



Bee Campus USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



Gonzaga University Spokane, Washington

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



- The Guardians Movie (about the Mexican communities that care for the monarchs' Mexican overwintering sanctuaries) showing with Q&A from the director - April 16
- Earth Week Bee Informed Event - April 19
- Honey Extraction and Winterization Seminar - November 13
- Inland Empire Bee Keepers Seminar - November 17

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



Gonzaga University has made great strides towards enhancing pollinator health and their habitat on campus. We have two apiaries located on the balcony of the John J. Hemmingson University Center. By working with the grounds team, we have been able to plant native species across campus, which includes a pollinator-friendly garden. We have also adopted a least toxic integrated pest management plan, which the pollinators will benefit from. This occurred in May 2018.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

Comprised of staff, faculty and students, our committee helps facilitate broad-based pollinator conservation efforts by spreading awareness of the importance of pollinators. Our committee meets once a semester to discuss how we would like to promote and spread the knowledge about pollinators. Every year, we host an annual Bee Informed event to showcase pollinators and what they do for us. Dependent on the year, we will have different events which surround the topic of pollinators.

[Recommended Native Plant Species List](#) & [Pollinator Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan](#)

SERVICE-LEARNING

Throughout the year, the Bee Campus Committee at Gonzaga has provided a few different opportunities for students to learn about pollinators through hosted volunteering events. These events include researching, planning, and determining a location on campus for placement of pollinator friendly plants, as well as how to extract honey from apiaries and prepare them for the winter season.

CURRICULUM

At Gonzaga, we offer four classes which cover pollinator-related information:

- Ecology - Different instructors teach the Ecology course within the Biology Department, each covering pollinators to a different extent. At a minimum, students gain information on plant-pollinator mutualisms.
- Animal Behavior - The dance language of honey bees is used as an example of animal communication, and other aspects of bee biology are taught.
- Entomology & Entomology Lab - Pollinators were a recurring topic in the course. In addition to learning general features of insects that are found among insect pollinators, students learn about haplodiploidy, coevolution of pollinators and plants, pollinator syndromes, pollinator diversity and crop production, honey bee communication, bee sociality, the economic value of pollinator services, pollinator habitats and conservation. Students learn to identify certain insects to the taxonomic family level, and learn to distinguish bees from wasps. In the laboratory course, students assemble insect collections of either physical or photographic specimens, record field notes on most of their specimens, identify them to taxonomic family if possible, and find insects that have various ecological characteristics. Collections generally include at least one pollinator.
- Directed Research - The project focuses on an introduced solitary bee (*Anthidium manicatum*) that has males that attack other insects and drive them away from flowers. These classes were held in the Spring as well as the Fall of 2018, with 30 students in each class.

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



Currently, we have 9 signs identifying the native species that have been planted in the pollinator-friendly garden. Throughout the year, students create informational signage. All of these signs are permanent.

CONTACT US!

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Website: <https://www.gonzaga.edu/about/offices-services/gonzaga-university-event-service-team/venues/john-j-hemmingson-center/bee-campus>

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/HemmingsonCenter/> & [@guhemmingson](#) on Twitter