

18th Annual Yeager Symposium Lecture Series
Issues in Bioconservation
October 18-21, 2004

Welcome to the eighteenth annual Yeager Scholars Symposium Lecture Series. This year's theme "Issues in Bioconservation" will lead us from ocean depths, into misty tropical jungles, and up through the canopy into the open sky! Along the way, we'll be witness to the many diverse creatures and environments our world has to offer.

Many thanks go out to Verizon-WV, our major sponsor. Without their generous gifts this year's symposium could not be a success. We would also like to thank the members of the university and community who support the many endeavors of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

Will Alexander, class of 2005
Sydnee Smirl, class of 2005
Symposium Co-Chairs

Monday, October 18th
4:30 P.M.

Marcos, MSC Basement

“Galápagos”
Movie

Galápagos vividly documents an eight-week modern-day expedition to the islands made famous by Charles Darwin and the surrounding waters. Part adventure, part scientific expedition, and part fantastic voyage, this unprecedented non-fiction film takes audiences on a journey with marine biologist Dr. Carole Baldwin, from the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of Natural History, on her first trip to the famed Galápagos Islands. Through Dr. Baldwin’s eyes, *Galápagos* reveals the animals that roam and soar above the archipelago and appear nowhere else on earth. Baldwin exposes the dynamics of evolution through stunning footage of these creatures as she travels to many of the different island chains. Giant Galápagos tortoises, marine iguanas, and unusual birds all appear tame and even curious about our presence. Sea lion pups frolic with us in tidal pools, and schools of hammerhead sharks swim above.

Descending into the darkness of the ocean in a high-tech submersible, we gaze at species of animals no human has seen before. Witnessing the magnificence of the Galápagos, we are faced with a window into the past and to a frontier for exploration. We descend to depths of 3000 feet with Dr. Baldwin to study biodiversity and the processes of evolution as part of an on-going effort by scientists to understand the forces which may ultimately affect the survival of our own species.

Monday, October 18th
7:00 P.M.

Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

“Journey to Earth’s Inner Space”
Carole Baldwin

Star of the breathtaking IMAX film *Galápagos*, Dr. Carole Baldwin put her scientific expertise to the test on a six-week expedition to explore “the Earth’s last great frontier” – the deep sea. Baldwin was born in South Carolina and developed an early love for the ocean while living near the seashore and exploring the beaches and tide pools. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at James Madison University and Master’s of Science in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston, before receiving her Ph. D. in Marine Science from the College of William and Mary.

A summer job as a research assistant working with larval fishes at the Charleston Marine Lab led Dr. Baldwin to her first professional position at the Smithsonian Institution. Since then, she has published over three dozen articles, discovered new species of fishes in Belize, Tobago, Cook Islands, Australia, and the Galapagos Islands, and served as a member of many prominent scientific societies.

Baldwin and her work have been featured in numerous magazines and she was profiled in the ABC television special *Planet Earth 2000*. Baldwin was also inducted as a 2003 honoree into the Women Diver’s Hall of Fame.

**Tuesday, October 19th
7:00 P.M.**

Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

“Carnivore Conservation In Developing Nations: Jaguars in Belize, Central America”

Marcella Kelly

Marcella Kelly is an Associate Professor at Virginia Tech’s Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences. She earned her BS in Wildlife Biology and her Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of California-Davis. Widely regarded as one of the world’s leading experts on tropical feline species, her current research interests include: ecology and population dynamics of mammal species, tropical ecology and conservation, and predator ecology and conservation.

“I am moved by the beauty and the harshness of the rainforest and its creatures and hope my work leads to the protection of this ecosystem, primarily for the sake of the creatures themselves, and secondarily for the potential benefit, aesthetic or otherwise, to humans.”
--Marcella Kelly

Wednesday, October 20th
7:00 P.M.

Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

“Birds of Prey”
Three Rivers Avian Center

Three Rivers Avian Center Directors, Ron and Wendy Perrone, joined by a half-dozen feathered friends discuss their efforts in areas of avian conservation, rehabilitation, and protection. In addition to the work they do at TRAC to return threatened wild birds to their native habitats, they will educate us about raptor habitat and the role of raptors in the ecosystem, why we have laws protecting raptors and other wild birds, and the most common hazards they face daily.

When they started in 1990, TRAC was TRRRC (Three Rivers Raptor Rehabilitation Center). This proved to be next to impossible to say on the telephone, so they changed it to TRRC, dropping the “Rehabilitation”. In 1991 they incorporated as a non-profit organization. The center had a major upgrade in 2001 when the construction of their new avian hospital and current facility was completed, the first facility of its kind in West Virginia.

Thursday, October 21st
7:00 P.M.

Joan C. Edwards Playhouse

“Issues in Bioconservation”
Panel Discussion

Dr. Scott Shalaway, Ph. D.
Ornithologist

Bill Chafin
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition

Dr. Charles Somerville, Ph. D.
Biology Department, Marshall University

Paul Wilson
Chair, WV Chapter Sierra Club

Moderator Martha Woodward
Past Director, Yeager Scholars

18th Annual Society of Yeager Scholars Symposium Dinner
October 22, 2004
Big Sandy Superstore Arena

Introducing. . .

Brammer Class of 2008

Megan Lynn Basham
Karen Elizabeth Bohne
Jacquelyn Hanna Bowen
Eric Scott Byrge
Sarah Elizabeth Gutman
Caitlin Richelle Haught
Kelly Nicole Jackson
Joshua Aaron Lynn
Shannon Rae McKinney
Michael Jayson Price
Megan Nicole Ward

Dinner Program

Welcome:

Will Alexander, Class of 2005
Sydnee Smirl, Class of 2005
Co-chairs, Yeager/Verizon Symposium
Matt Vincent, Maier Class of 2007

Invocation:

Dinner

Greetings from

Marshall University:

Greetings from Verizon:

Dan Angel, President
John Ruddick, Executive Director Government and
External Relations

Introduction of Guests:

Nitisha Mulpuri, Maier Class of 2007
Steven Taylor, Willis Class of 2006

Special Presentation:

Glen Kerkian, Sr. Vice President for Development
Nora Shalaway, Class of 2005

Introduction of Classes:

Srijita Das Gupta, Willis Class of 2006
Johnny Walker, Maier Class of 2007

Remarks:

John Fiedler, President Society of Yeager Scholars
BOD

Introduction of the

Brammer Class of 2008:

Joanna Coleman, Class of 2005

Special Thanks to:

“Issues in Bioconservation” Committee

Will Alexander, Sultan

Sydnee Smirl, Sultana

Lindsay Yanov, Vizier

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