

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

University of California, Santa Cruz

## Spring 2014 ENVS News

### \$2-million gift supports natural history fieldwork

A gift from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation will provide for two endowments that honor the legacy of Kenneth S. Norris, the late UCSC professor of natural history, and his life-long commitment to field-based education. The first will help fund a new Kenneth S. Norris Center for Natural History; the second will support the Natural History Field Quarter, an immersive course that Norris founded at UCSC more than 40 years ago. [Read more>>](#)



### Scholarship established in memory of Annais Rittenberg

With the support of her family and close friends, ENVS has established a scholarship fund for future Field Quarter students in memory of Annais Rittenberg (FQ 2013) to help students in need and who embody the qualities that made Annais a gifted educator, naturalist, and activist.

To learn more, [click here>>](#). To make an online donation to the Annais Environmental Studies Project [click here>>](#).

### NSF grant to study how plant roots cycle carbon in soils

ENVS soil scientist, Weixin Cheng, is the lead researcher on a new a 3-year, \$800,000 grant

Science on Tap (WiSE)  
invites you to their  
upcoming speaker event:

Andy Szasz on  
[\*How the world's religions are responding to climate change\*](#)

8-9:30 p.m. Weds., 4/30/14

The Crepe Place  
1134 Soquel Avenue



### ENVS W14 Award Winners

[James Chanley Scholarship](#)  
Alex Sauerwein

[David Gaines Award](#)  
Edward Trujillo  
Hamutahl Cohen

**ENVS 2014 graduation**  
Our celebration is on Friday,

to investigate how the activities of living plant roots break down organic matter in soil. Results of this study will help us understand the rate at which plants help break down organic matter in the soil and thus release carbon dioxide, which has implications for climate change. [Read more>>](#)



### **Climate control without climate change**

ENVS PhD candidate Peter Brewitt researches the ways people restore and remake their environments. [Read more>>](#)

### **Deconstruction of historic Cowell Ranch barn begins**

The multi-year process to rebuild the Cowell Ranch barn as a home for many of UCSC's leading environmental and sustainability programs began on March 18. [Read more>>](#)

June 13, at 10AM on the Farm on the UCSC campus.



From 2013's Graduation

### **Alumni Updates**

We encourage you to continue connecting with classmates and faculty by sending in updates and photos you'd like to share. Send your updates to [Chris Krohn](#).



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