

April 21, 2016

New directors named at Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve

SUMMARY: Richard Saller, dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences, is pleased to announce that biology Professor Elizabeth Hadly has been named faculty director of Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve. Anthony Barnosky, professor of integrative biology at the University of California-Berkeley, will become the field station's executive director.

Elizabeth A. Hadly, the Paul S. and Billie Achilles Professor of Environmental Biology, has been named faculty director of Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve (JBRP), effective Sept. 1. Hadly succeeds Christopher Field, the Melvin and Joan Lane Professor for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies and director of the Carnegie Institution's Department of Global Ecology. In addition, Anthony D. Barnosky, a professor of integrative biology at the University of California-Berkeley, will become executive director of the preserve on June 1, succeeding Philippe Cohen who retired in February. Since then, Research Coordinator Nona Chiariello has managed the preserve's operations.

Richard Saller, the Vernon R. and Lysbeth Warren Anderson Dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences, said he is grateful to Chiariello for her service as interim director at Jasper Ridge and noted that he is looking forward to working with Hadly and Barnosky. Saller made the announcement about the leadership transition in partnership with Ralph Cohen, Senior Associate Dean for the Natural Sciences, and Timothy Stearns, chair of the Biology Department.

Field, who has worked at Jasper Ridge for 40 years, said Hadly's and Barnosky's experience and leadership will benefit both the preserve and the university. "Throughout Stanford's history, Jasper Ridge has been a uniquely important part of the university, supporting key elements of Stanford's goals," Field said. "In an era of global change, Jasper Ridge has become even more important. The preserve hosts cutting-edge research, enables creative studies to understand options for conservation, and helps inspire and train future leaders in the importance of wise stewardship. It is exciting to think about next steps in the evolution of Jasper Ridge's programs, and it is encouraging to see the leadership transition. Liz and Tony each bring the kind of knowledge, sophistication, and passion to truly take the operation to the next level."

Hadly, who joined Stanford's faculty in 1998, is a professor in the Biology Department and, by courtesy, in Geological Sciences. She is also a senior fellow at the Woods Institute and at the Center for Innovation in Global Health. Since 2013, Hadly has served as the Senior Associate Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education and is a Bass University Fellow in Undergraduate Education. She has spent more than 25 years studying and teaching about environmental change in natural landscapes around the world. She oversees the Hadly Lab and conducts primary research on how both living and fossil mammals, amphibians and birds can reveal human impacts on evolutionary and ecological systems.

“I am excited and honored to begin working with the faculty, staff, students and docents who comprise the Jasper Ridge community,” Hadly said. “Jasper Ridge has a long, important history of providing an exceptional research environment close to the main campus of Stanford, while maintaining a remarkable diversity of biologic and geologic resources. I look forward to continuing this tradition and deepening the educational and outreach opportunities there on campus and beyond.”

Barnosky, a faculty member at Berkeley since 1990, is also a curator at the university’s Museum of Paleontology and a research paleoecologist at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. A paleontologist and geologist by training, Barnosky has led several multi-disciplinary initiatives that focus on understanding ecological responses to climate change and human activities. In addition to working with undergraduate and graduate students for many years, he brings extensive experience in communicating environmental science to policy makers and the public.

“I’m thrilled to be joining the Jasper Ridge team and the Stanford community, Barnosky said. “I’m looking forward to working closely with everybody who has helped build the incredible research, teaching and community engagement programs at Jasper Ridge, both to continue the many successful initiatives already in place, and to help in developing new ones.”

In describing the ecologically diverse 1,198-acre preserve, Chiariello said Hadly and Barnosky will be responsible for engaging with faculty, students, volunteers and community neighbors as well as with resource agencies and other field stations. Jasper Ridge is home to 16 distinct plant communities and four miles of creeks that provide a wide range of opportunities for research, education and conservation, she explained. Building on a legacy of environmental protection and academic study, much of the current research and teaching addresses the future of Jasper Ridge, she said. This includes the sustainability of oak woodlands, the response of grassland to climate change, interactions between invasive and native species, and the changing hydrologic environment of the 124-year old reservoir and its tributaries.

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More information about Elizabeth Hadly:

Website: <http://hadlylab.stanford.edu/>

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More information about Anthony Barnosky:

Website: <http://ib.berkeley.edu/labs/barnosky/>

Bio: <http://ib.berkeley.edu/labs/barnosky/short-bio---anthony-d-barno.html>

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