

# CENTER FOR URBAN RESILIENCE

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

Featured in this Newsletter: [GNG Green Earth Film Festival recap](#), [Silver Lake and Long Beach research updates](#), [Restorative Justice activities](#), [live bird cams](#), and [more](#).



## GNG Green Earth Film Festival

This past weekend, CUREs co-hosted the sixth annual GNG Green Earth Film Festival alongside [The Gottlieb Native Garden](#) (GNG) and LMU's School of Film and Television. The event was held at LMU's new Playa Vista campus, the ideal location to showcase inspiring environmental films. Thank you to everyone who attended!

"[The Festival] is a great opportunity to bring together a community of filmmakers and stakeholders to better explain and understand this complex relationship we have with the natural world. The Festival was a laboratory for the School of Film and Television and the Center for Urban Resilience to work together with support from the Gottlieb foundation."

- Dr. Eric Strauss, CUREs Executive Director



"The Film Festival highlighted issues that need attention in the world of today if we are to keep our planet healthy. I especially enjoyed the panel discussions led by Eric Strauss, who invited our guests to share their expertise on subjects ranging from hip green hotels in the second largest city in the US to critical water systems in one of the most important ports in America, to Owls surviving in the vastness of Siberia. It really hit home for me how intimately connected we are to our earth, and how film festivals like these empower participants with the knowledge they need to find solutions and meet the challenges we face at the urban interfaces between man and nature."

- Lisa Fimiani (CUREs Gottlieb Environmental Leadership Fellow)

"Film has the ability to take big issues such as the environment and present them in an intimate and relatable way using the power of visual storytelling. To imagine life in the Arctic is almost impossible – it seems like a vast wasteland at first glance. But Oliver Goetz's *White Wolves – Ghosts of the Arctic* shows a vibrant and brutal population of animal life that is as riveting as a Shakespearean drama. We see the day to day life of the white wolves is a struggle that we can't help but sympathize and empathize. Their experience becomes something we can actually feel by bringing us up close to the remote and brutal landscape."

- Timothy O'Neill (Academic Affairs Associate SFTV)

Learn more about the Festival on the [CUREs Blog](#).



## Silver Lake Research

Last month, CUREs began data collection for its social survey taking place in Silver Lake, CA to better understand residents' use and understanding of the local reservoir. A team of six undergraduates frequent designated sites in the neighborhood to collect surveys, visiting a range of locations to ensure all groups are heard. This research will help inform city planning and development moving forward.

If you are a resident of Silver Lake, and would like to take the survey, there will be an Open House at the Silver Lake Library on **November 10th from 12-4pm**. You can also take the survey online [here](#).

## Birds at CUREs!

CUREs is hosting a crow banding on **Sunday, November 11th from 10am-12pm at Venice Beach**. This banding will inform our research surrounding crow behavior in regards to Least tern egg predation - Least terns are an endangered species in California. If you are interested, email [Peter.Auger@lmu.edu](mailto:Peter.Auger@lmu.edu) for more information!

CUREs' live bird cameras are up and running on our YouTube site! We currently have four cameras available - three in the Los Angeles area and one in Cape Cod, MA. You can view them [here!](#)

## Restorative Justice Updates

### St. Aloysius Catholic School

Thanks to an introduction by the Catholic Schools Collaborative's Executive Director, Ellen Holton, CUREs offered a Restorative Justice Practices presentation October 17 to the St. Aloysius Conception Catholic School administrators and faculty. Activities included a discussion of the principles of, and the rationale behind, restorative approaches, as well as an experiential activity where participants built connections with each other and had the opportunity to share classroom management strategies. Photo of St. Aloysius teachers and principal below.



### Riverside Unified School District

Three trainings were held at RUSD October 12, 18, 23 (trained 75 participants representing seven schools and 1 after school program called HEARTS). An initial one-day training gave them time to practice for their skill-building sessions, to be held: 11/6, 11/27, and 11/29. In these follow up trainings, educators are presumed to have already begun the implementation of RJ practices in their school communities, and will garner skill-building training to take back to their school campus to further refine their RJ practices.

Photos of RUSD teachers below.



Finally, check out this great article on how [Restorative Justice Helps Students Learn](#).

## Long Beach Coyote Assessment Update

CUREs research students and staff have been hard at work this semester as they continue to conduct a range of research methods to better understand coyote behavior in the City of Long Beach.

Game camera photos and videos capture images of coyotes and other species, which can then be used to represent when these animals are most active, or which areas are most frequented. The research team has tens of thousands of images saved, providing a wealth of information and a large enough sample size to draw conclusions.

Additionally, the CUREs team just began tracking cat movement with the assistance of a local cat colony. This data will be mapped against the game camera footage to determine if cat and coyote ranges overlap.

The students are also working with Dr. Demian Willette (LMU Biology) to conduct genetic analysis of coyote scat to determine diet composition. They run the samples against known genetic samples via a PCR technique to visualize what the coyotes are eating. Photos below.



CUREs plans to expand its research methods as the project continues - stay tuned for more exciting updates!

## Education Updates

Urban EcoLab, a tool for K-12 teachers, is being updated! You can view the existing modules [here](#), and make sure to check back as new materials are added to the CUREs website! This will include five new Modules on topics including Human-Animal Interactions, Urban Wildlife, Garden Ecology, and more!

## 2018-19 Environmental Lecture Series

Thank you to everyone who attended the November 1st lecture titled "Sustaining the Resources: Plantation Forestry in Modern China," presented by Dr. Meng Zhang (LMU History). The Lecture Series continues in the Spring Semester - we hope to see you there!

[View the entire schedule.](#)

## Upcoming Events

- November 10: [Ballona Freshwater Marsh Bird Survey](#), 7am
- [November 10: Grow Native Gardening Class](#), Friends of Ballona Wetlands at Ballona Discovery Park, 11am-1pm
- November 10: [Silver Lake Reservoir Survey Open House](#), Silver Lake Library, 12-4pm
- November 11: [Crow banding at Venice Beach](#), 10am-12pm - contact [Peter.Auger@lmu.edu](mailto:Peter.Auger@lmu.edu) for more information
- [November 16-18: Ojai Herbal Symposium](#)

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