

Natalie R. Hofmeister

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215 Tower Rd.
Corson Hall, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853

nrh44@cornell.edu
(913) 449-6077

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Cornell University, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Fuller Evolutionary Biology Program at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Advisor: Dr. Irby J. Lovette Committee: Dr. Kelly Zamudio, Dr. Nina Overgaard Therkildsen, Dr. Maren Vitousek	2015 – present
M.A.	Columbia University, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology Masters of Arts in Conservation Biology Program Advisor: Dr. Dustin R. Rubenstein Committee: Dr. Joel Cracraft, Dr. Brian T. Smith	2013 – 2015
B.A.	St. Olaf College, Dept. of Biology Advisor: Dr. Steven Freedberg	2009 – 2013

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Fellowships:

Treman-Williams Graduate Fellowship, Cornell Lab of Ornithology [\$19,506]	2016
Dean's Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University [\$76,525, decl.]	2015

Awards and Accolades:

Book Award — Best Presentation by a First-Year Student at the EEB Symposium, Cornell University	2015
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Grants and Scholarships:

American Association of University Women Campus Action Project Grant [\$4,800]	2016
Mario M. Einaudi Center International Research Travel Grant [\$2,000]	2016
Paul P. Feeny Graduate Student Research Fund [\$1,200]	2016
Cornell Lab of Ornithology Athena Fund [\$2,000]	2015
Hesse Research Award, American Ornithologist's Union [\$2,300]	2014
Master's Thesis Grant, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University [\$1,500]	2014
St. Olaf Scholarship [\$20,000]	2009

Travel Awards:

Society for the Study of Evolution Student Travel Award [\$500]	2016
Charlotte Mangum Student Support Award, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology [\$950]	2014, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

1. Toews, D.P.L.*, **N.R. Hofmeister***, and S.A. Taylor. The evolution and genetics of carotenoid processing in animals. *In revision*.
2. **Hofmeister, N.R.** and D.R. Rubenstein. 2016. Environmental variability and the evolution of the glucocorticoid receptor (*Nr3c1*) in African starlings. *Ecology Letters*, doi: 10.1111/ele.126566.
3. **Hofmeister, N.R.**, M. Welk, and S. Freedberg. 2013. Elevated levels of $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in Riverine Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys picta*): Trophic enrichment or anthropogenic input? *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 91(12): 899-905. doi: 10.1139/cjz-2013-0121.

*shared first authorship.

PRESENTATIONS

Hofmeister, N.R. 2016. Empowering Women in STEM via Inclusive Practice and Community Building. American Association of University Women, NY State Board Meeting. Albany, NY. (Invited talk.)

Hofmeister, N.R. and D.R. Rubenstein. 2016. Environmental fluctuations influence the evolution of the glucocorticoid receptor in African starlings. North American Ornithological Congress. Washington, DC. (Talk.)

Hofmeister, N.R. and D.R. Rubenstein. 2016. Environmental fluctuations influence the evolution of the glucocorticoid receptor in African starlings. Society for the Study of Evolution. Austin, TX. (Talk.)

Hofmeister, N.R. and D.R. Rubenstein. 2016. Environmental fluctuations influence the evolution of the glucocorticoid receptor in African starlings. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Division of Ecology and Evolution, Huey Award Competition. Portland, OR. (Talk.)

Hofmeister, N.R. 2015. Evolution of the avian glucocorticoid receptor. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Division of Comparative Endocrinology Data Blitz. West Palm Beach, FL. (Invited talk.)

Hofmeister, N.R. and D.R. Rubenstein. 2015. Environmental uncertainty and the evolution of the avian glucocorticoid receptor. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. West Palm Beach, FL. (Poster.)

Hofmeister, N.R. and S. Freedberg. 2013. Elevated levels of $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in Riverine Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys picta*): Trophic enrichment or anthropogenic input? Ecological Society of America. Minneapolis, MN. (Poster.)

Hofmeister, N.R. 2012. Waterbird Diversity and Conservation in Pulicat Lake. Department of Zoology, Madras Christian College, Chennai, India. (Invited talk.)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Writing in the Majors: Evolutionary Biology and Diversity (BIOEE 1780), Cornell University Spring 2017

I developed a small-group course for first-gen and URM students from the Biology Scholars Program that focuses on discussion and writing skills.

Vertebrates: Structure, Function, and Diversity (BIOEE 2740), Cornell University Spring 2016

I taught comparative vertebrate anatomy and diversity, prepared dissections, and wrote and graded lab practicals.

Evolutionary Biology and Diversity (BIOEE 1780), Cornell University Fall 2015

I taught weekly discussion sections in this introductory course and graded weekly assignments and exams.

Behavioral Biology of the Living Primates (EEEE W1011/3011), Columbia University Spring 2015

I graded assignments, quizzes and exams for this survey course in the behavior of non-human primates.

Environmental Biology I: Molecules to Cells (EEEE W2001), Columbia University Fall 2013

I led weekly recitations and graded assignments and exams for the introductory course for biology majors.

Vertebrate Biology (BIO 242), St. Olaf College Spring 2012

I taught skin preparation and vertebrate identification, graded field exams and quizzes, and advised students in planning final course projects. I also managed and contributed to St. Olaf's vertebrate specimen collections.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Co-President, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Graduate Student Association, Cornell University 2016 – present

I serve as the co-president of my department's graduate student association. My duties include coordinating all social events put on by the department and managing the budget for these events.

Field Representative, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University 2015 – 2016

I represent the department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at biweekly meetings of the campus-wide assembly of graduate students. This assembly works directly with university administration to address non-academic issues relevant to graduate student life.

Secretary, Campus Welfare Committee, University Assembly, Cornell University 2015 - present

I serve on a campus-wide committee to improve Cornell policy on diversity, inclusion, family support, health services, and any other related issues. This committee reviews proposed motions and policies and works with the University Assembly and university administration to address issues of campus welfare. As secretary, I compile meeting minutes.

Editor, BioMass Student Newsletter, Dept. of Biology, St. Olaf College

2011 – 2012

I solicited and compiled articles on departmental events and local natural history.

INCLUSIVE PRACTICE

Student Advisor, American Association of University Women, NYS Executive Board

2016 - present

I work with the executive board of AAUW's New York State chapter on issues related to student interest and engagement. In this advisory role, I advocate for increased connection among current university students and engaged woman academics.

Fundraising Chair, Graduate Women in Science (GWiS) Ithaca

2016 - present

I serve on the executive board of GWiS Ithaca, and I lead grant-writing efforts to develop programming in the Ithaca community. Our group seeks to promote inclusion in science, and I work with diversity offices across campus.

Certificates and Workshops:

The Practice of Inclusive Teaching in STEM, Center for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University
Graduate Course, Intergroup Dialogue Project, Cornell University (July 2016).

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Workshop Leader, Expanding Your Horizons Conference, Cornell University

2015 - present

I co-plan and co-organize a half-day workshop on ornithology and evolution for 7th-8th grade girls at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology as part of the annual EYH Conference. Our workshop focuses on current research conducted by women at the Lab of Ornithology, and seeks to provide motivation and mentorship for young women interested in science.

Teacher, College Prep, Community Impact at Columbia University, New York, NY

Spring 2014

I taught high-school equivalency science lessons for TASC (GED) students and assisted in preparing adult learners for the City University of New York's college entrance exam. I designed and graded written assignments, and updated and organized all course materials for future TASC teachers.

Organizer and Volunteer, Science Saturday Starters, Columbia University, New York, NY

2013 – 2015

I planned and carried out experiments and activities in biology for middle school students. Activities were designed to build on city-wide learning objectives.

Tutor and Mentor, TRIO Program, U.S. Dept. of Education, Minneapolis Public Schools, MN

2011 – 2012

I tutored high school students in science, reading and writing each week as part of TRIO, a program that supports first-generation college bound students.

Visiting Instructor, Public Schools, Northfield, MN

2012

I planned classroom activities and organized field trips to learn about local wildlife. I also led tours of St. Olaf's restored prairie and wetlands for preschool and elementary school groups.

FIELDWORK

Research Associate, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India

November-December 2012

I characterized frugivore behavior and visitation patterns in seed dispersal systems in the Nilgiri Hills, Western Ghats. Behavioral data from focal observations and scans were added to Dr. Soumya Prasad's ongoing surveys.

Research Associate, Madras Christian College, Chennai, India

September-October 2012

I documented waterbird diversity in heavily fished areas of rural Pulicat Lake. I reported census results and discussions with local fisherpeople to the Department of Zoology at MCC, and prepared materials for MCC graduate students to use in conservation-focused outreach in the fishing communities around Pulicat Lake.

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), St. Olaf College

June-August 2012

I trapped and processed painted turtles and map turtles in the Mississippi watershed to study stable isotope and molecular ecology of turtles. Built hoop net and sundeck traps, and prepared and ran stable isotope samples

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Women in Science (2015-present)
Society for the Study of Evolution (Student member since 2014)
American Society of Naturalists (Student member since 2014)
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (Student member since 2014)
American Ornithologist's Union (2012, 2014-present)
Cooper Ornithological Society (2015-present)
Wilson Ornithological Society (2012, 2014-present)
Ecological Society of America (2013)

REFERENCES

Dr. Irby J. Lovette, Professor, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	ijl2@cornell.edu
Dr. Dustin Rubenstein, Associate Professor, Dept. Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology, Columbia University	dr2497@columbia.edu
Dr. Joel Cracraft, Division Chair of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History	jlc@amnh.org