

Julie Wolfe Turner

Contact Information

Email: julwturner@gmail.com

Education

August 2011-
April 2018: Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI
Department of Integrative Biology (formerly Zoology)
Candidate for dual Ph.D. in the Department of Integrative Biology
(formerly Zoology) and the interdisciplinary program in Ecology, Evolution,
and Behavioral Biology.
Major Advisor: Dr. Kay Holekamp.
Cumulative GPA: 3.94

August 2007-
May 2011: Grinnell College; Grinnell, IA
Double major in Biology and History (B.A.)
Biology advisor: Kathryn Jacobson; History advisor: Elizabeth Prevost
Cumulative GPA: 3.72

Awards and Honors

- College of Natural Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$7500): 2017
- Michigan State University Excellence-in-teaching Citation: 2016-2017
- College of Natural Sciences Dissertation Continuation Fellowship (\$6000): 2016
- American Society of Mammalogists Grant-in-aid (\$1000): 2013
- Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grant (\$1250): 2013
- Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, and Behavior summer fellowship (\$1800): 2013, 2015-2017
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society: 2013
- BEACON Science and Technology Center Top Up Fellowship (\$3000/year): 2011-2016
- MSU College of Natural Science Recruitment Fellowship: 2011-2012
- Graduate with honors in biology at Grinnell College: 2011
- Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society: 2011
- Grinnell Trustee Scholarship: 2007–2011
- Charles E. Payne Scholarship: 2010-2011
- Mortarboard Honor Society: 2010-present
- U.S. Department of Energy Global Change Education Program- Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (GCEP-SURE) Finalist: 2010
- Grinnell College Deans List: 2007, 2009
- William G. Pollard Scholarship: 2007–2008, 2008–2009

Publications and Presentations

Turner, JW, PS Bills, and KE Holekamp. (In prep) Human disturbance negatively affects social structure and social development in wild spotted hyenas.

Turner, JW, RM LaFleur, AT Richardson, and KE Holekamp. (Under review) Anthropogenic disturbance affects responses to model intruders by free-living spotted hyenas. *Animal Behaviour*.

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Publications and Presentations (continued)

Turner, JW, PS Bills, and KE Holekamp. (Under review) Early life relationships matter: Social position during early life predicts fitness among female spotted hyenas. *Proceedings B*.

Johnson-Ulrich, L, KDS Lehmann, **JW Turner**, and KE Holekamp. (2018). Testing cognition in the *umwelt* of the spotted hyena. The experimental *umwelt*. A practical guide to animal cognition. N. Bueno-Guerra & F. Amici, Eds. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge, UK.

Turner, JW, PS Bills, and KE Holekamp. (2018) Ontogenetic change in determinants of social network position in the spotted hyena. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 72:10.

Turner, JW and KE Holekamp. Effects of early social bonds on adult fitness in free-living spotted hyenas (*Crocuta crocuta*). EEBC Colloquium, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. March 2016.

Turner, JW and KE Holekamp. Effects of early social bonds on female fitness in free-living spotted hyenas (*Crocuta crocuta*). Animal Behavior Society Conference, University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK. June 2015.

Cada, G, M Bevelhimer, K Riemer, and **J Turner**. 2011. Effects on freshwater organisms of magnetic fields associated with instream hydrokinetic turbines. FY2010 Annual Progress Report to the Wind and Water Power Program, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

Turner, JW. The effects of static magnetic fields on fresh water organisms. Biology Seminar, Biology Department, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA. October 2010.

Turner, JW. The effects of static magnetic fields on fresh water organisms. Fishheads Seminar, Environmental Sciences Department, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. August 2010.

Research Experience

Michigan State University:

Mara Hyena Project (w/ Kay Holekamp): August 2011-present

Tested hyenas responses to a model "intruder" hyena and examined how hyena association patterns relate to longevity, reproductive success, and other fitness-related traits in adulthood using social network analysis.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory:

Aquatics Laboratory (w/ Mark Bevelhimer and Glenn Cada): Summer 2010 (40 hrs/week)

Analyzed behavioral responses after exposing fresh water organisms to magnetic fields.

Campus Sustainability Initiative (w/ Susan Michaud): Summer 2009 (40 hrs/week)

Collected data about the recycling culture at ORNL from experiments such as dumpster dives and helped to implement a new recycling program.

Microbiology Laboratory (w/ Anthony Palumbo & Meghan Drake): Summer 2008 (40 hrs/week)

Cultured anaerobic bacteria and found adequate food sources.

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Work Experience

March 2017 -
April 2018 Freelance science communicator/naturalist
Masai Mara, Kenya

I give formal and informal talks to tourists of all nationalities, backgrounds, and age groups on topics ranging from Masai Mara ecology to animal behavior to conservation in the area. Group sizes range from about 1-50.

May 2013-
June 2014: International Research Experience Student Graduate Program Assistant
Michigan State University Mara Hyena Project

I solicited, collected, organized, and evaluated applications of nearly 200 undergraduates interested in doing research on the Hyena Project. I also helped plan the logistics of the students getting to Kenya and their living once arriving there.

June 2013-
June 2014: Graduate Researcher at Mara Hyena Project Field Sites
Michigan State University Mara Hyena Project

I helped manage two field camps including training and managing 4-7 research assistants and 7-8 staff, obtaining supplies and research permits, etc. I collected demographic and behavioral data on hyenas as well as physical data from immobilized hyenas. I also conducted prey transects bi-weekly in each study area as general ecosystem measures.

Service

Departmental

August 2014-
May 2015 Service on MSU Zoology Department Curriculum Committee

August 2012-
Present: Mentor Undergraduate and Post-Undergraduate Research Assistants
Michigan State University and Mara Hyena Project
22 undergraduates and 2 post-undergraduates, to date

Non-departmental

June 2012-
Present: Outreach Associated with Holekamp Lab and Mara Hyena Project
-MSU Museum Darwin Discovery Day (East Lansing, MI, 2012, 2013, 2016)
-ABS Science Day (Anchorage, AK, 2015)
-Hyena and Mara Ecosystem talks to students and tourists (Kenya)
-Science nights at local schools (East Lansing, MI)

At each of these events, I interacted with families, discussing hyenas, ecology, conservation, and Kenya. We also developed and played games with the kids to give them an idea of what it is like to be a researcher.

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Service (continued)

- April 2016 Judge, University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum
- I volunteered to evaluate and give feedback on students' independent research that they chose to present at the forum
- December 2015 Panelist, MSU Zoology Student Association Graduate School Forum
- I met with undergraduate members of the Zoology Student association to talk about life post-graduation, specifically focusing on graduate school, and to answer their questions.

Teaching Experience

- August 2014-
June 2016 Behavioral Ecology of African Mammals (BEAM) (ZOL 490) Co-instructor
(*Lead instructor July 2015 - June 2016*)
Michigan State University Integrative Biology Department
- With my other co-instructors, I helped to plan the BEAM course including developing a budget, planning the travel itinerary and on the ground logistics, advertising the course, conducting a risk assessment, and preparing the syllabus and lectures (16 students 2015, 15 students 2016)
- January 2015-
May 2016: Teaching assistant for Ecology Lab (ZOL/PLB 355L)
Michigan State University Zoology/Plant Biology Departments
- I led two labs per week in a course focused on employing the scientific method and improving science writing. I oversaw the students designing, conducting, analyzing, and presenting their own group experiments. Furthermore, I taught basic ecological lab techniques and concepts (~30 students/semester 20 hrs/week).
- August 2014-
December 2014: Teaching Assistant for Organismal Biology Lab (BS 172)
Michigan State University BioSciences Program
- I led two labs per week and attended recitation. I guided students in designing and conducting their own research, grade papers and poster presentations that the students make, as well as their progress at learning lab techniques (37 students, 20 hrs/week).
- January 2013-
May 2013: Teaching Assistant for Cell and Molecular Biology Lab (BS 171)
Michigan State University BioSciences Program
- I led two labs per week and a recitation. I graded papers and poster presentations that the students make, as well as their progress at learning lab techniques (33 students, 20 hrs/week).

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Teaching Experience (continued)

August 2012-
December 2012: Teaching Assistant for Marine Biology (ZOL 353)
Michigan State University Zoology Department

I attended lectures biweekly and led two discussion sections. Some weeks I was the discussion leader, and other weeks, I facilitated student led discussions. Furthermore, I graded written essays, going through a drafting process, to help teach science writing (31 students, 20 hrs/week).

January 2011-
May 2011: Teaching Assistant for Animal Behavior
Grinnell College Biology Department

I attended all classes and lab sessions, helped with in-class activities, and held weekly review sessions to go over crucial material and help students with any questions. For each review session, I developed a review lecture and practice questions (10 hrs/week).

August 2010-
December 2010: Teaching Assistant for Molecules, Cells, and Organisms
Grinnell College Biology Department

I attended all classes, helped with in-class activities, and held weekly review sessions to go over crucial material and help students with any questions. For each review session, I developed a practice-test handout (10 hrs/week).

August 2009-
January 2011: Tutor for Introduction to Biological Inquiry
Grinnell College Biology Department

I would meet one-on-one with students who were struggling or wanted help reinforcing key concepts. Depending on the student, I would either answer questions or develop worksheets to help the student identify and understand the key ideas (10 hrs/week).

Other skills

- Database management (Microsoft Access, SQLite)
- Coding/statistics (primarily R, but also SQL and Python)
- Social network analysis
- GIS experience
- Conversational Spanish
- Skilled at off-road, 4x4 driving