

Wei Han Lau

Edmonton · AB · Canada

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EDUCATION

University of Alberta, MSc Biological Sciences	Edmonton, AB
• Specialization in Systematics and Evolution	2023-Present
University of Toronto, St. George campus, BSc Life Science	Toronto, ON
• Double Major: EEB and Biodiversity and Conservation Biology	2019-2023

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

University of Alberta Graduate Student Travel Award	2025.
Entomological Society of Canada President's Prize: Best MSc oral presentation	2024
Entomological Society of Alberta Best Student Talk Award	2024
Entomological Society of Alberta Dustin Hartley Memorial Presentation Award	2024
Entomological Society of Canada's Graduate Research Travel Scholarship	2024
American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) Collection Study Grant	2024
Coleopterists Society Graduate Student Research Enhancement Award	2024
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) Collections Study Award	2024
Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Grants in Biodiversity	2024-2025
Entomology Society of Canada President's Prize: Best poster	2023
University of Alberta Graduate Recruitment Scholarship (UAGRS)	2023-2024
NSERC USRA Award, University of Alberta	2023
UFOR NSERC Academic Grant, University of Toronto	2022
Ovivo Academic Achievement Student Grant Program	2021.
Dean's List, University of Toronto	2019-2023

EMPLOYMENT AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

University of Alberta, Dept. Biological Sciences, Sperling Lab	Edmonton, AB
<i>Master's Student with a specialization in Systematics and Evolution</i>	2023-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employing NGS techniques to examine the population structure and the evolution of colour within <i>Cicindela formosa</i>.• Supervised by Dr. Felix Sperling.	
University of Alberta, Dept. Biological Sciences, Sperling Lab	ON, AB, BC, YT, MT
<i>Student researcher / Field assistant</i>	Summer 2023

- Conducted collections-based research in entomology collections in Toronto, Ottawa, and Alberta on *Cicindela formosa*.
- Supported field collecting trips to Southern Alberta, Northern British Columbia, Southern Yukon, and Montana (Yellowstone National Park).

University of Toronto, Temperate Field Biology Course
Participant

Koffler Scientific Reserve, ON
Summer 2022

- Learned and practiced various techniques of collecting data in the field and of methods in analyzing said data in R.

University of Toronto, Dept. EEB, Rowe/Mahler Lab
Research Assistant / Student Researcher

Toronto, ON
Spring 2022-Spring 2023

- Assisted research in Cerambycidae morphometrics (allometry) and sexual dimorphisms.
- Conducted an independent research project on ecologically dimorphic traits in long-horned beetles within the genus *Monachamus*.
- Trained in Coleoptera identification, dissection, imaging, and micro-CT analysis.
- Supervised by Dr. Locke Rowe and Rowan French.

Royal Ontario Museum, Department of Natural History
Entomology Assistant

Toronto, ON
Fall 2021-Spring 2023

- Assisted in the variety of curatorial work involved in maintaining an entomology collection, such as specimen digitization, insect pinning, and taxonomic verification.
- Trained in the KEYENCE imaging system.
- Supervised by Dr. Christopher Darling, Brad Hubley, and Antonia Guidotti.

University of Toronto, Dept. Forestry, Smith Lab
Research Assistant

Toronto, ON
Summer 2022

- Assisted Alexander Rimmer's research on the invasive Box Tree Moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) in Toronto. Tasks involved data analysis, insect larvae rearing, and field surveys.
- Supervised by Dr. Sandy Smith.

University of Toronto, Dept. EEB, Gilbert Lab
Research Assistant

Toronto, ON
Fall 2021-Spring 2022

- Maintained an 8-month-long experiment in the University of Toronto's rooftop greenhouse.
- Conducted research on ecological drift and the intersecting forces between species relatedness, species coexistence, and patterns of diversity.

Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, Invertebrate Zoology
Student Intern (Entomology Team)

Singapore
Summer 2021

- Completed a research-based internship assisting the museum in curating the entomology collections in the Zoological Reference Collections (ZRC).
- Completed a GBIF course on biodiversity data mobilization, constructed four insect specimen manipulators, took part in field surveys, assisted in digitizing the Phasmatodea collection,

updated Singapore's local IUCN Red List, reorganized the entire Invertebrate wet collections, and worked in a host of other curatorial projects with the entomology team.

- Supervised by Dr. Hwang Wei Song.

Singapore Armed Forces

Singapore

National Servicemen, Non-commissioned Officer, Third Sergeant

2017-2019

- Served full-time in the military for two years to fulfill citizenship requirements.
- Trained as a sapper with the 30th Battalion Singapore Combat Engineers.
- Selected as one of the two men in the battalion to attend military leadership training. Discharged with honours as a third sergeant with the 35th Battalion Singapore Combat Engineers.

INVITED TALKS

Entomological Society of Canada 2025 JAM

Calgary, AB

Emerging Tools in Arthropod Conservation Symposium

October 2025

- "Subspecies Delimitation in a Threatened Tiger Beetle: Integrating Morphology and Genomic Traits"

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Entomology Society of Canada JAM, Talk

October 2024

Entomology Society of Alberta Annual Meeting, Talk

September 2024

Evolution 2024 (ASN, ESEB, SSB, SSE), Poster

July 2024

R. E. Peter Biology Conference, Talk

March 2024

Entomology Society of Canada JAM, Poster

September 2023

Entomology Society of Alberta Annual Meeting, Poster

October 2023

Toronto Entomologist Association Annual Symposium, Talk

March 2023

Undergraduate Research Experience Fair University of Toronto, Poster

March 2022

PUBLICATIONS

Lau WH. 2015. Sunda pangolins crossing road at Upper Peirce. SINGAPORE BIODIVERSITY RECORDS 2015:77-78. ISSN 2345-7597

TEACHING

University of Alberta, Graduate Teaching Assistant

Edmonton, AB

- BIOL380 (Genetic Analysis of Populations)
- BIOL108 (Introduction to Biological Diversity)

Winter 2025

Fall 2023-Fall 2024

University of Alberta, Graduate Student Supervisor

Edmonton, AB

- BIOL399-499 (Undergraduate Research Project)
- Supervising and teaching various techniques in collecting and analyzing mtDNA barcodes, RAD-seq, and phenotype characterization.

Fall 2023-Winter 2025

SKILLS AND SERVICES

CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

- WHMIS 2023
- Red Cross: Standard First Aid and CPR/AED (Level C)
- Ontario G Driver's License

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

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| • Entomological Society of America | 2024-Present |
| • Society of Systematic Biologists | 2023-Present |
| • Entomology Society of Canada | 2021-Present |
| • The Coleopterists Society | 2021-Present |
| • Entomology Society of Alberta | 2023-Present |
| • University of Toronto Trash Literacy Team | 2021-2023 |
| • Toronto Entomologist Association | 2021-Present |