

SCB 1st meeting of the 2005-2006 school year
10/10/2005 at 6:30pm

Officers for 2005-2006:

President:	Rodd Kelsey	trkelsey@ucdavis.edu
Vice President:	Katie McHugh	kamchugh@ucdavis.edu
Treasurer:	Pete Epanchin	pnepanchin@ucdavis.edu
Secretary:	Elizabeth Heeg	erheeg@ucdavis.edu

(Rodd was out of town, Katie facilitated the meeting)

Committees and current chairs:

Educational Outreach, Katie/open

Restoration, Jim Thorne

Sister Chapter in Bolivia, Ingrid

Seminars, Katie

Position Papers, open

Website, open

- SCB is a student run organization for the promotion of education and research in conservation
- Meetings are 1/month, with outside committee meetings
- We're a local chapter of the larger international organization
- We focus on the student side of conservation science & on local activism
- Annual Bay Area Conservation Biology Symposium. This year is at SFSU
- The international meeting of the SCB is in San Jose, June 2006 – ideas for workshops?
- Website: Elizabeth discussed need for web designer. The website needs to be fixed as there are many broken links and image problems, and Rodd had suggested adding more pages. Of his suggestions, attendees showed interest in adding a conservation news and an announcements page and potentially a jobs page. Please contact erheeg@ucdavis.edu if you have any interest in working on the website.
- Membership to the Davis SCB chapter is \$5 for the school year, pay to Pete Epanchin. (Membership to Int'l SCB is \$10/year).

Passed around member sign up sheet. Non-members can sign up for mailing list though there is a separate list for members.

How money is spent is voted on by the members. Money can go toward bringing in speakers, donations to conservation organizations, funds for registration fees for members, etc.

Committees:

Educational Outreach

The chair is open and available to be filled, Katie was filling in last year.

Past activities have included:

- Oak restoration project, coordinated with local (i.e. Sacramento) schools and then outplanting of oaks.
- Endangered species projects with local school kids and with the Bolivian sister chapter
- Have worked with "NCESS" in Santa Barbara
- Goal is to combine efforts with the Animal Behavior Grad Group which in the past has done:

WIDSI= “watch it don’t squash it.” (Presented by Annie Leonard and Greg Cunningham) WIDSI works with a behavior, ecology, & conservation focus. Twice per month, they go to a local school from about 2-5 pm to do an after school program (WIDSI). They usually bring animals or other A/V material, often with an artistic element in the presentation. There are 2 school groups: 1st -3rd graders and 4th and 5th graders, one hour is spent with each group. Working with the kids is sometimes the only exposure to science the kids get. The kids are really excited and enthused about the program, love asking questions.

Restoration

Jim Thorne is the chair (he is out of town, Ingrid presented this). Jim is energetic and loves to plant acorns. He has involved 18 classrooms with growing and planting acorns, most of the classes are in Davis. The work involves schools, collecting acorns, potting, planting, and watering.

They have planted at Putah Creek along a 5 mile riparian preserve. They are trying to restore the area to a native grassland/oak woodland, primarily using valley oaks. Project has been ongoing for three years, 15 acres have been planted with 140 oaks now established. They want to plant along Hwy 113, too.

Solano County and Jim received a \$25,000 grant to do oak restoration success monitoring. (yolohiker.org is a web site with activities that one of Jim’s restoration collaborators is very involved with).

Sign up sheet to collect acorns was passed around. Collection dates may be Friday Oct 20 and Oct 28.

Seminars

(presented by Katie). Katie was the chair last year.

There are 3 types of seminars:

1. Conservation Biology seminar in winter, 2005. Thoughts for this year are to have a hands-on conservation seminar (less sciencey and more applied). Direct speaker ideas to Katie or Rodd.
2. Undergrad seminar series. Last year it was usually some graduate students presenting their work or ideas. Topics can be anything related to conservation. One presentation last year was on pop culture and conservation.
3. Ecology/EVE Thursday seminar. Some of the previously invited speakers couldn’t come to the Conservation Biology seminar so they were nominated by SCB to the Ecology/EVE Thursday seminar. Two speakers were chosen for this series and Karen Mabry is hosting them. Karen has scheduled time slots for just SCB people (and non-members) to meet with them. This weeks speaker is one of the invitees: Clare Clemmens (spelling?) from UCB is talking on pollinator ecosystem services. Sign up sheet went around to meet with her on Thursday (2:30-3:30) or Friday (noon) in 2342 Storer. In January another speaker is coming: Mike Rosenswag (spelling?) from Arizona. He has a book called “Win-win ecology.”

Sister Chapter in Bolivia

(Presented by Ingrid) Two of the Bolivian students will be at the 2006 meeting in San Jose.

In the past we have worked with our sister chapter in the following ways:

1. Sent package of activity workbooks on local endangered species made by local bi-lingual classes. Ingrid delivered package last year at the Brazil SCB meeting. We should receive their package soon, to be delivered to the local schools.
2. Funded \$900 to our sister chapter to send 2 of their members (round-trip) to Brazil for the meeting. Ingrid is working on getting \$3000 to get some of them to San Jose for this years meeting.
3. There is an idea to start an online newsletter between our chapters.

Molly Stephens arrives and she presents a bit more on the Seminar Committee

The Conservation Biology Seminar last year was called “Conservation Biology in the Anthropocene.” It was a successful and well attended series done in conjunction with the Conservation Ecology Area of Emphasis in the Ecology Grad Group. This committee also sponsored some outside speakers in the spring and presented a movie on David Brower (“Monumental”).

As a group we need to think about who we want to invite to speak at our seminars and events. We may be able to get some of the speakers who will be here anyway for the San Jose meeting.

Position Papers

Chair is open (presented by Katie).

This committee researches current issues in conservation and writes a science-based paper on the issue. In the past, we have written issues on the listing process of the California Tiger Salamander, and on the restoration of a local creek.

Other

- Rodd has been collecting journals to donate to Universities in poor countries. Need to get funds to send them off.
- Desire to start a fundraising committee. There are lots of opportunities for making money for our group.
- Fun Committee: this idea has been suggested to do activities as a SCB group. Activities may be kayaking, birding, hiking, etc.

Next meeting time:

We will switch the day of the week from Monday to Tuesday and change the meeting time to 5-6

END