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The Fierce Green Fire

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Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program



Brazilian sunset



Volume 14, Issue 5

Immersive Summer Research in the Brazilian Pantanal by Katie Garner '25



Katie, Sophia, and Dr. Bradham took several flights and a 7-hour drive through flooded fields to get to their research site.



This summer I had the privilege to assist Dr. Bradham with her research in the Brazilian Pantanal alongside Sophia Bernstein '25. The research was examining the top-down effects of large mammals in tropical forests. It was the first year of a multi-year study and we spent most of our time tagging and measuring seedlings to gather a measure of plant density and species richness that will act as a foundation for the feature of the project.

It was my first time ever on a plane and my first time leaving the country. Three flights plus the seven hour "drive" through flooded fields made it feel like I had gone halfway across the planet, but I don't think I will ever do anything to top this experience. I've been so many places

where it feels like you are completely secluded and away from human influence, but nothing compares to actually being in an area that is almost completely untouched. Being able to look in a tree and see a pair of hyacinth macaws or a toucan or just casually walk by several capybaras is surreal. I think the most incredible part was the sky at night. It was so clear you could practically see the curvature of the horizon and it almost made me dizzy. Being able to be a part of such an incredible team and see and experience so many new things was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity and I wouldn't trade it for the world.



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Check out the [Goodall Center Instagram](#) page.

October 12th

6:00-7:30pm

SCC Health Science
Building, 800 Brisack Rd,
29303

Breaking Barriers: Latinx in Agriculture: Come learn about the unique experiences, challenges, and successes of Latinx farmers and agricultural professionals. Discover the rich cultural heritage and diverse perspectives that shape the agricultural industry. [Register here.](#)

October 14th

9:00-11:00am

Goodall Center, 351
Broadway St, Glendale, SC
29346

Second Saturdays Volunteer Day in Glendale: Join us on the second Saturday of the month to help beautify the garden and surrounding areas at the Goodall Center. [Register here to let us know you're coming.](#)

October 19th

6:00pm

Glendale Shoals, 351
Broadway St, Glendale, SC
29346

Spartanburg Area Conservancy to host Shucking Good Time event: Volunteers needed to help set up and clean up for this big fundraiser. [Sign up to receive emails for volunteer opportunities.](#)

October 31st

Application Deadline

South Carolina Wildlife Federation Scholarships: \$500 scholarships are awarded to full-time students currently pursuing degrees in any environmental field at South Carolina schools of higher education. Winners announced in January and awarded in February each year.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Colorado State University – Master of Conservation Leadership

The Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University offers a Conservation Leadership program that prepares students to address complex conservation issues and make a difference in the ecosystems of our plant.

This is an 18-month graduate program that incorporates two semesters of coursework and a capstone project. The coursework gives students an opportunity to learn about the conservation field and the capstone project gives them the opportunity to apply those skills to real conservation issues.

The program includes opportunities for experiential learning with field trips, workshops, and case studies; inter-disciplinary perspectives with coursework rooted in the social sciences; cohort-based learning where students take all their courses together; immersion weeks when regular classes are canceled, and students are immersed into a conservation topic; connections with real world conservation practitioners; and cross-cultural experiences as most capstone projects are completed abroad.

[Colorado State – Conservation Leadership](#)
