

Laura Ann Rooney

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(516) 582-5667

EDUCATION

East Tennessee State University, August 2016-Present

M.S. candidate, Anticipated graduation: May 2018

Department of Geosciences with Concentration in Paleontology

Thesis Title: "An Analysis of Postcranial Morphological Features as Indicators of Locomotor Adaptations in Extant and Extinct Crocodylians and Lepidosauurs"

Macaulay Honors College at CUNY Hunter College, 2011-2015

B.A. in Anthropology, May 2015

Senior Thesis Title: "The Plesiadapiform-Euprimate Relationship: Revisiting Bloch et al. 2007"

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Bighorn Basin Paleontological Institute, Summer field season of 2017

-Field work in Morrison and Lance formations, Wyoming and Montana, U.S.A.

Student Research Associate

-Instruct new crew members on proper field techniques

-Lead quarry excavations

-Aid in scheduling of field priorities

Bighorn Basin Dinosaur Project, Summer field season of 2013-2016

-Field work in Morrison, Lance, and Fort Union formations, Wyoming and Montana, U.S.A. (Jurassic, Late Cretaceous, and earliest Paleocene, respectively)

Field Assistant, 2015-2016

-Instructed new crew members on proper field techniques

Montana State University Paleontology Field Camp, August 2014

-Field work in Wayan Formation, Idaho, U.S.A.

MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, September 2015-January 2016

Intern

-Prepared vertebrate fossils (air scribe, surface cleaning, fossil repairs)

- Educated visitors on fossil preparation techniques, processes of excavation and fieldwork, and current preparation lab projects
- Explained methods, processes, and principals of paleontology to museum visitors including topics such as evolution, taxonomy, geology, etc.
- Organized museum collections database

New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, NJ, January 2016- June 2016

Intern

- Lead lab fossil preparation projects
- Assisted with museum's educational programming in natural history
- Coordinated the museum's annual field program, the Bighorn Basin Dinosaur Project (BBDP)
- Managed social media for NJSM and BBDP including Twitter, Facebook, and Blogger

Gray Fossil Site & Museum, Gray, TN, August 2017- Present

Volunteer

- Excavation, wet screen washing, and fossil preparation
- 3D digitization of fossil *Teleoceras* specimen
- Darwin Day and Archaeology Day public outreach

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

***Teaching Assistant*, August 2016- Present**

- Teach GEOL 1051: Earth Through Time Lab
- Cover topics including plate tectonics, invertebrate and vertebrate classification, taxonomy, osteology, and evolution
- Grade lab assignments and exams

***Lab Coordinator*, August 2017- Present**

- Instruct new teaching assistants on lab material
- Lead weekly meetings to review upcoming labs, as well as teaching and grading strategies

University Recruitment Events, November 2017

- Explained features of ETSU Geosciences program to recruit potential incoming students

Boys and Girls Club, Carbon County, MT, July 2017

- Taught introductory paleontological concepts to children (ages 6-13)

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Rooney, L. A., Samuels, J.X., 2017. Postcranial morphology and the locomotor adaptations of extant and extinct crocodylomorphs and lepidosaurs

Presented at 2017 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting, Calgary, Canada

Malinowski, B. L., **Rooney, L. A.**, Schein, J. P., Poole, J. C., A New Partial Skeleton of *Leptoceratops gracilis* from the Lance Formation of Wyoming, U.S.A.

Presented at 2016 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah

SELECTED SERVICE, FUNDING, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Treasurer, Undergraduate Anthropology Club, Hunter College, Fall 2012- Spring 2015

- Managed fund allocation

- Scheduled and lead trips to local museums and educational institutions such as the American Museum of Natural History

- Organized film screenings and meetings with guest lecturers in the field of anthropology

University Scholar (four-year merit scholarship to Macaulay Honors College)

Peter Vallone Academic Achievement Award

Dorothy Keur Memorial Scholarship for Anthropology Majors with High GPA- \$1000

Hunter College Dean's List (7 semesters)

Blood Services Scholarship- \$250

Class of 1938 Scholarship- \$2500

Tuition scholarship and graduate assistantship at ETSU

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology