Verrill Medal Symposium
Saturday, November 5, 2016, David Friend Hall, Yale Peabody Museum

DETAILED SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

8:30  Light breakfast welcome

9:00  Introductory comments

David K. Skelly, Director, Yale Peabody Museum; Frank R. Oastler Professor of Ecology, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

Michael J. Donoghue, Sterling Professor of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology; Curator of Botany and Paleobotany, Yale Peabody Museum

9:05  May R. Berenbaum ('75), Swanlund Chair and Head of Entomology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The natural (and unnatural) history of the parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*)

9:45  Dakota E. McCoy ('13), current graduate student at Harvard Univ. in Organismic & Evolutionary Biology

Fossils, Feathers, and Fellowship: The Collections of the Peabody Museum

10:00 Sarah B. Federman (expected PhD ’17), current Yale graduate student in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

Tropical trees, lemurs, and Malagasy rainforests: Investigating diversification at multiple scales

10:15 Daniel J. Field (PhD ’16), Prize Fellow (junior tenure-track faculty), University of Bath, UK (Jan. 2017)

From Big Years to Big Epochs: Fossils as a Birdwatcher's Time Machine

10:40  Coffee break

Session 2 Chair: Anne Underhill, Chair and Professor of Anthropology; Curator of Anthropology, Yale Peabody Museum

10:55  Geerat J. Vermeij (PhD '71), Distinguished Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of California at Davis

Forbidden phenotypes, evolutionary innovation, and the limits of evolution

11:35  Michelle E. Young (expected PhD ’18), current Yale graduate student in Anthropology

Expanding the Horizon: Exploring the unknown in Peruvian prehistory at the archaeological site of Atalla

11:50  Alex Dornburg (PhD ’14), Research Curator, Ichthyology, North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

Adaptive radiation on ice: The story of Antarctic fishes
12:15  Lunch in the Class of 1954 Environmental Sciences Center (adjacent to Peabody)

Session 3 Chair: Jacques A. Gauthier, Professor of Geology & Geophysics; Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology and Vertebrate Zoology, Yale Peabody Museum

1:45   Naomi E. Pierce ('76), Hessel Professor of Biology; Curator of Lepidoptera, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University

   Nabokov’s Blues and the Collections of the Museum of Comparative Zoology

2:25   Eva Hoffman ('16), current graduate student at the University of Texas at Austin in Geosciences

   Reconstructing the behavior and ecology of the ancestral primate and fossil taxa using comparative phylogenetic techniques

2:40   Aspen T. Reese ('12), current graduate student at Duke University in Ecology

   Missing players: How the microbes inside us can impact physiology, ecology, and conservation

2:55   Tyler R. Lyson (PhD '12), Curator, Vertebrate Paleontology, Denver Museum of Nature and Science

   Distribution of dinosaur skeletons in the latest Cretaceous (Maastrichtian) Hell Creek Formation

3:20   Coffee break

Session 4 Chair: Kirk R. Johnson (PhD ’89), Sant Director, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

3:35   Neil H. Shubin, Robert R. Bensley Distinguished Service Professor of Organismal Biology and Anatomy, University of Chicago

   Finding Your Inner Fish

4:15   Gwen S. Antell ('16), current research intern at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Colorado

   Exoskeletons in the closet: New fossil insect species from the drawers of the Yale Peabody Museum

4:30   Mary Caswell Stoddard (Cassie) ('08), Assistant Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University

   The Visual World of Birds: Color Space, Cuckoo Eggs and Camouflage

4:55   Concluding remarks, Michael J. Donoghue