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College of Sciences & Mathematics Newsletter
May 2023



CoSM Faculty Spotlight
Excellence in
Advising Award:
Dr. Maureen Dolan

Dr. Maureen Dolan, associate professor of molecular biology and director of the biotechnology program, received the university Excellence in Advising Award. Dolan has been very successful interacting with the students she advises, using that information to more effectively help them with getting prepared for professional graduate school or entering the STEM workforce after graduation. Dolan also advised the student team that won a NASA grant and prepared an experiment for the International Space Station.

CoSM Faculty Spotlight Emerging Scholar Award: Dr. Lori Neuman-Lee

The university Emerging Scholar Award recognizes a pre-tenure faculty member for exceptional scholarly achievement. The recipient, **Dr. Lori Neuman-Lee**, assistant professor of physiology, has published numerous journal articles and secured grants for her lab.



CoSM Faculty Spotlight Sweet Earns Honors Professor Recognition

Students in the Honors College selected **Dr. Andrew Sweet**, assistant professor of evolutionary biology, as [Honors Professor of the Year](#). Sweet, who taught “Honors Biology of Animals,” was chosen from among seven individuals nominated for the award, announced during the Honors Recognition Ceremony Friday. Sweet’s nominators emphasized his thorough explanations of course material, passion for the subject, and encouragement for students to become more engaged and think critically.

CoSM Faculty News

Research by Biological Sciences Team is Published

Alix Matthews, a Ph.D. student, is lead author of a [paper published in *Systematic Biology*](#). Co-authors are **Dr. Than Boves**, associate professor of avian ecology, **Dr. Drew Sweet**, assistant professor of evolutionary biology, and **Dr. Asela Wijeratne**, assistant professor of bioinformatics. The paper describes their research that combined massive amounts of fieldwork along with cutting-edge genomics to assess the variation in host specificity of symbionts and their hosts, focusing on birds and feather mites.



College of Sciences and Mathematics Recognizes Top Grads



The College of Sciences and Mathematics at Arkansas State University [recognized its most outstanding students](#) who graduated or are graduating in 2022-23. The

Chancellor's Scholar award was presented to Mary Elise Schultz of Pace, Fla. The Chancellor's Scholar is the graduating student with the highest overall grade point average in the respective academic college. She also received the 4.0 Scholar Award.



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