

Tabitha Gunnars

gunnarst@yahoo.com

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Integrative Biology December 2020
Oklahoma State University

Bachelor of Science in Zoology May 2018
Oklahoma State University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Oceanography, Marine Mammals, Animal Behavior, and Conservation

HONORS / AWARDS

NSF LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship program 2018-2020
Oklahoma State University Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP)

Dr. Bryan P. Glass Student Scholarship/Fellowship 2016-2017
Oklahoma State University, Department of Integrative Biology - Collection of Vertebrates

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Blind Spot of Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) August 2018-Present
Oklahoma State University, Advisor: Jason N. Bruck

- Used a Hoberman sphere with LED lights attached to the vertices in order to test the visual field of the bottlenose dolphin and distinguish where their blind spot is located.

Foraging and Light Avoidance Thresholds in Wild Rodents Exposed to Differing Levels of Light Pollution August 2017-May 2018
Oklahoma State University

- Aiding in field work, such as collecting data on giving up density and setting up traps for small rodents, specifically *Peromyscus leucopus*.

Model of *Trichechus manatus* mortality by age class and location May 2016-December 2017
Oklahoma State University

- Pinpointed coordinates where the 20 salvaged manatees were found using Google Earth, distinguished each point by color for sex and age to see how they were distributed.
- Created a reference map with more data of salvaged manatees from Vertnet to see whether sex and age are correlated with the location of where they were salvaged.

Undergraduate researcher May 2016-May 2018

Oklahoma State University

- Assisted with the NSF-funded renovation project of the fish, amphibian, and reptile collection.

Life Sciences Freshman Research Scholar (LSFRS)

August 2014-May 2015

Oklahoma State University

- Observed the occurrence of small mammals in roadside litter and surrounding vegetation.
- Collaborated with two other LSFRS students on a manuscript and poster to present at the LSFRS symposium.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020-Present

Oklahoma State University

- Graded assignments and tests and provided recommendations for improvement.

Course Taught:

Introductory Biology

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Zoology Graduate Student Society (ZoGSS)

August 2019-May 2020

Oklahoma State University

Outreach and Fundraising Committee

- Created and organized outreach activities and fundraisers and promoted them throughout campus

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

Zoology Graduate Student Society

Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)

OK-LSAMP

Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.

Hispanic Student Association

LSFRS Ambassador

PRESENTATIONS

Gunnars, T. S. Blind Spot of Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*). Stillwater, OK. Oral proposal presentation. December 16, 2019.

Gunnars, T. S., Ritchie, R., and McBee, K. Model of *Trichechus manatus* mortality by age class and location. Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) The National Diversity in STEM Conference, San Antonio, TX. Poster presentation. October 11, 2018.

Gunnars, T. S., McBee, K. Georeferencing Manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) in the OSU Collection of Vertebrates. Oklahoma Research Day, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Enid, OK. Poster presentation. March 3, 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

Encyclopedia entry

Gunnars, T. S. and Bruck, J. N. (2020). Visual Perception. In J. Vonk & T. K. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing. ISBN 978-3-319-55065-7

REFERENCES

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