

SEOE Newsletter

Term: Summer 2024 | Issue 24

July 2024

Undergraduate Office

Jack Hensley was recently highlighted for his leadership in Pillars this summer. Way to go Jack!!

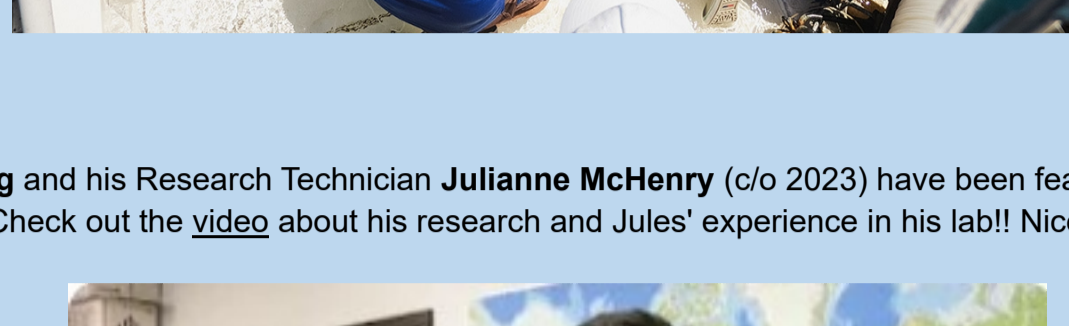


"Some of our favorite memories from Pillars over the years include bonding with this year's staff and shag night, where participants learn the South Carolina state dance and share their favorite experiences from the week. The whole staff has been working tirelessly to prepare for the summer to invite new students on campus."

- Jack Hensley, senior environmental science and political science major

"We first began involvement with Pillars for Carolina as participants in the summer before our freshman year. Knowing we wanted to give the same wonderful experience we had to the next incoming class at USC, we applied to come back as staff members."

SEOE Alumna, **Emma Jackson**, and her PhD work has been highlighted in USC news. [Read](#) about her work with sharks and rays. We are so proud of you Emma!!



Nick Peng and his Research Technician **Julianne McHenry** (c/o 2023) have been featured by the College. Check out the [video](#) about his research and Jules' experience in his lab!! Nice job y'all!!



The SEOE is welcoming 121 new students into our degree programs



Welcome (back) party!!
August 23rd @2pm in JONES 120

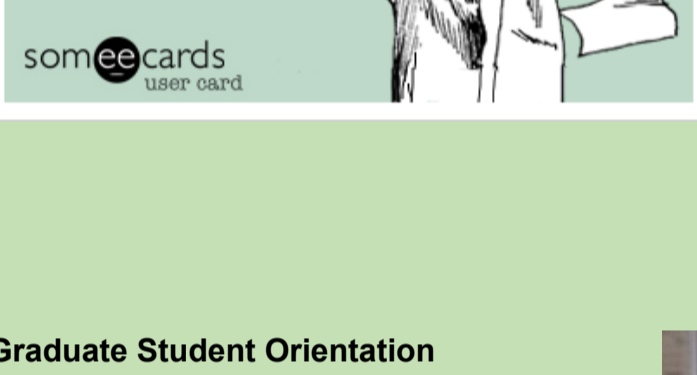


Graduate Office

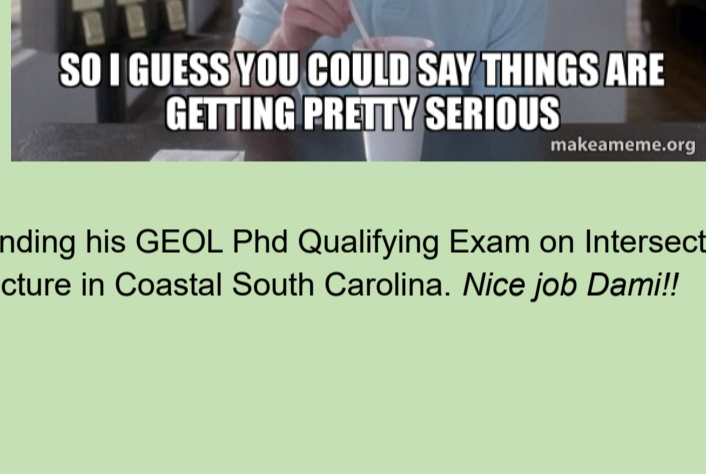
The SEOE is welcoming 16 incoming students into our graduate degree programs.



Welcome new SEOE Grad Student Meet and Mingle - a GOEOE Event
Friday Aug 16th @ Chez Kreuser
Come hang out and meet awesome people.



Graduate Student Orientation
Monday August 19th in
JONES 006 @1:30
Email coming soon - Check your inboxes
later this week for more information



Qualifying/Comprehensive Exams

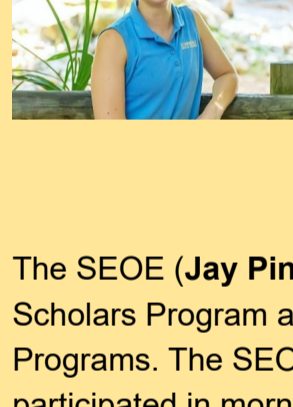
Way to go **Riliwan Abioye** on successfully defending his GEOL PhD Qualifying Exam on Intercession of Rising Water Tables and Subsurface Infrastructure in Coastal South Carolina. *Nice job Darn!!*

Defenses

Congratulations to **Kavencia Sabine Gabriel Faton** who successfully defended her thesis on Assessing Relationships between Water Quality, Precipitation, Land Cover and Stormwater Conveyance Type Across a Range of Sub-watersheds in Murrells Inlet, SC USA. *Way to go Gabi!!*

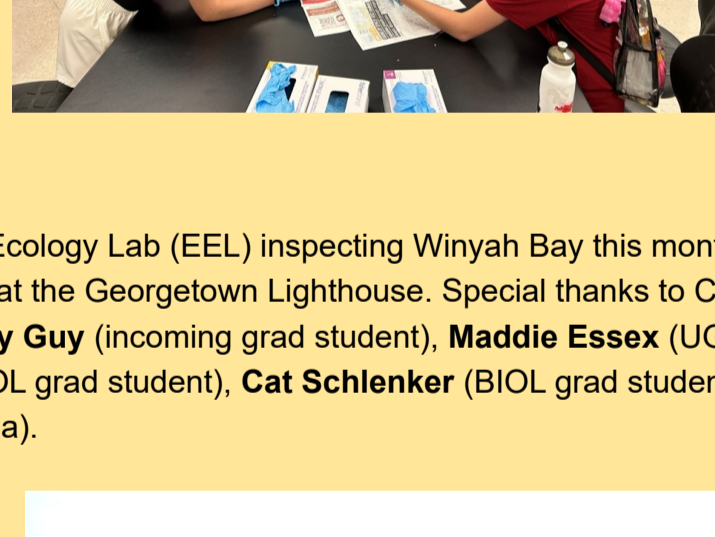
Meryssa Piper successfully defended her thesis on Engaging Students in the Scientific Process: An Examination of Active Learning Strategies in Introductory Geoscience Labs. *Congratulations soon-to-be Dr Piper!!*

Around the Department News



The SEOE would like to send a warm welcome to **Anna Goldberg** who will be starting August 1 as our new **Graduate Student Coordinator**. Anna is a graduate of the department (c/o 2018) and is coming to us from the Riverbanks Zoo where she worked with the hoofstock and seals & sea lions. I'm sure she will be using her wrangling talents with us in no time.

The SEOE (**Jay Pinckney**, **Joe Jones** and **Emily Baumann**) participated in the Carolina Master Scholars Program a Youth a Teen Pre-University Program supported by the Continuing Education Programs. The SEOE hosted a Marine Science Course for 22 rising 9-12th grade students. Students participated in morning lectures, research lab tours, a field trip to the Riverbanks Zoo and afternoon labs taught by (**Archana Venkatachari**, **Birch Lazo-Murphy**, **Darcy Perin** and **Maddie Thompson**). *Thank you to everyone who participated!!*



Check out the Estuarine Ecology Lab (EEL) inspecting Winyah Bay this month in the **BMFL R/V Parker**. The expedition ended up at the Georgetown Lighthouse. Special thanks to Captain **Sam Gary** for a smooth trip. L to R - **Henry Guy** (incoming grad student), **Maddie Essex** (UG), **Jacob Pinckney**, **Essence Tornabene** (BIOL grad student), **Cat Schlenker** (BIOL grad student), **Dr. Eilea Knotts**, and **Haley Durbin** (alumna).



Looking for additional computer lab space for your course? CAS has you covered with JONES 102 and 102A. Email [Lee Hallman](#) for more information.



KUDOS!!

Awards:

Liam Batchelder (Dunn) was recently awarded the **Margaret A. Davidson Fellowship** to conduct research within the NIWB NERR by the NOAA Office for Coastal Management.

Hip Hip Hooray for **Bill Strosnider** on his new classification to tenured **Associate Professor** in the SEOE (dependent on BoT approval). *Congratulations Bill!!!*

- Bill is teaching MSCI 758 Coastal Nature-Based Solutions this FALL!! There are only a few remaining seats.

Publications

June was a Banner month for Katherine Ryker. Way to go!!

- **Katherine Ryker**, along with fellow co-author **Annie Klyce** have a paper in the Journal of Geoscience Education on The geoscience education research (GER) community of practice: a brief history and implications from a needs assessment survey. Check it out: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10899995.2024.2355821>
- **Katherine Ryker**, published a paper on Using observation protocols to reliably measure teaching practice in the classroom and advance the GER Community Framework in the Journal of Geoscience Education. Read it here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10899995.2024.2358727>
- **Katherine Ryker**, is a co-author on a recent publication in the Journal of Geoscience Education on Patterns in student self-reported situational interest in online introductory geoscience labs during COVID. More information can be found here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10899995.2024.2359318>

In the News

- **Claudia Benitez-Nelson** was targeted in **USA TODAY!!** Our esteemed colleague's comments were featured in the section on [Climate change concerns growing for youth sports](#). *Nice job Claudia!!*

Let the department know about the wonderful things you and the people around you are doing!! Is there something/someone you are proud of? Let us know [Kudos Form](#).

Upcoming Events: [click to see the google calendar](#)

- Aug 2-4th** - TAX FREE WEEKEND *Wooohoo.*
- Aug 12th** - Early move-in (Avoid Target and Walmart)
- Aug 15th** - Amadi Sefah-Twerefour's Qualifying Exam EWS 210 @10am
- Aug 17th & 18th** - Official move-in (Avoid Target and Walmart)
- Aug 19th** - Graduate Student Orientation JONES 006 @1:30pm
- Aug 20th** - FDOC!! (First Day of Classes)
- Aug 23rd** - Welcome (BACK) Party JONES 120 @2pm

Follow us on Social Media

