Chad T. Nihranz

Dept. of Biology, Pennsylvania State University
208 Mueller Laboratory, University Park, PA 16802

Education

Ph.D. Ecology (2018), Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
Advisor: Dr. Andrew G. Stephenson
B.S. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (2009), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
B.S. Spanish, (2009), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Professional Experience

2018-2019 **Postdoctoral Scholar**, Department of Biology, Penn State University
2012-2018 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Department of Biology, Penn State University
2005-2007 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of Michigan

Publications

Nihranz, C.T., Walker, W.S., Mescher, M.C., De Moraes, C.M., & Stephenson, A.G. (2020) Transgenerational impacts of herbivory and inbreeding on reproductive output in *Solanum carolinense. American Journal of Botany* 107(2): 1-12

Nihranz, C.T., Kolstrom, R.L., Mescher, M.C., De Moraes, C.M., & Stephenson, A.G. (2019) Herbivory and inbreeding affect growth, reproduction and resistance in rhizomatous offshoots of *Solanum carolinense* (Solanaceae). *Evolutionary Ecology* 33(4): 499-520

Coughlin, D. J., Babak, T., **Nihranz, C**., Hughes, T. R., & Engelke, D. R. (2009) Prediction and verification of mouse tRNA gene families. *RNA Biology* 6: 195-202

Bentley, T.G., Kariyat, R.R., **Nihranz, C.T**., Stephenson, A.G., De Moraes, C.M., & Mescher, M.C. Inbreeding alters floral volatile emissions in horsenettle (*Solanum carolinense*; Solanaceae) with adverse effects on pollinator visitation. *In Review*

Nihranz, C.T., Helms, A.M., Tooker, J.F., Mescher, M.C., De Moraes, C.M., & Stephenson, A.G. Transgenerational effects of herbivory and maternal plant inbreeding on defense-related traits in *Solanum carolinense*. *In Prep*

Professional Presentations

Invited Talks

Jan. 2015 Pennsylvania State University Ecology Program Science Café. University Park, PA.

Contributed Oral Presentations

Nov. 2019 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MO.
Nov. 2018 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC.
Nov. 2017 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.
May 2016 Pennsylvania State University Life Science Symposium. University Park, PA.
Nov. 2015 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
Mar. 2015 Entomological Society of America Regional Meeting. Rehoboth Beach, DE.
Nov. 2014 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting. Portland, OR.

Contributed Poster Presentations

Feb. 2019 Gordon Research Conference on Plant-Herbivore Interactions. Ventura, CA.
Jul. 2017 16th Symposium on Insect-Plant Interactions. Tours, France.
Apr. 2006 8th Annual Meeting of the Michigan RNA Society. Detroit, MI.

Teaching and mentoring Experience

2018 **Instructor**, Biology 127: Plant Biology, Penn State University - Altoona
2017 **The Graduate School Teaching Certificate**, Penn State University
2017 **Instructor**, Science 497-003: Science Outreach and Communication, Penn State University
2016 **Instructor**, Biology 497F: Science Outreach and Communication, Penn State University
2016 **Teaching Assistant**, Biology 127: Introductory Plant Biology, Penn State University
2014 **Teaching Assistant**, Biology 220W: Population and Community Biology, Penn State University
2012 **Summer School Instructor**, Macomb Intermediate School District, Clinton Township, MI
2011-2012 **Instructional Aide**, Mathematics, Roseville High School, Roseville, MI
2010-2011 T**eacher**, Biology, Roseville High School, Roseville, MI

Fellowships, Honors and Awards

2018 Intercollege Graduate Student Outreach Achievement Award, Penn State University - $2000
2018 Ben and Helen D. Hill Memorial Fund, Penn State University - $565
2018 Ecology Student Travel Grant - $200
2017 **First Place**, Entomological Society of America Student Competition – Host Plant Resistance section
2017 J. Brian Horton Memorial Award, Penn State University - $1500
2017 Huck Institutes Graduate Travel Award, Penn State University - $1500
2017 Biology Student Travel Grant, Penn State University - $500
2017 Ben and Helen D. Hill Memorial Fund, Penn State University - $669
2016 Ecology Research Assistantship, Penn State University – Tuition and stipend
2015 **Second Place**, Entomological Society of America Student Competition – Host Plant Resistance section

2015	Ben and Helen D. Hill Memorial Fund, Penn State University - $550
2015	Biology Student Travel Grant, Penn State University - $250
2014	Biology Student Travel Grant, Penn State University - $250
2014	Ben and Helen D. Hill Memorial Fund, Penn State University - $904
2013	Ben and Helen D. Hill Memorial Fund, Penn State University - $725

Leadership, Service, and Outreach Activities

2018	**Exhibitor**, USA Science and Engineering Festival, Washington, D.C.
2017	**Volunteer**, Great Insect Fair, Penn State University
2017	**Coordinator**, Science 497-003: Science Outreach and Communication, Penn State University
2016	**Coordinator,** Biology 497F: Science Outreach and Communication, Penn State University
2016	**Exhibitor**, USA Science and Engineering Festival, Washington, D.C.
2016	**Volunteer**, Exploration-U: State College STEM night
2015-2016	**President**, Ecology Graduate Student Organization, Penn State University
2015	**Volunteer**, Exploration-U: Bellefonte Family Science Night
2015	**Volunteer**, Exploration-U: State College STEM night
2015	**Andersen Award Selection Committee**, Ecology Program, Penn State University
2014-2015	**Coordinator**, Ecology Spring Seminar Series, "The Effects of Stress on Ecological Systems", Ecology Graduate Student Organization, Penn State University
2014	**Judge**, Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science
2013-2015	**Social Chair**, Ecology Graduate Student Organization, Penn State University
2013	**Judge**, Penn State Undergraduate Research Exhibition
2012	**Volunteer**, Great Insect Fair, Penn State University

Professional Society Memberships

Entomological Society of America (2014 – Present)

Professional Service

Reviewer for Insect Science

Additional Training and skills

Proficient in R statistical programming
Proficient in Spanish