

SARA J. ANDERSON

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EDUCATION

Doctoral Candidate in Wildlife Genetics, May 2009 (expected completion date)

Advisor: Olin E. Rhodes, Jr.
Department of Forestry and Natural Resources
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN

Bachelor of Arts in Biology, May 2003

University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, MN

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Landscape Genetics of Eastern Chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*) and White-footed Mice (*Peromyscus leucopus*) in Fragmented Landscapes of Indiana. *Dissertation* - current.

I am studying the effects of landscape features on population genetic structure in eastern chipmunks and white-footed mice. I plan to assess barriers to dispersal at fine geographic scales and high habitat-type resolution. The genetic work will include 10-14 microsatellite loci for each species, and in the case of the chipmunks, I have developed the library.

Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge Shorebird Project: Length of stay at stopover sites in the Prairie Pothole Region. Summer 2002, research assistant.

I assisted in the first field season of a study to determine length of stay of least sandpipers, pectoral sandpipers, and semipalmated sandpipers at ephemeral wetlands in west-central Minnesota. My duties included marking birds, locating/evaluating possible shorebird habitat within and around the study area, and radio telemetry. We used mist nets to capture birds. The target species were banded, fit with radio transmitters (in some cases), and blood was drawn (in some cases). I participated in all aspects of these activities and taught volunteers the methods.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant for Ecology and Systematics of Mammals, 2007 Fall
Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University. Laboratory Instructor.

Teaching Assistant for Ecology and Systematics of Birds, 2007 Spring
Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University. Laboratory Instructor.

Teaching Assistant for Conservation Genetics, Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University 2006 & 2005 Spring
Duties included: occasional lectures, meeting with

students, planning and leading a lab demonstration, and grading. Mix of undergraduate and graduate students.	
Course: <i>Philosophy of Biological Instruction</i> . Discussion and analysis of teaching methods for classes from small groups to large lectures. Outstanding professors were brought in to teach about different teaching methods.	2004 Fall
Teaching Assistant for Molecular Biology, University of MN, Morris Duties included: responsible for teaching undergraduates Basic molecular biology lab techniques, such as setting up PCR's, restriction digests, running agarose gels, etc. I also edited laboratory reports and gave students feedback on their writing.	2003 Spring
Instructor for a year-long Faculty Development Project on Web Design for Professors Duties included: led group discussions, created tutorials, guided individual professors in one-on-one sessions, surveyed students for effectiveness of course websites	2002 Fall – 2003 Spring

AWARDS AND HONORS

Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellowship	2004-2009
ArcGIS 9 Certification	April 2005
GRANT: West Central Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (\$4000)	Summer 2002
Invited to join Beta Beta Beta Biological Honorary Society Simultaneously elected Gamma Xi Chapter Historian	2002 Fall – 2003 Spring
Elected Co-president of UMM Biology Club (University of Minnesota, Morris)	2002 Fall – 2003 Spring
Summer internship at Chahinkapa Zoo, Wahpeton, ND	Summer 2001
Dean's List (University of Minnesota, Morris; all semesters)	2000 Fall – 2003 Spring
Chancellor's Scholarship – full tuition University of Minnesota, Morris	1999 Fall – 2000 Spring

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Forestry and Natural Resources Symposium (W. Lafayette, IN)	<i>Poster</i> April 2008
Center for the Environment Research Symposium (W. Lafayette, IN)	<i>Poster</i> March 2007
Forestry and Natural Resources Symposium (W. Lafayette, IN)	<i>Poster</i> April 2007
Center for the Environment Research Symposium (W. Lafayette, IN)	<i>Poster</i> April 2006
Forestry and Natural Resources Symposium (W. Lafayette, IN)	<i>Poster</i> April 2006
New York Chapter, The Wildlife Society (Brookhaven, NY)	<i>Oral</i> March 2006

Anderson, S.J., J.A. Fike, G. Dharmarajan and O.E. Rhodes, Jr. **2007**. Characterization of 12 polymorphic microsatellite loci for eastern chipmunks (*Tamias striatus*). **Molecular Ecology Notes** 7(3) 513-515.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK († indicates additional laboratory component)

Conservation genetics: Population Genetics, Conservation Genetics†

Molecular genetics: Molecular Biology†, Microbiology†, Molecular Biology of the Animal Cell, Biochemistry†, Advanced Eukaryotic Genetics, Microbial Genetics, Bioorganic Chemistry

Ecology: Ecology†, Vertebrate Natural History†, Animal Physiology†, Vertebrate Population Dynamics†

Evolution: Advanced Evolution Discussion, Biogeography, Evolution of Biodiversity†

GIS/Remote sensing: GIS Applications†, Digital Remote Sensing and GIS†, Learning ArcGIS 9†

Statistics: Applied Regression Analysis†, Biostatistics†, Bioinformatics Seminar