

2021-22

Annual Report



2021-2022

STRENGTHENED FOUNDATIONS & COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

The opportunity to make substantial improvements to our facility and re-connect and celebrate in-person with our community were major focuses this year. Both helped support our mission to offer meaningful natural history experiences to our students and support them as the future environmental leaders in our community and world.



2021-2022

BY THE NUMBERS

7,161

User Days

1,501

Undergraduates

698 Community members engaged

25 Classes supported

52 Internships

16 Scholarships &
Project Awards

18 Paid quarterly
positions



2021-2022

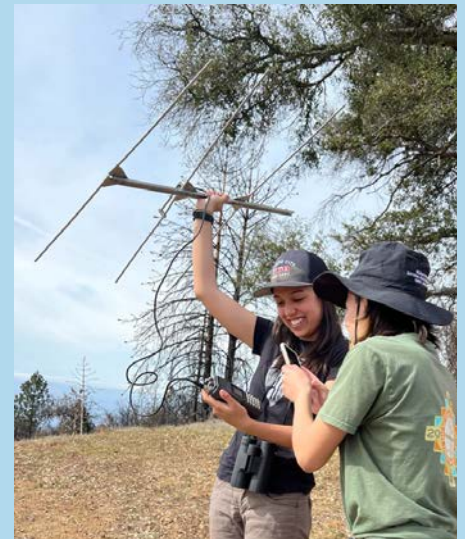
CLASSES



With a return to in-person classes, we were delighted to once again offer engaging learning opportunities to small undergraduate classes with a mix of classroom labs/lectures and field trips. For example, our California Condor Conservation class traveled to Big Sur to work directly with condor researchers and see the birds themselves at the Landels-Hill Big Creek Natural Reserve.

Sponsored by the Norris Center

- Natural History Illustration (3 offerings), Emily Underwood, Juniper Harrower
- Natural History of Fungi, Christian Schwarz
- Careers in Conservation, Zeka Glucs
- Natural History of Reptiles and Amphibians, Sean Reilly
- Natural History of Birds, Ryan Carle & Breck Tyler
- Natural History Field Quarter, Ryan Carle & Chris Lay



Supported by the Norris Center

- Natural History of UCSC
- General Ecology
- Entomology
- Plant Disease Ecology
- Freshwater Ecology
- Biodiversity in the Anthropocene
- Intro to Field Research (4 sections)
- Ornithology
- Herpetology
- Mammalogy
- Merrill Core Course
- Rachel Carson Core Course
- CSUMB Science Illustration
- COSMOS Summer Science Class

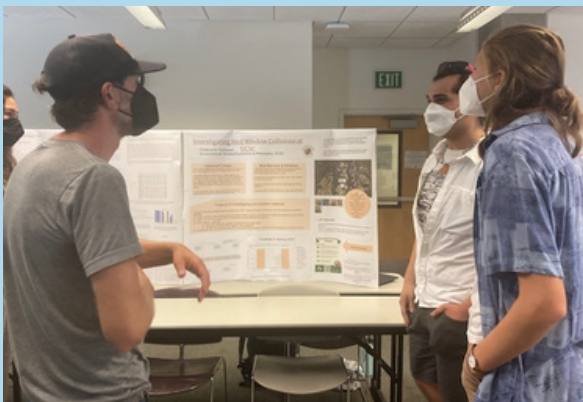
2021-2022

INTERNSHIPS



Under the leadership of our new Assistant Director Dr. Gizelle Hurtado, we were thrilled to transition back to in-person internships, including:

- Working with our community volunteers on our plant collections
- Re-starting our taxidermy internship
- Training undergraduate interns to facilitate field inquiry nature exploration (F.I.N.E) hikes for first-year students
- Supporting environmental education collaborations with the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History
- Working with our mammal and insect collections
- Working with new ENVS faculty Dr. Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela studying bird window collisions on campus.



2021-2022

COLLECTIONS RENOVATION

Thanks to a generous gift in 2019 and a lot of work since then, we now have new space-saving cabinets that allow us to better preserve the longevity of our specimens while facilitating long term growth of the collections as a whole. Moving our collections temporarily into the rest of the Norris Center, renovating our storage room, and moving specimens into the new cabinets took over a year and is still ongoing. With the help of several student curators this summer, we were able to re-open our community room to the public for the first time since March of 2020 and just in time for the start of Fall quarter 2022.



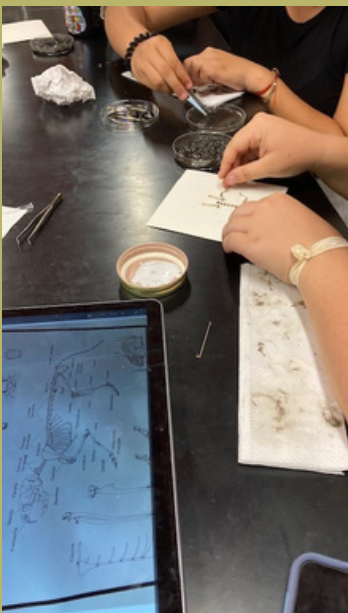
Above: Clearing the old collections room and temporarily storing specimens in the rest of the Norris Center

Below: New cabinets arrive and are installed



SUMMER RESEARCH AND CLASSES

As part of UCSC's Center to Advance Mentored Inquiry Opportunities (CAMINO), our two summer research interns worked with Assistant Director Dr. Gizelle Hurtado to collect preliminary data for a long-term squirrel behavior project on campus. While studying the behavior and distribution of California ground squirrels, and the egg-scavenging behavior and abundance of eastern grey squirrels, our interns practiced scientific inquiry in field ecological research from formulating a question, collecting and analyzing data, and communicating their findings at a student research symposium.



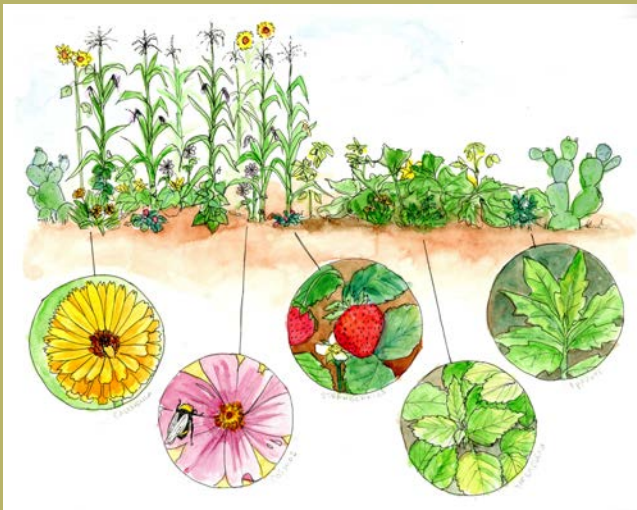
The Norris Center hosted a new class - *Bugs and Bones: The Biodiversity and Ecology of Vertebrates and Invertebrates in the Monterey Bay Region for the California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science (COSMOS)*. The class was co-taught by past Norris Center graduate fellow and field research supervisor Dr. Andy Kulikowski and Norris Center Assistant Director Dr. Gizelle Hurtado. In this rigorous, four-week class for high school students, the class conducted entomological and mammal research while learning about the diversity of both invertebrate and vertebrates found at UCSC. Overall, the Bugs and Bones COSMOS course was a resounding success and fun addition to the Norris Center's summer programs.

ART AND NATURAL HISTORY

In addition to our nature illustration classes and community art workshops, our Art-Science programming continued to produce amazing collaborations between undergraduate artists and faculty and graduate student researchers. This year, our Art-Science residency program supported another cohort of creative cross-disciplinary projects, ranging from urban gardening to illustrated bird guides.

"I worked collaboratively with ENVIS PhD student Edith Mirabel Gonzalez to develop a project that supports her work with socio-ecological urban gardening techniques and food within the local Oaxacan/Latinx community. Each image that I created is based on hours of both personal and in-person research conducted with Gonzalez in the field. This included garden visits where I met and interacted with the community of gardeners. We concentrated on scientific images and diagrams that demonstrated interactions between insect herbivores, predators of the herbivores, and gardening practices of the Oaxacan/Latinx community gardeners in the Watsonville and Santa Cruz area."

Nicole Rudolph-Vallerga, Studio Art/History of Art and Visual Culture, 2022



2021-2022

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF NATURAL HISTORY

This year we celebrated fifty years of natural history education and research at UCSC. Beginning with the natural history field quarter class started by Ken Norris in 1973, the opportunities to directly engage with the natural world through classes and research at UCSC keep growing. Our “50 Years of Wonder” series included:

- A fascinating discussion with a UCSC panel and special guest Dr. J. Drew Lanham
- A focus on women in field science with keynote speaker and new ENVS faculty Dr. Natalia Ocampo-Peñuela at our natural history symposium
- A natural history-related career panel during UCSC’s alumni week
- A large weekend in-person gathering at a summer camp in the Santa Cruz mountains.



*Envisioning the convergence
of the environmental and
social justice movements*

a conversation with author, birder, and
biologist Dr. J. Drew Lanham



Our final culminating event brought together nearly 300 people from the many generations of natural history students at UCSC. Equal parts celebration, networking, and time outside in nature, this rejuvenating event reminded us all of the importance of community in our efforts to take care of ourselves and others, while striving to make a positive difference in the world.



50 Years of Wonder
Natural History
at UC Santa Cruz



“The love and hard work you put into this event and its many, many facets was in evidence everywhere, and it was awesome. Thank you, thank you. I also really loved the pronouncedly intergenerational quality of this event.”



2021-2022

CELEBRATING YOUR SUPPORT!

Once again, we are so grateful to our generous community in continuing to support all aspects of the Norris Center. Much of our support this year came from countless hours of volunteer work from many alumni who helped envision and implement our “50 Years of Wonder” events throughout the year. In addition, over 125 donors helped us raise over \$58,000. This included a successful Giving Day campaign focused on raising money for our Art/Science Residency program as well as our overall fundraising efforts connected with our 50 Years of Wonder celebration events. Thanks again everyone!



\$10,000+

Tamia Marg and Tom Anderson
Robert Stephens

\$1,000- \$9,999

Cathleen Chandler-Eckhardt
Steve Gliessman and Roberta Jaffe
Karen Holl & Michael Loik
John & Peggy Holl
Michael Lay & Sally Ryan
Linda Locatelli and Gordon Lion
Rita Mehta and Jack Redwine
Mark Rittenberg & Ingrid Gavshon
Robert Weiner and Karen Rhodes

\$200- \$999

Jennifer Anderson
Linda S. Brodman
John & Jennifer Carothers
Thea Chesney
Ted Cranford
Susan Dahlgren & Michael Arenson
Abigail Faulkner & Hobart Guion
Alicia Fennell
David Hart
Ann Harvey
Bethany & Paul Kilzer
Jane Orbuch & Bryan Cockel
Lise Peterson
Sarah Wheatley
Linda Wilshusen & Rock Pfothenhauer

2021-2022

Up to \$200

Karen Stephany Alarcon
J. Ambrosini & T. Stroshane
Jean & Frank Andrews
Lynn & Arthur Barnett
Emily Barnett
Rena Benor
Frederick Bicknell & Elise Eichenberg
Joshua Ryan Brandt
Dennis Brooks & Thien Tran
Martha Brown & Breck Tyler
Linda Burman-Hall & Tim Shea
Ryan Carle
Katherine Chen
Alan Christy & Noriko Aso
Alexandra Leigh Coblentz
M. Colony & J.M. Tampi
Kevin Daniel Condon
Sylvie Dao
Julia & Steve Davenport
Tamara & Gerry Doan
Donna Jean Dutton
Sarah Justine Easley
David Cole Eichenbaum
Eric Engles & Lisa Frankel
Ashley Elaine Ersepke
Darrow Samuel Feldstein
Lawrence Ford & Susan Merritt
Steve & Colleen Franklin
Winifred Frick & Paul Heady
Dan Frisch
Brook Gamble
Megan J. Gnekow



Steve Goldstein
Angela Granziera & Richard Vermeulen
Cynthia & Eric Gullikson
Juniper Harrower
Camille Hartley
Sean Hastings
Anne Hayes & Daniel Mountjoy
John Hillard
Jenna Hurley
Gizelle Hurtado
Olivia Irons
Alexander Jones
Jennifer Keller
Laurie Kiguchi & Steve Reed
Robert & Michele Kibrick
Jeannine Koshear
Neal Kramer
Alex Krohn
Chis Lay & Elizabeth Andrews
Rafferty Lincoln
Christopher Lindquist
Autumn Looijen
Matt Marshall
James & Christina Martin
MC Moazed
Katie & Forest Monsen
Kendra Morgenrath



2021-2022



Up to \$200

Todd Newberry

Ellen Newberry & Georgine Balassone

Caroline Niblett

Teresa & Dick Norris

Karyn Cristin O'Hearn

Kari Olsen

Larry Pageler & Katie Freeman

Greg Gilbert & Ingrid Parker

Amy Patten

Erika Perloff & Paul Keel

Stacy M. Philpott

Cindy Pierce

Peter & Ethel Quimby

Sarah Rabkin & Charles Atkinson

Samuel Rapp

Paul Martin Rich

Laura Ruiz

Alison Russell & Walter Wadlow

Shoo Shoo Salasky

San Lorenzo Valley Historical Society

Jennifer Sandstrom

Paula Schneider

Angeli Shahbaz

Kim Sharrar & David Wee

Amanda Shuman

Dustin Smucker & Katherine Oates

Rebecca Supplee

Benjamin & Doris Trask

Steven Trudell

Sofia Vermeulen

Dean Vesperman

Saul Villegas

Christine Voennell

Jerry & Robynn Walters

Dan & Karen Warrick

Lin Weyers

Jonathan & Susan Wittwer

April Lynn Zilber

“This community is so special and life-giving, I am lucky I was able to come and stay connected. Keep doing it!”

