

Xavier J. Zahnle
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RESEARCH FOCUS

Comparative Morphology and Sexual Selection in Millipedes (Diplopoda)

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis, Davis, CA

Ph.D. student, Bond Lab, Department of Entomology & Nematology, estimated graduation: Spring 2022

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

B.A. in Biological Sciences with General Honors, June 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Attardo GM, Tam N, Parkinson D, Mack LK, **Zahnle XJ**, Arguellez J, Takáč P & Malacrida AR. (in press). “Interpreting morphological adaptations associated with viviparity in the Tsetse Fly *Glossina morsitans* (Westwood) by three-dimensional analysis.” *Insects*.

Zahnle XJ, Sierwald P, Ware S & Bond JE. 2020. “[Genital morphology and the mechanics of copulation in the millipede genus *Pseudopolydesmus*](#).” *Arthropod Structure & Development* 54: 100913.

Sierwald P, Hennen DA, **Zahnle XJ**, Ware S & Marek PE. 2019. “[Taxonomic synthesis of the eastern North American millipede genus *Pseudopolydesmus*](#).” *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* 187(1): 117-142.

AWARDS & GRANTS

[California Conservation Genomics Project](#) (co-author) _____ Aug. 2020
University of California

[George H. Vansell Scholarship](#) _____ May 2019
University of California, Davis; Department of Entomology & Nematology

[CMGI Pilot Study Imaging Grant](#) _____ Apr. 2019
University of California, Davis; Center for Molecular and Genomic Imaging (CMGI)

[John Crerar Foundation Science Writing Prize](#) _____ Jun. 2015
First Prize Winner, open to all University of Chicago undergraduate students

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS

International Myriapod and Arachnid Workshop,
[Los Tuxtlas Tropical Biology Station](#), Mexico _____ Sep. – Oct. 2018
• worked with international colleagues to translate a key to Neotropical millipede families

International Workshop for Arachnida and Myriapoda in Southeast Asia,
[Mê Linh Biological Station](#), Vietnam _____ Sep. 2016
• taught millipede collection methods and systematics to students from three countries

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL _____ Jun. 2015 – Jul. 2017

Research Intern; Petra Sierwald, primary investigator

- dissected and imaged millipedes using SEM for Morphological Atlas Project
- recurated Hydrophiloidea (water beetle) and Histeroidea (clown beetle) collections

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Davis, Davis, CA _____ Jan. 2019 – present

Course Coordinator, Natural History of Insects (ENT 10); Steven Nadler, supervisor

- designed curriculum, including exams and homework assignments; coordinated guest lecturers
- wrote and delivered lectures on arthropod diversity, insect anatomy, and scientific literacy

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Biodiversity and the Tree of Life (BIS 2C); Geoffrey Benn, supervisor

- taught course material, supervised laboratory activities

Exam Reader, Biodiversity and the Tree of Life (BIS 2C); Geoffrey Benn, supervisor

- graded midterms and final exam

Auburn University, Auburn, AL _____ Aug. 2017 – May 2018

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Biology; Matthew Kearley, supervisor

- taught course material, supervised laboratory activities, led exam review sessions

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL _____ Jan. 2015 – Dec. 2016

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Core Biology; Alison Hunter, Beatrice Fineschi, supervisors

- taught course material, supervised laboratory activities, led literature discussions

Course Teaching Assistant, Public and Private Lives of Insects; Eric Larsen, instructor

- graded coursework, held office hours, delivered guest lecture “An Introduction to Myriapoda”

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEER WORK

Bohart Museum of Entomology, Davis, CA _____ Feb. 2019 – present

Volunteer in Open House Events, including Biodiversity Museum Day and UC Davis Picnic Day

- educated visitors from across California about arthropods

Greater East Alabama Regional Science and Engineering Fair, Auburn, AL _____ Mar. 2018

Project Judge, Junior High School Division

William Howard Taft High School, Chicago, IL _____ Feb. – Oct 2016

Head Percussion Instructor and Arranger, Marching Band

- wrote percussion music, taught musical achievement, coordinated percussion program

Macomb Senior High School, Macomb, IL _____ 2011 – 2013 & 2018, Aug. – Sep.

Drumline Instructor, Marching Band

- taught musical skills and achievement, coordinated drumline rehearsals

Jumpstart Corps, Chicago, IL _____ Sep. 2012 – Jun. 2014

Corps Member

- taught preschool students twice each week, emphasizing literacy skills

South Side Free Music Program, Chicago, IL _____ Oct. 2011 – Jun. 2012

Drum Teacher

- taught music lessons to underprivileged middle school students in Chicago’s inner city