

DAKOTA E. MCCOY

PhD Candidate, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology

Harvard University, MCZ #410
26 Oxford St
Cambridge, MA 02138

Email: dakotamccoy@g.harvard.edu
Website: <https://reallymccoy.github.io/>
Phone: 724-766-4014

EDUCATION

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 2015 - present | Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA
NDSEG Fellow and Ashford Fellow
PhD candidate in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
Advisor: Professor David Haig |
| 2013 - 2015 | Oxford University, Oxford, UK
Rhodes Scholar
MPhil in Geography and the Environment
Advisor: Professor Cameron Hepburn |
| 2009- 2013 | Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
Kennedy T. Friend Scholar
BS in Biology |

AWARDS AND GRANTS

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL

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|--------------|---|
| 2016-present | NDSEG Graduate Fellowship (Department of Defense, Army Research Office) |
| 2013-2015 | Rhodes Scholarship |
| 2013 | Marshall Scholarship (elected) |
| 2013 | Capital One Academic All-American |
| 2013 | Sigma Xi student research award |
| 2012 | National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellow |
| 2011 | Goldwater Scholar; elected as a sophomore |

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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|--------------|--|
| 2015-present | Ashford Fellowship, awarded to 6 incoming students across all disciplines at Harvard who are highly likely to make a substantial impact. |
| 2019 | Bowdoin Prize for Graduate Essay in the Natural Sciences (\$10,000), awarded to one graduate student per year for essays of originality and high literary merit. |

	Essay title: “ <i>Cheating Darwin: Germline Parasites and the Paradox of Transplant Rejection.</i> ”
2020	Chapman Fellowship (\$2,000) for vertebrate locomotion.
2020	Regeneron Prize Harvard Nominee, one of two Harvard institutional nominees for “inventive” biomedical research proposals
2017	Harvard Integrated Life Sciences, Student Proposal Grant (\$2,000)
2016	Mind, Brain, and Behavior Graduate Student Award (\$5,229)
2015	Mind, Brain, and Behavior Conference Award

YALE UNIVERSITY

2013	Edgar J. Boell Prize, awarded annually to one senior for excellence in biology.
2013	Branford Fellows Prize, awarded to one graduating senior for academic excellence.
2013	Kipthuth Student-Athlete Distinction Award, awarded to the female varsity athlete who ranks highest in scholarship.
2012	Francis Gordon Brown Prize. Top prize for Yale juniors; awarded to one junior for “intellectual distinction, leadership, high personhood, & service to the University.”
2012	Yale Creative and Performing Arts Award; wrote, designed, letter-pressed, and hand-made a book entitled <i>A Dozen Birds</i> (about biology and mythology).
2012	Richter Fellowship, to study primate cognition at the Caribbean Primate Research Center.
2012	Dean’s Research Fellowship, to study primate cognition at the Caribbean Primate Research Center.
2011	Yale Writing Center Essay Contest winner, awarded for the essay and research proposal “Do Octopuses Think Like Vertebrates?”
2011	Environmental Summer Fellowship, to study conservation & ecosystem management.
2010-2011	Von Damm Fellowship, to study paleontology & morphology at the Yale Peabody Museum.
2009-2013	Kennedy T. Friend Scholarship, for Allegheny County Residents who attend Yale

PUBLICATIONS

SUMMARY: I have published 10 peer-reviewed articles and 2 book chapters, 10 as first author, in journals including *Nature Communications*, *Current Biology*, and *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*. My areas of study include biological optics, evolutionary conflict, and signaling. My work has been cited in the scientific literature 215 times to date (see [Google Scholar](#)) and received media coverage in the [New York Times](#), [Scientific American](#), [National Geographic](#), [The Atlantic](#), [Science News](#), and more (see Media Coverage section below for more details).

12. **McCoy, D. E.** and Haig, D. (2020). Embryo selection and mate choice: can ‘honest signals’ be trusted? *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, 35(4), 308-318. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]

11. **McCoy, D.E.** & Prum, R.O. (2019). Convergent evolution of super black plumage near bright color in 15 bird families. *Journal of Experimental Biology*, 222(18), jeb208140. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
 - Cover image (right top)

10. Miller, R., Frohnwieser, A., Schiestl, M., **McCoy, D. E.**, Gray, R. D., Taylor, A. H., & Clayton, N. S. (2019). Delayed gratification in New Caledonian crows and young children: influence of reward type and visibility. *Animal cognition*, 23(1), 71-85. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]

9. **McCoy, D. E.**, Schiestl, M., Neilands, P., Hassall, R., Gray, R. D., & Taylor, A. H. (2019). New Caledonian Crows Behave Optimistically after Using Tools. *Current Biology*, 29(16), 2737-2742. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]

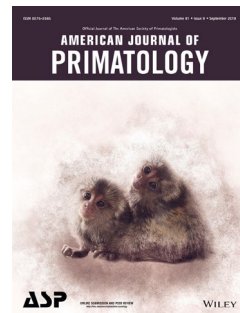
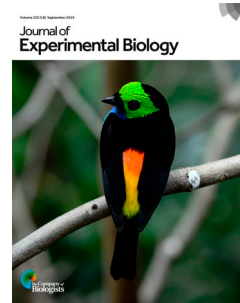
8. **McCoy, D. E.***, Frye, B. M.*, Kotler, J., Burkart, J. M., Burns, M., Embury, A., ... & Goya, A. L. (2019). A comparative study of litter size and sex composition in a large dataset of callitrichine monkeys. *American journal of primatology*, e23038. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
 - Cover image (right middle)

7. **McCoy, D. E.**, McCoy, V. E., Mandsberg, N. K., Shneidman, A. V., Aizenberg, J., Prum, R. O., & Haig, D. (2019). Structurally assisted super black in colourful peacock spiders. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, 286(1902), 20190589. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
 - Cover image (right bottom)

6. **McCoy, D. E.***, Feo, T.*, Harvey, T. A., & Prum, R. O. (2018). Structural absorption by barbule microstructures of super black bird of paradise feathers. *Nature communications*, 9(1), 1. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]; * co-first authors

5. **McCoy, D.E.** (2018) Evolutionary Change. In: Shackelford T., Weekes-Shackelford V. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*, Pp. 1–16. Cham: Springer International Publishing. Springer, Cham. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]

4. **McCoy, D.E.** (2018) Game Theory as a Foundation of Evolutionary Psychology. In: Shackelford T., Weekes-Shackelford V. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. Pp. 1–17. Cham: Springer International Publishing Springer, Cham. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]



3. Petelle, M. R., **McCoy D.E.**, Alejandro, V.A., and Blumstein, D.T. (2013) Development of boldness and docility in yellow-bellied marmots. *Animal Behaviour* 86: 1147-1154. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
2. **McCoy, D.E.** (2012) Connecticut birds and climate change: Bergmann's rule in the fourth dimension. *The Northeastern Naturalist* 19(2):323–334. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
1. **McCoy, D. E.** and Norris, C.A. (2012) The Cranial Anatomy of the Miocene Notoungulate Hegetotherium mirabile (Notoungulata, Hegetotheriidae) with Preliminary Observations on Diet and Method of Feeding. *Bulletin of the Peabody Museum of Natural History* 53(2):355-374. [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

2. **McCoy, D.E.**, Shultz, A.J., Vidoudez, C., van der Heide, E., Trauger, S.A., & Haig, D.A (in revision for *Nature Communications*). Microstructures amplify carotenoid plumage signals in colorful tanagers [[LINK](#)]; [[PDF version](#)]
1. **McCoy, D.E.**, Ågren, J.A., Kotler, J. and Weir, B. (in review at *Evolutionary Applications*). Evolutionary conflict explains health problems during pregnancy

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

- 2020 “Sensory perception across species: evolution and machine learning.” Google Brain Research Team meeting. July 31, 2020. Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 “Super Black in Animals.” The 28th First Annual IgNobel Prize Ceremony & Lectures; 24/7 Speech. Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 “Structural Color in Birds.” Guest lecture, Harvard course on Ornithology. 2018. Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 “Color, Feathers, and the Evolution of Beauty.” Harvard Museum of Natural History, Adult Class on Bird Coloration. Cambridge, MA.
- 2017 “Huddling: Conflict and Thermogenesis.” Guest lecture: Harvard Course on Vertebrate Viviparity. Cambridge, MA.
- 2016 Leadership Forum: Careers, Life, and Yale. New Haven, CT.
- 2016 “The Value of Museum Collections.” Verrill Medal Symposium 2016, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. New Haven, CT.

- 2016 “Conflict in Evolution: Thermoregulation to sexual selection.” University of Zurich Afternoon Seminars. Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2016 “Super Black” . Harvard Mind, Brain, and Behavior Open Science Conference. April 21, 2016. Cambridge, MA.
- 2014 “Connecticut Birds and Climate Change: Bergmann’s Rule in the Fourth Dimension.” St. Hilda’s College Greenfeast Environmental Festival. Oxford, UK.
- 2013 Leadership Forum: Yale National University of Singapore Launch. One of four panelists speaking to the inaugural class of the Yale National University of Singapore. New Haven, CT.
- 2012 Yale Peabody Museum Leadership Council Presentation. New Haven, CT.
- Invited to present to assembled financial sponsors, curators, professors, and the board of directors of the Yale Peabody Museum.

CONFERENCES AND RESEARCH TALKS

- 2019 **McCoy, D.E.**, Shultz, A.J., Vidoudez, C., van der Heide, E., Trauger, S.A., & Haig, D.A. (2019). “The Corruption of Honest Signals: Mate Choice in Red Birds, Pregnancy, & the SAT” Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting. January 3-7, 2019. Tampa, FL.
- Finalist: Huey Award for best student paper (Division of Ecology and Evolution)
- 2019 **McCoy, D. E.**, McCoy, V. E., Mandsberg, N. K., Shneidman, A. V., Aizenberg, J., Prum, R. O., & Haig, D. (2019) “Structurally assisted super black in colorful peacock spiders” (Poster). Evolution Meeting. June 21-25, 2019. Providence, RI.
- 2019 **McCoy, D.E.**, Shultz, A.J., Vidoudez, C., van der Heide, E., Trauger, S.A., & Haig, D.A. (2019). “Microstructure matters: amplifiers of carotenoid signals in Tanagers.” Fourth Annual Boston Area Bird Meeting. January 24, 2019. Cambridge, MA.
- 2017 **McCoy, D.E.**, Shultz, A.J., Vidoudez, C., van der Heide, E., Trauger, S.A., & Haig, D.A. (2017). “Red velvet and neon yellow: vivid color from pigment and structure in the *Ramphocelus* tanagers.” The 135th Meeting of American Ornithology. July 31-August 5, 2017. East Lansing, MI.
- 2016 **McCoy, D.E.** and Prum., R.O.(2016). “Super black feathers: structure, perception, and a proposed sensory bias.” Conference on Comparative Cognition. April 13-16, 2016. Melbourne, FL.

- 2013 **McCoy, D.E.** (2012). “Biogeography of Sociality in Terrestrial Vertebrates”. Yale Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Senior Research Symposium
- 2012 **McCoy, D.E.** (2012). “Theory of Mind in Rhesus Macaques” Caribbean Cayo Santiago Primate Research Center
- 2012 **McCoy, D.E.** (2012). “A Drumlin Marmot: Behavioral Syndromes in the Yellow-Bellied Marmot” Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Symposium, Gothic, CO.
- 2011 **McCoy, D.E.** and Norris, C. (2011). “Was Hegetotherium a ‘Mammalian Woodpecker?’” Yale Engineering & Science Weekend (presentations to newly admitted science students)

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Harvard Law School

- Spring 2020 Climate Solutions Living Lab (Professor Wendy Jacobs)
- Served as one of three Teaching Fellows , focusing on climate change and biochemical processes. Enrollees included business students, law students, policy students, and public health students.

Harvard University (Faculty of Arts and Sciences)

- Spring 2020 GenEd 1084: The First Nine Months (Professor David Haig)
- Head Teaching Fellow, managed team of 6 Teaching Fellows
 - Designed and led section discussions
- Fall 2017 OEB 101: Biology of Mammals (Professor Jonathan Losos)
- Teaching Fellow; led Lab section; helped write exams
- Spring 2017 OEB 114: Vertebrate Viviparity (Professor David Haig)
- Teaching Fellow; led section; wrote exam

Harvard University January-Term

- January 2016 How to Make A Book: From the Evolution of Writing to Movable Type
- Designed and taught a 3-week course

University of Oxford, Said Business School

- Spring 2015 Corporate Environmental Management (Professors Alex Money and Gordon Clark)
- Teaching Fellow; led section; guest lectured

University of Oxford, Centre for the Environment

- Fall 2014 Corporate Environmental Management (Professor Gordon Clark)
- Teaching Fellow; led section

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2016-present **Harvard Resident Advisor (Adams House Tutor)**
Live-in social and academic advisor for sophomores through seniors.
- Direct academic adviser for 6 sophomores per year
 - Mentor Harvard undergraduates as they apply for science PhDs, post-graduate fellowships, jobs, and more.
 - Provide social programming and welfare support to an entryway community of 30 undergraduate students each year
- 2020 **NSF REU Advisor, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology (Harvard University)**
Furkan Atahan, undergraduate: City trees across the USA: native species, biodiversity, and equity
- Project in preparation for publication
- 2020 **FDR Foundation Summer Research Advisor (for students of highest financial need; Harvard University)**
Hana Kiros, undergraduate : City trees across the USA: native species, biodiversity, and equity
- Project in preparation for publication
- 2020 **Environmental Policy Summer Research (Harvard University)**
Wooddynne Dejeanlouis, undergraduate: Anaerobic digestion: waste-to-energy as a backstop for intermittent renewables.
- Project in preparation for publication
- 2019-2020 **Senior Thesis Adviser, Integrative Biology (Harvard University)**
Justina Hewitt, undergraduate: Thermoregulation and Sociality in Ground Squirrels.
- Justina received a Harvard Teacher Fellowship to teach Biology
- 2017-2018 **Term-time Research Advisor, Integrative Biology (Harvard University)**
Emma van der Heide, undergraduate: Microstructures amplify carotenoid plumage signals in colorful tanagers
- Paper under review at *Nature Communications*
- 2012-2013 **Freshman Counselor Program, Yale University.**
Mentor and Residential Advisor for 16 first-year undergraduates from diverse backgrounds (mental health, academics, etc).

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

ACADEMIC SERVICE: INTERNATIONAL

Rhodes Scholarship China Preselection Committee (2017-present)

Interview 6-10 candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship from China, submit to the National Committee ratings and reviews

Reviewer (2013-present)

Current Biology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B., Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, Journal of Animal Ecology, Current Zoology, Journal of Vertebrate Biology

Evolution Community Resources for Early Career Researchers; Policy Panel (2020)

Volunteer Code of Conduct Monitor

ACADEMIC SERVICE: UNIVERSITY

Fellowships Adviser for Undergraduates (2016-present)

Mentor, mock interview, and write letters for students applying for post-graduate fellowships. Of my ~80 advisees to date, more than 35 have won high-profile fellowships and prizes, including 2 Rhodes Scholarships, 1 Marshall Scholarship, 4 Fulbright Awards, a Churchill Scholarship, and a Schwarzman Scholarship.

Oxford University Course Policy Committees (2013-15)

Student representative on Joint Consultative Committee (Environmental Policy course matters), Postgraduate Research Course Forum (all postgraduate research courses MSc Committee (all Environmental masters courses), Postgraduate Taught Course Forum (all taught masters courses at University).

Rhodes Service and Leadership Committee: Student Representative (2013-14)

Design and structure programming to encourage and foster service and leadership in all different forms among the Rhodes community. Spoke to assembled benefactors reporting on progress.

Yale College Task Force on Alcohol and Other Drugs (2013)

One of five undergraduate members. Submitted final report to Dean Mary Miller and presented findings to the Council of Trustees.

POLICY ACTIVITIES

2020

CovidLoanTracker for Small Business Loans

Volunteer Data Scientist

www.covidloantracker.com/

Crowd-sourced effort to track the disbursement of government loans to small businesses during the covid19 crisis

- Data visualization, data analysis, and website design.
- Received survey replies from >30,000 small businesses, received news coverage in [CNN](#), [NBC Miami](#), [Business Insider](#), [Forbes](#), the [LA Times](#), and more.

2016-present **Harvard GSAS Environmental Action Team¹**

Co-founder and President 2016-2019, Executive Board 2020.

<https://www.facebook.com/HarvardGrEAT>

<https://actioncoalition.fas.harvard.edu/>

Graduate students for environmental justice. Averaging three focal topics per semester, we encourage graduate students to use their research skills for good and become engaged citizens. For example, we:

- Wrote and submitted multiple public comments to Regulations.gov on oil and gas leasing, the preservation of wild lands, and more. Partnered with the Harvard Law School Emmett Environmental Policy Clinic
- Hosted multiple letter-writing, text-banking, and phone-banking advocacy sessions
- Wrote the [Harvard Against Solitary Confinement](#) petition (over 400 signatures) and submitted it to legislators; prompted Representative Denise Provost to submit a proposed amendment about solitary confinement programming to the Massachusetts omnibus criminal justice bill

2018 **Harvard Votes Challenge**

Co-chair, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

- Nonpartisan initiative to get out the vote at Harvard

WHITE PAPERS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cattaneo, L, **McCoy, D.E.**, Matchett, J., Pollack, E., and Saltzman, V.. (2020). *Waste-to Energy and Community Resiliency: Quapaw Nation, OK*. Harvard Law School; Climate Solutions Living Lab. Available at <http://clinics.law.harvard.edu/environment/files/2019/05/Team-2-Quapaw-Imp.Plan-FS-FINAL-reduced-size.pdf>

McCoy, D.E., Meeks, A., Clark, A., Gersony, J., Edelman, N. and Goulet, B. (2017) *Public comment on the Department of the Interior (DOI) Notice: Review of Certain National Monuments Established Since 1996*. Available at <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=DOI-2017-0002-780036>

Goulet, B., Wilkin, H., Lai, P., Gersony, J., Treiber, K., **McCoy, D.E.**, and Edwards, M. (2017). *Public comment on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Notice: Environmental Impact Statements; Availability, etc.: 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program*. Available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=BOEM-2017-0074-21028>

McCoy, D.E., Meeks, A., and Ross, A. (2017). *Public comment on the U.S. Department of State (DOS) Notice: Environmental Impact Statements; Availability, etc.: Proposed Enbridge*

¹ Formerly named the GSAS Action Coalition.

Energy, Limited Partnership Line 67 Expansion Project. Available at
<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=DOS-2017-0009-0305>

POPULAR PRESS ARTICLES

Mastroianni, A. and **McCoy, D.E.** (May 17, 2018) “Countries with Less Gender Equity Have More Women in STEM--Huh?” *Scientific American*. Available at:
<https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/voices/countries-with-less-gender-equity-have-more-women-in-stem-huh/>

McCoy, D.E. (January 9, 2018). Super-black feathers can absorb virtually every photon of light that hits them. *The Conversation*. Available at: <http://theconversation.com/super-black-feathers-can-absorb-virtually-every-photon-of-light-that-hits-them-89689>

Edelman, N.B., Goulet, B., and **McCoy, D.E.** (October 27, 2017) Ecologically Critical National Monument Lands are Under Attack. *Harvard Crimson*. Available at:
<https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2017/10/27/ecologically-critical-under-attack/>

Hollingsworth, L.R., Veeraraghavan, P., Wu, K.J., **McCoy, D.E.**, Van Dervort, A., and Gunther K.E. (December 1, 2017). Letter: Speak out against tuition waiver taxes. *Science*. Available at: <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/358/6369/1395.1>

Kolb, R. and **McCoy, D.E.** (August 3, 2017) “Gene-editing tool raises questions about what is ‘disease’.” *San Francisco Chronicle*. Available at:
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Gene-editing-tool-raises-questions-about-what-is-11732894.php>

McCoy, D.E. (June 2, 2017). Pittsburgh isn't the city you think it is, Mr. President. *PennLive*. Available at:
https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/06/pittsburgh_isnt_the_city_you_t.html

McCoy, D.E. (February 17, 2017). Climate & business: Letter to the Editor. *Pittsburgh Tribune Review (TribLive.com)*. Available at: <http://triblive.com/opinion/letters/11939678-74/climate-business-coal>

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH

2020-2021 BBC Documentary TV Show: “World’s Cleverest Animals”. Interview anticipated Fall 2020, to air the following year.

2018 Boston Museum of Fine Art: Art-Science Collaboration. Jason Chase developed three pieces of art using Singularity Black, a super black structural paint developed by NanoLab. Boston, MA. Viewable at
<https://www.jasonchase.com/singularity-black-art>

- 2018 “Love is a Battlefield.” Veritalk Podcast Interview, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Cambridge, MA. Available at <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/256-veritalk-43086282/episode/plumage-episode-1-love-is-a-44831286/>
- 2018 “Super Black.” Presentation with Harvard Project Teach, Harvard Museum of Natural History. Cambridge, MA.
- 2018 Science in the News Public Presentation: “Super Black Birds and Spiders: Conflict in Evolution.” Cambridge, MA. Available at <http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/seminars/2018/may-2-super-black-birds-spiders-snakes/>
- 2017 Host, Op-Ed Writing Workshop for Scientists. Designed and led workshop for graduate students with science writer Madeline Drexler, supported by Harvard Integrated Life Sciences. Cambridge, MA
- 2017-2019 Ashford Fellowship Coordinating Intern. Organize social events for Ashford fellows at Harvard. Cambridge, MA. present
- 2014-2015 Paid Science Blogger at passle.net, focusing on the environment, animal cognition, and evolution. Oxford, UK.
- More than 11,000 post views and 2,400 shares
- 2009-2013 Peabody Museum Public Outreach Programs.
Annually recurring events, e.g., Meet the Scientist Dino Days (hands-on demonstrator), Paleo-Knowledge Bowl (judge & question writer).

OTHER

MEDIA COVERAGE

Super Black Birds

- **New York Times**; Ultra-Black Is the New Black
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/11/science/black-fashion-physics-animals.html>
- **Scientific American**: Back to Black: How Birds-of-Paradise Get Their Midnight Feathers <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/back-to-black-how-birds-of-paradise-get-their-midnight-feathers/>
- **Audubon**: Birds-of-Paradise Have Feathers That Act Like Black Holes
<https://www.audubon.org/news/birds-paradise-have-feathers-act-black-holes>

- **The Atlantic:** Super-Black is the New Black
<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/01/super-black-is-the-new-black/549869/>
- **Science:** ‘Superblack’ bird of paradise feathers absorb 99.95% of light
<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/01/superblack-bird-paradise-feathers-absorb-9995-light>
- **Wired:** The World’s Most Metal Bird Makes Darkness Out of Chaos
<https://www.wired.com/story/the-worlds-most-metal-bird-makes-darkness-out-of-chaos/>
- **Gizmodo:** These Birds Evolved Feathers So Dark, They’re Like A ‘Black Hole’
<https://gizmodo.com/these-birds-evolved-feathers-so-dark-they-re-like-a-b-1821906446>
- **Inside Science:** BRIEF: For Birds of Paradise, Super-Black Feathers Make Bright Spots Shine
<https://www.insidescience.org/news/brief-birds-paradise-super-black-feathers-make-bright-spots-shine>
- **Smithsonian:** Scientists Shine New Light on the Blackest Black Feathers
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/scientists-shine-new-light-birds-super-black-feathers-180967796/>

Super Black Peacock Spiders

- **Science News:** Peacock spiders’ superblack spots reflect just 0.5 percent of light
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/peacock-spiders-superblack-spots-reflect-just-05-percent-light>
- **National Geographic:** How peacock spiders use optical illusions to woo females
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2019/05/peacock-spiders-black-females-courtship/>
- **Harvard Gazette:** Researchers eye flashy coats of peacock spiders in pursuit of new solar products.
<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2019/07/researchers-eye-flashy-coats-of-peacock-spiders-in-pursuit-of-new-solar-products/>
- **Smithsonian Mag:** A Nanoscale Light Trick Is the Key to Peacock Spiders’ Super-Black Spots
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/peacock-spiders-use-nanotech-produce-their-superblack-spots-180972200/>

New Caledonian Crows

- **Sci-News:** New Caledonian Crows Enjoy Using Tools, Study Finds
<http://www.sci-news.com/biology/new-caledonian-crows-enjoy-using-tools-07529.html>
- **Inside Science:** Using Tools Puts Crows in a Good Mood
<https://www.insidescience.org/news/using-tools-puts-crows-good-mood>
- **ABC News:** Crows really enjoy using tools, researchers find
<https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/crows-enjoy-tools-researchers-find/story?id=64739159>
- **BBC:** Crows could be the smartest animal other than primates

- <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20191211-crows-could-be-the-smartest-animal-other-than-primates>
- **Natural History Magazine:** Animal Optimism
<https://www.naturalhistorymag.com/samplings/263719/animal-optimism>
 - **Harvard Magazine:** Crows Know How to Have Fun
<https://www.harvardmagazine.com/2019/08/crows-know-how-to-have-fun>
 - **Phys.org:** After using tools, crows behave more optimistically, study suggests
<https://phys.org/news/2019-08-tools-crows-optimistically.html>
 - **Harvard Gazette:** At Home with Harvard: The Secret Lives of Animals
<https://harvardmagazine.com/2020/05/at-home-with-harvard-the-secret-lives-of-animals>

Deceptive Tanagers

- **The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology:** The Devil Wears Prada: Birds have Designer Cheats to Make The Bland Look Beautiful
<https://sicb.burkclients.com/students/2019/hensley.php>

INTERESTS

- Music: 9 years of a cappella singing, including 3 CDs and international tours (current group: [VoiceLab](#). Past groups: [The New Blue](#), [Whim 'n Rhythm](#))
- Running and Sports: Yale Varsity Track & Field, top ten all-time at Yale in javelin throw and 60m hurdles, varsity starter in 400m hurdles, 100m hurdles, 4x400m relay; Capital One Academic All-American Division I women's track and field: second team (2013). Capital One First Team Academic All-District I Women's Track & Field team (2011, 2013).
- Egyptian hieroglyphics
- Bookbinding (affiliated with the Bow & Arrow Press)

OTHER RELEVANT WORK / INTERNSHIPS

- 2015-2017 **ZLR Valeon Tutor.** Online.
Mentor talented Chinese students as they consider graduate programs in Environmental Studies and Biology in the USA.
- 2014-2015 **Research Assistant, Corporate Environmental Management.** Oxford, UK.
Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, Oxford University, with Professor Gordon Clark, Director of Smith School.
- 2014-2015 **Research Assistant, Environmental Policy.** Oxford, UK.
Blavatnik School of Public Policy, Oxford University, with Dr. Thomas Hale, Postdoctoral student.
- 2014-2015 **Paid Science Blogger: Passle.com.** Oxford, UK
Hired by Passle to write pieces about animal cognition, evolution, and ecology using their new blogging platform.

2009-2013: **Curatorial Assistant at Peabody Museum of Natural History, Vertebrate Paleontology.** New Haven, CT.

Supervised by Dr. Chris Norris. Tasks include reorganizing the South American Mammal Collection based on modern phylogenetic analysis, performing background research for outside researchers, and writing and designing exhibit placards.

Summer 2010 **Internship at the National Aviary,** Pittsburgh, PA

Conservation, outreach, behavior, natural history, & training.

RAP MUSIC DISCOGRAPHY

2012 Uncredited appearance as backup dancer in music video by Puerto Rican reggaeton artist Audi. La Perla, Puerto Rico.