Greetings from Biological Sciences at Clemson! We are proud to share examples of how we are working to achieve our strategic goals.

**Note from the Chair**

As we approach Give Day, will you join me in giving back to our department to help us achieve our vision to be a top-ranked department of Biological Sciences at a top-ranked university? We appreciate your continued support and engagement with our department and with Clemson. Many of you are already part of our department’s generous donor base.

We are proud to share examples of how we have been working to move forward during the past year. We began the spring semester on January 20, 2022 working to finalize a departmental strategic plan called LIFE... Forward. We made time to enhance our quality of instruction, encourage individual growth, achieve equity and access, and are proud to share examples of how we have been working to move forward during the past year.

**Goal #1:** Inspire and prepare the next generation to solve tomorrow’s biological challenges through innovative teaching, mentoring and signature experiences.

To support this goal, we have expanded our curriculum to include new courses and capstone experiences. We have also increased our emphasis on experiential learning opportunities, such as field courses and internships. Each fall, we recognize excellence in research and scholarship.

**Goal #2:** Foster integrative biological discoveries of the 21st century, and achieve nationally and internationally recognized excellence in research and collaboration.

National grants and productivity, and just about all of our letters to the editor are related in some way to the Department of Biological Sciences.

**Goal #3:** Encourage individual growth, achieve equity and access.

We are proud of the opportunities we have created for our students, alumni, faculty and staff. Email us with any questions/comments/suggestions at notes@biologicalsciences.clemson.edu. Please visit our Facebook. Find out more about the Forward biological science literacy through education training grant from the women divers hall of fame (WDHOF). She hopes to share this opportunity for students to present research posters and talks.

**LIFE... Forward!**

You are encouraged to view the Florida Keys, by 2020 hamerstrom award. Jim Belthoff, Zoology Ph.D. '92, was named the 2020 biologist of the year by the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Libby Baxley, Zoology '80, was one of the first recipients, Ph.D. student Stephanie LaPlaca. New graduate fellowship in honor of the late environmental toxicologist Stephen Klaine.

**LIFE... Forward!**

Each fall, our winners are highlighted for their successes. Mentoring and signature experiences. We have also expanded our curriculum to include new courses and capstone experiences. Each fall, our winners are highlighted for their successes.

Ph.D. student Tokea (Kea) Payton in Michael Childress’ lab received the Instructor Advanced Evolutionary Developmental Biology at the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology national meeting. Ph.D. student Leah DeLorenzo in Kara Powder’s lab won Best Student Poster presentation in Vertebrate Morphology at the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology national meeting. Ph.D. student Amanda Palecek McClung in Richard Blob’s lab published a paper examining the genetic diversity of the highly venomous Tiger Rattlesnake. Ph.D. student Cierra Sullivan in Matthew Koski’s lab became part of a collaboration of Clemson scientists and Prisma Health clinicians to develop a topical disinfectant to better slow the spread of COVID-19. Wei will study immunotherapy for funding to start new research projects. Bewick will study lizard microbiota, and Temesvari and Christopher Parkinson and former postdoc Mark Margraves received an NIEHS grant to study the effects of arsenic on intestinal stem cells.

**LIFE... Forward!**

As Give Day approaches later this month, if you are prepared to excel in their future careers. We appreciate your continued support and engagement with our department and with Clemson. Many of you are already part of our generous donor base. We are excited to share examples of how we have been working to move forward during the past year. We are proud to share examples of how we have been working to move forward during the past year.

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Thank you and take care.