

NILS CORDES

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Education

Doctor of Philosophy, in progress. Evolutionary Biology. University of Bielefeld. 2010—present. Dr. Klaus Reinhold, advisor.

Master of Science, Entomology. University of Illinois. 2008—2010. Dr. Leellen F. Solter, advisor. Thesis: The Role of Pathogens in the Decline of North American Bumble Bees with a Focus on the Microsporidium *Nosema bombi*.

Master of Science, Biology. Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. 2007. Biology. Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner, advisor. Thesis: Learning Behavior of the Termite *Macrotermes natalensis*.

Experience

Research Assistance, University of Illinois, Dr. Leellen F. Solter. January 2008—April 2010. I studied the pathology of bumble bees and the role of microsporidia in bumble bee decline as part of a nationwide project.

Teaching Assistance, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner. April 2007—July 2007. Course: Insect Behavior and Sociology – Field research on learning behavior of honey bees.

Teaching Assistance, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. May 2006—July 2006. Supervision of zoological/entomological excursions for undergraduate students.

Independent Field Research, South Africa. January 2006—May 2006. I studied the learning behavior of the termite *Macrotermes natalensis*.

Independent Field Research, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner. July 2004—August 2004. I studied odor perception and odor preference of laboratory-reared bumble bees.

Independent Field Research, Research Station of the *Philippine Endemic Species Conservation Project* on Panay, Philippines, Dr. Eberhard Curio. November 2003—April 2004. Research on invertebrate behavior and ecology.

Affiliations

Society of Invertebrate Pathology
Champaign-Urbana Pollinator Awareness Network

Public Service

- UIUC Linnaean Games Team**, National Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN, December 12-15, 2009. Member.
- Society of Invertebrate Pathology Student Representative, Microsporidia Division.** 2009-2010.
- Entomology Graduate Student Association, Secretary.** 2009-2010.
- School presentation:** *The many insects of Illinois.* Montessori School of Champaign-Urbana, Savoy, IL. June 2009.
- National Pollinator Week in Champaign-Urbana.** June 22-28, 2009. Organizer.
- UIUC Linnaean Games Team**, North Central Branch Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. St. Louis, MO, March 15-18, 2009. Member.
- School presentation:** *Insects from the US and the World.* Middletown Early Childhood Center, Mahomet, IL. November 2008.
- Insect Fear Film Festival** at Foellinger Auditorium, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 2008—present. Volunteer/Organizer.
- National Pollinator Week in Champaign-Urbana.** June 22-28, 2008. Volunteer.
- Media Interview on Social Insects**, WILL-AM Radio and *The News Gazette*, Champaign, IL. February 17, 2008.

Honors & Grants

- National Champion Team, Linnaean Games**, National Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN. December 2009.
- Finalist**, Stinger Award, National Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN. December 2009.
- Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Support Grant**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2009.
- Microsporidia Division Student Travel Award**, Society of Invertebrate Pathology, 2009.
- First Place Team, Linnaean Games**, North Central Branch Meeting, Entomological Society of America, St. Louis, MO. March 2009
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Support Grant**, DAAD, 2006.

Presentations and Talks

- Cordes, N. and Solter, L. 2010. *Distribution and variation of Nosema bombi in North American bumble bees.* SIP Annual Meeting, July 11-15, 2010.
- Cordes, N., Solter, L., Cameron, S., Lozier, J., Strange, J. and Griswold, T. 2009. *Are microsporidia involved in bumble bee decline?* Invited Talk, SIP Annual Meeting, August 16-20, 2009.
- Strange, J., Cordes, N., Solter, L., Griswold, T. and Cameron, S. 2009. *The prevalence, distribution and hosts of Crithidia bombi in wild bumble bee populations.* Invited Talk, SIP Annual Meeting, August 16-20, 2009.
- Cordes, N. 2008. *Bumble bees as pollinators.* National Pollinator Week Press Conference, Urbana, IL.

Posters

Strange, J.P., Cordes, N., Koch, J., Lozier, J., Griswold, T., Solter, L.F. and Cameron, S. 2008. Current Status and Potential Causes of Population Decline in Wild Bumble Bee Pollinators. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Reno, NV.

Publications

Cameron, S., Lozier, J., Strange, J., Cordes, N., Solter, L., Koch, J., Griswold, T. 2010. Recent widespread decline of North American bumble bees: Current status and causal factors. (in preparation)

Cordes, N., Solter, L. 2010. The distribution of pathogens in US bumble bee populations. (in preparation)