

Cassandra Kaplinsky

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EDUCATION

University of Roehampton: In progress, expected September 2018

Masters of Research in Primate Biology, Behaviour, and Conservation

University of California, Davis: June 2015

Bachelors of Science in Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity; minor in Biological Anthropology

EXPERIENCE

Researcher at Carroll-Loye Biological Research (2017-present)

Conducting research to assess the efficacy of various insect repellent products. Responsible for design and execution of field and lab studies, insect colony maintenance, and communication and collaboration with private and governmental organizations.

Masters of Research project (February 2018-present) Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico

The effects of Hurricane Maria on vegetation, temperature, and social networks of Cayo Santiago Biological Field Station and its population of Rhesus macaques.

Field Assistant for PhD student (March-June 2016) Ampasindava forest, Madagascar

Collected social, sexual, and acoustic data on wild Black lemurs (*Eulemur macaco*) in a primary forest fragment in Northwestern Madagascar for Caitlin Eschmann's (University of Bristol) PhD dissertation. Responsibilities included habituating wild lemurs, utilizing a behavioral ethogram to conduct focal follows and scans, recording and identifying vocalizations, and conducting playback experiments.

Independent Research on Cayo Santiago (October-December 2015) Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico

Created and conducted a cognitive task to evaluate Rhesus macaque self control under Dr. Lauren Brent (University of Exeter) and in collaboration with Eve Smeltzer (University of Toronto). Built and circuited an infrared laser-triggered stop-change task and conducted the experiment on Cayo Santiago monkeys from October to December 2015.

Research Assistant on Cayo Santiago (June-October 2015), Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico

Collected ~150 hours of focal behavioral data on a group of free-ranging Rhesus macaques on Cayo Santiago under Dr. Michael Platt and Dr. Lauren Brent (Duke University, University of Exeter). Responsible for recognizing and habituating myself with 78 adult Rhesus macaques and following an extensive behavioral ethogram for data collection.

Undergraduate Researcher in Plant Pathology Laboratory (2013-2015) Davis, CA

Member of Dr. Diane Ullman's lab, working under a USDA-funded grant with the goal of understanding insect/virus/plant interactions to ultimately find a genetic basis for resistance to thrips-transmitted tospoviruses. Responsibilities include conducting transmission and feeding bioassays, thrips virus acquisitions, inoculation of plants, oviposition bioassays, virus isolate maintenance, fieldwork (Davis, CA), greenhouse maintenance, data collection and entry, and various lab procedures (ELISA, tissue staining, microscopy).

Independent Research at California National Primate Research Center (2014) Davis, CA

Conducted an independent research project aimed at assessing the social causes of alopecia in an outdoor-housed colony of captive Rhesus macaques. All data was collected during the spring of 2014 at the California National Primate Research Center and presented at the CNPRC symposium in June 2014.

Undergraduate Assistant in Ecology Laboratory (2011-2013) Davis, CA

Assisted graduate student William Wetzel in Dr. Donald Strong's lab. Responsibilities included sagebrush gall dissections, insect identification, data collection, input, and analysis, plant cloning and upkeep.

Ecology Field and Lab Work (2013) Mammoth Lakes, CA

Responsible for running a lab on the Valentine UC Nature Reserve for William Wetzel's PhD on the symbioses between *Artemesia tridentata*, *Eutreta diana*, and various parasitoid wasps. Ran insect behavior experiments, cloned plants, conducted field surveys of plants and insect populations, field sampling of VOCs, and collected plant and animal specimens for analysis.

Ecology Field Work (2012) Yolo County, CA

Collected and helped process data on native and invasive aquatic turtle species from various bodies of water in Yolo County for Dr. Brad Shaffer's long term urban ecology project. Responsibilities included live animal capture, handling, blood sampling, and transport, canoe handling and transport, GIS and lab equipment use in a field setting.

PUBLICATIONS

Mahmoud, Smeda, Chappell, Stafford-Banks, **Kaplinsky**, Anderson, Mutschler, Kennedy, Ullman. In review, expected 2018. Amount and Composition of Acylsugars Differentially Suppress Oviposition by Western Flower Thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis* on Tomato Flowers.

Rebuilding Cayo Santiago. Feature piece in Natural History Magazine. Expected July/August 2018.

PRESENTATIONS

The Role of Acylsugars on Western Flower Thrips Oviposition in Tomato Flowers, May 2015

Presentation delivered at the International Thysanoptera and Tospovirus conference. Presented on the oviposition research I conducted with the Ullman Lab.

The Potential Social Causes of Alopecia in Captive Primate Communities, June 2014

Delivered a presentation at the CNPRC's annual symposium with the results from my individual research project conducted from January to June 2014.

REFERENCES

Dr. Scott Carroll

Director of Carroll-Loye Biological Research
Davis, CA
(530) 902-8267
scott@carroll-loye.com

Dr. Lauren Brent

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow and Lecturer at the Centre for Research in Animal Behavior
University of Exeter, UK.
Employer and overseer of behavioral data collection on Cayo Santiago for Michael Platt.
Advisor for self control task on Cayo Santiago.
L.J.N.Brent@exeter.ac.uk

Dr. Diane Ullman

Professor of Entomology, University of California, Davis.
PI of the Ullman Lab, advisor for thrips oviposition project.

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Dr. Candice Stafford-Banks

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of California, Davis.

Mentor and research advisor in the Ullman Lab.

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Ms. Caitlin Eschmann

PhD Candidate, University of Bristol

Employer and leader of 2016 Black Lemur field season in Ampasindava Forest, Madagascar.

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Dr. William Wetzel

Professor of Entomology, Michigan State University

Employer and supervisor in Dr. Donald Strong's laboratory at the University of California, Davis.

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