Michael Buelna is a Zoology major in the graduating class of 2014. In his spare time he enjoys birding and riding his horse Ali. • Alexandria Contreras is passionate about neuroscience and teaching in addition to her love for baking, hiking, traveling, photography, her 3-pound Yorkie, and her 150-pound fiancé. She hopes to do research on neuropsychiatric diseases in children. She is also part of the Spectrum program at SF State where she teaches science in after-school clubs to a wide range of girls to help give them the knowledge, confidence, and motivation to pursue careers in science. • Eryk Hakman received his B.S. in Biology with an Emphasis in Physiology in June, 2014, after four years on the Dean’s List and serving twice as a Teaching Assistant in lab courses. His research on correcting misconceptions about heart attacks appeared in The Journal of the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology, a leading life science journal. Along with other academic awards, Hakman won first place in the College of Science and Engineering Student Project Showcase and the Student Research Competition. Hakman lives in Southern California, serves as an emergency room technician at Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, and hopes to attend medical school. • Ursula Johnson Ursula Johnson is a senior in Technical and Professional Writing at SF State. She majored in technical writing because she enjoys telling people what to do and how to do it. When not in school, Ursula enjoys urban hiking, canoeing at the Russian River, and treasure hunting at the Alameda flea market. • Heather Lough is an undergraduate student at San Francisco State University. She is majoring in Biology with an emphasis in Botany. She aspires to be a university biology professor someday. When she is not studying or working in her research lab, you can find her at home making blanket forts for her cats or hiking in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which she calls her “happy place.” • Audrey Mau graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in Microbiology. Upon graduating, she travelled to China—her first trip outside the U.S. She is applying for the Clinical Lab Science program on campus. She spends part of her family time bribing her niece with chocolate into believing she is the best aunt ever. • Morgan Meyers is a marine biology Master’s student at SF State. A native of Wisconsin, she enjoys time at the beach and working in her lab at the Romberg Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies in the North Bay. After graduation, Morgan plans to look into opportunities to teach and share marine climate change biology with the general public. • Lesley Schneider is an undergraduate at SF State, majoring in marine biology. She is parliamentarian of her local sorority, Lambda Chi Mu, and has always loved the ocean and its inhabitants—particularly whales and octopuses. Her hobbies include painting, cooking, napping, and spending quality time with her guinea pig, Gizmo. She hopes someday to attend the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, and to travel the world. • Eric Suchy is a technical writing major at SF State with a passion for mixing English and technology. While he dreams of making it big in the Bay Area tech industry, he also hopes to raise dogs, travel, cook, and write about science as much as possible. • Lisa Turk has completed her graduate work at SEPAL, the Science Education Partnership Assessment Laboratory at SF State and begins a science writing program at U.C. Santa Cruz in Fall, 2014. She hopes through science writing she can convince a non-science audience that science is mind blowing. Turk is passionate about rock climbing, road trips, making brilliant puns and, since writing this article, gazing at the night sky and feeling flabbergasted by the overwhelming potential for LIFE! • Ellen Young is a graduate student in the Science Education Partnership and Assessment Laboratory— and a part time “nature nerd.” As a future educator, it is her passion to ignite student curiosity about science through active learning, scientific discussions, and exhilarating treks through woodlands fierce. In her free time, Ellen forages for mushrooms and compulsively “borrows” cuttings of succulents from her neighbors’ front yards.