Second Circular

Northeast Algal Society
59th Annual Symposium

NEAS STRIDE 2021 (surviving the “rocky intertidal” during extremes) will be held as a virtual meeting on Saturday, April 10, 2021. The conveners are Louise Lewis (louise.lewis@uconn.edu) and Peter Siver (pasiv@conncoll.edu), with assistance from many others!

NEAS STRIDE 2021 will feature excellent research by our student and professional members and allow us to share ideas about science and teaching. All presentations will be short in duration and posted on-line in advance of the meeting to give everyone time to view and digest the work presented. On Saturday, we will broadcast the student oral award presentations, with live Q&A, hold an afternoon poster session and discussions, have time for socializing and reconnecting, and perhaps even to bid on/win one of Craig Schneider’s coveted mini plant presses! A tentative schedule is shown on the last page of this circular.

NEAS STRIDE 2021 is FREE to all NEAS members (dues are $10)! Members will have access to the virtual meeting and can submit abstracts. Student members can apply for presentation, book, and research awards. You can sponsor memberships for your students or others, too!

Important deadlines

March 1: registration, dues payment, abstract submission (http://northeastalgae.org/future_ac.php)
March 9: meeting organizers notify student presenters about oral versus poster presentations
March 15: student book and research award applications (http://northeastalgae.org/future_ac.php)
April 3: submission of recorded oral presentations and poster files (submission links forthcoming)
April 5-10: presentations available for viewing (details on how to connect forthcoming)
April 10: NEAS 2021! (details on how to connect forthcoming)

Student Grants in Support of Research: The NEAS Development Committee is continuing its small grants program to facilitate student research. Up to $500 in funding for these undergraduate and graduate grants is provided through monies raised by the Development Committee and through the establishment of the “Ron Hoham NEAS Undergraduate Research Grant”. Get your application here (http://northeastalgae.org/future_ac.php) and apply by March 15th, 2021.

Student Book Awards: Students and post-docs are encouraged to apply for the annual society book awards for books in their field of phycological study. Get your application here (http://northeastalgae.org/future_ac.php) and apply by March 15th, 2021.

Annual NEAS Auction: Craig Schneider will hold a virtual auction this year, but it will be pared down to include about approximately 10 of the most select items. If you would like to make an auction donation, please contact Craig (Craig.Schneider.1@trincoll.edu), preferably by April 1.
Call for Nominations: For the most part, NEAS officers are continuing in their current positions. However, the following NEAS Officer positions will become available in 2022 and will need to be filled by election during the 2022 NEAS meeting: Secretary, Member-at-Large, Publications Committee Chair. Please consider applying for these important positions or nominating a consenting colleague. Questions or nominations should be sent to Dale Holen (dah13@psu.edu).

Undergraduate & Graduate Presentation Awards. Undergraduate students can compete for the NEAS President’s Award for the best oral or poster presentation. Graduate students can compete for the Robert T. Wilce (oral) and Francis R. Trainor (poster) Awards. The students will be evaluated by at least three judges for their clarity of presentation, originality of research, experimental design and methods, data presentation and interpretation. If you intend to compete for an award, please indicate so on the abstract submission form.

Wondering how to select between an oral or poster presentation? Because the number of available presentation slots is limited, we will prioritize presentations by students with complete or nearly complete projects. Such projects will have an associated abstract that presents detailed information about the project, and an abstract submission form response that indicates a complete or nearly complete study. If you are a student who is developing a research project or have limited data, please consider submitting a poster. There will be a lively poster session during which you can share your ideas and get feedback! If you are ‘in between’ you may indicate your preference for an oral presentation, and the selection committee will let you know if you can give a talk or ask you to give a poster. Talk with your advisor as you plan your submission. Postdocs and professionals will give poster presentations.

Guidelines for oral presentations. Oral presentations will be short (3-4 min) and prerecorded. Short talks allow you to introduce your topic and present the core results and conclusions. If you have been selected for an oral presentation, you will be notified by March 9. You will be provided a link to submit your recording (mp4 format), which is due April 3. Your talk will be available to attendees ~5 days before the meeting. On April 10, recorded presentations will be broadcast by the moderator during the oral sessions, and students should attend their session in order to field audience questions. See the hints for preparing and recording your talk at the link developed by the BSA (http://2020.botanyconference.org/faq_botany2020virtual/tips-for-pre-recorded-presentations-at-botany.html).

Guidelines for poster presentations. Posters will be a single pdf that is submitted and viewable about 5 days before the meeting. The poster session will be done using virtual breakout rooms in which presenters can exchange ideas and field questions. Students being considered for a poster award also should make a short (3 min) presentation about your poster, to allow sufficient information for the judging process. Posting details will be provided.

Many universities have templates for posters, so talk with your advisor for ideas. A number of resources are available for helping you make an effective and memorable poster. For example, check this site (https://www.animateyour.science/post/how-to-design-an-award-winning-conference-poster) and this site (https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2019/06/24/theres-movement-better-scientific-posters-are-they-really-better) for ideas. No matter what type of poster you use, be sure that the final pdf is no more 30 MB in size, for easy viewing and uploading.
More than ever we need your assistance with the meeting! If you are willing to help us judge the excellent student oral and poster presentations, moderate a session, or help lead an afternoon topical breakout session, let us know by noting this on your registration form or contacting us (Louise.Lewis@uconn.edu, pasiv@conncoll.edu)!

Tentative schedule for NEAS 2021 on Saturday, April 10. Note: all times are EST.

8:30-9:30 AM Virtual breakfast, BYO NEAS mug!

**Morning Student Oral Presentations**

**Session 1:** 9:30-10:00 AM = 5 student presentations with Q&A (need host/moderator)

[10’ break]

**Session 2:** 10:10-10:40 AM = 5 student presentations with Q&A (need host/moderator)

[10’ break]

**Session 3:** 10:50-11:20 AM = 5 student presentations with Q&A (need host/moderator)

[10’ break]

**Session 4:** 11:30AM-12:00 PM = 5 student presentations with Q&A (need host/moderator)

LUNCH: 12-1 PM Take a break from your computer or set up your own lunch meetings.

**Session 5:** 1:00-2:30 PM **Poster session**, with multiple breakout rooms

[30’ break]

**Session 6:** 3:00-3:45 PM – Break-out discussion groups (focus may change slightly depending on host interests)

- How to navigate a research project, for early career scientists (students/postdocs). (we need 2 hosts)
- Adapting pandemic teaching innovations to non-pandemic times. Did you adopt or innovate a particularly useful teaching tools or exercise in a virtual setting that may translate to f2f instructions? We’d love to hear about it! (host: Karolina Fučíková and another host)
- Get feedback on a nascent research project! (we need 2 hosts)

[break 3:45-4:00 PM]

**Session 7:** 4:00-4:30 PM Announcement of student awards winners, plans for NEAS 2022 in Vermont, and other business.

**Session 8:** 4:30-6 PM Social & auction