

Learn reasons to 'Hold a Bird in Your Hand' at Bergren Forum

4/21/15

The final program for the academic year in Alfred University's (AU) longstanding lunchtime series, the Bergren Forum, will be presented Thursday, April 30, at 12:10 p.m. in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center. Frederic Beaudry, assistant professor of environmental studies at the University, will give the "Top 7 Reasons Why You Should Hold a Bird in Your Hand." The program is free and open to the public.

Beaudry said he "will describe two important bird research techniques, mist-netting and banding. I will review the motivations behind scientific bird banding and the role it plays in my research.

"My presentation will also be an opportunity to introduce the audience to the Pine Hill Banding Station I operate every summer," he added.

Beaudry's areas of academic concentration include conservation biology and habitat ecology and population ecology, with interests in amphibians, turtles, and birds.

"I am concerned with the connection between land use and wildlife habitat and how this interaction affects wildlife populations," he said.

"Conversation issues are of particular interest to me and the problem-solving approaches I use include habitat selection analysis, population viability analysis, conservation planning, and GIS," he added.

Beaudry earned a doctorate in wildlife ecology from the University of Maine, Orono; a master of science degree in natural resources (wildlife) from Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA; and a bachelor of science degree in biology (wildlife management) from the Universite du Quebec a Rimouski.

He did post-doctoral work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Forest & Wildlife Ecology.

The Bergen Forum is sponsored by the Division of Human Studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Provost's Office. Guests are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch; coffee and tea will be provided.

The series known as the Bergen Forum was begun by Rich Bergen, who taught at the University in the 1970s. During his time at the University, Bergen was inspired by the learning of the gatherings started by Alfred University students in the 19th century the purpose was to meet in Alumni Hall and discuss community issues. After Bergen's death in 1974, the University decided to continue the tradition in his name. Since then, various faculty members have taken on the coordinator duties. William S. Dibrell, professor of philosophy, has arranged the Forum programs for the 2014-15 academic year.