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EDUCATION

In progress **Duke University**, PhD, Biology
Dissertation Topic: Echinoderm vision, ecology, and behavior
Advisor: Dr. Sönke Johnsen
2016 **UCLA**, MS, Biology
Master's Thesis: *A Comparative Study of Sea Urchin Visual Ecology*
Advisor: Dr. Malcolm Gordon
2009 **UCLA**, BS, Marine Biology

PUBLICATIONS

Notar, JC, Meja, B, and Johnsen, S (in review). A Living Shag Rug: Sea Urchin Spine Density Differences in the Context of Phylogeny and Ecology. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*.
Gordon, MS and **Notar, JC** (2015). Can Systems Biology Separate Evolutionary Analogies (Convergent Homoplasies) From Homologies? *Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology*. 117 (2015), 19-29. doi: 10.1016/j.pbiomolbio.2015.01.005
Notar, JC and Gessow, J (2009). Ecology of an intertidal leech: expanding the range of *Malmiana buthi*. Abstracts of the Annual Meeting of the Southern California Academy of Sciences. *Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences*. 108(2), 112. doi: 10.3160/0038-3872-108.2.70

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS (SELECTED)

2021 **Jo Rae Wright Fellowship for Outstanding Women in Science** (\$5,000), The Graduate School, Duke University
2021 **International Dissertation Research Travel Award** (\$3,000), The Graduate School, Duke University
2021 **Grant-in-Aid** (\$1,000), Biology Department, Duke University
2020 **Grant-in-Aid** (\$1,000), Biology Department, Duke University
2019 **Lerner-Gray Grant for Marine Research** (\$3,106), Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History
2019 **Grant-in-Aid** (\$1,000), Biology Department, Duke University
2018 **Graduate Student Training Enhancement Grant** (\$3,332), Office of the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies, Duke University
2018 **Grant-in-Aid of Research** (\$700), Sigma Xi Society
2017-21 **NDSEG Fellowship** (\$153,000), Air Force Office of Scientific Research, US Department of Defense
2017 **Robert L. Fernald Endowed Fellowship** (\$3,500), Friday Harbor Laboratories,

University of Washington
2015 **Research/Travel Award** (\$2,000), Department of Ecology and Evolutionary
Biology, UCLA

HONORS AND AWARDS

2021 **Honorable Mention, Mary Price Award for Best Student Presentation**
Division of Invertebrate Zoology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
Annual Virtual Meeting

2020 **2nd Place Lightning Talk**
Duke VisionFest 2020, Duke University

2019 **Dean's Award for Inclusive Excellence in Graduate Education**, as a member of
the Biology Department's **Graduate Student IDEA Committee**, on behalf of the
Ph.D. Program in Biology
The Graduate School, Duke University

2016 **1st Place Graduate Student poster**
19th Annual Biology Research Symposium, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary
Biology, UCLA

2015 **Schechtman Teaching Award** for Outstanding Merit in Instruction
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

RESEARCH POSITIONS

2015 **Graduate Student Researcher**
Gordon Laboratory, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

2014 **Research Assistant**
Gordon Laboratory, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

2010-13 **Whale Photo ID Intern and Volunteer Researcher**
Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA

2010 **Research Assistant**
Shipe Laboratory, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

FIRST-AUTHOR PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

(* = POSTER)

2022 *Training Animals Without Brains: Brittle Stars Exhibit Associative Learning*
Notar, JC, Go, M, and Johnsen, S
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Virtual Meeting

2021 *A Living Shag Rug: Sea Urchin Spine Density Differs by Habitat and has Consequences for Vision*
Notar, JC, Meja, B, and Johnsen, S
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Virtual Meeting
*Honorable Mention, Mary Price Award for Best Student Presentation, Division of Invertebrate
Zoology*

2020 *Trends in Spatial Acuity Across the Sea Urchins**
Notar, JC and Johnsen, S
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Austin, TX

- 2020 *Sea Urchins: Sight Without Eyes*
Notar, JC
 Duke VisionFest 2020, Duke University, Durham, NC
Second place, Lightning Talk Competition
- 2019 *Sea Urchin Vision in Featureless vs. Spatially Complex Environments*
Notar, JC and Johnsen, S
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL
- 2018 *Seeing without eyes: Exploring the visual ecology of sea urchins*
Notar, JC
 Invited seminar, Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience, University of Florida, St. Augustine, FL
- 2018 *Do (Eyeless) Sea Urchins have Color Vision?*
Notar, JC and Johnsen, S
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 *Future Directions in the Whole Body Eye of Sea Urchins: Effects of Phylogeny, Light Intensity, and Spine Density*
Notar, JC and Gordon, MS
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 2016 *A Comparative Study of Sea Urchin Visual Ecology**
Notar, JC and Gordon, MS
 19th Annual Biology Research Symposium, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA
1st Place, Graduate Student Poster
- 2016 *A Comparative Study of Sea Urchin Visual Ecology**
Notar, JC and Gordon, MS
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Portland, OR

CO-AUTHORED CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

(* = UNDERGRADUATE MENTEE)

- 2021 *Insects go with flow: A mathematical model of induced flow and cooling during flight*
 Meja, B*, **Notar, JC**, and Johnsen, S
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Virtual Annual Meeting
- 2020 *Associative learning in the brittle star Ophioderma brevispinum*
 Go, M*, **Notar, JC**, and Johnsen, S
 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Austin, TX

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

- 2019-Present **Certificate in College Teaching Program**
 Duke University
- 2018 **Guest Lecture: Answering Biological Questions Using Circular Data and Analysis in R**
 Duke Data Expedition, Information Initiative @ Duke, Duke University

2012-16, 2022 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Teaching Associate**

Biology Department, Duke University¹

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA²

Department of Integrative Biology and Physiology, UCLA³

Courses include: Genetics & Evolution¹, Animal Environmental Physiology², Biology of Vertebrates², Biology of Invertebrates², Experimental Marine Invertebrate Biology², Biology of Marine Tetrapods², Field Marine Ecology², Living Ocean², Introduction to Ecology & Behavior², Biology of Marine Tetrapods², Advanced Experimental Statistics³

MENTORSHIP (SELECTED)

2021-Present **Trinity College Peer Mentoring Fellow**

Duke Interdisciplinary Studies, Duke University

2017 **Women in Science and Engineering Graduate Mentor**

Biology Department, Duke University

2015-Present **Graduate Student Advisor** to undergraduate lab mentees

Biology Department, Duke University

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

SERVICE (SELECTED)

2020-21 **Graduate Student Representative** on the faculty **AJED (Action for Justice, Equity, and Diversity) Committee**

Biology Department, Duke University

2019-20 **Graduate Student Representative** on the faculty **Task Force on Graduate Admissions and Recruitment**

Biology Department, Duke University

2016-21 **IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Anti-Racism) Committee**

Biology Department, Duke University

2016-Present **Dive Control Board**

Duke University

OUTREACH AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION (SELECTED)

2018-19 **Exhibiting Scientist**

Art of a Scientist, Duke University

2016-17 **Educator Outreach Liaison**

Scientific Research and Education Network (SciREN) Triangle, Durham, NC

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB), Animal Behavior Society (ABS), Sigma Xi

LANGUAGES

English (native), **Spanish** (intermediate)