

**Douglas A. Stephan**  
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## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Connecticut**

Major: Biological Sciences

Minor: Physiology and Neurobiology

**Relevant Coursework:** General Chemistry, Genetics, Calculus, Principles of Biology, Enhanced Human Physiology and Anatomy, General Ecology, Introduction to Physical Geography, Invertebrate Zoology, Comparative Endocrinology, Basic Immunology, Biology of Synaptic Transmission, Animal Behavior, Medical Parasitology, Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology, Biology of the Brain, Emerging Infectious Diseases, Mammalian Endocrinology

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **Undergraduate Researcher**

**Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut** January 2017 – May 2017

#### **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

### **Volunteer Research Technician**

**Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut** May 2017 – Present

#### **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.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **Manager on Duty/Belaying Supervisor**

**Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park, Portland, CT**

June 2013 – Present  
(Summers)

- 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

**Snow Tubing and Lift Operator Supervisor  
Powder Ridge Mountain Park and Resort, Middlefield, CT**

October 2015 - Present  
(Winters)

**In addition to above listed responsibilities:**

- 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

**PRESENTATIONS**

Stephan, D.A. and J.N. Caira. Double Trouble in Cownose Rays in Senegal. National meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists, Cancun, Mexico. June 24, 2018.

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, March 8, 2017.

- Presented information pertaining to the relationship among genetics, smoking, and the risk of developing multiple sclerosis at annual seminar provided to more than 100 attendees including MS patients, UConn professors, and students.

**PROFFESIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

**American Society of Parasitology**

2017 – Present