Ph.D. or Masters Students in Conservation Science

The Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is forming a new research unit focused on Conservation Science. We seek applications from outstanding prospective graduate students in this topic, who wish to pursue a PhD or research-based Masters. We have funding to admit a strong cohort of students. While we encourage students to pursue independent funding opportunities, EEB’s policy is to admit students only when we are confident we can provide funding for the full duration of their studies. We provide funding to both Masters and PhD students, regardless of their citizenship. Our goal is to recruit a diverse pool of students on a range of metrics, including background, career stage, and research interests.

Our ecology program is among the top 10% for research impact in North America (Keville et al., 2017). Our recent Conservation Science graduates have an excellent record of placement, with students accepting post-doctoral positions in internationally renowned research groups and leadership positions within conservation NGOs and public agencies. Our students' dissertation projects are published in top-tier journals and deliver research products that our practitioner partners use and value. Our students study globally important conservation questions, commonly working in overseas field systems alongside in-country practitioners.

We anticipate having a "cohort-model" where students interact with each other and multiple faculty members. However, students typically have one lead faculty advisor. Ensuring a good match between this advisor and the student is a central feature of our recruitment process. Interested students should reach out to potential advisors by email (view advisor email list and full ad at http://eeb.bio.utk.edu/con-sci-grads) to explore possibilities.