MICHELLE ANNETTE RENSEL: CURRICULUM VITAE

Assistant Adjunct Professor

The Institute for Society and Genetics

The University of California, Los Angeles

mrensel@ucla.edu

**Education*:***

2005 University of Puget Sound B.S., Biology; minor in Latin American Studies

2009 University of Memphis M.S. non-thesis, Biology

2010 University of Memphis Ph.D., Biology

**Teaching Positions:**

* Assistant Adjunct Professor, UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics (July 2016-present)
* Lecturer, UCLA Institute for Society and Genetics (July 2014-June 2016)
* Instructor, UCLA Extension (Fall 2015 & Spring 2016)
* Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Memphis Department of Biology (August 2005-2009)
* Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, University of Puget Sound Department of Biology (September 2004-May 2005)

**Courses Taught:**

* Biotechnology and Society Freshman Cluster (year-long course); UCLA, 2014-present
  + Fall and Winter quarters – lecture (topics include GMOs, breast cancer, epigenetics, etc.)
  + Spring quarters – seminar:
    - Spring 2014-2017: Eating for the Environment
    - Spring 2018: Sustainable Eating
* Societal and Medical Issues in Human Genetics; UCLA, 2015-present
* Stress and Society, Biology and Inequality; UCLA, 2016-present
* Stress and Human Health: an Evolutionary Perspective; UCLA Extension, 2015-2016
* Vertebrate Physiology (lab); University of Memphis, 2006-2009

**Research Positions:**

* Staff Research Assistant-UCLA (July 2014 – Feb. 2015)
* Post-doctoral Scholar-UCLA (2011-2014)
* Graduate research Assistant-U. Memphis, Florida Scrub-Jay physiology and reproduction (2006-2010)
* Volunteer-USFWS Steller’s Eider Project; Barrow,AK (Summer 2005)
* Undergraduate Student Researcher-Dept. of Biology, UPS, Tacoma, WA (Summer 2004)
* Wetland Monitoring Intern**-**WA State Dept. of Transportation, Olympia, WA (Summer 2003)

**Funding:**

* NIH-NIMH R03 Grant, December 2015 (co-PI Barney Schlinger)
* Grant title: Corticosterone metabolism locally regulates glucocorticoid exposure in brain
* Project period: 12/17/2015-11/30/17
* UCLA Office of Instructional Development Instructional Improvement Program Grant, June 2015
* Course development grant (co-PI Hannah Landecker, Institute for Society and Genetics)
* Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Grant-in-Aid-of-Research, January 2010
* Ecological Research Center Research Award (U. Memphis), Spring 2007
* American Ornithologists’ Union Research Award, Spring 2007
* Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid-of-Research, Spring 2006

**Publications (^ indicates undergraduate co-author):**

**Rensel, M.A.**, Ding, J.^, Schlinger, B.A. 2018.11β Hydroxysteroid Dehydrogenase Types 1 and 2 in the

songbird brain. *Frontiers in Endocrinology* 9: 86.

Logan, C.J., Harvey, B.D.^, Schlinger, B.A., and **Rensel, M.A.** 2016*.* Western scrub-jays do not appear to attend to

functionality in Aesop’s fable experiments. *Peer J* 4: e1707*.*

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schlinger, B.A. 2016*.* Determinants and significance of neural corticosterone regulation in

songbirds. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 227: 136-42*.*

Fuxjager, M.J., Eaton, J., Lindsay, W.R., Salwiczek, L.H., **Rensel, M.A.**, Barske, J., Day, L.B. and Schlinger, B.A.

2015*.* Evolutionary patterns of adaptive acrobatics and physical performance predict expression profiles of androgen receptor-but not estrogen receptor-in the forelimb musculature. *Functional Ecology* 29: 1197-1208.

**Rensel, M.A.,** Ellis, J.E.M., Harvey, B.^ and Schlinger, B.A. 2015*.* Sex, estradiol, and spatial memory in a food-

caching corvid. *Hormones and Behavior* 75: 45-54*.*

Ikeda, M., **Rensel, M.A.**, Schlinger, B.A. and Remage-Healey, L. 2014*.* In vivo detection of fluctuating brain steroid

levels. *Cold Spring Harbor Protocols.*

Schlinger, B.A., Remage-Healey, L. and **Rensel, M.A.** 2014*.* Establishing regional specificity of neuroestrogen

signaling. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 205: 235-241.

**Rensel, M.A.**, Comito, D., Kosarussavadi, S.^ and Schlinger, B.A. 2014*.* Region-specific neural corticosterone

patterns differ from plasma in a male songbird. *Endocrinology* 155:3572-3581*.*

Aldredge, R.A., Boughton, R.K., **Rensel, M.A.,** Schoech, S.J. and Bowman, R. 2014. Hatching asynchrony occurs as

a byproduct of maintaining egg viability in a subtropical bird. *Oecologia* 174: 77-85*.*

**Rensel, M.A.,** Salwiczek, L., Roth, J.^ and Schlinger, B.A. 2013. Context-dependent effects of estradiol on spatial learning

and memory in the zebra finch. *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory* 100: 41-47.

Morgan, G.M., Wilcoxen, T.E., **Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. 2012. Are roads and traffic sources of physiological

stress for the Florida scrub-jay? *Wildlife Research online pre-print.*

Venesky, M.D., Wilcoxen, T.E., **Rensel, M.A.,** Rollins-Smith, L., Kerby, J. and Parris, M. 2012. Dietary protein

restriction impairs growth, immunity, and disease resistance in Southern Leopard Frog (*Lithobates sphenocephalus*) tadpoles. *Oecologia* 169: 23-31.

Schoech, S.J., **Rensel, M.A.** and Wilcoxen, T.E. 2012. Here today, not gone tomorrow: long-term effects of

corticosterone. Proceedings of the 25th International Ornithological Congress, *Journal of Ornithology* 149. 153 (S1): S217-226.

Wilcoxen, T.E., Boughton, R.K., Bridge, E.S., **Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. 2011. Age-related differences in baseline

and stress-induced corticosterone in Florida scrub-jays. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 173: 461-466.

Schoech, S.J., **Rensel, M.A.** and Heiss, R.S. 2011. Short- and long-term effects of developmental corticosterone exposure

on avian physiology, behavioral phenotype, cognition, and fitness – a review. *Current Zoology* 57: 514-530.

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. 2011. Repeatability of baseline and stress-induced corticosterone levels across early life

stages in the Florida Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). *Hormones and Behavior* 59: 497-502.

**Rensel, M.A.**, Wilcoxen, T.E. and Schoech, S.J. 2011. Corticosterone, hatch order, and brood size in free-living Florida scrub-jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens) nestlings. General and Comparative Endocrinology 171: 197-202.

Wilcoxen, T.E., Bridge, E.S., Boughton, R.K., **Rensel, M.A.**, Reynolds, S.J. and Schoech, S.J. 2011. Parental, social, and

environmental factors associated with hatching failure in Florida Scrub-Jays. *Ibis* 153: 70-77.

Morgan, G.M., Boughton, R.K., **Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. 2010.Road effects on food availability and energetic

intake in Florida scrub-jays (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). *The Auk* 127: 581-589.

**Rensel, M.A.**,**\*** Wilcoxen, T.E.\*and Schoech, S.J. 2010*.* The influence of female nest attendance and paternal

provisioning on nestling stress physiology in the Florida scrub-jay. *Hormones and Behavior* 57: 162-168*.* \* denotes co-first authors

**Rensel, M.A.**, Boughton, R.K. and Schoech, S.J. 2010*.* Development of the adrenal stress response in the Florida scrub-

jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 165: 255-261.

Wilcoxen, T.E. and **Rensel, M.A**. 2009. Invasive fire ants depredate nest of threatened Florida Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma*

*coerulescens*). *The Wilson Journal of* *Ornithology* 121: 86-87.

Schoech, S.J. and **Rensel, M.A.** 2009. Environment, glucocorticoids, and the timing of reproduction. *General and*

*Comparative Endocrinology* 163: 201-207*.*

Morgan, G.M., Wilcoxen, T.W. and **Rensel, M.A.**  2008. Swallow-tailed kite preys upon Florida Scrub-Jay nestlings.

Florida Field Naturalist 36(4): 90-91.

Schoech, S.J., Bowman, R., Bridge, E.S., Morgan, G.M., **Rensel, M.A.**, Wilcoxen, T.W. and Boughton, R.K. 2007.

Corticosterone administration does not affect timing of breeding in Florida Scrub-Jays (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). *Hormones and Behavior* 52: 191-196.

**Rensel, M**., Elliott, J.K. and Wimberger, P. 2005.Will the introduced mussel *Mytilus galloprovincialis* outcompete

the native mussel *M. trossulus* in Puget Sound? A study of relative frequencies, growth and survival among different habitats. *Proceedings of the 2005 Puget Sound Georgia Basin Research Conference.*

**Featured Research:**

Berger, C. 2009. They’ve Got Personality. National Wildlife Magazine vol. 47 no. 2

**Awards and Honors:**

International Ornithological Congress Travel Award, Spring 2010

Graduate Student Association Travel Award (U. Memphis), Fall 2009

American Ornithologists’ Union Travel Award, Spring 2009

Graduate Studies Committee Travel Award (U. Memphis), Fall 2008

American Ornithologists’ Union Travel Award, Spring 2008

Graduate Studies Committee Travel Award (U. Memphis), Spring 2008

Graduation with Honors in Biology-UPS Dept. of Biology, May 2005

Outstanding Symposium Presentation Award-UPS Dept. of Biology, May 2005

Phi Beta Kappa-UPS, April 2005

Phi Sigma Biology Honors Society-UPS, Fall 2003-Spring 2005

University of Puget Sound Summer Research Award-Spring 2004

Dean’s List-UPS, Spring 2003

**Professional Memberships:**

Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

**Invited Presentations:**

**Rensel, M.A.** Beyond the HPA axis: Investigating neural mechanisms of local glucocorticoid regulation in the zebra

finch brain**.** University of California Los Angeles Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology brown bag lunch, April 20, 2018

**Rensel, M.A.** Stress and the songbird brain: exploring local mechanisms of glucocorticoid regulation. University of

California Los Angeles Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology brown bag lunch, April 14, 2017.

**Rensel, M.A.** Stress and the brain: investigating mechanisms underlying regional specificity of glucocorticoid regulation

in the songbird brain. Fellows’ meeting; Institute for Society and Genetics, January 14, 2016.

**Rensel, M.A.** Modulation of spatial memory by estradiol in a food-storing corvid. Monthly meeting of the University of

California Los Angeles “Birdsong” group, July 7, 2014.

**Rensel, M.A.** Brain and plasma corticosterone in a male songbird: a role for regional metabolism? University of

California Los Angeles Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology brown bag lunch, April 11, 2014.

**Rensel, M.A.** Steroid hormone modulation of spatial memory and the potential for de novo synthesis: insights from in

vivo microdialysis studies. University of California Los Angeles Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology brown bag lunch, March 1, 2013.

**Rensel, M.A.** Hippocampal corticosterone: Evidence for local synthesis? Monthly meeting of the University of California

Los Angeles “Birdsong” group, February 4, 2013.

**Rensel, M.A.** Measurement of hippocampal corticosterone using in-vivo microdialysis in the zebra finch and western

scrub-jay. Monthly meeting of the University of California Los Angeles “Birdsong” group, October 3 2011.

**Rensel, M.A.**, E.S. Bridge, and S.J. Schoech. Insights into cooperative breeding from studies of Florida Scrub-Jays.

Keynote presentation in symposium titled *Avian social complexity*. Conveners Thomas Bugnyar and Isabella Schreiber, 25th International Ornithological Congress, Campos do Jordão, Brazil, August 2010.

Schoech, S.J. and **M.A. Rensel**. Environment, glucocorticoids, and the timing of reproduction. Symposium on *Ecology*

*and Evolution*. Conveners John Cockrem, Pierre Deviche, and Wolfgang Goymann, 9th International Symposium on Avian Endocrinology, Leuven, Belgium 10 - 15 July 2008.

**Contributed Oral Presentations:**

**Rensel, M.A.,** Ding, J.A.and Schlinger, B.A. The (non) stressed brain: local metabolism regulates corticosterone

action in the songbird CNS. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, New Orleans, LA, January 2017.

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schlinger, B.A. Real-time measurement of hippocampal corticosterone in a songbird. Society for

Integrative and Comparative Biology, San Francisco, CA, January 2013.

**Rensel, M.A.,** Salwiczek, L.H., Hsiao, C-F., Xia, S., Roth, J., Remage-Healey, L. and Schlinger, B.A. In vivo

microdialysis reveals dynamics of estradiol production in the avian hippocampus. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Charleston, NC, January 2012.

Wilcoxen, T.E., **Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. Variation in female nest attendance in Florida scrub-jays: correlates and consequences. Behavior 2011, Bloomington, Indiana, July 2011.

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. The influence of road disturbance on stress physiology and growth in young Florida

Scrub-Jays. Annual Meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Seattle, WA, January 2010.

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. Maternal investment and the effect of helpers on nestling growth in the Florida

scrub-jay. Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union, Philadelphia, PA, August 2009*.*

Schoech, S. J., E. S. Bridge, **M. A. Rensel**, and **T. E. Wilcoxen**. You’ve got personality: Early exposure to

corticosterone shapes adult behavior. 12th International Behavioral Ecology Congress, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, August 2008.

**Rensel, M.A.,** Wilcoxen, T.W. and Schoech, S.J. The influence of parental provisioningand nest attendance on

nestling stress physiology in the Florida Scrub-Jay. JointMeeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union,

Cooper Ornithological Society, and Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Portland, OR, August 2008.

Aldredge, R.A., Bowman, R., Boughton, R.K., **Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. Hatching asynchrony occurs as a

byproduct of maintaining egg viability. Joint Meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Portland, OR, August 2008.

**Rensel, M.A.,** Bridge, E.S. and Schoech, S.J. Nestling stress influences personality development in the Florida

Scrub-Jay. Florida Ecology and Evolution Symposium, Archbold Biological Station, Venus, FL, April 2008.

**Wilcoxen, T.E.,** **M. A. Rensel**, S.J. Schoech. The Relationship between parental care and nestling stress in Florida

Scrub-Jays (Aphelocoma coerulescens). Florida Ecology and Evolution Symposium, Archbold Biological Station, Venus, FL, April 2008.

Aldredge, R.A., Boughton, R.K., Bowman, R., **Rensel, M.**, Bridge, E. and Schoech, S.J. The influence of ambient

temperature on the incubation behavior of the threatened Florida Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*): A

test of the egg viability hypothesis. Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, March 2008.

**Rensel, M.** and Schoech, S.J. Determinants of nestling health: effects of group size and parental condition in the

Florida Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). Annual Meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, San Antonio, TX, January 2008.

**Rensel, M.** and Schoech, S.J. Nestling stress: correlates and long-term effects in the Florida Scrub-Jay

(*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union, Laramie, WY, August 2007.

**Contributed Posters:**

**Rensel, M.A.,** Ding, J.A. and Schlinger, B.A. Region-specific expression of glucocorticoid regulatory genes in the

songbird brain. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Conference, Long Beach, CA, June 2017

**Rensel, M.A.,** Comito, D., Kosarussavadi, S. and Schlinger, B.A. Region-specific glucocorticoids in the male songbird

brain: a role for local metabolism? Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Conference, Asilomar, CA, June 2015.

**Rensel, M.A.,** Comito, D.\*, Kosarussavadi, S.\* and Schlinger, B.A. Region-specific neural corticosterone patterns differ

from plasma in a male songbird. Steroids, Genes, and the Brain: a New Dogma; symposium of the Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology, UCLA, May 23, 2014. \* denotes presenters

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. Glucocorticoids: repeatability and fitness in young Florida Scrub-Jays (*Aphelocoma*

*coerulescens*). International Ornithological Congress, Campos do Jordao, Brazil, August 2010.

**Rensel, M.A.** and Schoech, S.J. The influence of road disturbance on the growth and physiology of developing Florida

scrub-jays (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Conference, East Lansing, MI, June 2009.

Bridge, E.B., **Rensel, M.A.,** and Schoech, S.J. Nestling corticosterone predicts subadult personality in Florida

Scrub-Jays. Joint Meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and

Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Portland, OR, August 2008.

**Rensel, M**., Elliott, J.K. and Wimberger, P. 2006. Will the introduced mussel Mytilus *galloprovincialis*

outcompete the native mussel *M. trossulus* in Puget Sound? A study of relative frequencies, growth and survival among different habitats. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Conference, Orlando, FL, January 2006.

**Rensel, M**., Elliott, J.K. and Wimberger, P. 2005. Will the introduced mussel *Mytilus galloprovincialis* outcompete

the native mussel *M. trossulus* in Puget Sound? A study of relative frequencies, growth and survival among different habitats. Puget Sound Georgia Basin Research Conference, Seattle, WA, 2005.

**Manuscripts Refereed:**

Animal Behaviour Ibis

Biology Letters Integrative and Comparative Biology

Biological Reviews Journal of Experimental Biology

Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology PeerJ

Functional Ecology PLoS1

General and Comparative Endocrinology Royal Society Open Science

Hormones and Behavior

**Pedagogy Training:**

* UCLA Summer Institute for Transforming Undergraduate STEM Education (July 24-28 2017)
* UCLA Faculty Workshop on Best Practices in Teaching (Sept. 17 2015)

**Mentoring and Tutoring:**

* Faculty mentor, UCLA Regents Scholar Society (Fall 2017-present)
* Faculty advisor for Human Biology and Society undergraduates (The Institute for Society and Genetics):
  + Arleen Trieu (Fall 2017-Winter 2018): training => solid phase extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis, RNA cleanup (SocGen 196)
  + Erica Mark (Fall 2017-present): training => RNA extraction, nanodrop, PCR, gel electrophoresis, RNA cleanup (SocGen 196)
  + Hana Murphy (Fall 2016, Winter 2017): 11 beta hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase expression in zebra finch skeletal muscle (taken for SocGen 196 credit)
  + Carleigh Nivens (Fall 2016, Winter 2017, Spring 2018): developmental regulation of 11 beta hydroxysteroid dehydrogenases in the young zebra finch brain (taken for SocGen 196 credit); determination of efficiency of corticosterone extraction and quantification from frozen brain punches (199 credit)
  + Laura Roudebush (Fall 2016, Winter 2017, Spring 2017): Local corticosterone synthesis in the songbird brain as detected by 21 hydroxylase expression (taken for SocGen 196 and 199 credit)
  + Brianna Lindberg (Fall 2016): corticosterone enzyme immunoassays, ex vivo neurogenesis experiments, solid phase extractions
* Postdoctoral research supervisor for recently graduated students:
* SarithaKosarussavadi **(**Spring 2012) – in-vivo validation of microdialysis for the measurement of corticosterone in the zebra finch hippocampus; circadian rhythms in hippocampal corticosterone
* Postdoctoral research supervisor for rotating graduate student at UCLA:
* Ying Wang (Fall 2011) - in-vitro validation of microdialysis for the measurement of corticosterone; in-vivo validation of microdialysis for the measurement of corticosterone in the zebra finch
* Postdoctoral research supervisor for visiting undergraduate student at UCLA:
* Wu Di (Spring 2011) - in vitro validation of microdialysis for the measurement of corticosterone
* Postdoctoral research supervisor for undergraduate students at UCLA:
* Shayan Moazeni (Fall 2014-Spring 2015) – expression of corticosterone-metabolizing enyzmes in the songbird brain
* Amol Patel (Spring 2014) – video analysis of western scrub-jay behavior
* Brigit Harvey (Summer 2012 – Fall 2015) – use of mist-netting as a tool to capture wild birds (field work); in vivo microdialysis as a tool to study corticosterone fluctuations in the western scrub-jay hippocampus; systemic estradiol manipulations and their effect on caching behavior; tests of causality and cognition in western scrub-jays (in collaboration with Dr. Corina Logan, UCSB)
* Devon Comito (Spring-Summer 2012) - the effect of estradiol on spatial memory formation in the zebra finch
* Jessica Rodriguez, Amgen Scholar (Spring 2011-2013) - aromatase in the hippocampus of the zebra finch following performance of a spatial memory task
* Sophie Xia (Fall 2011) – the effect of an aromatase inhibitor on spatial memory rentention in the female zebra finch
* Joseph Roth (Summer 2011) – hippocampal estradiol fluctuations during performance of a spatial memory task in the zebra finch
* Post-doctoral research supervisor for volunteer high school student:
* Taleen Mahseredjian (Summer 2012 - 2013) – behavioral observations of recently-caught western scrub-jays in captive colony
* Post-doctoral research supervisor for laboratory volunteers:
* Rico Ardy (Summer 2012) – principals of general lab techniques (student desired experience with lab work), including ELISA, brain sectioning, mounting, and staining, and bird care
* Co-supervisor and mentor for field assistants working on Florida Scrub-Jay research at Archbold Biological Station in FL:
* Michelle Desrosiers (2008) - nest defense and parental investment
* Zachary Seilo (2009) - differences in male behavior in new and established pairs
* Rachel Hanauer (2010) - fluctuating asymmetry and immune function in nestlings
* Spanish tutor, University of Puget Sound Center for Writing and Learning (2003-2005)
* Biology tutor, University of Puget Sound Phi Sigma Biology Honors Society (2004-2005)

**Service, Community Outreach, and Leadership:**

* Panelist, Bruin Day 2018 (representing UCLA Cluster Program), April 14, 2018
* Judge, The Bruin Experiment Science Fair (middle school students in LA), April 8, 2018
* Participating Scientist, SciLine (AAAS) – links journalists with scientists; December 2017-present
* Task Captain, UCLA Volunteer Day, Los Angeles Elementary School, October 7, 2017
* Judge, The Bruin Experiment Science Fair (middle school students in LA), April 22, 2017
* Session co-chair (session title: *Stress*), 2017 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, New Orleans, LA, January 2017
* Best student presentation judge, Division of Comparative Endocrinology, 2017 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, New Orleans, LA, January 2017
* Judge, The Bruin Experiment Science Fair (middle school students in LA), April 10 2016
* Panel Moderator, *Productive and Reproductive Labors,* Thinking Gender 26th Annual Graduate Student Research Conference, UCLA Center for the Study of Women, April 8 2016
* Poster Judge, Thinking Gender 25th Annual Graduate Student Research Conference, UCLA Center for the Study of Women, April 23 2015
* Co-facilitator and organizer of UCLA Ornithology Social Group, January 2014
* Honors Examiner, Swarthmore Honors Program, Swarthmore College, April-May 2013; April-May 2014
* GE Cluster Advisory Committee; UCLA; Fall 2014-present
* Grant Reviewer, Sigma Delta Epsilon Graduate Women in Science National Fellowships Program, March 2013
* Best student presentation judge, Division of Comparative Endocrinology, 2013 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, San Francisco, CA, January 2013
* Session co-chair (session title: *Stress*), 2013 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, San Francisco, CA, January 2013
* Amgen Scholars Roundtable Discussion Facilitator, July 21, 2012, UCLA
* Session co-chair (session title: *Regulation of Behavior*), 2012 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, Charleston, NC, January 2012
* Best student presentation judge, Division of Comparative Endocrinology, 2012 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology conference, Charleston, NC, January 2012
* University of Memphis graduate student seminar organizing committee, Fall 2007
* Secretary, Phi Sigma Biology Honors Society, 2004-2005