

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
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

Workshop instruction

Postgraduate

Funding & awards

Data wrangling & manipulation in R (Organiser, lead, for Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT)

2019 NRF Innovation Masters Scholarship 2019

Teaching Biodiversity for High School Life Science Teachers (Speaker, for SDU¹)

2019 SAAB MSc Student Bursary (inaugural recipient) 2018, 2019

Scientific study design & data analysis in R (Tutor, for SEEC²-ACCESS³)

2018, 2019

UCT Once-Off Award 2018

Teaching assistance

Undergraduate

UCT Dorothy Cameron Scholarship 2018

Angiosperm diversity

2018, 2019, 2022

UCT Masters Research Scholarship 2018

Principles of ecology & evolution

2019, 2020

NRF Innovation Honours Scholarship 2017

Scientific study design & data analysis in R

2017–2020

SAAB Honours Scholarship 2017

Introductory statistics in R

2016–2018

UCT Science Faculty Scholarship 2015, 2016

References

All Dept. Biological Sciences, UCT

Prof G. Anthony Verboom

tony.verboom@uct.ac.za

Prof Michael D. Cramer

michael.cramer@uct.ac.za

Prof A. Muthama Muasya

muthama.muasya@uct.ac.za

Professional affiliations

SAAB 2017–

SASSB 2018–

(Student rep. 2019–2021)



Conferences, talks & press

SAAB Postgraduate Virtual Symposium 2022

MEDECOS XVII (NRF sponsored virtual attendance) 2022

IBS⁴ Early Career Biogeographers Conference 2021

iDiv⁵ Joint Recruitment Symposium 2020

SAAB⁶-AMA⁷-SASSB⁸ IVXV Joint Congress 2019

Best Systematics MSc Presentation (tied)
(UCT Travel Grant for attendance)

The John Maytham Show, CapeTalk (Interview) 2018

Harvesting Storm Water

Pint of Science Cape Town 2018

¹Schools Development Unit, UCT

⁵German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, Halle-Jena-Leipzig

²Centre for Statistics in Ecology, the Environment & Conservation, UCT

⁶South African Association of Botanists

³Applied Centre for Climate & Earth Systems, NRF

⁷African Mycological Association

⁴International Biogeography Society

⁸Southern African Society for Systematic Biology

Research assistance

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