

Get To Know Us...

Meet the people behind Muller Field Station

Bruce Gilman, Ph.D.

Director of Muller Field Station and Professor of Environmental Conservation



Bruce Gilman has taught in the Department of Environmental Conservation and Horticulture for 35 years. His teaching expertise includes aquatic ecology, field botany, glacial geology and environmental chemistry.

Research activities include old growth forest dynamics, international conservation of globally rare alvar communities in the Great Lakes ecoregion, an ongoing compilation of all organisms living in the southern Honeoye Valley, and Finger Lakes water quality and macrophyte ecology.

Bruce curates the Finger Lakes Herbarium, a collection of more than 12,000 sheets containing plants representative of western New York, and is author of the Ontario County Flora. He also serves as the Director of FLCC's Environmental Studies Program. Bruce received his Ph.D. in ecology from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse.

John Foust '97, Assistant Professor of Environmental Conservation



John Foust authored the AAS Fisheries Technology degree and coordinates the program. His teaching expertise is in the fields of fisheries and aquaculture.

He has conducted original research within the Finger Lakes region, most notably with walleye in Honeoye Lake. He coordinates the walleye propagation efforts at the Muller Field Station through a cooperative agreement with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. He completed his undergraduate studies at Finger Lakes Community College and SUNY Cobleskill and received his master's degree in biological sciences from SUNY Brockport.

James Hewlett, Professor of Biology



James Hewlett's areas of research include molecular indicators of stress in corals and the use of biomarkers for the early detection of symbiotic breakdown, the employment of non-invasive DNA-based mark and recapture methods in eastern red-tailed hawk and North American black bear population studies, and the study of macro-level indicators of stress in tropical coral reef ecosystems. He received his bachelor's degree in biology from Bucknell University and his master's degree in marine science from the University of Connecticut.

James is the National Coordinator for Community Colleges under the Research Integrating Molecular and Environmental Science (RIMES) Program and also serves as the National Coordinator for Reef Check activities for the island country of Montserrat where RIMES student scholars conduct their environmental research under the mentorship of a team of international scientists.

James is also the Director of the Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative (CCURI). CCURI and the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) have partnered to test models for integrating an undergraduate research program into a community college science curriculum.



Clinton Krager, Associate Professor of Biology

Clinton Krager has taught at the college for the past seven years and received a master's degree in ecology from the University of South Carolina.

In addition to teaching General Biology for the Science and Technology Department, he also teaches Introduction to Herpetology, Environmental Science and Winter Ecology, a residential field course at Muller Field Station. Clinton also works closely with the conservation department team teaching Conservation Field Camp and Unique Ecological Communities: Florida.

Clinton's research interests include migration patterns of woodland salamanders from winter hibernacula to breeding habitats, population dynamics of small mammals, and diversity of bats in and around the Finger Lakes region.



Anne Schnell, Chairperson, Department of Environmental Conservation and Horticulture

Anne Schnell has taught at the college for 16 years. Her areas of interest include wildlife management, wildlife diseases, ecology, environmental science and birds of prey. She has a bachelor's degree in wildlife management from Washington State University and a master's degree in wildlife ecology from the University of New Hampshire.

Anne has a master banding license, serves as co-director of Braddock Bay Raptor Research (BBRR) and as director of its banding operations. She is also the secretary for the Institute for Environmental Learning. Anne enjoys presenting educational programs using non-releasable birds of prey and conducting research with migratory birds captured at the BBRR hawk banding facility.



John Van Niel '83, Ed.D.

Director of the East Hill Campus and Professor of Environmental Conservation

John Van Niel's research and field work revolve primarily around bird and mammal activities, especially black bears. John is also the liaison between FLCC and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 8 for black bear research initiatives. He is currently undertaking a study of black bear territorial markings.

As a licensed bird bander, he has been involved in several studies, including nest box inventories for tree swallows and bluebirds, migration staging of swallows and the operation of a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) station for six years. John recently received his doctorate degree in teaching and curriculum from the University of Rochester.



Robert Wink '89, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental Conservation

Rob Wink has been at FLCC for the past 10 years teaching courses in plant physiology, entomology, environmental chemistry, stream ecology and fire ecology. Rob earned the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2008.

While at FLCC, Rob has worked on several student-centered, grant-funded research projects for various municipalities, including an insect survey of the southern Honeoye Valley, woodlot inventories in the town of Seneca and macroinvertebrate inventories of priority streams in the Canandaigua Lake and Honeoye Lake watersheds.

A graduate of FLCC, Rob received a dual bachelor's degree in environmental forest biology and natural resources management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF). He also earned a Ph.D. at SUNY ESF where he researched the combined effects of partial cutting and forest tent caterpillar defoliation on hardwoods in the Tug Hill region of New York.