

Founded in 2011, CUREs is housed in Seaver College, reports to Academic Affairs through the Provost, and offers unique opportunities to members of the broader LMU community. With a staff of eight, plus fellows and postdocs, CUREs serves LMU faculty, staff, and students by; developing undergraduate and graduate courses, supporting faculty research and scholarly activity, publishing an international journal and conducting cutting-edge urban ecology research. We collaborate with faculty through fellowships, joint grant making, original research, and outreach programming. We also partner with the Green LMU Initiative, the Campus Sustainability Officer; the School of Education; Loyola Law School; Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts, the School of Film and Television, the Academy of Catholic Thought and Imagination, and others to enhance the ongoing efforts of those programs and to help initiate novel projects that meet the goals of The LMU Strategic Plan.

## Earth Month Highlights!



Emily Simso (CUREs Research Fellow) at the Friends of Ballona Wetlands' Migration Celebration



CUREs staff and friends at the Theodore Payne Garden Tour. From Left to Right: Scott Logan (Nature Photographer), Lisa Fimiani (Environmental Leadership Fellow), Mark Wainwright (Children's Eternal Rainforest, Costa Rica), Maria Curley Auger (Education Specialist), Dr. Peter Auger (Research Scientist)



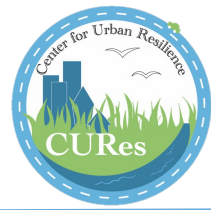
Arturo Jacobo (CUREs Marketing Intern, LMU 2020) at the Los Angeles Business Council Sustainability Summit



Mark Wainwright presenting at Dan and Susan Gottlieb's home in Beverly Hills



Susan Gottlieb (left) and Lisa Fimiani (CUREs Environmental Leadership Fellow)



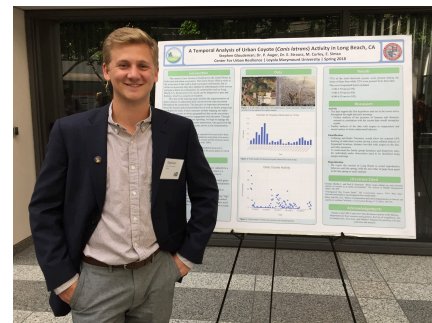
## Senior Spotlight!

Six of CUREs' independent research students are graduating May 5 from LMU! We wanted to take this time to thank them for their dedicated work over the years and highlight their experiences.

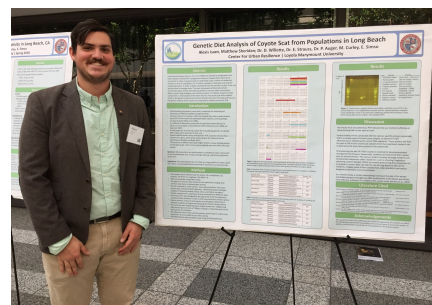
- **Sarah Bruce-Eisen** (Biology major): Sarah worked with CUREs for 2 years on a variety of projects, including the Baldwin Hills Parklands Survey and the Ballona Wetlands Conservancy Project. She will continue working with CUREs through the summer as she continues her job search in the LA area, focusing on careers in forensics.
- **Stephen Gloudeman** (Biology major): Stephen began working with CUREs in his sophomore year and assisted Dr. Peter Auger with a range of animal behavior work. In the past year and a half, he primarily focused on the Long Beach Coyote Monitoring Project.
- **Alexis Isaev** (Biology major, Biochemistry and Asian Pacific Studies minors): Alex worked with CUREs for 3 years, assisting Dr. Auger with animal behavior projects. He spent the last year developing and implementing genetic analysis techniques as part of the Coyote Monitoring Project. In the fall, Alex will pursue a Master's Degree in human health services at either Duke or the University of San Francisco.
- **Amy Weber** (Electrical Engineering major): Amy worked with CUREs for 2 years assisting with the hummingbird torpor, nest distribution, and nest microhabitat patterns project. She has had several interviews with top companies, such as Boeing, to work full time in her field upon graduation.
- **Kaitlyn Yee** (Biology major): Kaitlyn spent 2 years with CUREs researching hummingbird torpor and nesting behavior, as well as the educational components of biological work. She will be attending the University of Hawaii to pursue a Master's Degree in Secondary Education to teach High School Biology.
- **Armaan Zaré** (Biology major, Biochemistry and Asian Pacific Studies minors): Armaan worked with CUREs for 3 years on various animal behavior projects, including studying a least tern colony in Venice Beach. He spent the last year on the Coyote Monitoring Project researching and designing a solid scat analysis method. He will be attending the University of Wisconsin, Madison medical school in the fall.



Bruce-Eisen

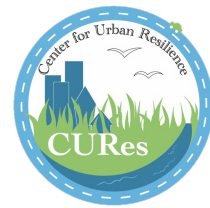


Gloudeman



Isaev





## Summer Research Students

Three LMU undergraduates are working over the summer on a diverse range of CUREs projects.

- Calvin Foss ('21) – Ballona Wetlands Conservancy Project: Calvin will be studying the water flow of the Wetlands.
- Matthew Sheridan ('19) – Long Beach Coyote Monitoring: Matt will focus on genetic analysis of coyote scat, to understand diet, and assist with field data collection and analysis.
- Arturo Jacobo ('20) – Silverlake Community Engagement: Arturo will create and begin implementing a social survey to better understand resident viewpoints and green space understanding as part of a holistic city assessment.



The CUREs team looks forward to continuing to work with students over the summer!

## Osprey Pole and Nesting Platform Coming Soon!

CUREs is working with LMU Facilities Management and Southern California Edison to install an Osprey Pole and Nesting Platform on the bluff along LMU's campus!

Osprey have recently been seen along this wildlife corridor, indicating that the species may be returning to the area.

Installing an Osprey Pole and Nesting Platform allows this amazing bird to nest and will provide virtual opportunities observe and study it. Osprey, like many birds of prey, were at one time almost extinct, but have made a comeback. With the installation of an internet protocol (IP) camera, viewers around the world, including students, will be able to view and study the nesting activities via live-streaming video. Funding for this project comes from the Dan and Susan Gottlieb Foundation, generous funders of CUREs and other wildlife and environmental projects.

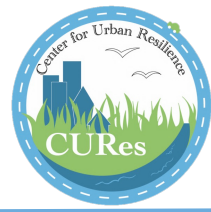
## Media Updates

CUREs' new website is live! Check out all of our featured research, student projects, and catalogued blog posts!

<https://academics.lmu.edu/cures/>

The Center for Urban Resilience (CUREs) [YouTube channel](#) has been updated! Stay tuned for videos highlighting our research, educational efforts, and restorative justice initiatives!





### LABT Tree Survey in Pacoima

The CUREs team began the first round of measurements for a three year tree survey in Pacoima, a community in the San Fernando Valley north of Los Angeles. The project is funded by the LA Beautification Team (LABT).

One hundred fifty trees will be assessed to measure growth between species and the impact of regular watering. For each tree, the team recorded measurement data (height, trunk circumference, crown radius), health data (% die-back, % crown missing), and growing conditions (% full sun exposure).

The same trees will be measured two more times over two years to appropriately assess the growth of different species to better inform City planning.



### Bird LA Day 2018

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, a range of events will be held across the Los Angeles area to celebrate Bird LA Day! Some events include a tour of the Natural History Museum; a Parrots of Pasadena Walk, Talk, and Cocktail Reception; and a Rescued Raptors talk at Wild Wings Backyard Nature Store. You can view all of the scheduled events [here](#).

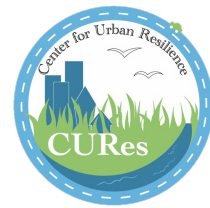
CUREs is partnering with the Friends of Ballona Wetlands (FBW) to celebrate! FBW is hosting a [Breakfast with the Birds](#) event from 8-10:30am in the Ballona Freshwater Marsh and Lisa Fimiani (CUREs Environmental Leadership Fellow) will lead [a sunset hike](#) at the Ballona Freshwater Marsh from 5:30-7:30pm. You can start and end your day with birds in one of the birdiest marshes in LA!

Lisa has over 30 years experience in the Ballona Wetlands and is highly knowledgeable on avian and wetlands conservation and wildlife topics. Please [RSVP](#) if you plan on attending either of these events, as space is limited.

We hope to see you at Bird LA Day!







### Center for Ignatian Spirituality

The LMU [Center for Ignatian Spirituality](#), under the direction of Father Randy Roche, has been coming out for years to tour Ballona Discovery Park, led by Eric Strauss and Lisa Fimiani. CUREs gave this year's group a copy of The Gottlieb Native Garden book, much to their delight.



### Leadership Training

Dr. Michele Romolini completed year-long [Presidents Leadership Development Initiative](#) at LMU on April 17<sup>th</sup>! The goal of the program is to create an effective inclusive University environment where all can thrive. Dr. Romolini engaged with a range of trainings on topics such as bias reduction and a strengths assessment. Congratulations!

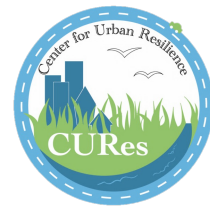


### EcoPoetry Reading



On April 24<sup>th</sup>, LMU Professor Sarah Maclay's EcoPoetry course led an evening of readings in Ballona Discovery Park in honor of Earth Day. This magical event highlighted the interconnectedness of nature and the human experience, especially fitting given birds serenading them throughout the event.

Maclay will be giving future talks and readings at LMU – stay tuned for ways to engage with this amazing project.

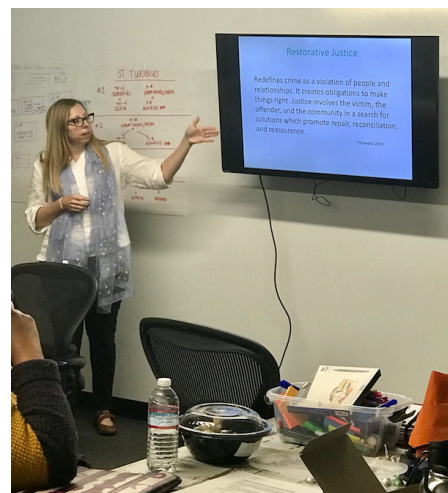


## Restorative Justice at the LA Archdiocese

Archdiocese of Los Angeles Catholic School Principals learned about Restorative Justice (RJ) through an experiential workshop offered by CURES on April 23, 2018. Schoene Mahmood (CURES RJ Specialist) led the session. The RJ Project, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Catholic Schools, and the Catholic Schools Collaborative are partnering to implement Restorative Practices in their communities. Trainings are being provided in August 2018.

Ellen Holton, Executive Director of Catholic Schools Collaborative shared, "The community building circle was so powerful and your Restorative Justice presentation was very informational and relevant for our school communities!"

CURES' RJ program will be presenting to the California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare Conference in Fresno, CA on May 10th, and serve on a panel at the University of San Diego's Visioning Contemporary Catholic Higher Education on July 17th. Stay tuned for more updates!



## Additional Upcoming Community Events

- Bird LA Day – 5/12
- Swimmer Medicinal Garden Grand Opening – mid-June, details to come
- [Restorative Justice and Catholic Social Thought](#) - ASACCU Visioning Social Change for Catholic Education Conference – 7/17

## Never Miss an Update!

Sign up for our weekly blog post announcements by emailing [CURES@lmu.edu](mailto:CURES@lmu.edu) for more information and to get on our list!

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