Daniel Spalink, ECCB



Dr. Gary Voelker (ECCB) joins
the EEB Executive Committee
as the Outreach Chair.

Thank you to Dr. Jessica
Yorzinski for serving as the
Outreach Chair for the 2023-
2024 year. EEB is excited for
your growing family.



Passed Prelims or Research Proposal Defense

Nicole
Stevens
Fitzgerald Lab



Jackson Linde
Song Lab

Skai Peterson
Helms Lab



Oluwaseun
Ajileye
Light Lab

Adeyinka
Aduragbemi
Spalink Lab





EEB started a Brown Bag lunch series this semester as a space for postdocs, faculty, and students to gather and discuss all things science. EEBISO hosted a fall picnic with RWFM & ECCB. They also helped co-host a pumpkin carving event. As always, Optimal Foraging (R photo) continues to be a way to maximize collaborative gains!

EEB Trivia Winners
Team Bearded Seals (L to R):
Lauren Doellinger (BIOL),
Malith Viduranga, Steve
Caird, Ruby Mustill, Myles
Wagner, Austin Ehrie (BIOL)



2023-2024 Department of Ecology & Conservation Biology awards were presented in October.

Congratulations!

- Outstanding Doctoral Student: Josh Lerner
- Excellence Award in Graduate Teaching: Dr. Josh Perkin
- Excellence Award in Research: Dr. Rusty Feagin

Aggie Gold!

BTHO 90 Hours!

EEB seminar student worker and ECCB senior, Caleb Catlett, received his Aggie ring on October 11, 2024. Congratulations!

