



WINTER 2021 | ISS. 6

A FLURRY OF FUN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF RIDGE 2 REEF



Winter Quarter in Review

In Winter 2021, we started the new year with a series of guest lecturers, speaker events, and multiple student success stories.

- Jan. 25th, our students learned about the grant review process from Melinda Gormley.
- Feb. 1st, Lauren Lyon discussed CVs and resumes, and their differences.
- Feb. 8th, trainees David Bañuelas and Annie Rohrbacher spoke about their internship experience.
- Feb. 22th, we hosted a Q&A with Dr. Christopher Carter and Dra. Marlene Brito-Millan.
- March 1st, our last Q&A was with Patrick Byorth.

Keep reading for more details about our speakers, events, and highlights! And make sure to check out our new YouTube channel, where students present short videos on their research.



@Ridge2ReefUCI

Speaker Highlight

Melinda Gormley

Melinda Gormley is Research Development Officer for the School of Biological Sciences at the University of California, Irvine. She helps faculty acquire funding for their research and contributes to science policy.

She gives professional development workshops covering ethics, policy, career, and research topics that aim at cultivating transferable skills such as communication, leadership, and interpersonal skills.

Melinda has provided research integrity training and guidance on both responsible conduct of research (RCR) and social responsibilities for researchers.



Melinda has presented on the following professional development topics to Ridge-2-Reef cohorts and participated in a career workshop that R2R organized on “What can I do with my PhD?”.

Writing Successful Grants

Obtaining funding for your research is a highly competitive process. This seminar describes templates for presenting your work in a grant proposal and suggests good practices to invoke and pitfalls to avoid.

The Grant Review Process

To effectively communicate your ideas to others, you need to know your audience and their expectations. This session will help you to understand the grant reviewer’s perspective and the grant review process.

Science Policy and Advocacy

This session defines science policy and advocacy and then briefly discusses responsible communication practices when discussing policy issues or advocating for policy outcomes. It ends with information about finding science policy fellowships and jobs.

R2R Q&A Panels

Monday, February 22nd & Monday, March 1st



In the middle of Winter quarter, we hosted two open to the public Q&A speaker sessions.

We were joined by:

- Dr. Christopher Carter, Assistant Professor & Assistant Chair at the University of San Diego
- Dra. Marlene Brito-Millan, Professor at Northwestern University and Universidad Autónoma de Guerrero
- Montana Water Director at Trout Unlimited, Patrick Byorth

Trainee Excellence

UCI Homecoming Panel

At UCI Homecoming, R2R hosted a panel, "Even COVID Can't Stop Us From Saving The Environment." Our program tackles a wide range of ecological challenges for the OC – from plastics proliferation to wildfires and flood control. This panel of grad students discussed how they are fighting to heal our environment, even as a pandemic rages on.

Speakers:

- Steven Allison, Professor of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Earth System Science
- Frank LaFerla, Dean, School of Biological Sciences
- David Christopher Banuelas, Ridge to Reef Graduate Program Student
- Phoebe Dawkins, Ridge to Reef Graduate Program Student
- Ashley Janay Green, Ridge to Reef Graduate Program Student
- Ariane Jong, Ridge to Reef Graduate Program Student

The graphic features a blue background with white and yellow text. At the top left, it says "Stay @ HOMEcoming" with "HOMEcoming" in a larger, bold font. Below this, a yellow banner lists "Virtual Activities • Reunions • Basketball • Family Weekend". The main title "Even Covid Can't Stop Us From Saving The Environment" is centered in large white font. Below the title, the names of the speakers are listed: Steven Allison, PhD, Professor Ecology Evolutionary Biology, Earth Systems Science; Ridge to Reef (R2R) Training Program Graduate Students: Ariane Jong, David Christopher Banuelas, Phoebe Dawkins, and Ashley Janay Green.

Watch at: <https://youtu.be/5Q6iiW072-I>