



SCIENCE

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



Saara J. DeWalt, Interim Chair

A Note from the Chair

The Department of Biological Sciences at Clemson University advances knowledge in the life sciences through discovery, learning, and engagement with the community. Our remarkable faculty and students seek to understand how organisms reproduce, develop, and combat disease – from the smallest of microbes to the largest of mammals. Our work provides the foundation for discoveries that extend life and maintain the health of our planet.

Thank you for your support of Biological Sciences and Microbiology at Clemson! Through philanthropic gifts to our department, you allow us to keep our research and teaching facilities up-to-date, recruit and retain excellent faculty and students, bring biology and microbiology to the community, and support new discovery and learning initiatives. Your support also helps send students to research field sites and conferences where they conduct and communicate their research, and so much more. We couldn't do it without you, and we hope you will continue to support our commitment to all Tigers who pass through our doors.

– **Saara J. DeWalt**

[Give to Biological Sciences](#)



Pre-health students uncover what it means to be providers of health care

Each summer, Clemson students trade in their summer jobs and internships to spend two weeks on the hillsides of Costa Rica and Panama, conducting house visits and creating pop-up clinics in the most impoverished areas. When not in clinics, they attend lectures on nutrition and natural medicines and learn how to perform injections and sutures – using fruits and sponges as test subjects – as part of the College of Science's popular student-abroad program, Health Missions in Costa Rica and Panama.

Vince Gallicchio has been the director of the program since 2014. He is a professor of biological sciences, microbiology and public health sciences as well as the chief faculty adviser for pre-health professional students.

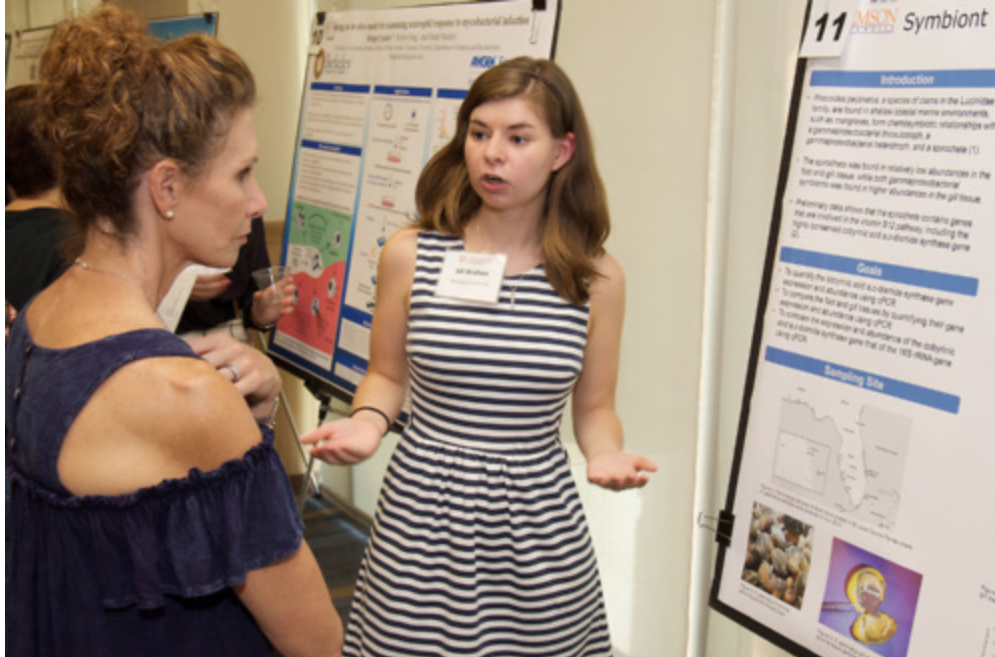
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Coral Crusader

Coral reefs in the Florida Keys, Caribbean and throughout the world are in dramatic decline. Kylie Smith, a biological sciences graduate student, has made it her mission to help restore one of the ocean's most endangered species.

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Microbiology student awarded undergraduate research fellowship

Jill Walton's research on the functional diversity of symbionts in the lucinid clam, *Phacoides pectinatus*, helped her earn a 2018 Undergraduate Research Fellowship from the American Society for Microbiology. The fellowship will fund 10-12 weeks of Walton's research.

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