

Srinath Srikanth Vaidheeswaran

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EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts, Lowell

September 2023-Present

Lowell, MA

Doctor of Philosophy, Applied Biology

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Graduation: May 2023

Amherst, MA

Bachelor of Science, Biology (Second Major of Environmental Science); GPA: 3.4

Relevant coursework: Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Advanced Genetics, Gene and Genome Analysis, Marine Biology, Mammalogy, Ornithology

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Transmission Dynamics of a common bumblebee gut pathogen on basil plants

University Massachusetts, Amherst, MA; September 2022 – May 2023

Designed and Conducted experiments to assess defecation patterns of *Bombus impatiens* on Basil Plants. Measured survivability of common gut parasite *C. bombi* on medicinal and non-medicinal Basil plants to determine difference in plant parasite interactions.

Effect of minimum wage on the fast-food market

University Massachusetts, Amherst, MA; September 2021 - December 2021

Collaborated with 9 other members and analyzed secondary data about minimum wage and product costs in the fast-food market to understand how the former affects the latter.

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Peer mentor, January 2022 – May 2023

Mentored first year students on academic concerns including curricular planning and academic opportunities. Collaborated with co-mentors to organize events and set up bulletin boards for the residents as a means of community building and smooth transition into college education.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Research Assistant at Adler Lab, June 2022 – August 2022

Conducted field experiments to investigate self-medication in *Bombus impatiens* infected with *C. bombi*. Dissected and analyzed bee gut content for infection intensities and Analyzed pollen deposition on flowers using compound microscopy. Created and maintained bee microcolonies for experimentation purposes.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Research assistant on campus for bat habitat research. September 2021 – December 2021

Location: UMass Amherst, MA

Aided in research understanding usage of abandoned mines by bat colonies through entry and organization of data, collected from mine inspection records, in Google Sheets

FaunaNation

Wildlife Research Assistant, India. May 2021 – August 2021

Contributed to formulation of a guide for airport security and wildlife rescue personnel for the identification and proper care of confiscated trafficked animals. Researched information regarding frequently trafficked species of mollusks, mammals, and reptiles through review of scientific literature and interviews with experts on the field.

PRESENTATIONS

Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference, Virtual Session, April 2023. Srikanth Vaidheeswaran, S. "Transmission Dynamics of a common bumblebee gut pathogen on basil plants"(Presentation)

SKILLS

Biology Lab skills

Proficient in compound and fluorescence microscopy, preparation of both temporary and permanent slides, handling and analyzing live insect and plant specimens, Proficient in the usage of micropipettes, and the usage of restriction enzymes and gel electrophoresis for DNA manipulation and analysis.

Computer and Tech skills

Capable of using RStudio for Data analysis. Proficient in Microsoft programs like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint and proficient in Google programs like Google Docs, Sheets and Slides

Chemistry Lab skills

Acid-Base and Redox Titrations, Simple salt analysis, Melting point determination, Fractional distillation, Recrystallisation, Thin Layer chromatography, Acid-Base extraction.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award

Spring 2023, For Research conducted at the Adler Lab in the Summer and Fall of 2022

Umass Amherst Chancellor's Award

Fall 2019 - Spring 2023, \$14000 per annum.

Dean's List Honors

Spring 2020, Spring 2021 included in the Dean's List Honors.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

UMass Natural History Collections Club

Treasurer, January 2020 – December 2020

Maintained accounts of the club's budget and spending. Engaging in club activities like seminars and meetings.

UMass Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Member, September 2019 - present

Engaging in club activities like nature walks and seminars. Volunteering and Aiding in the spring migration of spotted salamanders in collaboration with the Hitchcock Centre for the Environment.