

Ciara L. Hovis

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Education

- PhD Michigan State University-East Lansing, MI
Summer 2016-Present
Center for Sustainability and Systems Integration
Fisheries and Wildlife Department
Advised by Dr. Jianguo (Jack) Liu
- BS Penn State University-State College, PA
Fall 2012-Spring 2016
Biology Major with Ecology option
Minors in Wildlife and Fisheries and Environment and Society
GPA-3.61

Research

- Graduate Research at Michigan State University (Summer 2016-Present)
-Advised by Dr. Jianguo (Jack) Liu
-Part of an international and interdisciplinary NSF funded project studying the trade of soy products from Brazil to China and the effects on both human and natural systems
-Focus on the environmental impacts of global trade on the agricultural areas of NE China
- Undergraduate Research at Penn State University (Fall 2012-Spring 2016)
-Advised by Dr. Katriona Shea
-Led an experiment beginning in August 2013 looking at the timing and frequency of release events of invasive species and the effect they have on establishment
-Worked in lab for four years, including every field season
-Responsible for helping to train other undergraduates in the lab
-Assisted in field studies observing phenology shifts between plants and biocontrol insects
-Writing up findings to be submitted to peer-reviewed journal

Teaching Experience

- Biology Teaching Assistant at Penn State (Fall 2014-Fall 2015)
-Taught the lab portions of both intro level biology and ecology for 3 semesters
-Responsible for grading, giving lectures, creating quizzes, and supervising procedures

Employment

- Lab manager for Dr. Katriona Shea (Spring 2016)
-Organized data and lab records, managed lab website, and coordinated lab meetings
- Sustainability Peer Education Program- Penn State Eco-reps
-Eco-rep Program Director (Summer 2015-Spring 2016)
-Head of program coordinating team for first-year peer education program that taught sustainability concepts in the residence halls

- Responsible for training and mentoring younger coordinators
- Hired and trained eco-reps, developed curriculum, organized events, and performed administrative duties
- Eco-rep Program Coordinator (Summer 2014-Spring2015)
 - Took on leadership of program to ensure its continued success when the fate of the program was uncertain
- Sustainability Institute Intern (Fall 2013-Spring 2014)
- Penn State Eco-Rep (Fall 2012-Spring 2013)
 - Held Residence Life Liaison position
- Resident Assistant (Fall 2014-Spring 2016)
 - Supervised floor of 30 residents and planned educational programming for students

Honors and Awards

- Michigan State University Enrichment Fellowship
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program-Honorable mention 2016
- Award for Excellence in Research, **Mentoring**, and Scientific Presentation-Summer 2015
- Undergraduate Conference Travel Award to attend ESA's annual meeting- Summer 2015 (\$900)
- Peter T. Luckie Award for Excellence in Research in the Division of Life Sciences
- Eberly College of Science Cooperative Education Student Enhancement Fund Grant (\$500)
- Eberly Undergraduate Research Poster Exhibition-1st place Life Sciences
- Eberly College of Science Summer Research Grant Recipient-Summer 2014 (\$1000)
- Summer Discovery Grant Recipient -Summer 2014 (\$3000)
- Penn State Dean's List-Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

Other Relevant Experience

- Peking University Chinese Summer Language Course
 - Intensive and immersive 4-week course taught in Beijing, China
 - Summer 2016
- Global Environmental Brigades-International sustainability projects in rural Panama
 - Attended Brigades in March 2014 and May 2015 that implemented sustainable agriculture projects that were developed with community members
 - Involved with a local initiative that volunteered on a food bank farm
 - Treasurer 2014-2016
- Sustainability Leadership Council
 - Founding member of a coalescing council that brought together multiple sustainability entities across Penn State's campus for collaborative work
- Tropical Biology Embedded Course in Costa Rica
 - Conducted both independent and group projects with rigorous field work components
 - Winter 2014-15
- Penn State Outing Club
 - Outdoor recreation and backpacking club

Crop Mobs

-Volunteered at small local farms to help harvest, weed, plant etc.

Publications

Hovis, C., Teller, B., Shea, K., Keller, J., and Hufbauer, R. (in prep) *Parsing Propagule Pressure: The effects of multiple aspects of propagule pressure on the success of an invasive species.*

Hovis, C., Fivek, E., Miller, M., Spangler, K. (2015) *L'Oréal: Beauty for Everyone?* Community, Environment, and Development Undergraduate Research Journal.

<http://aese.psu.edu/students/research/ced-urj/news/2015/12019oreal-beauty-for-everyone>

Presentations (*denotes presenter)

Parsing Propagule Pressure: The effects of multiple aspects of propagule pressure on the success of an invasive species (K. Shea*, C.L. Hovis, J.A. Keller, B.J. Teller and R.A. Hufbauer) Neobiota conference, Vianden, Luxembourg (September 2016).

Parsing Propagule Pressure: The effects of multiple aspects of propagule pressure on the success of an invasive species, *Carduus nutans* (C.L. Hovis*, J. A. Keller, B.J. Teller, R.A. Hufbauer, and K. Shea) Presented at the Ecological Society of America 100th annual meeting in Baltimore, MD (August 2015).

“Parsing Propagule Pressure: The effects of multiple aspects of propagule pressure on the success of an invasive species” (C.L. Hovis*. and K. Shea) Poster presented at both the Eberly College of Science Undergraduate Research Exhibition (2014) and the Penn State Undergraduate Research symposium (2015).

Additional Outreach

Summer Experience in the Eberly College of Science (SEECoS)

-Mentored two first generation, economically challenged high school students from the state of Pennsylvania with a research project during summer 2015

-Group won overall award for excellence in research and mentoring (see award section)

Relevant Coursework

Ornithology with lab

Human Use of the Environment

Conservation biology

Ecological and environmental problem solving (mathematical modeling course)

Development issues in the global context

Tropical field ecology

Teaching in biology/pedagogy course

Applied regression analysis

Spatial Statistics Analysis

Skills

Languages-Chinese (intermediate), Spanish (intermediate)

Proficient in R and ArcGIS

Professional Societies

Member of the Ecological Society of America (2014-present)

References

Available Upon Request