

## Schedule

5:00 pm Food by Mami Nora's

5:10 pm Stephanie Roe and  
Justin Kirkpatrick

5:25 pm Cooper Rosin

5:35 pm Jane Rice and Rachel Baker

5:50 pm Questions and Answers



## *Muchas gracias*

... to our panelists and contributing members for taking time out of their hectic, grad-student-schedules to share their experiences and advice with their fellow classmates,

... to the active WGELA members who donated their time and creativity to plan this event: Nairuo Zhu, Abby Furnish, Virginia Palacios, June Reyes, Elspeth Wilman, and Tara O'Shea,

...to Mami Nora's Restaurant for cooking the delicious meal,

...and of course, to our co-sponsors the Environmental Markets Student Group and the Duke Conservation Society

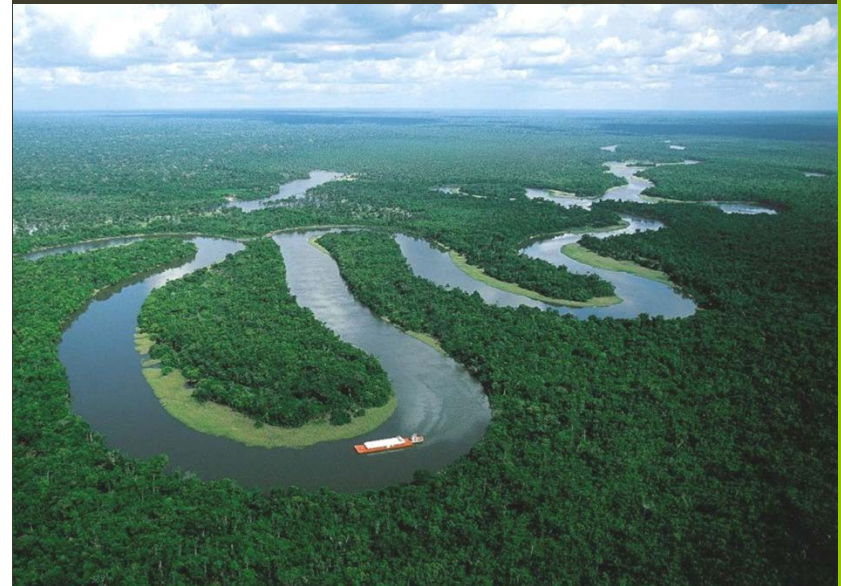
[www.wgela.wordpress.com](http://www.wgela.wordpress.com)



WORKING GROUP for  
ENVIRONMENT  
LATIN AMERICA  
DUKE | NC STATE | UNC CHAPEL HILL

# Internships in Latin America Student Panel

Wednesday, November 2, 2011



Co-sponsored by:

ENVIRONMENTAL  
M A R K E T S  
S T U D E N T G R O U P



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# Panelists

**Stephanie Roe, Ministerio Publico de Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**  
2Y MEM, Ecosystems Science and Conservation

This past summer, Stephanie conducted a literature review on ecosystem valuation and NRDA's, and developed a statewide methodology for valuing environmental damages and ecosystem services in corporate liability cases. Additionally, she advised the Secretary of Environment on policy and implementation of a statewide Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) program.

**Justin Kirkpatrick, Ministerio Publico de Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**  
2Y MEM, Economics and Environmental Policy

Justin's internship in Rio de Janeiro included evaluating the state's existing Environmental Impact Assessment system (EIA/RIMA), and drafting a set of policy recommendations to address observed shortfalls and to improve the system based on best international practices.

**Cooper Rosin, Center for Tropical Conservation – Peru**  
2Y MEM, Environmental Science and Conservation

Cooper has a wealth of experience living, working, and traveling through many parts of Central and South America. This summer he conducted wildlife censuses via transect surveys at three research stations in the Madre de Dios region, with the goal of determining the effects of hunting on seed dispersal and forest regeneration dynamics. If you want to strike up a conversation with Cooper, ask him if he's ever seen a jaguar.

# Resources

## Center for International Studies Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships

FLAS is for graduate and professional school students and consists of a cost of education allowance of \$18,000 to cover tuition and required fees plus a stipend of \$15,000. The purpose of FLAS is to encourage the study or use of foreign languages in combination with international or area studies. In most cases, native speakers of these languages are not eligible for a fellowship in their native language.

Deadline: Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 5:00pm <http://ducis.jhfc.duke.edu/flas>

## El Centro Hispano

El Centro Hispano is located in downtown Durham and is a nonprofit, grassroots community-based organization dedicated to strengthening the Latino community and improving the quality of life of Latino residents in Durham, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and surrounding areas. They offer a variety of services and events to the Latino community in Durham.



## Passports and visas

*Passports can be obtained from your local post-office at costs ranging between \$55 and \$165 and could take more than 10 weeks to process. Student visa wait times vary by country, but usually take only a few days to process. The cost of a visa may be less than \$50, but some countries require "reciprocity fees" of about \$140. More information at the U.S. Department of State's website [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)*

# On campus research centers

## Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Duke

The mission of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Duke University is to create a supportive, intellectually stimulating and interdisciplinary environment for students, faculty, and community members interested in the study of Latin America and the Caribbean; To bring together members of our local and worldwide community in order to promote new ideas, research and cultural awareness about Latin America and the Caribbean; To prepare better educated citizens and future leaders who may work in the fields related to Latin America and the Caribbean in academics, business, arts, government, and many other careers. They fulfill this mission through educational activities, research support, social networks, and built communities.

## The Center for Tropical Conservation at Duke University

The Center for Tropical Conservation at Duke University is a nonprofit organization seeking to address the global environmental crisis, particularly as it affects the developing countries of the tropics, through a tripartite program of research, training, and communication. Dr. John Terborgh is the Director and operates the Cocha Cashu Biological Station in Manu Biosphere Reserve, Peru.



# Panelists

**Rachel Baker, research with Dr. Liz Shapiro – Mexico**  
2Y MEM/MF, Ecosystem Science and Conservation

Rachel spent the summer conducting field work as part of Dr. Elizabeth Shapiro's research project on the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of Mexico's national Payment for Ecosystem Services Hydrological program. Along with the two Mexican women on her survey team, she was responsible for data collection in the state of Oaxaca- one of Mexico's most culturally and biologically diverse states, but also one of its poorest. She is interested in community-based environmental management and the intersection of human needs & forest conservation.

**Jane Rice, research with Dr. Liz Shapiro – Mexico**  
2Y MEM, Environmental Economics and Policy

Jane spent the summer in Merida, in the Mexican state of Yucatan, collecting survey and GPS data in rural communities as a part of a larger research effort through Dr. Elizabeth Shapiro. Jane also conducted interviews in the field for her Master's project with Rachel Baker. Jane is interested in community-based environmental management, water management and payment for environmental services.

## Health

*You may be required to get a vaccine for yellow fever or other diseases. The Center for Disease Control recommends scheduling your vaccines 4 – 6 weeks in advance of travel. Sometimes doctors' offices need time to order the appropriate medication, or treatments will need to be administered in a series - days or weeks apart. Visit [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) for country-specific information.*

## Faculty

### **Elizabeth Shapiro, WGELA faculty advisor - Mexico**

Assistant Professor of the Practice of Environmental Policy & Management

Shapiro led a team of researchers this summer, which included Nicholas School graduate students Jane Rice, Rachel Baker, and Selene Castillo, to take surveys for determining the effectiveness of Mexico's Hydrological Payments for Ecosystem Services program. Her experience lies in human and environmental geography; political ecology; qualitative research design & methods; social impact assessment; community-based ecosystem management; market-based environmental policy; Latin America.

### **Jennifer Swenson, WGELA faculty advisor - Ecuador**

Assistant Professor of the Practice of Geospatial Analysis

Swenson's expertise is in spatial mapping and modeling of ecological phenomena and landscape ecology. Swenson also has experience with modeling and mapping in the Amazon and has worked in Ecuador where she coordinated multiple mapping projects of deforestation, land tenure for indigenous communities, ecological surveys, vegetation and mapping.

### **Alexander Pfaff – Costa Rica, Brazil**

Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Economics and Environment

Pfaff's research is focused on environment and natural resource economics with a focus on developing countries. Pfaff has studied the environmental services payments in Costa Rica and has also studied the economics of deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon.

## WGELA members

### **Joshua Strauss, Cocha Cashu Biological Station – Peru**

3Y joint MEM/MF, Environmental Economics and Policy

Joshua worked at the CCBS in Peru's Manu National Park during the summer of 2010 collecting ground based tree-carbon data for a joint study being conducted by researchers from Wake Forest University and NASA's JPL laboratory. This summer Joshua interned with the Duke Forest to conduct a carbon audit of the forest's 7,000 acres based on leading carbon registry protocols (CAR and ACR). After graduation he intends to work in the private sector to encourage the development of a robust market for forest carbon offsets and eventually hopes to establish his own international forest carbon development firm.

### **Tammy Stern, Columbia University – Dominican Republic**

2Y MEM, Ecosystem Science and Conservation

This summer Tammy worked for Colombia University's Center for environment, Economy, and Society in Miches, Dominican Republic. She worked on an ecotourism feasibility study, which complimented the program's overall look at sustainable fisheries. Her work involved visiting a variety of coastal sites and assessing current conditions and needs for improvement. She worked primarily independently with the support of one full-time staff member.

### **Caroline Winchester, Smithsonian Institute – Panama**

1Y MEM, Ecosystem Science and Conservation

Caroline worked as a field assistant for a PhD student at the Smithsonian's Tropical Research Institute on Barro Colorado Island in Panama, which she found through the Society for Conservation Biology website. Caroline's world dealt with the reproduction and energy expenditure of Spider Monkeys, which are endangered in Panama. This involved 6-10 hours of daily hiking to track collared female Spider Monkeys using radiotelemetry and a GPS. She also took behavioral observations and collected specimens. It was an intensive field job and she says it "was probably the most rewarding experience I've ever had!"

## WGELA members

### **Tara O'Shea, Foundation for Sustainable Development – Nicaragua**

2Y MEM, Global Environmental Change

Tara worked in a rural village in northern Nicaragua with the Asociación para el Desarrollo de Chaguitillo, through the Foundation for Sustainable Development in Latin America. There she spearheaded a grant project for locally-produced clean cook-stoves that burn coffee bean shells. The project reduced environmental degradation from deforestation, and improved public relations between local communities and international coffee corporations active in the region. In addition, Tara worked on a UNDP grant to establish an archaeological park in the hills surrounding her community.

### **Susan Sandford, Peace Corps – Peru**

1Y MEM, Ecosystem Science and Conservation

Susan worked in Peru as a *Community-Based Environmental Management Volunteer*. She lived in a rural farming community on the northern coast and worked on environmental education as well as improving municipal and household level solid waste management. Part of her time was spent developing new sites for incoming volunteers, providing volunteer support and assistance and facilitating coordination between volunteers and local area NGOs. She also received a President's Emergency Plan For Aids Relief (PEPFAR) grant, which was used to form and train groups of youth health promoters in two high schools, and to educate local community groups about HIV/Aids prevention.

### **Virginia Palacios, Rio Grande International Study Center – Texas**

2Y MEM, Global Environmental Change

Virginia worked with RGISC on the Texas-Mexico border to form a network of researchers and agencies addressing pollution that affects the Rio Grande – Rio Bravo, which draws the geographic boundary between Texas and four Mexican states. She also helped to launch the Safe Fracking Coalition in the border town of Laredo, Texas, and wrote a proposal for a binational EPA grant to take water quality samples along both sides of the border prior to oil and gas drilling.

## Faculty

### **Xavier Basurto**

Assistant Professor of Sustainability Science

Basurto's experience lies in the governance and theory of common-pool resources, community-based management, and institutional analysis of social-ecological systems, especially in the context of coastal marine environments and protected areas in rural Latin America.

### **Lisa M. Campbell**

Rachel Carson Associate Professor of Marine Affairs and Policy,  
Director of Graduate Studies MSC Division

Campbell's research interests are in wildlife conservation policy, environmental values, international institutions for environment and development, and rural development in Latin America, the Caribbean Caribbean and Africa.

### **John Terborgh**

Research Professor Emeritus

Terborgh is a world-renowned professor whose research has focused on tropical ecology and conservation issues, and avian and mammalian ecology in neotropical forests. Terborgh has worked extensively in Peru at Cocha Cashu Biological Station.

### ***The Consortium in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the UNC Chapel Hill and Duke***

*The Consortium in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University seeks to encourage and facilitate collaboration and cooperation in all aspects of Latin American and Caribbean studies across the two campuses and across disciplines. A focus on interdisciplinary work is one of the Consortium's hallmarks. The Consortium funds many working groups like the Working Group for Environment in Latin America.*

# Faculty

## William Pan – Peru

Assistant Professor of Global Environmental Health

Pan holds a joint appointment at DGHI and the Nicholas School of Environment, and is Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Pan's research interests focus on Population, Health, and Environmental interactions in developing countries, with particular interest in translational research directed toward sustainable development activities and global environmental health. He has worked in countries throughout Latin America and Africa on topics ranging from land use change, reproductive health, migration, tuberculosis, HIV, enteric infections, and childhood nutrition.

## Paul Baker – Amazon, Lake Titicaca

Professor of Earth and Ocean Sciences

Baker will be on sabbatical in Spring 2011. He studies Amazon paleoclimate and paleohydrology, the influence of the Amazon plume on tropical Atlantic climate, tropical paleoclimate reconstruction using tree-ring isotopes, North American drought reconstruction and their climate forcing of droughts, geological evolution of the Amazon basin, Ecological regime shifts in Amazon floodplain lakes. One of Baker's graduate students, Andrew Nunnery, is studying Lake Titicaca.

## Funding

Career services posts a list of internship funding opportunities early in the Spring semester, and will host an information session on how to write a competitive application. Deadlines for internship funding applications begin in early March. Usually, students must include a letter of recommendation from the hiring organization. Check the career services website for last year's application forms: [Nicholas School > Career Services > Current Students > funding sources and resources](#)

# WGELA members

## Abby Furnish, Peace Corps – Panama

1Y MEM, Coastal Environmental Management

As a Peace Corps Volunteer, Abby worked with community groups and the local government in Panama on projects in organic agriculture, waste management, and reforestation. She helped the group apply for a \$30,000 World Bank grant for a project in agroforestry, which they have recently received. Abby also served as the Regional Leader providing support to about 20 volunteers in her region, as well as working with the local government agencies to improve relations with Peace Corps, and to develop sites and projects for future volunteers. In addition, she did training in project management and leadership, environmental action planning and environmental analysis with volunteers.

## Patricia Elena Villegas – Panama

2Y MEM, Coastal Environmental Management

Pati's experience lies in community-based sea turtle conservation. Pati is a first generation Colombian-American and has worked in Brazil, Uruguay, and Colombia. Prior to Duke, Pati worked at Conservation International on global marine initiatives including the State of the World's Sea Turtles program. Most recently, Pati has worked in the Colombian Caribbean with Colombia Marina, educating a pioneer group of 'fishermen conservationists' on sea turtle monitoring, tagging, and data collection techniques and environmental education activities with local children. She has worked in Brazil with Projeto TAMAR, the Brazilian Sea Turtle Conservation Program – an alliance among the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, the nonprofit organization Fundação Pró Tamar, and coastal communities throughout Brazil. Pati executed a preliminary study on cultural valuation and community-based environmental education programs as well as annual sea turtle surveys, data collection, nest excavations, monitoring of hatchery, and educational activities with tourists and local communities in Northeastern Brazil.