

## Julian-Marie Jones – Guest Speaker Quiz

### **At the end of the term you will write a reflection on (15 points):**

- 1 paragraph on what you learned from the entire speaker series (5 points)
- Describe 3-4 of the many vital pieces of information that were given to you to succeed as ecologists (6 points)
- Describe how you used the information from the lectures during the course, and/or how you will use it in the future (4 points)

This speaker series, in my opinion, was an invaluable learning experience. It brought many great forms of knowledge from scientists of different disciplines that I think will be relevant for the rest of my academic and work-related careers. It solidified many key components of science that aren't regularly taught or spoken about. Many of which would not have been touched on in regular class settings but more likely in a work or mentorship environment.

The points that I'll go over in the next questions are what I will be actively trying to pursue throughout my career to make me a well-rounded individual in science and in general.

Overall, I think even though some of the topics/careers paths that we learned about were not necessarily what I am interested in pursuing, the broader scale/top tips given to us are essential and can be applied to most fields of work which I am greatly appreciative for.

One of the biggest take home messages from each of the presentations I found was that Science is a "meandering path" as Emma Atkinson had prefaced. There are no correct ways or timelines that we must follow to feel successful in what we do. This is something I've struggled with as I am still unsure of what type of career I'd like to pursue in the future.

Emma had stated that taking time off before pursuing further into our academic careers is never a bad option as other opportunities can arise away from school. This resonated with me as a Masters/PhD are paths that I don't think I am ready for coming right out of my undergrad degree. Secondly, good communication skills and networking creates a world of

difference in the scientific community. These were topics broached in two separate presentations, but in my opinion work well together. In creating connections with others in the scientific community it would be my hope that good communication would be linked with this action. This would hopefully create an open line for better science especially in the cases where interdisciplinary studies are needed to broach a topic of concern/ for research. Finally, Dr. Callwood's presentation was great as she emphasized being a multidisciplinary scientist in her field of work. I thought this was very interesting as I love the idea of being versed in different fields that I am passionate about. Each of the skill sets she has brought to her current job have made her into a well-rounded scientist. With this she has a strong grasp on the interconnected relationships of the ecosystem and socioeconomics of the system she is working in. Overall, these are all attributes/actions I would like to pursue and or see in myself in the future.

Moving forward, I want to be able to take the topics I mentioned above and apply them to a career that I am passionate about. The topic that will be the most important in coming into a career I want to pursue is networking and keeping good relations with those who I have worked with and will work with in the future. I also hope to keep learning and adding to my skill sets as this is a way to keep learning and to strengthen your knowledge on new and possibly relevant topics. Overall, I want to be able to pursue the above-mentioned topics as they are qualities that I've seen in many individuals I look up to and I hope to be this type of individual some day as well.