UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

1876

Science Lecture Series

Science: When it is meaningful and how to increase its impact

Dr. Matthew Richardson

A good scientist can always argue for the importance of their research, but not all research has meaning or impact beyond a limited scope. Matthew Richardson will use examples from his career in the ecological sciences working with snakes, bears, insects, cannibals, urban farmers, young scholars, marginalized people, food crops, critically endangered plants, rare and sensitive ecosystems, prairies, forests, energy companies, and more to discuss: 1) how science can fail to have much meaning and impact; 2) when it successfully has meaning and impact; and 3) ways scientists and non-scientists can work together to improve the discipline.

Thursday, April 17th, 2025
2000 -2100
McAllister Hall Auditorium, U.S. Coast Guard Academy

Dr. Matthew Richardson is a proud uncle of a cadet in Alfa Company. He previously held positions at the University of the District of Columbia, Smithsonian Institution, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he held roles as a research scientist, educator, and director of research. He was selected as a 2018-2019 Fulbright Scholar to Barbados and volunteers with a non-profit to protect endangered plants. Some of his broad research interests include finding solutions to conserve or restore species, natural communities, and ecosystem services while improving human health, promoting inclusion and social equity, and advancing sustainability. He holds undergraduate degrees (BA, BS) in Biology and Entomology from the University of Delaware and graduate degrees (MS, PhD) in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences and Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Outside of work, Dr. Richardson enjoys running, reading, cooking, hiking, camping, and spending time with family.

If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact Dr. Kanani K. M. Lee (kanani.km.lee@uscga.edu) for more information.