

Curriculum Vitae  
**Chelsea Nicole Miller**  
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**PhD Candidate**

**MS Candidate**

University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Knoxville, Tennessee, USA  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Personal website:** [chelseanicolemiller.com](http://chelseanicolemiller.com)

**EDUCATION:**

- 2014 - **PhD**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology  
*Dissertation:* Abiotic and biotic drivers of narrow endemism in *Trillium* of the southeastern US  
*Expected graduation date:* **7 May 2020**  
*Adviser:* Dr. Charles Kwit
- 2017 - **MS**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Statistics  
*Expected graduation date:* **7 May 2020**  
*Adviser:* Dr. James Fordyce
- 2009 - 2013 **BS**, Magna Cum Laude, University of Central Arkansas, Biology  
*Thesis:* The impacts of human presence on endemic rainforest animals: ecotourism as a solution to conflict in Northeastern Madagascar.  
*Adviser:* Dr. Sally Entrekin

**PUBLICATIONS:**

- Miller, C. N.**, S. R. Whitehead, and C. Kwit. 2020. Effects of seed morphology and elaiosome chemical composition on attractiveness of five *Trillium* species to seed-dispersing ants. *Ecology and Evolution* 2020;00: 1–14. DOI:10.1002/ece3.6101.
- Miller, C. N.**, H. Brabazon, I. M. Ware, N. H. Kingsley, and J. M. Budke. 2019. Bringing an Historic Collection into the Modern Era: Curating the J. K. Underwood Seed Collection at the University of Tennessee Herbarium (TENN). *Collection Forum* 32(1-2): 14-30.
- Miller, C. N.**, and C. Kwit. 2018. Overall seed dispersal effectiveness is lower in endemic *Trillium* species than in their widespread congeners. *American Journal of Botany* 105(11): 1-11.
- Valenta, K., **C. N. Miller**, S. K. Monckton, S. A. Styler, D. J. Jackson, A. D. Melin, C. A. Chapman and M. J. Lawes. 2016. Fruit ripening signals and cues in a Madagascan dry forest: haptic indicators reliably indicate fruit ripeness to dichromatic lemurs. *Evolutionary Biology*, 1-12.

## **CONTRIBUTED TALKS AND POSTERS:**

- 2019 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, Louisville, KY. 2019. “Composition of elaiosome phytochemical profiles and fatty acid concentrations drive seed disperser preference in myrmecochorous species of *Trillium*.” [**Poster Presentation, Published Abstract**]
- 2019 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in STEM Symposium, Knoxville, TN. 2019. “Elaiosome chemical attributes may explain disperser preference for the seeds of widespread *Trillium* species compared to their co-occurring endemic congeners.” [**Poster Presentation, Published Abstract**]
- 2018 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, New Orleans, LA. 2018. “Comparisons of seed dispersal effectiveness between sympatric endemic and widespread *Trillium* congeners in the southeastern US.” [**Podium Presentation, Published Abstract**]
- 2017 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists Conference, Montgomery, AL. 2017. “Ant-seed dispersal and rarity in southeastern US *Trilliums*.” [**Podium Presentation, Published Abstract**]
- 2015 Natural Areas Association Conference, Little Rock, AR. 2015. “Plant advantages in myrmecochory: redirecting directed dispersal.” [**Podium Presentation, Published Abstract**]

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:**

- 2019 - 2020 Oscar Roy Ashley Graduate Fellowship, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$4,000)
- 2017 - 2018 TENN Herbarium Graduate Research Assistantship (\$10,320)
- 2014 - 2020 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$117,500)
- 2009 - 2013 Norbert O. Schedler Honors College Scholarship, University of Central Arkansas (\$65,000)

## **RESEARCH GRANTS:**

- 2018 L.R. Hesler Herbarium Support Fund 2018 Student Research Award (\$1,822.75)
- 2017 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$300)
- 2016 Botanical Society of America Graduate Student Research Award (\$500)
- 2015 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, (\$700)
- 2015 Catherine H. Beattie Fellowship, Garden Club of America (\$4,500)

## **AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- 2019 Ecological Society of America Student Section Travel Grant (\$75)
- 2019 Graduate Student Council Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$400)
- 2019 Plant Research Center Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$500)

2019 GREBE Travel Award (\$100)  
 2018 Graduate Student Council Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$350)  
 2018 Plant Research Center Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$500)  
 2017 Association of Southeastern Biologists Graduate Student Support Award (\$250)  
 2017 Plant Research Center Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$640)  
 2017 GREBE Travel Award (\$90)  
 2015 Graduate Student Council Travel Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (\$450)  
 2012 Travel Abroad Grant, University of Central Arkansas (\$2,500)  
 2011 Travel Abroad Grant, University of Central Arkansas (\$3,000)

### **WORKSHOPS:**

2018 ESA2018 ComSciCon Workshop (5 August, 2018).  
 2018 “Generalized Joint Attribute Modeling (GJAM).” James Clark. (January 25, 2018).  
 2017 Joint MBI-NIMBioS-CAMBAM Summer Graduate Program, “Connecting Models with Biological Data.” Competitive entry program. (June 19-23, 2017).  
 2017 TAG (TN-AL-GA) Plant Conservation Alliance Meeting. (May 18, 2017).  
 2016 “GEOLocate Software Tutorial (Tulane University).” SERNEC at the Association of Southeastern Biologists meeting. (31 March, 2016).

### **PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH POSITIONS:**

2013 - 2014 Assistant Natural Resources Manager, Camp Robinson Military Base, North Little Rock, AR  
 2013 Waterbird Technician, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
 2012 Biological Research Assistant, Masoala National Park, Madagascar  
 2009-2013 Biological Research Assistant, Entekin Aquatic Ecology Lab, University of Central Arkansas

### **TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS:**

Spring 2019 - Spring 2020 Bio 269 [Ecology Field Lab] **Head Laboratory Instructor**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Fall 2018 Bio 260 [Ecology Lecture] **Lecture Teaching Assistant**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Spring 2018 UT Herbarium (TENN) **Graduate Research Assistant**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Fall 2017 Bio 115 [Introduction to Plant Diversity] **Laboratory Instructor**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Spring 2017 EEB 426 [Plant-Animal Interactions] **Lecture Teaching Assistant**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Spring 2016 Bio 102 [Introduction to Biology II] **Laboratory Instructor**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Fall - Spring 2015 Bio 150 [Organismal and Ecological Biology] **Laboratory Instructor**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.  
 Fall 2014, Fall 2016, Summer 2018 Bio 101 [Introduction to Biology] **Laboratory Instructor**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

## **ACADEMIC AND OUTREACH SERVICE:**

- 2019 Kids U Course Leader, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. “Vertebrate Zoology.” Co-taught a week-long summer course in vertebrate zoology for 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- 2019 Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair Judge, UTIA, Knoxville, TN.
- 2018 Kids U Course Leader, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. “Snakes Alive!” Co-taught a week-long summer course in herpetology for 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- 2017-2018 Graduate Researchers in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology (GREBE) President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Elected representative. Organized and led regular meetings; organized professional development workshops and post-doctoral researcher panels; managed tri-annual Travel Awards for graduate students.
- 2016-2017 Engaging Knoxville in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EKEE) Member, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Organized and participated in community outreach activities; Farmers’ Market booths; elementary/middle school outreach.
- 2016-2017 Graduate Affairs Committee Representative, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Elected representative. Liaison between faculty and graduate students.
- 2015-2016 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Seminar Committee Representative, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Elected representative. Organized weekly seminars with outside academic and non-academic speakers.

## **ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS:**

- 2018-ongoing Ecological Society of America, Southeastern Chapter Member
- 2017-2018 Association of Southeastern Biologists
- 2016-2018 Botanical Society of America
- 2015-2016 International Primatological Society

## **REFERENCES:**

1. Charles Kwit, Ph.D.  
UTK Assistant Professor, Dissertation Adviser  
[ckwit@utk.edu](mailto:ckwit@utk.edu)  
(865) 809-5337
2. Jessica Budke, Ph.D.  
UTK Assistant Professor & Herbarium Director, Research Advisor/Collaborator  
[jbudke@utk.edu](mailto:jbudke@utk.edu)  
(865) 974-6204
3. Monica Papeş, Ph.D.  
UTK Assistant Professor, Research Mentor/Collaborator  
[mpapes@utk.edu](mailto:mpapes@utk.edu)  
(865) 974-2821