

Spring 2015 ENVS News

Can you really get sick from being around relatives?

A team of researchers including Greg Gilbert found that plants surrounded by a lot of close relatives have a greater chance of developing disease. The full story in today's issue of the journal *Nature* is available [here](#). More information is available via press releases from the [National Science Foundation](#), the [Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute](#), and [on our website](#).



Norris Center leads the way for natural history

The Center's dedication is this coming Saturday, 4/24/15. For details on that and plans for the center [click here>>](#)

Women in Science & Engineering (WiSE) invites you to their upcoming speaker event

Greg Gilbert on
[Evolutionary tools to solve environmental problems](#)
7:30 - 9 pm Wed., 4/29/15
The Crepe Place
1134 Soquel Avenue



ENVS Welcomes Professor Christopher Benner

Dorothy E. Everett Global Information and Social Entrepreneurship Chair, Director, Everett Program.

View the center's site [here](#).

Multicultural Urban Agroecology Research Exchange in Chiapas, Mexico

During Spring Break, ENVS faculty, staff, and students traveled south for an intense and rewarding experience in urban garden agroecological research and multicultural interaction in the colonial, highland town of San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas. [Read more>>](#)



"UCSC Grad Slam" winner's research featured in *Newsweek*

ENVS Ph.D. student, Justine Smith, is on a roll. She is the lead author on a [recent article](#) also featured in [Newsweek](#). It reports that carnivores kill more, but eat less, in close proximity to cities. She also won the 2015 UCSC Grad Slam last month. Also known as the 3 Minute Thesis® competition, the event challenges graduate students to present a compelling presentation of their dissertation research in just three minutes, using language appropriate for a non-specialist audience. She will go on the present at the UC system-wide finals in May in Oakland. [See the video](#)

Stakeholder Engagement in Climate Change Policymaking in American Cities

In a recent article, ENVS Ph.D. student, Duran Fiack, and ENVS Professor Sheldon Kamieniecki analyzed stakeholder involvement in collaborative watershed management. The resulting framework was applied to climate change policymaking in American cities. [Read more>>](#)

Featuring the Center for Integrated Spatial Research

CISR is a hub on campus that creates geographic information systems (GIS), interactive maps of location based information that help us better understand our ever-changing environment. To learn more about this important work and the center's staff. [Click here>>](#)

2014-15 ENVS student award winners featured

Thanks to the generosity of donors like you and the outstanding qualifications of our undergraduate and



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](#).

Alumni Stephanie Haan-Amato and Conor Paris write about their separate experiences in the field. [Read more>>](#)



Please support our work!

graduate students, ENVS gave out 19 awards totaling over \$33,400 in the current academic year. [Read more>>](#)



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