

Assignment # 3

Ecological Seminar Critique: Provide a detailed critique of an ecology seminar. Include the name of the ecologist, title of the seminar, and a detailed description of the work presented. This can be done in 1 or 2 short paragraphs or an entire essay not to exceed one page. (Note: You must provide specific details covered in the seminar “talked about ecology” or “covered scientific experiments currently ongoing in his/her laboratory” are not acceptable).

Below is a list of seminar scheduled on campus this semester under the Center of Ecology and Zoology Graduate Student Association Seminar Series:

All seminars will be held in the Life Science 3 Auditorium from 4 to 5 p.m.

February 19 - Jim Angel (Illinois State Climatologist)

He was the co-author on a rainfall frequency study that became the new standard for designing water-handling structures in Illinois. He was recently the co-author of the new Climate Atlas of Illinois, summarizing 50 years of research at the Illinois State Water Survey.

March 5 - Gene Likens (Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies)

Dr. Likens and his colleagues were the first scientists to discover acid rain and to document the link between the combustion of fossil fuels and an increase in the acidity of precipitation in North America. He is a member of the American Philosophical Society and the National Academy of Sciences.

March 19 - Danny Reible (University of Texas)

He has served on several National Research Council committees including the post-Katrina Steering Committee. He has provided Congressional testimony before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment on strategies for the management of contaminated sediment sites.

March 26 - Don Weston (University of California Berkeley)

Dr. Weston's research interests include invertebrate ecology and ecotoxicology. His work largely focuses on toxicity and bioaccumulation of sediment-associated pollutants.

April 2 - Rebecca Lochmann (University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff)

Dr. Lochmann's research interests include fish silage as an alternative protein source in diets for catfish and baitfish, improving production efficiency of warm water aquaculture species through nutrition and alternative nutrient sources in practical diets for baitfish and catfish.

April 9 - Matt Leibold (University of Texas)

Dr. Leibold's lines of research are oriented towards understanding how the outcomes of species interactions, involving especially predation and interspecific competition, depend on the environmental context in which they occur.

April 16 - Michael Campana (Oregon State University)

His interests include transboundary ground water resources; water resources management; water resources in developing regions, especially Central America, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia; regional hydrogeology; and dynamic simulation modeling in water resources. He is also the author of the WaterWired blog (<http://aquadoc.typepad.com/waterwired/>).

April 23 - Robert Wayne (UCLA)

Dr. Wayne's research involves the application of molecular genetic techniques to questions in systematics, population genetics, and sociobiology.

April 30 - Wyatt Cross (Montana State University)

Dr. Cross' research is devoted to understanding patterns and processes in freshwater ecosystems. In particular, we're interested in the linkages between food web dynamics and ecosystem ecology, with an emphasis on both basic and applied questions.