

JAMES RICCI

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Bachelor's of Science in Integrative Biology

Areas of concentration: Entomology, Vector Biology

May 13, 2012

AWARDS

Ian and Helen Moore Endowment Fund for Marine and Aquatic Entomology (U. of California- Riverside)

- For the research of invertebrates at the marine/aquatic interface.

February 8, 2013

Dean's Distinguished Fellowship (U. of California- Riverside)

- Funding toward the completion of a Master of Science degree.

April 2, 2012

First Place: 2011 Henry M. Lawicki Annual Student/Intern Competition (IMVCA)

- For presenting talk entitled "*Can Larval Rearing Temperature Alter the Outcome of Intraspecific Competition in Mosquitoes?*"

November 17, 2011

Second Place: 2010 Henry M. Lawicki Annual Student/Intern Competition (IMVCA)

- For presenting talk entitled "*The Effects of Detritus and Pesticide on the Life History Traits of the Asian Tiger Mosquito*"

November 18, 2010

LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

Bradley Jourdan White Laboratory, Entomology Department, University of California- Riverside

Graduate Student

- Husbandry and culture of *Anopheles* mosquito colonies for study of evolutionary and population genetics, utilizing Hemotek artificial membrane feeding and rearing standards in a Biosafety Level 2 quarantine facility.
- Application of MySQL, R, and Perl to statistically analyze genome data.
- Utilization of current techniques in molecular genetics, including polymerase chain reaction, DNA extraction, and quantitative trait assessment by micro-dissection.

Illinois Natural History Survey Medical Entomology Laboratory

Undergraduate Hourly Assistant

- Presented ten-minute talk entitled "*Can larval Rearing Temperature Alter the Outcome of Intraspecific Competition in Mosquitoes?*" at both the 2011 Entomological Society of America (ESA) Annual Meeting and the 2011 Illinois Mosquito and Vector Control Association (IMVCA) Annual Meeting.
- Presented ten minute talk entitled "*The Effects of Detritus and Pesticide on the Life History Traits of the Asian Tiger Mosquito*" at the 2010 Illinois Mosquito and Vector Control Association (IMVCA) Annual Meeting.
- Studied vector competency with Sindbis virus (SINV) in a Biosafety Level 2 and Arthropod Containment Level 2 laboratory using a Qiagen Biorobot, TaqMan rt-PCR, and plaque assays. Trained in the proper use of the above, as well as in the use of biosafety hoods, centrifuges, homogenizers, glove-boxes, SDS-PAGE, PCR/ gel electrophoresis, and BSL2/ACL2 safety procedures.
- Maintained and supervised mosquito colonies for use in experiments and studies.

02/2009 – 08/2012

Lifelong Brain and Cognition Laboratory at the Beckman Institute

290 Researcher

- Screened and oriented potential human test subjects.
- Administered and monitored cognitive ability testing on human subjects.
- Supervised MRI scans on human subjects.

01/2009 – 06/2009

- Analyzed and organized MRI brain scan data using FreeSurfer and UNIX software.
- Reconfigured and was administrator of laboratory website.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Club Insecta, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

Minister of Acquisitions**08/2011 – 05/2012**

- Obtained necessary supplies for undergraduate entomology club.
- Collected, organized, and maintained large and diverse live insect collection for use at departmental outreach events.

Graduate Entomology Seminar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

History of Medical Entomology (IB526)**01/2011 – 05/2011**

- Only undergraduate student in a peer-led weekly seminar focusing on the different aspects of medical entomology in peer-reviewed literature.
- Presented selected literature on yellow fever and later tick-borne diseases and led discussion for both topics.

Illinois Natural History Survey Medical Entomology Laboratory

Champaign-Urbana Encephalitis Prevention Program**05/2009 – 10/2009**

- Used integrated pest management strategies to monitor and manage mosquito populations in Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy (Champaign County, Illinois).

PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

Muturi, E. J., Allan, B. F., & Ricci, J. (2012). Influence of leaf detritus type on production and longevity of container-breeding mosquitoes. *Environmental entomology*, 41(5), 1062-1068.

“Can larval Rearing Temperature Alter the Outcome of Intraspecific Competition in Mosquitoes?”

Undergraduate Ten-Minute Paper Competition, 2011 ESA Annual Meeting, Reno, NV

November 14, 2011

“Can larval Rearing Temperature Alter the Outcome of Intraspecific Competition in Mosquitoes?”

Henry M. Lawicki Annual Student/Intern Competition, 2011 IMVCA Annual Meeting, Champaign, IL

November 17, 2011

“The Effects of Detritus and Pesticide on the Life History Traits of the Asian Tiger Mosquito”

Henry M. Lawicki Annual Student/Intern Competition, 2010 IMVCA Annual Meeting, Champaign, IL

November 18, 2010

LANGUAGES

English- native language

Spanish- speak, read, and write with sufficient competence

MEMBERSHIPS

Entomological Society of America

- Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology Section
- Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity Section