

Vicki Mengyuan Zhang

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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

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

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

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

- 11-14 May 2020* **iPoster**, IALE-NA Annual Meeting Virtual Conference¹
“Climate change has different predicted effects on the range shifts of two hybridising ambush bug (*Phymata*) species.”

¹ 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*², BIO330H5 (Plant Ecology) | UTM

Teaching Assistantships

Jan 2020–Apr 2020 *Teaching Assistant*, BIO330H5 (Plant Ecology)² | 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

² Due to university closure due to COVID19 pandemic, this was a virtual lecture.

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

2020	<i>Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research</i> 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.
2019	<i>Weis/Zimmerman Koffler Scientific Reserve Graduate Scholarship</i> Awarded by KSR to fund field biology research. Valued at ~\$5500.
2019	<i>University College Graduating Year Awards</i> Ann Shepard Memorial Gold Medal for Biological Sciences. Valued at \$588. Grant H. Ferguson Scholarship Fund. Valued at \$232.52.
2019	<i>Koffler Scientific Reserve Undergraduate Student Research Award</i> Awarded by KSR to fund an independent undergraduate summer research project. Valued at \$6000 over 4 months.
2018	<i>Indigo Scholarship</i> Awarded by Indigo for an original essay. Valued at \$3000 over 3 years.
2015	<i>BC Ministry of Education Scholarship</i> Awarded for academic achievement in provincial examinations. Valued at \$1000.
2015	<i>Class of '64 Bursary</i> Awarded for student achievement and volunteer work. Valued at \$750.
2010–2015	<i>Honour Roll</i> International Baccalaureate Diploma, New Westminster Secondary School.

SKILLS

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