

# Vicki Mengyuan Zhang

vm.zhang@mail.utoronto.ca

Office: 2020, Davis Building

University of Toronto Mississauga

[vickimzhang.rbind.io](mailto: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

Jan 2020–Jun 2021

**Master of Science**, University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)

*Focus of Study:* Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB)

*Thesis:* Invasive species in the subarctic (in progress). Supervised by Dr. Peter Kotanen.

Sep 2015–Apr 2019

**Honours Bachelor of Science** (with high distinction), University of Toronto

*Program of Study:* Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Major; Environmental Biology Major; Linguistics Minor.

*Thesis:* “Distribution and range shifts of *P. americana* and *P. pennsylvanica*”. Co-supervised by Locke Rowe and David Punzalan.

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Sep 2019–Dec 2019

**Laboratory and Field Assistant**, Kotanen Lab | UTM

May 2019–Aug 2019

**Researcher**, Rowe and McCauley Lab at the Koffler Scientific Reserve (KSR)

Sep 2018–Feb 2019

**EEB Work Study Student**, Frederickson Lab | U of T

May–Aug 2018

**EEB Work Study Student**, 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**

<b>11-14 May 2020</b>	<b>iPoster</b> , IALE-NA Annual Meeting Virtual Conference <sup>1</sup> "Climate change has different predicted effects on the range shifts of two hybridising ambush bug ( <i>Phymata</i> ) species."
<b>2-4 May 2019</b>	<b>Poster Presentation</b> , Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium "Hot Models: predicting the current and future distributions of two ambush bug species, <i>Phymata americana</i> and <i>Phymata pennsylvanica</i> ".
<b>5 Apr 2019</b>	<b>Poster Presentation</b> , EEB Undergraduate Research Fair "Hot Models: predicting the current and future distributions of two ambush bug species, <i>Phymata americana</i> and <i>Phymata pennsylvanica</i> " at the annual department-wide research fair.
<b>23 Mar 2019</b>	<b>Speaker</b> , Toronto Entomologist's Association Student Symposium Invited. Talk: "Hot Models: projecting future climate-driven distributions of two ambush bug species, <i>Phymata americana</i> and <i>Phymata pennsylvanica</i> ".

**TEACHING****Class Lectures**

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

<b>Jan 2020–Apr 2020</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , BIO330H5 (Plant Ecology) <sup>2</sup>   UTM
<b>Sep 2019–Dec 2019</b>	<b>Sessional Instructional Assistant</b> , BIO205H5 (Ecology), UTM

**SCIENTIFIC SERVICE****Mentorship**

<b>Oct 2019–Mar 2020</b>	<b>Grad Mentor</b> , Grad Connect Mentorship Program, UTM
<b>Sep 2019–Mar 2020</b>	<b>Scientist Mentor and Liason</b> , Master Plant Science Team, PlantingScience Sponsored by the Ecological Society of America (ESA).
<b>Oct 2018–Mar 2019</b>	<b>Peer Mentor</b> , EEB Peer Mentorship Program   U of T
<b>Jun 2018–Sep 2018</b>	<b>E-Mentor</b> , University College   U of T

<sup>1</sup> Affected by COVID-19<sup>2</sup> Due to university closure due to COVID19 pandemic, this was a virtual lecture.

**Leadership**

<b>Sep 2019–present</b>	<b>Communications Director</b> , Biology Graduate Student Society (BGSS)   UTM
<b>Sep 2019–present</b>	<b>CUPE Steward</b> , EEB Graduate Student Association (EGSA)   U of T
<b>Apr 2018–Mar 2020</b>	<b>President</b> , U of T Table Tennis Club (UTTTC)   U of T <i>Previous executive roles:</i> Vice-President (2017-2018) Public Relations Officer (2016-2017)

**Outreach and Volunteer**

<b>7 Feb 2020</b>	<b>Graduate Speaker</b> , Research Scholars Fair   UTM
<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><i>Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research</i></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><i>Weis/Zimmerman Koffler Scientific Reserve Graduate Scholarship</i></b> Awarded by KSR to fund field biology research. Valued at ~\$5500.
<b>2019</b>	<b><i>University College Graduating Year Awards</i></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><i>Koffler Scientific Reserve Undergraduate Student Research Award</i></b> Awarded by KSR to fund an independent undergraduate summer research project. Valued at \$6000 over 4 months.
<b>2018</b>	<b><i>Indigo Scholarship</i></b> Awarded by Indigo for an original essay. Valued at \$3000 over 3 years.
<b>2015</b>	<b><i>BC Ministry of Education Scholarship</i></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