

GLES Internship Spotlight

by Kelly Frothingham

Two Great Lakes Ecosystem Science (GLES) M.S. students recently completed their required internships. The **GLES M.S.** is a Professional Science Master's (PSM) program, so students combine knowledge gained in their environmental science master's coursework with project management and communication skills, which they apply to an internship experience. John Grabowski interned at Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper and Keith Pawlowski worked for Ecology and Environment, Inc.

John's internship focused on riparian zone restoration work being performed as part of a Living Shorelines program administered

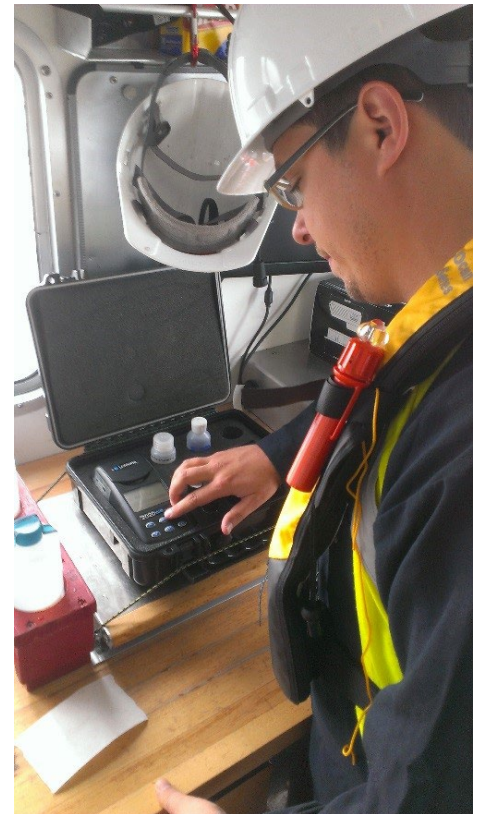


John measuring riparian plantings at a site on the Lower Niagara River.

by Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper. During the summer of 2014, John was part of a field crew that monitored plant survivability at 22 Phase I restoration sites located throughout the Niagara River Greenway. His internship continued into the fall and that work focused on identifying potential Phase II restoration sites, invasive species removal best management practices, and riparian buffer design.

Keith's internship had him working on Ecology and Environment projects downstate and here in Western New York. He performed water quality monitoring during construction of an offshore natural gas pipeline in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Queens, NY. That work also involved monitoring endangered species, including Atlantic sturgeon and right whale. Locally, Keith worked with geologists collecting soil samples in the Eighteenmile Creek watershed in Niagara County.

Both John and Keith presented about their internship experiences in GLC 600 Great Lakes Seminar during the spring 2015 semester. John is graduating in May and Keith is planning on an August or December 2015 graduation. Current GLES M.S. students, as well as all GLES graduates, can use the new internship and career opportunity search widget available on the Great Lakes Center



Keith taking turbidity measurements during water quality monitoring.

website: <http://greatlakescenter.buffalostate.edu/internship-and-career-opportunities>. •

GLC to host International Freshwater Bivalves Conference

by Lyubov Burlakova and Alexander Karatayev

We are pleased to announce that the Second International Meeting on Biology and Conservation of Freshwater Bivalves will be hosted by the Great Lakes Center in beautiful Buffalo from October 4-8, 2015. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Buffalo, NY.

Freshwater bivalves are one of the most imperiled groups of animals in the world, and play an extremely important ecological role in cleaning water, creating benthic habitats, and linking the water column and benthic compartments through their feeding activities - thus providing ecosystem services that influence the rest of the food web. At the same time, bivalves include the most aggressive aquatic invaders that are

BUFFALO NY, USA, 4-8 OCTOBER 2015



**2nd
INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON BIOLOGY AND
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threatening freshwater ecosystems and are causing significant economic damage worldwide. We hope that by bringing together international experts, our meeting will contribute toward a better understanding of the taxonomy, biology, and ecology of bivalves, and aid in developing efforts for the conservation of this important group.

There will be several thematic oral and poster sessions, including: biology and ecology; threats and conservation needs; invasive species; biogeography and taxonomy; phylogeny and genetic diversity; physiology and reproduction; and ecosystem services and functioning.

The social program will include one of two trips: either a visit to Niagara Falls with a barbeque afterward, or a full day trip to Letchworth State Park. There will also be a banquet after the conference concludes.

The submission deadline for abstracts has already passed, but so far we have over 70 participants from 15 different countries. Late registration is still available until October 1, 2015.

For more information please visit our website: <http://greatlakescenter.buffalostate.edu/conference>. •