



16

ANNUAL
REPORT



THE SCHOOL
FOR FIELD STUDIES



Photo by Susan Wilson

Dear Friends,

As members of The School for Field Studies (SFS) community, we recognize that global environmental stewardship means working with people whose viewpoints, priorities, and values differ from our own. To responsibly steward our planet, its inhabitants, and natural resources for future generations, we must see the world as it is, acknowledge our own biases, and move forward with clarity, conviction, and persistence.

Sound science is the foundation of solid social, economic, and environmental policies. While we do not engage in partisan political activities, we are and will be strong advocates for research, education, responsible

environmental stewardship, and the prudent management of natural resources. We can and will support legislation that is consistent with our mission. And we can and will advocate for responsible environmental policies, openly and passionately, galvanizing support for the same.

We are proud of and grateful for each student, alumnus, faculty member, colleague, and friend of SFS. While we may come from many walks of life and hold a variety of perspectives, together we form a chorus of reason and responsible citizenship that will guide our country's future. The way forward to a sustainable future depends upon all of us with our many talents, seizing every opportunity to advance the cause of securing our planet's future.

With best regards,

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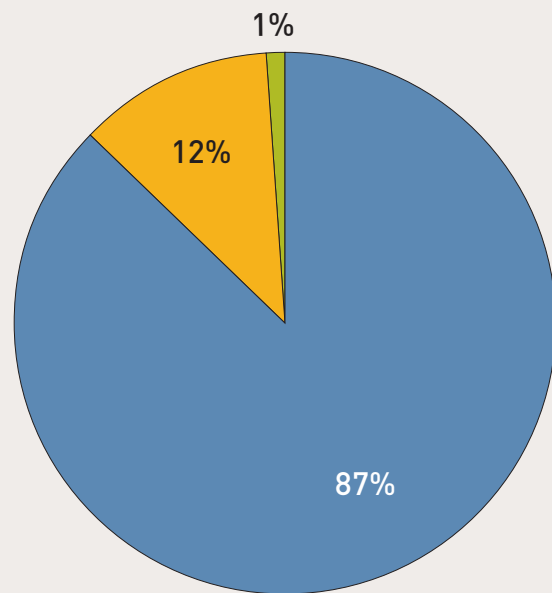
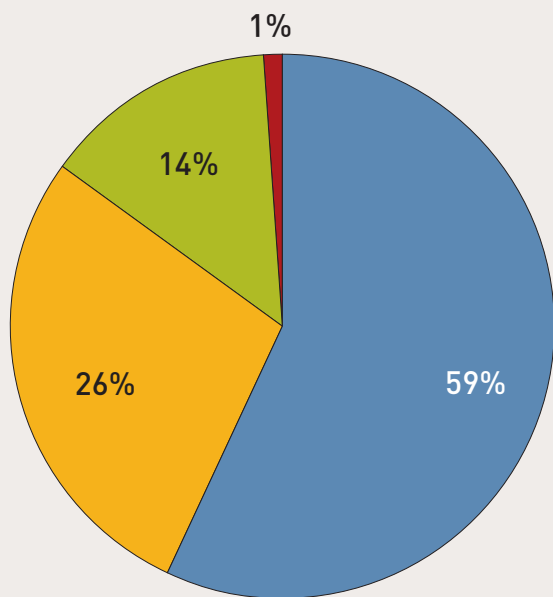
SFS is a member of Earth Share, and through our participation, we benefit from several workplace giving campaigns including the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #58008) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employees Charitable Campaign.

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REVENUES

● Tuition and Fees	\$8,111,226
● Gifts and Grants	\$1,090,004
● Other Revenues	\$93,437



EXPENSES

● Environmental Programs	\$5,267,408
● Program Support	\$2,318,099
● Administration	\$1,215,070
● Development	\$92,142
● Other Expenses	\$18,951





Sylvana Finn
Skidmore College
Australia Fall 2016

I have always considered myself a serious scientist. I took courses geared towards analytical and systematic thinkers. I focused on getting my Ph.D. and becoming a professor/researcher in Animal Behavior. When I chose to go to Australia with SFS, my reasoning was practical. I would be getting experience in the field and learning about an ecosystem that fascinates me: the rainforest. But I did not realize that studying with SFS would be so much more than that.

As a student in ecology and a lover of the natural world, I have always considered myself an

environmentalist. I tried my best to support local agriculture, to compost, and often shared articles on the rapidly accelerating demise of our natural world as a result of climate change. But, it was not until the SFS program, when I was surrounded by such passionate classmates and exposed to the intricacies of the issues our world faces in my Socioeconomics and Environmental Policy class, that I became motivated to make a real change. I was inspired by my fellow SFS-Australia students to become a vegetarian, something that I had wanted to do for a long time but never did. This small change in my lifestyle felt like the beginning of my efforts to save our environment. And I hope it is just the start of a lifelong commitment.

Being in Australia showed me how the roots of our environmental problems span more than fossil fuels and overpopulation, and that to really understand what is happening in our world, we need to understand the issues from social, political, and economic perspectives. I am not abandoning my goals of becoming a scientist — studying ecology and animal behavior is something that I am still passionate about. But what SFS helped me to realize is that I need to use this science to make an impact in the world. I have been inspired to make a real difference, and I will not stop until I do just that.

SFS got me thinking in new ways, and at the same time, this experience has set me up to be successful in my career ahead. As an aspiring researcher and biologist, it is so important for me to get hands-on experience. SFS did just that. Not only was I able to visit the different ecosystems I was studying in my classes, but in the Directed Research project, I was able to apply the knowledge I gained to real-life research. I had the privilege of observing a mother and joey Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo in their natural habitat as the mother fostered a safe learning for her joey as he navigated climbing and eating food on his own. I completed an entire research process — coming up with research questions, conducting data collection, analyzing the data, making conclusions and writing up the entire project, and presenting my research in front of community members in the Atherton Tablelands. Each aspect of the research taught me many skills, all of which will give me a leg up when considering graduate school and future research endeavors.

None of these incredible experiences would have been possible without the generous financial support of The School for Field Studies and their donors. I am confident that I will make significant impacts in helping our environment and I will forever be grateful for SFS's assistance in giving me an unforgettable and transformative experience.

CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGNS

This year, four SFS professors ran successful crowdfunding campaigns to launch new research projects. Thank you to everyone who supported these efforts and made this work possible!

Monitoring elusive wildlife species in Lake Manyara National Park, Tanzania By Christian Kiffner and John Kioko **\$2,560 Raised**

Backed by Aaron Hogan, Troy Langknecht, Patricia Wallace, Russell Nord, Anna Petterson, Amanda Davis, James A. Cramer, Pamela Fink, Danielle Dyer Tetreau, Sarah Prior, David Martiny, Shelley Coar, Ted McKliden, Shelley

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A non-invasive way to track the fluffy yellow-bellied gliders of North Queensland, Australia By Sigrid Heise-Pavlov **\$1,238 Raised**

Backed by Melissa Schlothman, Paul Vanchena, James A. Cramer, Sigrid Heise-Pavlov, Katie Friedman, Chris Douglas, Hester Dingle, Mark Seifert, Kristen Plantz, Hayley Grandine, Allison Rossman, Christina Tran, Quinn Taylor, Jesse C Cohen, Marta Brill, Jason P. Schein, Allie Brown, Lucas Von Der Linden, Chuck Herrmann, Diana Acosta, Kayla Elizabeth Simpson, Philip Mangis, Cindy Wu, and Eric Damon Walters

Monitoring carbon sequestration and biological diversity in tropical landscapes altered by human activity By Achim Häger **\$2,250 Raised**

Backed by Courtney McKeldin, James A. Cramer, Brian Gaulzetti, Alyssa Inman, Peggy Schott, Barbara Curtis, Brian Waterman, Elizabeth Stiles, Emily Heller, Brianna Rae (Cohoon), Amanda Lam, Mary Lee King, Mackenzie Cramer, Elise Fiala, Steven Port, Eliza Kellman, Jon Chu, Jim Casey, Jillian Dervishian, Mark Seifert, Taylor Early, Nigel Gale, Courtney Federico, Jonah Boucher, Alex Cooper, Robyn Anes, Hui Ran Toh, Rebecca Seifert, Erin Johnson, Spencer Jastrow, Brianne Bishop, Christina Tran, Marta Brill, Philip Mangis, Lisa Rokoff, Rachael Taylor, and Eric Damon Walters



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