

**Douglas A. Stephan**  
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## EDUCATION

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### **University of Connecticut, Storrs CT**

M.S. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (Parasitology)

December 2023

### **University of Connecticut, Storrs CT**

B.S. Biological Sciences (Minor: Physiology & Neurobiology)

May 2017

### **Relevant Coursework:**

Animal Behavior, Basic Immunology, Big Data Science for Biologists, Biology of Synaptic Transmission, Biology of the Brain, Calculus, Comparative Endocrinology, Current Topics in Conservation Biology, Data Visualization, Electron Microscopy, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Enhanced Human Physiology and Anatomy, Evolution, Genetics, General Chemistry, General Ecology, Host-Parasite Coevolution, Introduction to Physical Geography, Invertebrate Zoology, Mammalian Endocrinology, Medical Parasitology, Natural History Collections, Principles of Biology, Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology, Population Genetics, Seminar in Parasitology

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### **M.S. Research**

January 2019 – December 2023

### **Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut**

Lab of Dr. Janine Caira

The Cestode Family Serendipeidae from Cownose Rays Globally: Past, Present, and Future

### **Volunteer Research Technician**

May 2017 – January 2019

### **Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut**

Lab of Dr. Janine Caira

Conducted further independent research on tapeworms parasitizing *R. peli* and *R. marginata*. Discovered three additional new species of tapeworms, which also appear to belong to *Duplicibothrium*. Current efforts are focused on preparing a manuscript describing all four new *Duplicibothrium* species, which will more than double the current size of the genus.

### **Undergraduate Research**

January 2017 – May 2017

### **Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut**

Lab of Dr. Janine Caira

Conducted independent research focused on the description of a novel tapeworm species found parasitizing two species of *Rhinoptera* (cownose rays) from Senegal. Using morphological and molecular methods, the species was determined to belong in the genus *Duplicibothrium*, which includes three described species that all parasitize other species of *Rhinoptera*.

Skills: Preparing whole mounts of specimens, scanning electron microscopy, light microscopy, morphometric measurements, preliminary sequence editing

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- 2022      **Stephan, D.** and J.N. Caira. 2022. Three new species of *Duplicibothrium* (Cestoda: "Tetracanthocephala") from cownose rays in Senegal with a phylogenetic analysis of the genus. *Journal of Helminthology* 96: e8.
- 2023      **Stephan, D.**, V.M. Bueno and J.N. Caira. 2023. Novelty and phylogenetic relationships within the Serendipidae (Cestoda: "Tetracanthocephala"). *Journal of Parasitology* 109: 423–435.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2019      **Stephan, D.A.** and J.N. Caira. Rewards from scouring the world for cownose ray tapeworms. Regional meeting, New England Association of Parasitologists, Yale University, CT.
- 2019      **Stephan, D.A.** and J.N. Caira. If not cophylogeny, then what? National meeting, American Society of Parasitologists, Rochester, MN.
- 2018      **Stephan, D.A.** and J.N. Caira. Double Trouble in Cownose Rays in Senegal. National meeting American Society of Parasitologists, Cancun, Mexico.
- 2017      **Stephan, D.A.** Exploring Multiple Sclerosis: Hope for the future through advancements in clinical trials and improved understanding of genetic and environmental factors. Research Literature in Molecular & Cell Biology: Genomics. University of Connecticut, CT.

## FIELD EXPERIENCE

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- 2019      Star Island Marina Shark Tournament, Montauk, NY.
- 2017      North Atlantic Monster Shark Tournament, New Bedford, MA.

## GRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Spring 2021	Biology 1108 (Principles of Biology II)	University of Connecticut
Fall 2020	Biology 1108 (Principles of Biology II)	University of Connecticut
Spring 2020	Biology 1108 (Principles of Biology II)	University of Connecticut
Fall 2019	Biology 1108 (Principles of Biology II)	University of Connecticut
Spring 2019	Biology 1108 (Principles of Biology II)	University of Connecticut

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- February 2024 – Present      **Research Associate**  
Leidos, Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory, Groton, CT
- Prepare biological samples for further analysis
  - Perform biochemical assays pertinent to research objectives
  - Assist in identifying and procuring necessary laboratory equipment
  - Conduct literature research to support research proposal writing
  - Assist in participant recruitment and organize study appointment scheduling

January 2022 – August 2023

**Molecular Technologist**

Genesys Diagnostics, New London, CT

- Perform various clinical molecular assays in a timely manner
- Analyze results of assays and confer with supervisors when necessary
- Train new employees in various laboratory procedures
- Research genes of clinical significance for the development of new genetic testing panels

October 2015 – January 2019 (Winters)

**Snow Tubing and Lift Operator Supervisor**

Powder Ridge Mountain Park and Resort, Middlefield, CT

- Manage a daily staff of up to 30 employees
- Open and close lifts daily in a timely and safe manner
- Deliver exceptional customer service by maintaining snow tubing and mountain area
- Coordinate breaks and daily stations for employees
- Assist with basic lift maintenance

June 2013 – January 2019 (Summers)

**Manager on Duty/Belaying Supervisor**

Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park, Portland, CT

- Manage a daily staff of up to 60 employees
- Train new employees
- Ensure safety protocols are followed
- Perform general maintenance of park equipment
- Provide excellent customer service, including addressing and rectifying customer issues or complaints
- Communicate effectively with other park departments to ensure smooth daily operation and resolve park operation issues

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

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| 2020 | Excellence in Teaching commendation. University of Connecticut  |
| 2019 | Outstanding Student Paper Award. Regional meeting, New England Association of Parasitologists, Yale University, CT. |
| 2019 | Excellence in Teaching commendation. University of Connecticut  |

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Society of Parasitologists (2017 – 2022)