

# Nicholas A. Huron

## Doctoral Student

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## Education

- 2022 Ph.D. in Biology (Anticipated Spring 2022)  
Temple University  
Advisor: Dr. Matthew Helmus
- 2013 B.S. in Biology  
Pepperdine University  
Magna Cum Laude

## Academic Positions

- 2017– *Graduate Student*, Integrative Ecology Lab  
• Thesis: “Disentangling the relationship between changing biodiversity and species interactions: how did we get here and where are we going?”
- 2020– *Research Assistant*: “Predicting establishment and impact of spotted lanternfly on trees across the USA”, United States Department of Agriculture
- 2019 *Research Assistant*: “An integrative approach to model, predict and control the spotted lanternfly invasion meltdown in Pennsylvania”, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
• Develop a spatially explicit global model of abiotic suitability for spotted lanternfly  
• Assist and advise building of a comprehensive model of spread for the spotted lanternfly  
• Aggregate and tidy broad scale spatial and trade data
- 2014–2017 *Research Assistant*, Cameron Siler Lab  
• Study biodiversity and systematics of Philippine herpetofauna  
• Curate specimens/tissues for research in the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (SNOMNH)
- 2017–2017 *Research Assistant*: “Tracking the Emergence of Infectious Disease Among Amphibian Species of Greatest Conservation Need—Amphibian Surveys of Wildlife Management Areas in Oklahoma to Determine Current Distribution, Status, and Health of Native Communities”, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation  
• Lead expeditions to collect data for amphibians throughout Oklahoma  
• Subsample and prepare tissues for infectious disease screening  
• Curate and catalogue vouchered specimens in SNOMNH
- 2015–2016 *Herpetology Curatorial Assistant*, Sam Noble OK Museum of Natural History  
• Update taxonomy and reorganize specimen collection  
• Survey, catch, and process vouchered specimens for collection deposition  
• Enter/review digital specimen records in collection database (morphology, locality, etc.)
- 2015–2015 *Mammalogy Curatorial Assistant*, Sam Noble OK Museum of Natural History  
• Inventory/validate records for current specimens in the mammal collection  
• Digitize specimen data (morphology, locality, etc.) for collection database

- 2013–2014 *Research Assistant*, Pepperdine University
- Organize and lead annual stream surveys of SMM streams
  - Provide critical feedback on studies prior to journal submission
  - Compile and digitize >20 year old amphibian survey dataset
- 2013–2014 *Administrative Assistant*, Pepperdine University
- Assist the Vice Provost for Research with the Waves of Innovation funding program
  - Final review proposals, presentations, and official documents before submission
  - Interact with high profile University members and coordinate committee meetings
- 2013–2014 *Research Student*, Rodney Honeycutt Lab
- Use molecular genetic lab techniques to analyze population phylogeography
  - Study local populations of *Taricha torosa*
- 2009–2014 *Research Student*, Lee Kats Lab
- Investigate behavioral ecology in Santa Monica Mountains (SMM) streams and the La Selva Research Station rainforest in Costa Rica
  - Conduct regular stream surveys in the SMM for USGS and State Park Services
  - Annual presentation of current research at SCCUR (see below for list)
- 2013–2013 *Restoration Ecologist*, Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT)
- Co-lead invasive crayfish removal project (CRP) at Tapia Park (Malibu Creek)
  - Supervise trapping, characterization, and removal of invasive *Procambarus clarkii*
  - Lead invasion ecology education side project via remote video and in person instruction
  - Manage the CRP dataset and collaborate with local scientists
- 2009–2013 *Office Assistant*, Pepperdine University Seaver Dean's Office
- Greet visitors, digitize documents, and facilitate interdepartmental communications
  - Assist event preparation for faculty/research award ceremonies
  - Provide in person logistics and technical support for department-sponsored events

## Research Interests

Community Ecology, Biodiversity and Systematics, Conservation Biology, Invasion Ecology, and Herpetology

## Teaching Experience

- 2019 *Principles of Ecology*, Temple University (TA, 1 semester)
- 2018–2020 *Introduction to Organismal Biology*, Temple University (TA, 2 semesters)
- 2016 *Introductory Biology: Molecules, Cells, and Physiology*, University of Oklahoma (TA, 1 semester)
- 2016 *Field Herpetology*, University of Oklahoma (TA, 2 week summer course)
- 2015 *Human Physiology*, University of Oklahoma (TA, 1 semester)
- 2014 *Introductory Zoology*, University of Oklahoma (TA, 1 semester)
- 2012 *Introduction to Ecology*, Pepperdine University (Undergraduate TA, 1 semester)
- 2011–2012 *Keck Research Seminar*, Pepperdine University (Student Mentor, 2 semesters)
- 2010–2013 *Cellular Biology*, Pepperdine University (Undergraduate TA, 4 semesters)
- 2010–2011 *General Chemistry*, Pepperdine University (Tutor, 2 semesters)

## Research Grants

- 2019 (\$76,890.00) *United States Department of Agriculture*: Predicting establishment and impact of spotted lanternfly on trees across the USA (Co-written with and submitted by Matthew Helmus)
- 2018 (\$300.00) *American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*: Storer Award (Conservation)
- 2017 (\$150.00) *University of Oklahoma Graduate Student Senate*: Research Grant
- 2015 (\$562.50) *University of Oklahoma Graduate Student Senate*: Research Grant
- 2015 (\$200.00) *Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles*: Henri C. Seibert Award (Ecology)
- 2015 (\$475.00) *University of Oklahoma Department of Biology*: L. G. Hill Zoology Excellence Fund

## Publications

12. **Huron, NA**, Hedges, SB, Helmus, MR. *in prep.* Anthropocene extinction on an adaptive landscape: Shifting loss in a genus of island lizards.
11. **Huron, NA**, Behm, JE, Helmus, MR. *in review.* Paninvasion severity assessment of a US grape pest to disrupt the global wine market. doi:10.1101/2021.07.19.452723.
10. Warren, DL, Matzke, NJ, Cardillo, M, Baumgartner, J, Beaumont, LJ, Turelli, M, Glor, R, **Huron, NA**, Simões, M, Iglesias, TL, Piquet, JC, Dinnage, R. 2021. ENMTools 1.0: an R package for comparative ecological biogeography. *Ecography*.
9. Marhanka, EC, Watters, JL, **Huron, NA**, McMillin, SL, Winfrey, CC, Curtis, DJ, Davis, DR, Farkas, JK, Kerby, JL, Siler, CD. 2017. Detection of high prevalence of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* in amphibians from southern Oklahoma, USA. *Herpetological Review* 48:70–74.
8. Siler, CD, Davis, DR, Freitas, ES, **Huron, NA**, Geheber, AD, Watters, JL, Penrod, ML, Papeş, M, Amrein, A, Anwar, A, Cooper, D, Hein, T, Manning, A, Patel, N, Pinaroc, L, Diesmos, AC, Diesmos, ML, Oliveros, CH, Brown, RM. 2016. Description of a new species of Slender Skink of the *Brachymeles bonitae* Complex (Reptilia: Squamata: Scincidae) from the northern Philippines. *Zootaxa*, 4132:15–29.
7. **Huron, NA**, Realubit, NDC, Cobb, KA, Brown, JC, Bergmann, P, Morinaga, G, Diesmos, AC, Diesmos, ML, Brown, RM, Siler, CD. 2016. Discovery of new island populations of the recently described False Geckos (*Pseudogekko pungkaypinit* and *Pseudogekko ditoy*): Conservation implications for the eastern Philippines. *Herpetological Review*, 47:1–4.
6. Diesmos, AC, Waters, JL, **Huron, NA**, Davis, DR, Alcalá, AC, Crombie, RI, Afuang, LE, Gee-Das, G, Sison, RV, Sanguila, MB, Penrod, ML, Labonte, MJ, Davey, CS, Leone, EA, Diesmos, ML, Sy, EY, Welton, LJ, Brown, RM, Siler, CS. 2015. Amphibians of the Philippines, part I: checklist of the species. *Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences*, 62:457–539.
5. Davis, DR, Sanguila, MB, Brown, JC, Brown, RM, Cobb, KA, Bergmann, P, Morinaga, G, **Huron, NA**, Watters, JL, Siler, CD. 2015. Natural History Notes: *Pseudogekko ditoy* (Leyte Diminutive False Gecko) Morphology. *Herpetological Review*, 46:634.
4. Heitz, BB, Ellsworth, ED, **Huron, NA**, Geheber, AD, Siler, CD. 2015. Geographic Distribution: *Sonora semiannulata* (Variable Groundsnake). *Herpetological Review*, 46:577.
3. Sanguila, MB, Realubit, NDC, Diesmos, ML, Lorenzo II, A, De Layola, A, Brown, JC, Cobb, KA, Bergmann, P, Morinaga, G, Freitas, ES, **Huron, NA**, Watters, JL. 2015. Geographic Distribution: *Pelophryne lighti* (Mindanao Flathead Toad). *Herpetological Review*, 46:380.

2. Realubit, NDC, Diesmos, ML, Lorenzo II, A, De Layola, A, Diesmos, AC, Brown, JC, Brown, RM, Cobb, KA, Bergmann, P, Morinaga, G, Siler, CD, **Huron, NA**, Siler, JM. 2015. Geographic Distribution: *Draco Mindanensis* (Mindanao Flying Lizard). *Herpetological Review*, 46:216.
1. Davis, DR, Watters, JL, Köhler, G, Whitsett, C, **Huron, NA**, Brown, RM, Diesmos, AC, Siler, CD. 2015. Redescription of the rare Philippine slender gecko *Pseudogekko brevipes* (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) and description of a new species. *Zootaxa*, 4020:357–374.

## Presentations

|      |                                                                                                               |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2020 | Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting (U.S.A.)                                        |
| 2018 | Joint Meetings of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, University of Rochester (Rochester, NY U.S.A.)           |
| 2018 | Mid-Atlantic Ecological Society of America Conference, Rutgers University - Newark Campus (Newark, NJ U.S.A.) |
| 2015 | Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles Meeting, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS U.S.A.)          |
| 2013 | Southern California Conference of Undergraduate Research (SCCUR), Whittier College (Whittier, CA U.S.A.)      |
| 2012 | SCCUR, California State University Channel Islands (Camarillo, CA U.S.A.)                                     |
| 2011 | SCCUR, Mt. San Antonio College (Walnut, CA U.S.A.)                                                            |
| 2010 | SCCUR, Pepperdine University (Malibu, CA U.S.A.)                                                              |

## Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

|           |                                                                |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2017–     | Temple University Fellowship                                   |
| 2013      | Selection for Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges  |
| 2012–2013 | Blanche E. Seaver Faculty Scholarship                          |
| 2011–2013 | Pepperdine University Natural Science Award                    |
| 2011–2012 | Pepperdine University Seaver College Faculty/Staff Scholarship |
| 2010      | Seaver College Dean's List (2 Semesters)                       |
| 2010      | Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society Induction                          |

## Skills

### Computer

- R statistics program (data visualization; development of functions, scripts, and packages)
- Geographic Information Systems software (ArcGIS and qGIS)
- Ecological Niche Modeling (e.g., Maxent, ensemble methods)
- Git and Github version control and integration (Intermediate)
- Bash command line (Intermediate)
- Python (Novice)
- Zotero citation management
- Adobe creative suite (Intermediate: acrobat, illustrator, indesign, and photoshop)
- Microsoft Office
- Presentation and A/V set-up
- Document copier and scanning

### *Professional*

- Management of undergraduate students
- Writing and critical peer-review of scientific literature

### *Lab and Fieldwork*

- Amphibian/reptile field collection (destructive/non-destructive tissue sampling, specimen preparation, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*/ranavirus swabbing, eDNA collection)
- Ecological survey techniques (e.g., Stream Health Biotic Index)
- Amphibian/reptile care and husbandry
- Lab safety and general genetic sequencing (tissue extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis)

### *Language*

- Proficient in conversational German
- Limited experience with conversational Tagalog

## **Professional Memberships**

|      |                                                              |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2018 | Ecological Society of America                                |
| 2015 | Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR)      |
| 2015 | The Herpetologists' League (HL)                              |
| 2013 | American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) |

## **Mentorship**

### ***Temple University, Undergraduate***

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 2021–     | Hajra Sohail    |
| 2020–     | Rabbika Rafiu   |
| 2017–2019 | Alexa Gordon    |
| 2017–2018 | Thomas Thompson |

## **Outreach and Service**

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2021–     | The Raleigh School <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist education and care of preschool students</li><li>• Write articles as member of Community Matters Newsletter Committee</li><li>• Participate in regular school workdays</li></ul>                                                                                                            |
| 2014–2017 | Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist coordination of Department of Herpetology annual public events</li><li>• Mentor undergraduate research volunteers in the Department of Herpetology</li><li>• Identify collected specimens and interface with public during the annual Oklahoma Bioblitz</li></ul> |
| 2011–     | Sigma Phi Epsilon national social fraternity (alumnus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Member of the California Psi chapter</li><li>• Vice President of Recruitment (2012 calendar year)</li><li>• Semesterly trips to build homes in Tecate, Mexico (Club Dust)</li><li>• Annual philanthropy to benefit YouthAIDS</li></ul>                         |

2009–2013 Pepperdine University GreenTeam

- Member and volunteer
- Helped initiate “Trayless Tuesday” to increase campus-wide environmental awareness

\*References available upon request.\*