

Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt

PHD CANDIDATE · PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY

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Education

University of Wyoming

PHD ECOLOGY

• Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano

Laramie, WY

Anticipated May 2022

University of Wyoming

M.S. BOTANY

• Advisor: Dr. Ellen D. Currano

Laramie, WY

July 2018

Metropolitan State University, Denver

B.S. APPLIED GEOLOGY

Denver, CO

December 2015

San Francisco State University

B.A. ART HISTORY

• Focus: Non-Western Art History

San Francisco, CA

May 2009

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

IN PREP

Lauren E. Azevedo-Schmidt^{*}, Ellen D. Currano. Paleobotanical methods used in modern ecosystems show an increase in insect herbivory on dicot leaves, unlike any other geologic period. 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