**Biographical note**

Roger A. Powell, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Biology, North Carolina State University

Seminar Title: What I Have Learned About Black Bears from Hummingbirds, Chickadees, Blue Whales and Sewell Wright  
  
  
     Over the past 40 years, my research has emphasized how limiting resources affect animals.  I have studied energy budgets, sexual dimorphism, population stability, coexistence of competitors, and territoriality of fishers, weasels, black bears and pine voles.  During the past 2 decades, my field research has emphasized animals' home ranges and spacing.  I now envision animals living in a fitness landscape where the habitat value at each place is the potential contribution of that place to an animal's fitness.  I still do not know what a home range is but am convinced that animals do give us critical clues.  Studying my own home ranges has provided me with important insights.  
     As a kid, I read field guides with a flashlight under the covers after my parents told me to put out the lights.  Did that destine me to become a field biologist or was I just a crazy kid?  Since then I have held a frightened fisher by the tail, had a weasel urinate on my head, watched a mother black bear nurse her cubs in their den, and have spent too many hours in front of a computer monitor.  In the end, I still  
don’t know what I shall be when I grow up.  Shall I be a biologist who builds wood/canvas canoes, does photography, runs, trains dogs and loves to camp, or shall I be a canoe builder who is also a biologist who does photography, runs and trains dogs, or shall I be a photographer who . . .