

NILS CORDES

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Education

Doctor of Philosophy, in progress. Evolutionary Biology. University of Bielefeld. 2010—present. Dr. Klaus Reinhold, advisor.

Master of Science, Entomology. University of Illinois. 2008—2010. Dr. Leellen F. Solter, advisor. Thesis: The Role of Pathogens in the Decline of North American Bumble Bees with a Focus on the Microsporidium *Nosema bombi*.

Master of Science, Biology. Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. 2007. Biology. Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner, advisor. Thesis: Learning Behavior of the Termite *Macrotermes natalensis*.

Experience

Research Fellow, Bielefeld University, Dr. Klaus Reinhold. May 2010—present. I study the evolution of behavioral variance in wax moths and am in charge of maintenance and presentation of the website for the Department of Evolutionary Biology.

Research Assistance, University of Illinois, Dr. Leellen F. Solter. January 2008—April 2010. I studied the pathology of bumble bees and the role of microsporidia in bumble bee decline as part of a nationwide project.

Teaching Assistance, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner. April 2007—July 2007. Course: Insect Behavior and Sociology – Field research on learning behavior of honey bees.

Teaching Assistance, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. May 2006—July 2006. Supervision of zoological/entomological excursions for undergraduate students.

Independent Field Research, South Africa. January 2006—May 2006. I studied the learning behavior of the termite *Macrotermes natalensis*.

Independent Field Research, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, Dr. Wolfgang H. Kirchner. July 2004—August 2004. I studied odor perception and odor preference of laboratory-reared bumble bees.

Independent Field Research, Research Station of the *Philippine Endemic Species Conservation Project* on Panay, Philippines, Dr. Eberhard Curio. November 2003—April 2004. Research on invertebrate behavior and ecology.

Affiliations

German Zoological Society (DZG), 2011-
Society of Invertebrate Pathology, 2008-2010
Entomological Society of America, 2009-2010
Champaign-Urbana Pollinator Awareness Network

Public Service

Radio Interview on Animal Personalities, WDR 5 *Leonardo*. March 29, 2011.
Media Interview on Prehistoric Insects, WILL-AM Radio and *The News Gazette*,
Champaign, IL. February 25, 2010.
UIUC Linnaean Games Team, National Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of
America. Indianapolis, IN, December 12-15, 2009. Member.
Society of Invertebrate Pathology Student Representative, Microsporidia Division. 2009-
2010.
Entomology Graduate Student Association, Secretary. 2009-2010.
School presentation: *The many insects of Illinois*. Montessori School of Champaign-Urbana,
Savoy, IL. June 2009.
National Pollinator Week in Champaign-Urbana. June 22-28, 2009. Organizer.
UIUC Linnaean Games Team, North Central Branch Meeting of the Entomological Society
of America. St. Louis, MO, March 15-18, 2009. Member.
School presentation: *Insects from the US and the World*. Middletown Early Childhood
Center, Mahomet, IL. November 2008.
Insect Fear Film Festival at Foellinger Auditorium, University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign. 2008—2010. Volunteer/Organizer.
National Pollinator Week in Champaign-Urbana. June 22-28, 2008. Volunteer.
Media Interview on Social Insects, WILL-AM Radio and *The News Gazette*, Champaign, IL.
February 17, 2008.

Honors & Grants

National Champion Team, Linnaean Games, National Annual Meeting of the
Entomological Society of America. Indianapolis, IN. December 2009.
Finalist, Stinger Award, National Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America.
Indianapolis, IN. December 2009.
Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Support Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign, 2009.
Microsporidia Division Student Travel Award, Society of Invertebrate Pathology, 2009.
First Place Team, Linnaean Games, North Central Branch Meeting, Entomological Society
of America, St. Louis, MO. March 2009
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Support Grant, DAAD, 2006.

Presentations and Talks

- Cordes, N. and Günther, A. 2011. *Behavioural Consistency: Terminology and Concepts*. Reduction of Phenotypic Plasticity in Behavior Workshop, Wettringen, Deutschland, October 17-19, 2011.
- Solter, L. and Cordes, N. 2011. *Bumble bee decline: Are pathogens involved?* Invited Talk, University of São Paulo, ESALQ-USP, Piracicaba, Brazil, February 16, 2011.
- Cordes, N. 2010. *The lesser wax moth, Achroia grisella: Can an insect have a personality?* Reduction of Phenotypic Plasticity in Behavior Workshop, Gülpe, Germany, November 11 - 13, 2010.
- Solter, L., Cordes, N., and Huang, W-F. 2010. *What do surveys tell us about pathogen invasion in bumble bees?* IUCN North American Bumble Bee Species Conservation Strategy Workshop, St. Louis, MO, November 9-12, 2010.
- Cordes, N. and Solter, L. 2010. *Distribution and variation of Nosema bombi in North American bumble bees*. SIP Annual Meeting, July 11-15, 2010.
- Cordes, N., Solter, L., Cameron, S., Lozier, J., Strange, J. and Griswold, T. 2009. *Are microsporidia involved in bumble bee decline?* Invited Talk, SIP Annual Meeting, August 16-20, 2009.
- Strange, J., Cordes, N., Solter, L., Griswold, T. and Cameron, S. 2009. *The prevalence, distribution and hosts of Crithidia bombi in wild bumble bee populations*. Invited Talk, SIP Annual Meeting, August 16-20, 2009.
- Cordes, N. 2008. *Bumble bees as pollinators*. National Pollinator Week Press Conference, Urbana, IL.

Posters

- Cordes, N. and Reinhold, K. 2011. *On the Origin of Individual Behavioural Differences of Wax Moth Males*. 104th Annual Meeting of the German Zoological Society (DZG). Saarbrücken, Germany, September 9-12, 2011.
- Strange, J.P., Cordes, N., Koch, J.B., Lozier, J.D., Griswold, T.L., Solter, L.F. and Cameron, S.A. 2008. *Current Status and Potential Causes of Population Decline in Wild Bumble Bee Pollinators*. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Reno, NV, November 16-19, 2008.

Publications

- Cordes, N., Huang, W.-F., Strange, J.P., Cameron, S.A., Griswold, T.L., Lozier, J.D., Solter, L.F. (2012). *Interspecific geographic distribution and variation of the pathogens Nosema bombi and Crithidia species in United States bumble bee populations*. *Journal of Invertebrate Pathology* 109 (2): 209-216.
- Cameron, S.A., Lozier, J.D., Strange, J.P., Koch, J.B., Cordes, N., Solter, L.F., Griswold, T.L. (2011). *Patterns of widespread decline in North American bumble bees*. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 108 (2): 662-667.

Books

Berenbaum, M. (ed.), Cordes, N. (ill.). 2010. *Honey, I'm Homemade: Sweet Treats from the Beehive across the Centuries and around the World*. University of Illinois Press.