

MEM Professors Take a Trip to Africa:

Professors Sally Thode and Jessica Young have returned from their spring semester trip to Africa. They had an opportunity to visit and learn from different communities and people in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, and Madagascar. Three of their most meaningful connections came from their visit to MEM graduate student Tyler Grimes' field site near Nduru in Western Kenya (pictured on the right), a site visit to Mzumbe University in Tanzania, and a visit to Centre ValBio in Madagascar. While they had an amazing time viewing wildlife and learning about the culture and ecology of all of the countries they visited, the connections they sought for the program may lead to future student projects, international field classes, and student and faculty exchanges. You can read more about their reflections on the cultures and people they visited by reading some of the past 4 stories on their blog site "One hundred stories" at www.jsoutofbounds.blogspot.com. We will have to keep track of them as they head out next December to new sites and places.



Photo by Tyler Grimes of Jess and Sally greeted by the women of the local community at his project site in Western Kenya.

Links to the [Master in Environmental Management Calendar](#), the [MEM Facebook Page](#), as well as the [Center for Environment & Sustainability Facebook Page](#)

Housing:

To any current MEM students graduating this year and moving away from the valley, please post your available apartments/housing in the Gunnison Valley to the [MEM Student Housing Exchange](#) Facebook page for new incoming MEM students. All new students should go check out the group! New students may also contact [Residence Life](#) asking about limited on-campus MEM housing by **June 1st**. A good place to check is also the [Gunnison Market Place](#) group or the [Gunnison Shopper](#).

Time Sensitive Housing Opportunity: Apartment available: 2 bedroom, quiet neighborhood, you can walk out the door and be on the Van Tuya! \$675/month + utilities (no more than \$100 in the winter if you're heat misers like us), no smoking, no pets. Easy bike to campus. Please let Erin Griffin know at erin.griffin@western.edu. 518-332-9832 ASAP if you're interested. Her land landlord will open it up to the public in the next couple days if there is no interest here.

Further Items of Interest:

***** Water Workshop Intern for June:** If someone would like to earn some extra money in **June**, come and help out with the Water Workshop. This will be an institutional work study job earning \$500. Hours will be flexible, but person must be able to attend **June 22nd-24th**. Duties will include making nametags, updating spreadsheets, manning the table at the workshop and other various duties needed. Please contact Mandy at mcasteel-denney@western.edu, or call 970.943.2248 by **Friday, May 13, 2016**.

MEM Graduation Party: Erin, Andres, Rachel and Tyler, all MEM students have been planning the graduation celebration TOMORROW **afternoon/evening at 3pm**. They're inviting all graduating MEM students and their friends and families, faculty, 2nd and 3rd cohort MEMbers, and friends of the program. Attached is the invitation that Tyler sent to all current MEM students. It's a cash alcohol and pizza bar, so there's no limit to the number of people that can attend. The more the merrier. Please let Tyler Grimes know if you have any questions at tyler.morrison@western.edu and they're excited for the celebrations!

Move Out Groove Out: The LEAD Office is hosting "Move out Groove Out" which is basically a service they offer at the end of the year to allow students to place re-usable items in a designated locations versus the dumpster. They then place all the item in FreeCycle for other students to enjoy. If you could pass along the message to your friends to look for the Move Out signs by the dumpsters and place re-usable things in the marked areas they will come by through the week to collect them!

SAF Conference: The Colorado and Wyoming Society of American Foresters Annual Conference will take place here at Western **May 12-14th**. The theme is "the New Normal". The meeting includes field trips, a concert at the I-Bar, and a full day of presentations on forest ecology and management. If you might be interested see attachments for the registration form and more information on the schedule. There are also a couple free student registrations to give away, first come first served. You may contact Dr. Jonathan Coop at jcoop@western.edu.

US Forest Service Plant-a-Tree Day: The US Forest Service is putting on a plant-a-tree day **June 11th** on Slumgullion Pass south of Lake. Attached is a copy of the press release containing information regarding the event and how to RSVP. Please let Drew Stroberg know if there are questions at dstroberg@fs.fed.us.

Permaculture Course in Westcliffe: Concerned about the state of our planet? Looking for hope? Find out how humanity can move into an uncertain future with grace, ease and abundance! Shift your awareness and change your life! Here is a golden opportunity: A permaculture design course will take place near Westcliffe **June 18th-July 2nd**. This course is intensive and includes 72 hours of instruction, hands-on design work, certification, lodging and all meals -- truly inexpensive for a unique, life-shifting experience. And fun! Some scholarships and work trades are available, along with an early-bird discount and a couples discount. If you have any questions contact Sandy Cruz at [719 539 7585](tel:7195397585) or see attachment.

Fresh Produce Subscription: The Organics Guild and Thistle Whistle Farm would like to announce their partnership in a Community Supported Agriculture Pick to Order Program. The program would act like a subscription in which the subscriber could pick up a box of fresh, local produce at the Chipeta Garden every Saturday. The boxes would start arriving in June and would continue through Autumn. If you might be interested in signing up for this program please fill out the form at this [link](#). They will keep you posted as we gain interest in the program. They hope to make organic, local food more available for the Gunnison Valley. Any questions please email: ThistleWhistleCSA@gmail.com

Summer Data Science Fellowship Opportunity: The Data Incubator is an intensive 8 week fellowship that prepares masters students, PhDs, and postdocs in STEM and social science fields seeking industry careers as data scientists. Anyone should apply who has already obtained a masters or PhD degree or who is within one year of graduating with a masters or PhD is welcome to apply. Everyone else is encouraged to [sign-up for a future session](#). There will be both an in-person (in NYC, DC, SF) and online section of the fellowship. There is a common application for both the online and in-person sections. Here is the application link:<https://www.thedataincubator.com/fellowship.html#apply?ref=wY2tuYXBwQHdlc3Rlcm4uZWRI>. You can learn about our fellows at [The New York Times](#) or [Palantir](#). To read about our latest fellow alumni, check out [blog](#). To learn more about The Data Incubator, check us out on [Venture Beat](#), [The Next Web](#), or [Harvard Business Review](#).

One Valley Prosperity Project Open House: The One Valley Prosperity Project is transitioning from planning to action. For the past year, they have been working together to enhance our regional prosperity. The result of that effort, the *One Valley Prosperity Strategy*, is nearly complete. The Community Builders Task Force would like to invite you to attend a community celebration and review of the strategy. We will begin with a reception at **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday May 18th** at the Almont Resort (10209 Hwy 135 in Almont) followed by a presentation on the key elements of the plan at 5:30 p.m., and lastly an open house and feedback session from 6:10 to 7:00 p.m. at the Almont Resort. This event is in honor of all the participants and volunteers, who took the time to weigh in on-line, in focus groups and in public meetings through surveys or one-on-one interviews to create this vision and action plan.

Executive Summer School in Global Environmental Policy: August 28th through September 7th the Universite De Genève will be providing an intensive immersion in the latest political and scientific issues on the global environmental agenda in the unique context of International Geneva. The GEPP is a unique learning initiative that bridges the often-disconnected worlds of internationally-renowned scientific research and multilateral governance processes. Learn more about it and the application process [here!](#) Also, see more information in the attachments.

Project Opportunities:

Tyler Grimes's Project: Enduru Sustainable Development. Enduru is a village in Western Province, Kenya, located between Butula and Buma-la in Busia County. Project continuation would work closely with the New Creations Self-Help Group to create opportunities and meet the needs of the community through sustainable development strategies. Potential projects include: Working with local NGO ARDAP (appropriate rural development agriculture program) on a farming project on New Creations Children's Home land. The project would include digging a well, water storage and irrigation, construction of a greenhouse and a production plan. Find out more about ARDAP at <http://www.ardap-kenya.org> or ARDAP Kenya on Facebook, There's an openness and need for future projects of all kinds. This project is an opportunity for anyone looking to work internationally at a grass-roots level. For questions or more information email tyler.grimes@western.edu.



From left to right: Jess Young, Sally Thode, Beth Grimes and Tyler Grimes

Weed Related Potential MEM Project Idea: The Town of Crested Butte is in the process of forming a weed committee to address noxious weeds in the Town of CB. From a "hard" science perspective, this presents an interesting opportunity for the graduate student to establish a baseline in 2016 and monitor our weed treatments or even set up an experiment to evaluate different approaches to weed management and monitor the effectiveness of these over time. One site that is particularly interesting and weed infested is the CB Cemetery at 10,000 feet. From a social science perspective, there is an interesting opportunity to study people's opinions on weeds, their treatment, and the best way to ensure community buy-in for weed management in a rural town. If you are interested, let Corrie Knapp (cknapp@western.edu) know.

Possible MEM Project with LCBAG: Sarah Mudge is in charge of Lake County Build a Generation (LCBAG), a non-profit org working to help kids have healthier lives, including getting them connected with nature. LCBAG was awarded a GOCO "Inspire" grant to create a plan to provide outdoor activities for underserved kids in Leadville. The MEM program might have a student who would like to work on this new effort and Sarah was very interested in the idea. You may contact Sarah at sarah@icbag.org if this project possibility interests you.

Jobs:

Hiring for Application of MCH Bubble Packets: Renee Slater, a landowner off of Hwy 149, south of Powderhorn on Cty Rd 25 just up from Red Bridge, is looking to hire some reliable students who may have interest in the field of Douglas Fir trees and management of beetles who can help her hang MCH Bubble Packets on her trees to prevent beetle kill on the **7th, 8th, and 9th of May** at 40 hours of work being paid \$10-\$12 an hour. Renee would like to schedule a phone interview with those who are interested, you may contact her at (239)-404-5948.

Summer Work in the Gunnison Valley: Want to start on some actual restoration work, right here this summer? Build trails and otherwise improve the use of public lands? AND earn some money too, AND an Americorps grant to apply to your education costs? The Western Colorado Conservation Corps is now recruiting for its Upper Gunnison Headwaters Crew. A summer of forty-hour weeks (four days/week) of out door work that will get you in better shape than you've ever been in - and the valley too. For more information, contact WCCC Director Jeff Roberts at 970-241-1027, go [here](#) for more info, or see attachment.

Ranch Assistant With Eagle Ridge Ranch: The Eagle Ridge Ranch is a conservation minded working ranch located along the Ohio Creek, northeast of the Town of Gunnison. Management of the property is based on three objectives of Wildlife, Agriculture, and Recreation of which all share equal priority. Some responsibilities of this position include facility, infrastructure, and equipment maintenance, forest and range management activities, and water right usage and irrigation. To apply, contact Travis Brooks, the Ranch Manager, at Trav-icebrooks81@gmail.com. Position will become **available June 6th..** See attachment for more information.

Program Director for Grand Canyon Youth: Starting June 1st, In Flagstaff Arizona, The Program Director for Grand Canyon Youth is responsible for the preparation, correspondence and coordination of the programmatic aspects of Grand Canyon Youth's river education programs. The Program Director must have the ability to develop and maintain professional relationships with GCY staff, youth participants, parents, guides, drivers, volunteers, and community partners. To Apply, please submit a resume, cover letter and three references by email to Executive Director, Emma Wharton, emma@gcyouth.org. Application deadline is **May 30th** . More info on attachment.

Conservation District Position: The Gunnison Conservation District has a permanent part-time opening for a District Manager. Responsibilities include accounting, bookkeeping, customer service and sales, planning and implementing meetings, outreach education, grant writing, grant administration, staying up-to-date on application deadlines, tax payments, and other duties as assigned. Knowledge of natural resources, agricultural systems, and computer skills including QuickBooks and Microsoft Office is preferred. Interest in natural resource conservation is a must. Position requires 10-12 hours per week and pay rate is based on experience and performance. A background check may be required. Please submit cover letter and resume to the Gunnison Conservation District, 216 North Colorado St., Gunnison, Colorado, or email to gunnisoncd2006@gmail.com

Employment Collecting Rangeland Ecology Data Opportunity: Retta Bruegger, Colorado State University's new Range Specialist is wondering if there would be anyone interested in an employment opportunity in collecting rangeland ecology data. You may contact her at Retta.Bruegger@colostate.edu if interested in an application.

[FAST WOMEN] Job at Western Resources Advocate: Western Resource Advocates (WRA) is seeking an experienced Digital Engagement Manager to be part of our dynamic Communications Team. WRA works to protect the West's land, air, and water, using law, science and economics to craft innovative solutions to the most pressing conservation issues in the region. The Digital Engagement Manager position is based in Boulder, CO. It is a full-time exempt position, with an excellent benefits package and a competitive salary based on relative experience. For the full position description and how to apply [visit here](#).

Summer Jobs with Environment Colorado: The Fund for the Public Interest is a national non-profit organization that works to build support for progressive organizations across the country. We've run campaigns for USPIRG, Environment America, the Human Rights Campaign, the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, and Fair Share Alliance. In Denver, they are currently launching an office in Denver for Environment Colorado to work on a campaign to protect honeybees and other pollinators. Right now, they are hiring students from across the state, and specifically at Western State Colorado University as paid staff to help with their campaign and citizen outreach work this summer and fall in their Denver office. This is a great opportunity for students. As paid campaign staff, students will build grassroots power, learn the building blocks of political organizing, and work closely with our senior staff management team. This is your chance to spend your summer working for a great cause, while gaining valuable campaign leadership experience. Fill out the form [here](#) to set up an interview and to hear more about the positions they have available or visit their [website](#)!

Colorado Outward Bound School Field Positions: For Assistant Instructor positions, Logistics Coordinators, Marketing Interns, Culinary Interns, and more, go [here](#) for the position listings with Colorado Outward Bound School, for people of all ages and all walks of life, is an educational organization that helps students discover strength of character, the ability to lead and a desire to serve. Most positions have age restrictions and require a Wilderness First Responder and CPR Certifications.

Backcountry Snow Sports Initiative (BSI) Intern: The ideal candidate will have experience with ArcGIS mapping platforms, a familiarity with backcountry winter recreation in Colorado and the ability to plan event logistics. This individual will be self-motivated and willing to take initiative on a variety of tasks and projects. Strong communication skills, attention to detail and a willingness to learn are essential. The candidate may work remotely from anywhere in Colorado, although travel may be required (approved mileage will be reimbursed). To apply, please e-mail resume and cover letter to juliemach@cmc.org. More info on attachment

GO Leadville! Coordinator: The GO Leadville! Coordinator position is based in Leadville. It will provide support for a collaborative of leaders, community members, and youth who are interested in better connecting Lake County youth to nature. The Coordinator's key work will be to help coordinate an effort that began in June 2015 and ends at the end of October 2016 to develop a three-year plan valued between \$1 and \$5 million to better connect the most underserved Lake County youth to nature. This plan will be presented to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for funding. More information about this position can be found on the attachment.

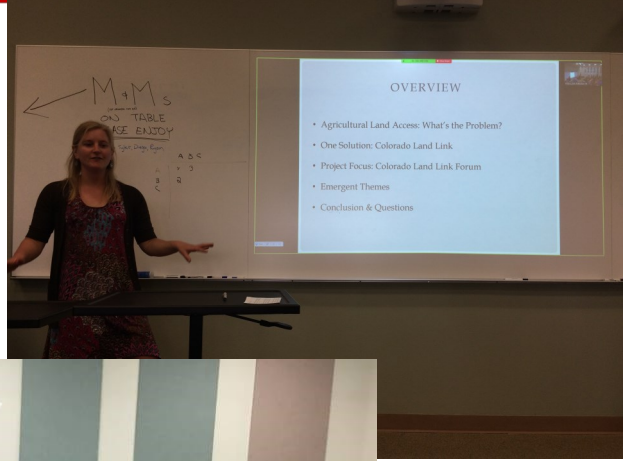
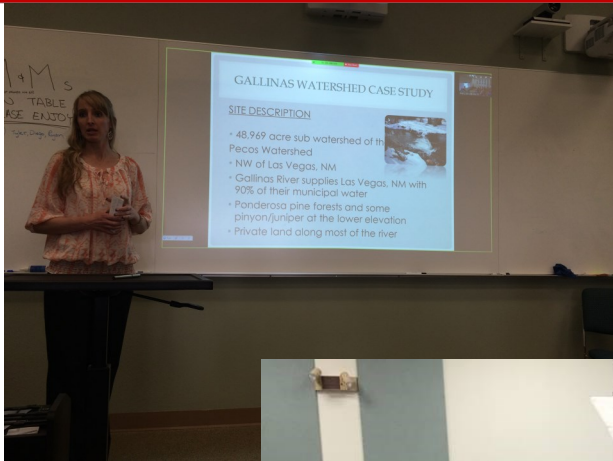


Women of Western Kenya dancing with Jess and Sally

Photo by Tyler Grimes



Pictures of a visiting Professor from India, Ajay Rastogi. His organization is [the Foundation for Contemplation of Nature](#).



Photos from the MEM Project Defense presentations, the Second cohort of MEM students, and ENVS-graduating student Lindsey Freeburn giving a toast to the graduating MEM and ENVS students.