

# EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERS

**FROM:**  
Texas A&M and Michigan State University



## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

The Club is excited to announce Dr. Perry Barboza has begun his position as the new B&C Endowed Chair at Texas A&M University. He comes to Texas A&M University from the Department of Biology and Wildlife at University of Alaska Fairbanks and has 24 years experience in working with big game species through his teaching and research.

Dr. Barboza said, “My research laboratory measures how animals use the available supply of food and water to meet the demands of living in an area. We measure what foods animals use, how much they use and how well they are able to survive and reproduce in an area. Ultimately, we hope to better inform decision-makers about sustainably managing that landscape for wildlife and to help formulate policies to meet those management goals.”

He and others are currently revising the B&C Program at Texas A&M to incorporate research, teaching, policy, and extension through a team approach. The program will include more instruction and emphasis on policy. To train future scientists that are confident to enter the policy arena, Perry has asked “Professors of Practice” to teach courses on functional policy. Dr. Barboza teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in wildlife ecology with particular emphasis on the management of big game species.

Barboza was educated in Australia and holds a doctorate from the University of New England, Armidale, New South Wales. He has worked in North America since 1989 when he began a postdoctoral fellowship with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

All 27 students completed the 2015 Demmer Scholars Program. One highlight of the summer was a 90-minute meeting with Associate Justice Antonin Scalia who entertained questions from the scholars at length and was quite engaging.

The Demmer Scholars Program is an annual summer internship program that brings graduate and undergraduate students from MSU and Mississippi State University to Washington, D.C. Students take a senior-level class in natural resources policy while working full-time as paid interns at federal agencies or non-governmental organizations that focus on natural resources. The program is led by B&C Member Mark E. Rey, executive in residence in the MSU Center for Systems Integration and

Sustainability and Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

“The course reviews and analyzes how each branch of federal government, as well as non-governmental groups—including the media—affect the development and implementation of federal government policy in the natural resources area,” said Rey. “Through these internships, the students get real-world experience, see classroom principles applied in practice and make valuable career contacts for educational and employment opportunities in the future. Since we started the program, 20 alumni got jobs in D.C. This program gives the participating universities a cadre of young natural resources leaders with experience in federal policy-making.”



LEFT: The Boone and Crockett Club welcome’s Dr. Perry Barboza to Texas A&M.

RIGHT: Demmer Scholars at Shenandoah National Park during their summer internship in Washington D.C.

