

# Vicki Mengyuan Zhang

[vm.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:vm.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca)  
Office: 2020, Davis Building  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
[vickimzhang.rbind.io](http://vickimzhang.rbind.io)

---

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Terrestrial invasion ecology in northern latitudes (subarctic and arctic); species distributions, range shifts; effects of global and climate change on biodiversity, and subsequent conservation efforts; science communication and outreach.

---

## EDUCATION

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>Jan 2020–Jun 2021</i> | <b>Master of Science</b> , University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)<br><i>Focus of Study:</i> Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB)<br><i>Thesis:</i> Invasive species in the subarctic (in progress). Supervised by Dr. Peter Kotanen.   |
| <i>Sep 2015–Apr 2019</i> | <b>Honours Bachelor of Science</b> (with high distinction), University of Toronto<br><i>Program of Study:</i> Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Major; Environmental Biology Major; Linguistics Minor.<br><i>Thesis:</i> “Distribution and range shifts of <i>P. americana</i> and <i>P. pennsylvanica</i> ”.<br>Co-supervised by Locke Rowe and David Punzalan. |

---

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>Sep 2019–Dec 2019</i> | <b>Laboratory and Field Assistant</b> , Kotanen Lab   UTM                         |
| <i>May 2019–Aug 2019</i> | <b>Researcher</b> , Rowe and McCauley Lab at the Koffler Scientific Reserve (KSR) |
| <i>Sep 2018–Feb 2019</i> | <b>EEB Work Study Student</b> , Frederickson Lab   U of T                         |
| <i>May–Aug 2018</i>      | <b>EEB Work Study Student</b> , Rollinson Lab   U of T                            |

---

## SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

### Refereed Publications

- Submitted* **VM Zhang**, D Punzalan, L Rowe. May 2, 2020. Climate change has different predicted effects on the range shifts of two hybridising ambush bug (*Phymata*) species. *Ecology and Evolution*, pp. 1-26.

### Presentations

- 11-14 May 2020* **iPoster**, IALE-NA Annual Meeting Virtual Conference<sup>1</sup>  
“Climate change has different predicted effects on the range shifts of two hybridising ambush bug (*Phymata*) species.”

---

<sup>1</sup> Affected by COVID-19

- 2-4 May 2019** *Poster Presentation*, Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium  
“Hot Models: predicting the current and future distributions of two ambush bug species, *Phymata americana* and *Phymata pennsylvanica*”.
- 5 Apr 2019** *Poster Presentation*, EEB Undergraduate Research Fair  
“Hot Models: predicting the current and future distributions of two ambush bug species, *Phymata americana* and *Phymata pennsylvanica*” at the annual department-wide research fair.
- 23 Mar 2019** *Speaker*, Toronto Entomologist’s Association Student Symposium  
Invited. Talk: “Hot Models: projecting future climate-driven distributions of two ambush bug species, *Phymata americana* and *Phymata pennsylvanica*”.

## TEACHING

### *Class Lectures*

**25 Mar 2020** *Guest Lecturer*<sup>2</sup>, BIO330H5 (Plant Ecology) | UTM

### *Teaching Assistantships*

**Jan 2020–Apr 2020** *Teaching Assistant*, BIO330H5 (Plant Ecology)<sup>2</sup> | UTM

**Sep 2019–Dec 2019** *Sessional Instructional Assistant*, BIO205H5 (Ecology), UTM

## SCIENTIFIC SERVICE

### *Mentorship*

**Oct 2019–Mar 2020** *Grad Mentor*, Grad Connect Mentorship Program, UTM

**Sep 2019–Mar 2020** *Scientist Mentor and Liason*, Master Plant Science Team, PlantingScience  
Sponsored by the Ecological Society of America (ESA).

**Oct 2018–Mar 2019** *Peer Mentor*, EEB Peer Mentorship Program | U of T

**Jun 2018–Sep 2018** *E-Mentor*, University College | U of T

### *Leadership*

**Sep 2019–present** *Communications Director*, Biology Graduate Student Society (BGSS) | UTM

**Sep 2019–present** *CUPE Steward*, EEB Graduate Student Association (EGSA) | U of T

**Apr 2018–Mar 2020** *President*, U of T Table Tennis Club (UTTTC) | U of T  
*Previous executive roles:* Vice-President (2017-2018)  
Public Relations Officer (2016-2017)

### *Outreach and Volunteer*

**7 Feb 2020** *Graduate Speaker*, Research Scholars Fair | UTM

<sup>2</sup> Due to university closure due to COVID19 pandemic, this was a virtual lecture.

<b>18 Nov 2019</b>	<b>Graduate Speaker</b> , Meet the Grad Night   UTM
<b>28 Oct 2019</b>	<b>Station Scientist</b> , Classroom Field Trip   KSR
<b>11 Oct 2019</b>	<b>Scientist</b> , Alumni Outreach   UTM
<b>Sep 2019–present</b>	<b>Canadian Association for Girls in Science (CAGIS)</b>   Mississauga Chapter
<b>16–20 Sep 2019</b>	<b>Let's Talk Science Volunteer</b> , Science Literacy Week   UTM
<b>23 Jan 2019</b>	<b>Student Panelist</b> , Gaining Research Experience in EEB   U of T
<b>13–14 Apr 2018</b>	<b>Volunteer</b> , Atwood Colloquium in Ecology and Evolution   U of T
<b>Mar 2018</b>	<b>Volunteer</b> , Toronto Undergraduate Linguistic Conference (TULCON)   U of T
<b>2017–2018</b>	<b>Facilitated Study Group Leader</b> , Society of Linguistic Undergraduates   U of T
<b>2012–2016</b>	<b>Peer Tutor and Coordinator</b> , Math Elite   New Westminster

---

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution (CSEE);  
The Ecological Society of America (ESA);  
International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE).

---

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

<b>2020</b>	<b>Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research</b> Awarded by the Sigma Xi Fund of Canada to partially fund equipment for my master's field biology research. Valued at \$1400 over 1 year.
<b>2019</b>	<b>Weis/Zimmerman Koffler Scientific Reserve Graduate Scholarship</b> Awarded by KSR to fund field biology research. Valued at ~\$5500.
<b>2019</b>	<b>University College Graduating Year Awards</b> Ann Shepard Memorial Gold Medal for Biological Sciences. Valued at \$588. Grant H. Ferguson Scholarship Fund. Valued at \$232.52.
<b>2019</b>	<b>Koffler Scientific Reserve Undergraduate Student Research Award</b> Awarded by KSR to fund an independent undergraduate summer research project. Valued at \$6000 over 4 months.
<b>2018</b>	<b>Indigo Scholarship</b> Awarded by Indigo for an original essay. Valued at \$3000 over 3 years.
<b>2015</b>	<b>BC Ministry of Education Scholarship</b> Awarded for academic achievement in provincial examinations. Valued at \$1000.

<b>2015</b>	<b><i>Class of '64 Bursary</i></b> Awarded for student achievement and volunteer work. Valued at \$750.
<b>2010–2015</b>	<b><i>Honour Roll</i></b> International Baccalaureate Diploma, New Westminster Secondary School.

---

## SKILLS

<b><i>Software</i></b>	Microsoft Office R and RStudio Python Maxent
<b><i>Certifications</i></b>	First Aid and CPR Level C, Canadian Red Cross Restricted Firearms License, Ontario Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)
<b><i>Fluent languages</i></b>	English Mandarin Chinese



