



The Department of Biological Sciences

Proudly present the seminar

Urban Ecology: What Kinds of Projects are Possible?

Guest Speaker: Prof. Kathleen Nolan

*Chair, Biology, Health Promotion, and Health Care Management
St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY 11201*

When: Thursday, Feb 19th, 2015

Time: 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm

Place: N1002

When people think of cities they usually think of other people, buildings, cars, and subways. However, here is a whole natural world very close by that we can explore. St. Francis College has recently formed two programs that hope to uncover secrets from our natural world. The YES (Youth Education Seining) Consortium seeks to share and analyze data through educational seining and water quality testing programs in the New York City area. Two of these partners include the Brooklyn Bridge Park and the Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak in Yonkers, NY. We have been able to obtain ecological data such as species richness and diversity, in addition to water quality data through these two programs. Dr. Alison Dell has been instrumental in additional water quality data analyses. A second program involves recording sea lion vocalizations, and is part of the new Center for the Study of Pinniped Ecology and Cognition formed by Dr. Kristy Biolsi at St. Francis College and Dr. Kevin Woo from Empire State College. Dean Allen Burdowski has assisted with the Audacity recording of these sea lions. A third program, in conjunction with the New York Aquarium and Dr. Chanda Bennett, seeks to discern information about spawning habits of eels and the growth of elvers (baby eels). These are but a few projects that could be conducted in learn more about our urban environment.

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