Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt

PhD Candidate · Program in Ecology

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Education

University of Wyoming — *Laramie, WY*
PhD Ecology — *Anticipated May 2022*
- Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano

University of Wyoming — *Laramie, WY*
M.S. Botany — *July 2018*
- Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano

Metropolitan State University, Denver — *Denver, CO*
B.S. Applied Geology — *December 2015*

San Francisco State University — *San Francisco, CA*
B.A. Art History — *May 2009*
- Focus: Non-Western Art History

Professional Experience

2020-2022 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Ecology, University of Wyoming
2018-2020 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Program in Ecology, University of Wyoming
2016-2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Botany, University of Wyoming
2015-2015 **Geology Intern**, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver CO

Publications

Ellen D. Currano, **Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt***, S. Augusta Maccracken*, Anshuman Swain*. 2021. An exploration of ecological patterns in plant–insect herbivore associations during the Age of Angiosperms. Paleo^3. Invited review paper.

* authors contributed equally

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt, Regan E. Dunn, Jason Mercer, Marieke Dechesne, Ellen D. Currano. 2019. Plant and insect herbivore community variation across the Paleocene-Eocene boundary, Hanna Basin WY. PeerJ:e7798

In Review

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt, Aaron F. Diefendorf, Kristen Schlanser, Allie Baczynski, Marieke Dechesne, Regan Dunn, Katherine H. Freeman, Ellen D. Currano. Local differences in paleohydrology more heavily influence plant biomarkers than regional climate change across two Paleogene Laramide Basins, Wyoming, USA. Paleo^3

Anshuman Swain, **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt**, S. Augusta Maccracken, Ellen D. Currano, Jennifer Dunne, Conrad C. Labandeira, and William F. Fagan. Effects of sampling bias on the robustness of ecological metrics for fossil plant-damage-type association networks.

In Prep

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt, Ellen D. Currano. Insect herbivory within modern forests is greater than at fossil localities due to human influence. To be submitted to: PNAS

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt*, Anshuman Swain*, Ellen D. Currano, William F. Fagan. Insect stoichiometry and fossil leaf nutrient composition. Using functional feeding guilds to reconstruct nutrient requirements of paleontological plant-insect interactions. To be submitted to: CellPress

* authors contributed equally

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt, Lauren Shoemaker, Ellen D. Currano. Abiotic and biotic selective pressures influence insect herbivory within and across ecosystem types. To be submitted to: Ecology.

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt, Daniel Laughlin, Ellen D. Currano. Plant traits drive specialization of insect feeding and leaf area consumed across three modern ecosystems. To be submitted to: Ecology Letters

Claudia Richbourg[*], **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt[*]**, Ellen D. Currano. Inter and intradepositional pressure on leaf mass per area (LMA) and leafeconomic spectrum (LES): a comparison of Eocene fossil leaf compressions and modern leaf packs. To be submitted to: Geology

[*] authors contributed equally

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants (Total: $41,915)

2021	**Community Foundation of Jackson Hole Edelweiss Fund**, Roy J. Shlemon Center for Quaternary Studies,University of Wyoming	*$ 6,040*
2020	**Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium**, University of Wyoming	*$ 20,000*
2019	**Outstanding women in science award**, Roy J. Shlemon Center for Quaternary Studies, University of Wyoming	*$ 5,000*
2019	**Solheim Award**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 1,200*
2019	**Aven Nelson Fellowship in Systematic Botany**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 1,300*
2019	**Service Award**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 200*
2018	**Dean's Graduate Scholars Award**, University of Wyoming	*$ 2,000*
2018	**Edwin B Payson Scholarship**, University of Wyoming	*$ 575*
2018	**Aven Nelson Fellowship in Systematic Botany**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 2,500*
2018	**Service Award**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 300*
2018	**Aven Nelson Fellowship in Systematic Botany**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 2,000*
2018	**Dennis H Knight Graduate Student Fellowship**, Botany, University of Wyoming	*$ 1,000*
2017	**Botany Service Award**, University of Wyoming	*$ 200*
2017	**Research Grant**, Paleontological Society Grant	*$ 500*

Presentations

** presenting author; [#] mentored undergraduate*

Invited Talks

Fall 2021. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt[*]** and Ellen D. Currano. *Paleobotanical methods used in modern ecosystems show an increase in insect herbivory on dicot leaves, unlike any other geologic period*. Invited talk: Entomological Society of America 2021 annual meeting, Denver, CO.

Fall 2020. Ellen D. Currano[*], **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt**, *Plant-insect interactions throughout geologic history.* Invited talk: Geological Society of America 2020 annual meeting, virtual.

Contributed Presentations

Fall 2021. Anshuman Swain[*], **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt**, S. Augusta Maccracken, Ellen D. Currano, Jennifer Dunne, Conrad Labandeira, Bill Fagan. Effects of sampling bias on robustness of ecological metrics in fossil plant-damage type association networks, Geological Society of America 2021 annual meeting, Portland, OR.

Fall 2021. Anshuman Swain[*], **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt**, S. Augusta Maccracken, Conrad Labandeira, Bill Fagan, Ellen D. Currano. Understanding plant-insect interactions in the fossil record. Oral Presentation: IU Network Science Institute, Networks 2021, Washington DC

Spring 2021. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt[*]**. Plant-insect interactions across geologic deep-time and modern ecosystems: are insects hungrier in the modern?. Oral Presentation: University of Wyoming PiE Symposium, Laramie, WY.

Fall 2020. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt[*]**. Comparing apples to apples: bringing paleobotanical methods into a modern ecological study. Oral Presentation: Shlemon Center Quaternary Center, Laramie, WY.

Fall 2020. Natasha Heins*#, **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt**, Ellen D. Currano. Utilizing leaves to quantify changes in insect herbivory across facies, Harvard Forest, Massachusetts, USA. Presentation: WRSP Symposium University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY.

Spring 2019. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt***. Utilizing paleobotanical field collection methods to compare modern leaf and insect herbivore interactions to fossil data sets. Oral Presentation: University of Wyoming PiE Symposium, Laramie, WY.

Fall 2019. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt***. Comparing apples to apples: bringing paleobotanical methods into a modern ecological study. Oral presentation: University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY.

Fall 2018. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt***, Ellen D. Currano. Plant and insect herbivore community variation across the Paleocene-Eocene boundary. Oral presentation: Annual GSA Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

Fall 2017. **Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt*** and Ellen D. Currano. Paleobotany in the Hanna Basin, WY: Effects of water availability on forest ecosystems during the Paleocene-Eocene in Wyoming. Poster Presentation: CBEP Conference, Snowbird, UT.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Sp 2021 **LIFE 1002: Discovering Science**, Teaching assistant
Sp 2020 **BOT 5000: Graduate Seminar in Ecological Statistics**, Instructor
Sp 2018 **LIFE 1003: Current Issues in Biology**, Lab instructor
Fall 2017 **BOT 1101: Paleo's Great Debates**, Teaching assistant
Fall 2017 **BOT 4775: Forest Ecology**, Teaching assistant and lab instructor
Sp 2017 **LIFE 1003: Current Issues in Biology**, Teaching assistant
Sp 2017 **LIFE 1003: Current Issues in Biology**, Lab instructor
Fall 2016 **LIFE 2023: Biology of Plants and Fungi**, Teaching assistant

Relevant Work Experience

Position	Skills	Years
Kitchen Manager	Working well under pressure and deadlines, organization and overseeing of staff, time management, communication, mentoring, able to lead a team, taught new techniques and skill sets	2014-2016
Preschool Teacher	Time management, very patient, able to lead team, great organization, working well under pressure	2011-2012
Rock Climbing Route Setter	Technical climbing skills, communication, problem solving, time management, overseeing staff, following safety protocols	2013-2014

Mentoring

Year	Male	Female	First Generation	Description	Institution
2021-2022	0	3	1	Research Assistant	University of Wyoming
2021-2021	0	4	0	Research Assistant	University of Wyoming
2019-2020	0	1	0	Research Assistant	University of Wyoming
2018-2019	0	1	1	Field Assistant	University of Wyoming
2017-2018	1	0	0	Field Assistant	University of Wyoming

Research Experience

University of Wyoming - Dept of Botany *Laramie, WY*

Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano *Aug. 2018 - Present*

- Dissertation: "Utilizing modern leaves to calibrate the plant-insect fossil record"

University of Wyoming - Dept of Botany *Laramie, WY*

Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano *2016-2018*

- Thesis: "Plant-insect interactions across the Paleocene-Eocene boundary, Hanna Basin, WY"

Outreach & Professional Development

Service and Outreach

2021-2021	**Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium** , Website design, abstract review	*Host: Burke Museum*
2019-2022	**Program in Ecology**, Finance Committee Member	*UW*
2019-2020	**Program in Ecology**, Mentor Mentee Committee Member	
2018-2019	**Program in Ecology**, Odyssey Committee Member	

Professional Memberships

Graduate Women in Science
Geological Society of America (GSA)
American Women Geologists (AWG)
International Organization of Paleobotany
Paleontological Society
Girls Who Code
Letters to a Pre-Scientist