
Murray F. Buell Award: Cody S. Clements

The Buell Award recognizes an outstanding research talk presented by a student at the ESA Annual Meeting. Panel members at the Centennial Annual Meeting of the ESA in Baltimore, MD (August 2015), honored Cody S. Clements, a graduate student in the School of Biology at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA, for his presentation “Seaweeds protect corals from



Cody Clements

predatory starfish: Competitors become accomplices as reefs degrade” (abstract). His work is highly significant because it speaks to reef species interactions that may mitigate coral loss due to climate and ocean pH shifts. It has important management implications and tests foundational concepts about context dependence in species interactions. Reviewers commented on the creativity of the experimental methodology, thorough controls and multiple approaches to the hypothesis. They praised the clarity and pacing of the presentation, supported with well-chosen photographs, video, and charts.