

MSc candidate in Biological Sciences (UCT)

Principal supervisor: Prof A.M. Muasya

Co-supervisors: Prof G.A. Verboom & Prof A.G. West

BSc Hons in Biological Sciences (UCT) With distinction 2017

BSc in Ecology & Evolution, Applied Biology (UCT) 2016

With distinction in both majors & the degree

Skills

Strong speaker, design, data visualisation

Languages

English, Afrikaans, R, bash

Tools

R Markdown, L^AT_EX, git, GitHub, MS Office

Methods

Statistical modelling, data manipulation,
GIS (in R), functional programming

Publications

Van Mazijk , Cramer, & Verboom. Environmental heterogeneity explains contrasting plant species richness between the South African Cape & southwestern Australia. <i>Journal of Biogeography</i> 48:1875–1888.	2021
DOI: 10.1111/jbi.14118.	
Elliott, van Mazijk , Barrett, Bruhl, Joly, Muthaphuli, Wilson, & Muasya. Global dispersal & diversification of the genus <i>Schoenus</i> (Cyperaceae) from the Western Australian biodiversity hotspot. <i>Journal of Systematics & Evolution</i> 59(4):791–808. DOI: 10.1111/jse.12742	2021
Elliott, Laidler, Muasya, Muthaphuli & van Mazijk . Solving the sedge mystery. <i>Veld & Flora</i> 105(3):20–25.	2019
Cramer, Wootton, van Mazijk & Verboom. New regionally-modelled soil layers improve prediction of vegetation type relative to that based on global soil models. <i>Diversity & Distributions</i> 25(11):1736–1750.	2019
DOI: 10.1111/ddi.12973.	
Van Mazijk , Smyth, Weideman & West. Isotopic tracing of stormwater in the urban Liesbeek River. <i>Water SA</i> 44(4):674–679. DOI: 10.4314/wsa.v44i4.16.	2018

Funding & awards

NRF Innovation Masters Scholarship	2019	Data wrangling & manipulation in R (Organiser, lead, for Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT)	2019
SAAB MSc Student Bursary (inaugural recipient)	2018, 2019	Teaching Biodiversity for High School Life Science Teachers (Speaker, for SDU ⁶)	2019
UCT Once-Off Award	2018	Scientific study design & data analysis in R (Tutor, for SEEC ⁷ -ACCESS ⁸)	2018, 2019
UCT Dorothy Cameron Scholarship	2018		
UCT Masters Research Scholarship	2018		
NRF Innovation Honours Scholarship	2017		
SAAB Honours Scholarship	2017		
UCT Science Faculty Scholarship	2015, 2016		

Workshop instruction

Postgraduate

Conferences, talks & press

SAAB Postgraduate Virtual Symposium	2022	Angiosperm diversity	2018, 2019, 2022
MEDECOS XVII (NRF sponsored virtual attendance)	2022	Principles of ecology & evolution	2019, 2020
IBS ¹ Early Career Biogeographers Conference	2021	Scientific study design & data analysis in R	2017–2020
iDiv ² Joint Recruitment Symposium	2020	Introductory statistics in R	2016–2018
SAAB ³ -AMA ⁴ -SASSB ⁵ IVXV Joint Congress	2019	References	All Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT
Best Systematics MSc Presentation (tied) (UCT Travel Grant for attendance)		Prof G. Anthony Verboom	tony.verboom@uct.ac.za
The John Maytham Show, CapeTalk (Interview) <i>Harvesting Storm Water</i>	2018	Prof Michael D. Cramer	michael.cramer@uct.ac.za
Pint of Science Cape Town	2018	Prof A. Muthama Muasya	muthama.muasya@uct.ac.za

Teaching assistance

Undergraduate

Research assistance

Schoenus (Cyperaceae) field assistance, collections & hydroponics for Dr T.L. Elliott & Prof A.M. Muasya (UCT)	2018
Mimetes & Leucospermum (Proteaceae) population monitoring for Dr J.A. Slingsby (UCT, SAEON)	2017
Legume symbiotic rhizobia collections & culturing for Dr M. Dladlu (University of Swaziland)	2015



¹International Biogeography Society

²German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, Halle-Jena-Leipzig

³South African Association of Botanists

⁴African Mycological Association

⁵Southern African Society for Systematic Biology

⁶Schools Development Unit, UCT

⁷Centre for Statistics in Ecology, the Environment & Conservation, UCT

⁸Applied Centre for Climate & Earth Systems, NRF