

## Education

**Harvard University**, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, MA 2010-Present  
Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, PhD Candidate  
Advisor: Brian Farrell

**Cornell University**, College of Human Ecology, Ithaca, NY 2005-2009  
B.S. Major Human Biology, Health and Society, Minor Entomology May 2009

## University Honors and Awards

Harvard Prize Fellowship, full tuition support (2010-2016)  
Recognized as a best contributor to the campus community, five seniors are chosen that exemplify dedication and commitment to the betterment of Cornell University (2009)  
Federal Smart grant for academic excellence (07-09)  
Recognized as a Cornell College of Human Ecology Scholar  
Varsity Letterman in Football (07-08)

## Grants Awarded

Graduate Student Council Conference Grant \$750 (2014)  
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies travel grant \$300 (2011, 2013)  
Putnam Expedition Grant, Museum of Comparative Zoology \$4,120 (2013)  
Huron Mountain Wildlife Foundation Research Grant \$3000 (2014)  
Huron Mountain Wildlife Foundation Research Grant \$3500 (2012)  
Cornell Meinig National Scholars Summer Internship Grant \$4000 (2008)

## Research

### **Speciation and systematics of *Monochamus* beetles, PhD project**

2010-present Dr. Brian Farrell, advisor

My dissertation project focuses on the evolutionary history of sawyer beetles (Cerambycidae: *Monochamus*) and how the plants they eat has shaped this history. I am treating the group phylogenetically and exploring phylogeography and ecology at the population level. Chemical ecology and comparative transcriptomics are also being explored.

### **Gorongosa National Park Bioinventory Project, Mozambique**

2014-present Dr. Piotr Nasckrecki, Dr. E.O. Wilson

The restoration of Gorongosa National Park began in 2012 with the help of scientist Ed Wilson. A research laboratory and collections are being built in the park. I surveyed beetles for the park and started building the beetle section of their insect collection. I also trained young Mozambican students in entomology and scientific methodology.

### **All Taxa Bioinventory of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area**

2010-Present Dr. Jessica Rykken, Harvard University

This long-term project has the goal of identifying all of the multicellular organisms present on the Harbor islands. I contributed by surveying the bee fauna and identifying specimens in the previously collected beetle material.

### **Allometry comparison of social and solitary huntsman spiders, family Sparassidae**

*Spring 2009*

*Dr. Linda Rayor, Cornell University*

Although the adults of ten species of sympatric Australian huntsman spiders are similar in body mass and allometry, there are major differences in the patterns of growth and speed between two social and eight solitary species. To quantify these patterns I collected detailed morphological measurements and body weights of living spiders from 10 to 20 individuals of each species at two or more life-stages.

### **Arthropod Collection Curation, UMMZ Insect Collection, University of Michigan**

*2009-2010*

*Mark O'Brien*

Various data basing and activities pertaining to movement of arthropod collections. Arthropod mounting, labeling, and identification to species level.

### **Biogeographic study of genus *Ceuthophilus* (Orthoptera: Rhaphidophoridae)**

*Summer 2010*

*Dr. Ted Cohn*

Many collections of this genus have been made in the rich history of Orthopterists at the University of Michigan Museum. After contemplating these specimens the likelihood of a hybrid zone in Kentucky arose. Additional fieldwork was conducted to help resolve the area of hybridization. Using specialized techniques I collected the necessary samples to test this idea. From preliminary data it seems the proposed hybrid may be a result of hybrid speciation.

### **Insect Intern, Reptile Research, Ecuador**

*Summer 2008*

*Dr. Paul Hamilton*

Broadened a project on biodiversity by capturing, photographing and cataloging stick insects and herps in portions of W. Ecuador threatened by deforestation. Contributed to Phasmida projects of Conle and Henneman (Germany).

## **Presentations**

Gorring, P.S. 2014. Entomological Society of America student paper competition oral presentation:

*The case for Monochamus: Preliminary evidence.* ESA National Meeting, Portland, OR.

Gorring, P.S. 2014. Harvard G4 Symposium. *Sky island living: What inspired pine sawyer beetle diversification?* American Academy for the Advancement of Science, Cambridge, MA.

Gorring, P.S. 2013. Entomological Society of America student paper competition oral presentation:

*You thought these beetles were just boring: Systematics of the sawyers (Cerambycidae: Monochamus)* ESA National Meeting, Austin, TX.

Gorring, P.S. 2013. Cambridge Entomological Club presentation: *The life and times of local Insects.* Cambridge, MA.

Gorring, P.S. 2011. Entomological Society of America poster presentation: *Where do conifer insects come from?* ESA National Meeting, Reno, NV.

Gorring, P.S. 2009. Public presentation on arthropods, Belleville, MI

Auletta, A., Gorring, P.S. et al 2009 Insect History and Diversity, Sciencenter, Ithaca, NY  
National Scholars. Presentation to Cornell University administration on academic discourse, Ithaca, NY (2006)

## **Employment and Teaching Experience**

**Teaching Fellow, OEB 55, Ecology, Harvard University**

*Spring 2015*

*Dr. Paul Moorcroft*

In this introduction to ecology course I run a weekly section with students. We discuss lecture material as well as primary ecological literature. I also run data gathering field trips.

**Teaching Fellow**, OEB10, Foundations of Biological Diversity, Harvard University

*Fall 2014*

*Dr. Brian Farrell*

This course is an introductory course in the biology of organisms. I ran a section where the students and I discussed the course material and laboratory experiments were performed.

**Teaching Fellow**, OEB157, Insect Biology, Harvard University

*Fall 2011, 2013*

*Drs. Naomi Pierce and Michael Canfield*

As the assistant in the introductory entomology course at Harvard, I have been able to share my passion of insects with an excited group of students. My responsibilities range from teaching lab techniques and insect biology to taking the students out into the field for hands on collection and insect natural history observation.

**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University.

*Spring 2008*

*Dr. Joy Swanson and Dr. Kim OBrien*

Developed new curriculum in conjunction with professors and other teaching assistants for human anatomy and physiology laboratory course.

## **Leadership Activities**

- Treasurer, Cambridge Entomological Club (2013-present)
- President, Cambridge Entomological Club (2012-13)
- Vice President, Cambridge Entomological Club (2011-12)
- Executive Board Member, Cornell National Scholars (2006-2008)
- Vice President, 'Snodwiggs' Cornell University Undergraduate Entomology Club (07-08)

## **Community Outreach**

- Public and private tour guide to the beetle collection at Harvard University, an important collection of over 3.5 million specimens.
- Attendee and mentor for the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science conference. A conference bringing together over 4000 individuals for the purpose of increasing recognition of underrepresented groups in science. (2011-pres.)
- Leader of groups exploring nature and a bio inventory initiative in conjunction with the Friends of Wachusett group at Wachusett Mountain, MA. (2011-pres.)
- Collector and contributor to the All Taxa Bioinventory of the Boston Harbor Islands, Boston, MA. Identified, collected and presented to the public. (2010-2011)
- Beetle member of group performing a biodiversity survey on the Navajo Nation in the U.S. The group teaches, trains and works alongside native students. Results are presented online for the general public. (2011-pres.)
- Insect diversity presenter, Harvard Museum of Natural History's 'Insect Planet' program, presented insects to over 1000 people through this annual museum program. (2011)
- Team Leader, Rouge River Bug Hunt, led group in collection of aquatic insects for water purity indication (2010)
- Planning committee and volunteer, Insectapalooza, 1-day Insect Fair hosted by Cornell Department of Entomology attracting over 3000 members of the community each year. (07, 08)
- Leader of insect parties for youth, taught 3-7 year olds about arthropods (2009)

## **Campus Activities**

- Executive board member, Cambridge Entomological Club (2010-pres.)
- Coach, Harvard youth wrestling program (2012-pres.)
- Meinig Family National Scholars, small (200) group of leaders recognized on campus (05-09)
- Cornell Undergraduate Entomology Club (06-09)