Kelly Weinersmith
Rice University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Ecology **2007 - 2014**
University of California, Davis, Graduate Group in Ecology
Dissertation: Reciprocal interactions between host behaviors, steroid hormones, and parasites.
Major Advisor: Dr. Andrew Sih

M.S. Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology **2005 - 2007**
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
Thesis: Individual differences in activity and responses to a predator attack in juvenile smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieui*)
Major Advisors: Dr. Daniel Wiegmann and Dr. Jeffrey Miner

B.S. Honors in Biology **2000 - 2004**
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
Major: Biology
Minor: Chemistry
Honors Thesis: Modified synthesis of epigallocatechin-3-gallate for use as an anti-tumor compound

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2017 - Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of BioSciences, Rice University

Aug 2026-Aug 2028 Fellow – Rice Center for Communication and Public Engagement (SCOPE)

2025-2026 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia

2024–2027 Research Associate, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

2017-2020 Visiting Assistant Researcher, MBRD, University of California San Diego

2015-2016 Huxley Fellow, Department of BioSciences, Rice University

Pop Sci Writing and Podcasting

Weinersmith KL and Whiteson D (2024 – present). *Daniel and Kelly's Extraordinary Universe.* Podcast with iHeart media. www.danielandkelly.org.

Solomon S and **Weinersmith KL** (June 12, 2026). SpaceX investors beware: Here's why Elon Musk's plans for Mars won't work | Opinion. Houston Chronicle. https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/outlook/article/spacex-mars-colony-musk-ipo-22301881.php

Weinersmith **KL** and Weinersmith ZA (March 20, 2025*). Mars Attacks: How Elon Musk's Plans for Mars Threaten Earth. Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

https://thebulletin.org/2025/03/mars-attacks-how-elon-musks-plans-to-colonize-mars-threaten-earth/

*This was the headline article in the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* newsletter on this date as well.

Weinersmith KL (December 5, 2024). Wrote and read a piece about the feasibility of living on Mars that begins at 11:20. BBC Inside Science. https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0025l2n

Bohannon C and **Weinersmith KL** (November 22, 2024). Having a baby on Mars? You may be in for a difficult time. New Scientist. https://www.newscientist.com/article/2457457-having-a-baby-on-mars-you-may-be-in-for-a-difficult-time/

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA (November 12, 2024*). A New Life on Mars? Expect Toxic Dust, Bad Vibes and Insects for Lunch. New Scientist. https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg26435170-900-a-new-life-on-mars-expect-toxic-dust-bad-vibes-and-insects-for-lunch/

*Article appeared in the print edition of New Scientist magazine as well.

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA (March 8, 2024*). A City on Mars: Have We Really Thought This Through? BBC Science Focus. https://www.sciencefocus.com/space/is-a-mars-base-practical

*Article appeared in the print edition of BBC Science Focus magazine as well.

Weinersmith ZA and **Weinersmith KL**. (January 21, 2024) Space Isn't the Final Frontier. Foreign Policy. https://foreignpolicy.com/2024/01/21/space-isnt-the-final-frontier/

Weinersmith **KL** and Weinersmith ZA. (December 27, 2023*) The Beautiful Desolation of Life on Mars — On Earth. The New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/27/opinion/mars-simulation-desert-mdrs.html.

*Article appeared in the print edition of the NYTimes as well.

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (November 9, 2023) Sorry, Billionaires. Space Won't Be Our Climate Haven. Atmos. https://atmos.earth/sorry-billionaires-space-wont-be-our-climate-haven/

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (November 8, 2023) What To Do When Your Period Comes... In Space. Literary Hub. https://lithub.com/what-to-do-when-your-period-comes-in-space/

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (November 7, 2023) A City on Mars: Can we settle space, should we settle space, and have we really thought this through? *Penguin Press* (US).

Foreign rights: United Kingdom (Penguin Group UK), Chinese (simplified; Hangzhou Blue Lion), Czech (Euromedia), Finnish (Ursa Astronomical Association), German (Riva Verlag), Hebrew (Tchelet Books), Italian (Oscar Mondadori), Korean (RH Korea), Polish (Insignis), Russian (AST), Spanish (Castilian; Blackie Books), Thai (WeLearn), Turkish (Olimpos Yayinlari), Ukrainian (Vivat), Hungarian (Typotex)

New York Times Bestseller • 2024 Hugo Award recipient in Related Works category • Recipient of the 2024 Royal Society Trivedi Book Prize • A *New York Times* Book Review Editor's Choice • A *Barnes & Noble's Best Science & Nature Books of 2023* • Nominated for

the *Los Angeles Times* 2023 Book Prize for in the Science & Technology category • *Scientific American's* #1 Book for 2023 • A *Times* Best Science and Environment Book of 2023 • University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Reads 2026 Book Shortlist • Barnes & Noble Nonfiction Pick of the Month (August, 2025) • 2025 Smart Book Awards nominee (book competition organized by Jagiellonian University, Poland and Smart Books)

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (November 5, 2023) Space Billionaires Should Spend More Time Thinking About Sex. The New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/11/05/opinion/space-billionaires-sex.html

Weinersmith ZA and Weinersmith KL. (September 9, 2023). Book review of Laura Trethewey's The Deepest Map. Foreign Policy. *https://foreignpolicy.com/2023/09/09/book-review-the-deep-map-oceans-seabed-conservation-mining/*

Weinersmith ZA and **Weinersmith KL**. (2020). Fuga Dal Pianeta Terra (Escape from Planet Earth). Wired Italy. *Written in English, translated to Italian.*

Weinersmith KL. The Other Animals. (2019) Audible. Edited by Rachel Hamburg.
This was a piece of short fiction, available as an audiobook.

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (2017) Soonish: Ten Emerging Technologies That'll Improve and/or Ruin Everything. *Penguin Press* (US), *Penguin Random House* (UK).
NYTimes Bestseller • Featured on NPR's Science Friday, NPR's Marketplace, Science, Nature, Forbes, Wired, Smithsonian Magazine, Freakonomics, Wired, Scientific American, The Wall Street Journal, Popular Science, Slate, Time Magazine, The Guardian, BBC Wales, C-SPAN, and more. Translated into >10 languages.

Weinersmith KL and Weinersmith ZA. (October 14, 2017) The perils of augmented reality. *Boston Globe. https://www.bostonglobe.com/ideas/2017/10/14/the-perils-augmented-reality/o8xQtfuIwfsQ5urFrqyBDM/story.html*

DOCUMENTARIES

Guest
Fiddler on the Moon: Judaism in Space (2025). Ironbound Films. https://www.ironboundfilms.com/fiddleronthemoon

Co-host
Cosmic Vistas: A New View (2026). BBC Earth. https://bbcearth.ca/shows/cosmic-vistas-a-new-view

ACADEMIC WRITING

**Indicates author is a high school, undergraduate, or graduate student I mentored or co-mentored.*

Metz DCG, **Weinersmith KL**, Beagle AS, Dixit RM, Fragel CG, Clayton CE (2025). Deadly decomposers: Distinguishing life history strategies on the parasitism-saprotrophy spectrum. *Ecology Letters* 28 (6): e70135.

Weigmann DD, **Weinersmith KL**, Baylis JR, Newman SP, Angeloni LM (2024). Null models confirm nest site fidelity by male smallmouth bass, *Micropterus dolomieu*. *BMC Zoology* 9: 13. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40850-024-00205-z

Stegens E*, Wiegmann DD, Angeloni LM, Baylis JR, Laroche RAS, Newman SP, Egan SP, Sass GG, **Weinersmith KL** (2024). Mark-recapture surveys impact nest site fidelity but not reproductive timing of male smallmouth bass. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 44 (1): 132-144. https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10964

Weinersmith KL, Weinersmith ZA, Abramitzsky R, Lehr J (2024). To each according to their space-need: Communes in outer space. *Space Policy* 67: 101592. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spacepol.2023.101592

Weinersmith KL, Nadler LE, Bengston E, Turner AV, Birda A*, Cobian K*, Dusto JA*, Helland-Riise SH, Terhall JM*, Øverli Ø, Hechinger RH (2023). Experimental infections with *Euhaplorchis californiensis* and a small cyathocotylid increase conspicuous behaviors in California killifish (*Fundulus parvipinnis*). *Journal of Parasitology* 109 (4): 362-376. **https://doi.org/10.1645/23-35**

Laroche RAS*, **Weinersmith KL**, Davis ML*, Angeloni L, Baylis JR, Newman SP, Egan SP, Weigmann DD. (2023). Size-associated energetic constraints on the seasonal onset of reproduction in a species with indeterminate growth. *Oikos* 6: e09739. **https://doi.org/10.1111/oik.09739**

Ward AKG, Bagley RK, Egan SP, Hood GR, Ott JR, Prior KM, Sheikh SI, **Weinersmith KL**, Zhang L, Zhang YM, Forbes AA. (2022). Speciation in Nearctic oak gall wasps is frequently correlated with changes in host plant, host organ, or both. *Evolution* 76 (8): 1849-1867. https://doi.org/10.1111/evo.14562

Zhang YM, Sheikh SI, Ward AKG, Forbes AA, Prior KM, Stone GN, Gates MW, Egan SP, Zhang L, Davis C, **Weinersmith KL**, Melika G, Lucky A. (2022). Delimiting the cryptic diversity and host preferences of *Sycophila* parasitoid wasps associated with oak galls using phylogenomic data. *Molecular Ecology* 31(16): 4417-4433. https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.16582

Ward AKG Busbee RW, Chen RA, Davis CK, Driscoe AL, Egan SP, Goldberg BAR, Hood GR, Jones DF, Kranz AJ, Meadely Dunphy SA, Milks AK, Ott JR, Prior KM, Sheikh SI, Shzu S-A, **Weinersmith KL**, Zhang L, Zhang YM, Forbes AA. (2022). The arthropod associates of 155 North American cynipid oak galls. *Zoological Studies* 61 (57). doi:10.6620/ZS.2022.61-57.

Brandão-Dias PFP, Zhang YM, Pirro S, Vinson CC, **Weinersmith KL**, Ward AKG, Forbes AF, Egan SP. (2022). Describing biodiversity in the genomics era: A new species of Nearctic Cynipidae gall wasp and its genome. *Systematic Entomology* 47(1): 94-112. https://doi.org/10.1111/syen.12521

Press for this article in The Hill, SyFy, Houston Chronicle, Exame (Brazil), Daily Mail (U.K.), The Rice Thresher, Rice News, Futurity, International Business News, and Texas Monthly. Also featured on Houston Matters on NPR, and selected by the Royal Entomological Society for a special issue to mark the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP-15).

Nadler LE, Bengston E, Eliason EJ, Hassibi C, Helland-Riise SH, Johansen IB, Kwan GT, Tresguerres M, Turner AV, **Weinersmith KL**, Øverli Ø, Hechinger RF. (2021). A brain-infecting parasite impacts host metabolism both during exposure and after infection is established. *Functional Ecology* 35(1): 105-116. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2435.13695

Weinersmith KL, Forbes AA, Ward AKG, Brandão-Dias PFP, Zhang YM, Egan SP. (2020) Arthropod community associated with the asexual generation of *Bassettia pallida* (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae).

Annals of the Entomological Society of America 113(5): 373-388. https://doi.org/10.1093/aesa/saaa009

Helland-Riise SH, Vindas MA, Johansen IB, Nadler LE, **Weinersmith KL,** Hechinger RF, Øverli Ø. (2020). Brain-encysting trematodes (*Euhaplorchis californiensis*) decrease raphe serotonergic activity in California killifish (*Fundulus parvipinnis*). *Biology Open* (9): bio049551.

Helland-Riise SH, Nadler LE, Vindas MA, Bengston E, Turner AV, Johansen IB, **Weinersmith KL**, Hechinger RF, Øverli Ø. (2019). Regional distribution of a brain-encysting parasite provides insights on parasite-induced host behavioral manipulation. *Journal of Parasitology*. 106 (1): 188-197.

Ward AKG, Khodor OS, Egan SP, **Weinersmith KL** and Forbes AA. (2019). A keeper of many crypts: the parasitoid *Euderus set* manipulates the behavior of a taxonomically diverse array of oak gall wasp species. *Biology Letters*. 15: 20190428.

Press for this article in NYTimes, Smithsonian.com, New Scientist, Fox News, Phys.org, and Science.

Weinersmith KL, DeCarion DD, Bibian A, Young M, Sih A and Conrad JL. (2019). Diets of Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) in the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. San *Francisco Bay and Watershed Science.* 17 (1): 1-16.

Weinersmith KL. (2019). What's gotten into you?: A review of recent research on parasitoid manipulation of host behavior. *Current Opinion in Insect Science*. 33: 37-42.

Egan SP, Hood GR, Zhang L, Comerford M and **Weinersmith KL** (2018). Borders on the rise: A review of the evolutionary impacts of border barriers on natural populations. *Public Policy Brief - Baker Institute of Public Policy*.

Weinersmith KL, Brown CE*, Clingen KB*, Jacobsen M*, Topper LB* and Hechinger RF. (2018). *Euhaplorchis californiensis* cercariae exhibit positive phototaxis and negative geotaxis.*The Journal of Parasitology* 104: 329-333.

Egan SP, **Weinersmith KL**, Liu SM*, Ridenbaugh RD, Zhang YM and Forbes AA. (2017). Description of a new species of *Euderus* Haliday from the southeastern United States (Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea, Eulophidae): the crypt-keeper wasp. *Zookeys* 645: 37-49.

Weinersmith KL, Liu SM*, Forbes AA and Egan SP. (2017). Tales from the crypt: a parasitoid manipulates the behavior of its parasite host. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 284: 20162365.

Press for this article in National Geographic, Nature, Science, BBC World, CBS, Gizmodo, New Scientist, Live Science, Popular Science, The Atlantic, and more. F1000 Recommended Article.

Barber I, Mora AB, Payne EM, **Weinersmith KL**, and Sih A. (2017). Parasitism, personality and cognition in fish. *Behavioural Processes* 141: 205-219.

Weinersmith KL and Earley RL. (2016). Better with your parasites? Incorporating lessons from evolved dependence and conditionally helpful parasites to behavioural ecology. *Animal Behaviour* 118: 123-133.

Weinersmith KL, Hanninen AF*, Sih A, McElreath R and Earley RL (2016). The relationship between handling time and cortisol release rates changes as a function of brain parasite densities in California killifish. *Journal of Fish Biology* 88: 1125-1142.

Renick VC, **Weinersmith KL**, Vidal-Dorsch DE and Anderson TA. (2016). Effects of a pesticide and a parasite on neurological, endocrine, and behavioral responses of an estuarine fish. *Aquatic Toxicology* 170: 335-343.

Conrad JL, Bibian AJ, **Weinersmith KL**, DeCarion D, Young MJ, Crain P, Moyle PB and Sih A (2016). Invasion of Brazilian waterweed (*Egeria densa*) facilitates expansion of an estuarine population of largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*). *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 145: 249-263.

Johnson EL, **Weinersmith KL** and Earley RL (2016). Changes in the reproductive physiology of mangrove rivulus *Kryptolebias marmoratus* following exposure to environmentally relevant concentrations of ethinyl estradiol. *Journal of Fish Biology* 88: 774-786.

Weinersmith KL and Faulkes Z (2014). Parasitic manipulation of hosts' phenotype, or how to make a zombie-an introduction to the symposium. *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 54: 93-100.

Weinersmith KL, Warinner CB*, Tan V*, Harris DJ, Mora AM, Kuris AM, Lafferty KD and Hechinger RF (2014). A lack of crowding? Body size does not decrease with density for two behavior-manipulating parasites. *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 54: 184-192.

Ferrari MCO, Ranåker L, **Weinersmith KL,** Young MJ, Sih A and Conrad JL (2014). Effects of turbidity and an invasive waterweed on predation by introduced largemouth bass. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 97: 79-90.

Conrad JL, **Weinersmith KL**, Brodin T, Saltz JB and Sih, A (2011). Behavioural syndromes in fish: a review with implications for ecology and fisheries management. *Journal of Fish Biology* 78: 395-435.

Cote J, Fogarty S, Brodin T, **Weinersmith KL** and Sih A (2011). Personality-dependent dispersal in the invasive mosquitofish: group composition matters. *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B* 278: 1670-1678.

Cote J, Fogarty S, **Weinersmith KL,** Brodin T and Sih A (2010). Personality traits and dispersal tendency in the invasive mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*). *Proceedings of the Royal Society, Series B* 277: 1571-1579.

Press for this article in Nature's Research Highlights and in Conservation Magazine.

Wiegmann DD, **Weinersmith KL** and Seubert SM (2010). Multi-attribute mate choice decisions and uncertainty in the decision process: a generalized sequential search strategy. *Journal of Mathematical Biology* 60 (4): 543-572.

Smith KL, Miner JG, Wiegmann DD and Newman SP (2009). Individual differences in exploratory and antipredator behaviour in juvenile smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*). *Behaviour* (146): 283-294.

SELECTED PODCAST & RADIO INTERVIEWS

The Outside Context with Jannah Patchay and Elise Soucie Watts. [NEED TO UPDATE WITH DATE AND LINK]

BBC Unexpected Elements with Caroline Steel. July 3, 2026. Stuck in a Cycle. https://www.bbc.com/audio/play/w3ct8kcm

Polymath World Channel with Sam McKee. June 10, 2026. Episode 57: A City on Mars: The Real Challenges of Living in Space. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qx51z2SENrU

BBC Inside Science with Tom Whipple. April 9, 2026. Return to the Moon: Astronauts of the Artemis mission are close to home, what have we learnt and what comes next? https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3ct977f

PRX's Living on Earth with Jenni Doering. January 2, 2026. *A City on Mars and the Perils of Settling* Space. https://www.loe.org/shows/segments.html?programID=26-P13-00001&segmentID=3

Aspiring Martians with Joe Sweeney. Government on Mars with Dr. Kelly Weinersmith. November 25, 2025. https://www.aspiringmartians.com/episodes/everyday-mars-government-on-mars

Tech Tonic with Peggy Hollinger (published by Financial Times; first of multi-part series released on October 7, 2025). Mission to Mars series. https://www.ft.com/content/5cddfef1-3773-4506-b978-f133be0d14cc

Entangled podcast from Undark Magazine with Anna Rothschild (published by MIT). September 24, 2025. What Should We Risk to Settle Space? https://undark.org/2025/09/24/podcast-space-settlement-mars/

The Golden Age with Andrew Zucker. September 9, 2025. Can Elon Colonize Mars? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_bCoaWuUOqU&feature=youtu.be

KQED's Forum with Mina Kim (Bay Area, California). August 29, 2025. Can We Really Live on Mars? https://www.kqed.org/forum/2010101911082/can-we-really-live-on-mars

Vox's Today, Explained with Sean Rameswaram. August 15, 2025. Living on Mars. https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/living-on-mars/id1346207297?i=1000722121073

BBC's Infinite Monkey Cage with Robin Ince and Brian Cox. July 9, 2025. Should We Settle in Space? – Tim Peake, Kelly Weinersmith and Alan Davies. https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m002fwpz

Houston Public Media – Houston Matters with Craig Cohen. May 9, 2025. We discussed the public's perception of space tourism.

News Talk 980 CKNW (British Columbia, Canada) - Mornings with Simi with Simi Sara. April 24, 2025.

NPR Short Wave with Regina Barber. April 21, 2025. This is what living on Mars could do to the human body. https://www.npr.org/2025/04/21/1246202705/mars-colonization-multiplanetary-species-humans-space

Times Radio with Tom Whipple. March 7, 2025. Why Elon Musk's Plans to Colonise Mars are Bound to Fail. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oN_CbqooDJs

The Bunker with Jacob Jarvis. March 7, 2025. Why Elon Musk's Plan for Life on Mars is a Terrible Idea. https://bsky.app/profile/bunkerpod.bsky.social/post/3ljrsgjgmvk2g

JazzFM (UK) - Winter Book Club. December 8, 2024. https://hellorayo.co.uk/jazz-fm/shows/winter-book-club/id-234518834/play/

The Times Radio (UK) - The Times at One with Dominic O'Connell. December 2, 2024. https://www.thetimes.com/radio/show/20241202-29254/2024-12-02

Corus National Radio (Canada) – A Little More Conversation with Ben O'Hara Byrne. November 28, 2024. https://open.spotify.com/episode/5KDPqTV3Ndmk1jSqdMvTaG

NPR Short Wave with Regina Barber. November 13, 2024. Humans on Mars? Here's Why You Shouldn't Plan a Space Move Anytime Soon. https://www.npr.org/2024/11/13/1212604223/space-city-mars-mission

BBC Health Check with Claudia Hammond. November 13, 2024. https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3ct5t9j

The Guardian's Science Weekly Podcast with Madeleine Finlay. Could We Really Live on Mars? November 5, 2024. https://www.theguardian.com/science/audio/2024/nov/05/could-we-really-live-on-mars-podcast

Instant Genius (a BBC Science Focus podcast) with Noa Leach (October 21, 2024).

New Scientist Podcast with Alison Flood. October 1, 2024. https://www.newscientist.com/podcasts/a-city-on-mars-by-kelly-and-zach-weinersmith-royal-society-trivedi-science-book-prize-conversations/

Center for Inquiry Canada's Podcast for Inquiry with Leslie Rosenblood. July 24, 2024. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFKxLxx0o4U&list=PL-0x1ryoo82i55NztMv_TN9ge1SxoETNX.

CBC's The Sunday Magazine with Piya Chattopadhyay. July 14, 2024. https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-57-the-sunday-magazine/clip/16081365-the-case-colonizing-space

The Hub with David Speer. May 30, 2024. https://thehub.ca/podcasts/on-mars-it-will-be-even-harder-kelly-weinersmith-on-the-challenges-and-opportunities-of-settling-space/

KUER (Salt Lake city) - RadioWest with Doug Fabrizio March 26, 2024. Is it actually a good idea to colonize Mars? https://radiowest.kuer.org/show/radiowest/2024-03-26/is-it-actually-a-good-idea-to-colonize-mars

Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) - Conversations with Richard Fidler. March 17, 2024. Sex, law, and life on Mars. https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/conversations/kelly-weinersmith-life-on-mars-elon-musk/103519898

NPR – All Things Considered with Scott Detrow. March 10, 2024. Why NASA wants human guinea pigs to test out Martian living. https://www.npr.org/2024/03/10/1237298886/why-nasa-wants-human-guinea-pigs-to-test-out-martian-living

Clear + Vivid with Alan Alda. April 29, 2024. https://clear-vivid-with-alan-alda.simplecast.com/

Nature Hits the Books (Nature's podcast) with Benjamin Thompson. April 19, 2024. https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-01158-6

Let's Learn Everything with Ella, Tom, and Caroline. March 14, 2024. https://maximumfun.org/episodes/lets-learn-everything/58-kelly-zach-weinersmith-mars-ecology-and-space-communes/

Reversing Climate Change with Ross Kenyon. March 7, 2024. https://nori.com/podcast-episodes/space-settlements-climate-change-zach-kelly-weinersmith-a-city-on-mars

Wild with Sarah Wilson. March 5, 2024. https://shows.acast.com/62538867ad55de001281af36/episodes/elly-weinersmith-why-settling-mars-is-a-really-dumb-idea

Chatter: The Lawfare Podcast with Scott Anderson. January 25, 2024. https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/chatter-a-city-on-mars-with-dr.-kelly-and-zach-weinersmith

Bloomberg Businessweek. January 18, 2024. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/audio/2024-01-18/bloomberg-businessweek-apple-upgraded-by-bofa-podcast

KPCW – Cool Science Radio with Lynne Ware Peek and Katie Mullaly. December 21, 2023. Is living in space a real possibility or just billionaires' folly? https://www.kpcw.org/show/cool-science-radio/2023-12-21/is-living-in-space-a-real-possibility-or-just-billionaires-folly

Savage Lovecast with Dan Savage. December 21, 2023. https://savage.love/lovecast/2023/12/21/sex-politics-25-a-city-on-mars/

Factually… with Adam Conover. November 15, 2023. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZ08Bz6TNmI

KERA (North Texas' PBS and NPR member station) – Think with Krys Boyd. November 27, 2023. You don't want to live on Mars. https://think.kera.org/2023/11/27/you-dont-want-to-live-on-mars/

Utah Public Radio – Access Utah with Tom Williams. November 20, 2023. 'A City on Mars' with Kelly Weinersmith on Monday's Access Utah. https://www.upr.org/show/access-utah/2023-11-20/a-city-on-mars-with-kelly-weinersmith-on-mondays-access-utah

Mindscape with Sean Carroll. November 13, 2023. https://www.preposterousuniverse.com/podcast/2023/11/13/256-kelly-and-zach-weinersmith-on-building-cities-on-the-moon-and-mars/

Houston Public Media – Houston Matters with Michael Hagerty. November 7, 2023. We still have a long, long way to go before there's ever 'A City on Mars'. https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/shows/houston-matters/2023/11/07/468709/we-still-have-a-long-long-way-to-go-before-theres-ever-a-city-on-mars/

The Space Show with David Livingston. July 25, 2021 & November 12, 2023. https://www.thespaceshow.com/guest/dr.-kelly-weinersmith

Planetary Radio (by the Planetary Society) with Mat Kaplan. November 8, 2023. https://www.planetary.org/planetary-radio/2023-a-city-on-mars

Zombified with Athena Aktipis and Dave Lundberg-Kenrick. July 4, 2023. https://zombified.fireside.fm/parasitized

Freakonomics Radio with Stephen Dubner. November 29, 2017.
https://freakonomics.com/podcast/are-we-running-out-of-ideas/

The Guardian's Science Weekly Podcast with Ian Sample. November 15, 2017.
https://www.theguardian.com/science/audio/2017/nov/15/tomorrows-technology-from-asteroid-mining-to-programmable-matter-science-weekly-podcast

CBC Radio – Quirks and Quarks with Bob McDonald. January 27, 2017.
http://www.cbc.ca/radio/quirks/u-s-scientists-turn-north-for-help-making-tomatoes-great-again-and-more-1.3954868/the-mind-control-of-the-crypt-keeper-wasp-1.3954965

BBC's Radio 4 – Free Thinking with Rana Mitter. October 27, 2017.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09fp701

NPR's Science Friday with Ira Flato. October 27, 2017.
https://www.sciencefriday.com/articles/if-a-robot-offers-you-a-cookie/

KGNU (Boulder-Denver) – How on Earth with Shelley Schlender. October 24, 2017.
https://howonearthradio.org/archives/6249

NPR's Marketplace with Kai Rysdal. October 17, 2017.
https://www.marketplace.org/2017/10/17/tech/economics-future-technology-explained-comics/

INVITED TALKS

2026

Library Speakers Consortium – Virtual to multiple U.S.-based libraries
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

CNBC's Technology Executive Council Summit
One Million People on Mars: Really? Interviewed by Morgan Brennan
https://www.cnbc.com/2026/10/28/cnbc-technology-summit-live-updates.html

American Chemical Society, California Section, Women Chemists Committee – Virtual
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Symposium on Science Communication and Public Engagement – Rice University, Houston, TX – **Keynote**
"You Should Probably Read More": And Other Grad School Advice That Made Me a Better Science Communicator

Exploring Space Lectures – National Air and Space Museum, Washington, DC
Our Future on Mars? https://www.youtube.com/live/LrV6hHNirCM

Ink Drinker Series at the Ypsilanti Public Library – Ypsilanti, MI
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

University of Michigan AIAA Public Policy Presentation – Ann Arbor, MI
Who Owns Space?

High School for Climate Justice – Manhattan, NY

A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

GEMS New Millennium School Alkhail – Dubai, UAE
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Emirates Literature Festival – Dubai, UAE
Life on Mars

2025

Meridian International Center campus in Washington, DC.- panel discussion for *Charting New Frontiers: Track 1.5 Dialogue on Space Norms*
Imagining the Orbit: Fictional Futures and the Realities of Space Governance

Piedmont Valley Community College Geology Club (Charlottesville, VA)
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Chicago Chapter of Iota Sigma Pi – Virtual
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

World-Youth-and-Student-Travel-Conference (WYSTC; Lisbon, Portugal) - **Keynote**
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Public Lecture at St. Catherine's University (St. Paul, Minnesota)
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Department Seminar at St. Catherine's University (St. Paul, Minnesota)
What's Gotten Into You? A brain-infecting trematode modifies the behavior and physiology of California killifish, Fundulus parvipinnis

Space Day at the Western Institute for Earth and Space Exploration – **Keynote**
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

New England Association of Parasitologists (NYC, NY) – **Keynote**
What's Gotten Into You? A brain-infecting trematode modifies the behavior and physiology of California killifish, Fundulus parvipinnis

2024

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (Edgewater, MD)
What's Gotten Into You?: Parasite Manipulation of Host Phenotype in Two Systems

Humanity in Deep Space – Workshop & Public Lecture (Lexington, Kentucky)
A City on Mars

New World Conference (Houston, TX)
Reality Check: A City on Mars

Moms on Mars (MIT Museum, Cambridge, MA)
Cat Bohannon and I presented "Moms on Mars" as a featured event at the 2024 Cambridge Science Festival.

Seattle Museum of Flight (Seattle, WA)

Presented on international law relevant to space settlement for a discussion (with subsequent Q&A) on "Who Owns Space?".

ASCEND Morning Macro Session: Human Health and Performance Challenges for A City on Mars (Las Vegas, NV)
Conversation with Blue Origin's Pat Remias about *A City on Mars*, followed by a panel with Pat, Erika Nesvold, and Shawna Pandya.

Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA Public Library: MBTS Reads 2024 Lecture
A City on Mars

University of Nebraska: School of Biological Sciences Seminar Series
What's Gotten Into You?: Parasite Manipulation of Host Phenotype in Two Systems

2024 Humans to Mars Summit (Washington, DC)
A City on Mars: A Conversation with co-author Kelly Weinersmith

Vytah Space Business Conference (Bratislava, Slovakia) - **Keynote**
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

Rice Space Institute Spaceport Lecture (Houston, TX)
A City on Mars: Can We Settle Space, Should We Settle Space, and Have We Really Thought This Through?

2023 North Carolina State University: Applied Ecology Department Seminar
What's Gotten Into You?: Parasite Manipulation of Host Phenotype in Two Systems

2022 Iowa City Darwin Day: Science Fest
As an invited speaker, I gave two presentations:
Welcome to Zombieland: Real Tales of Parasites Manipulating Host Behavior
Dangerous, Smelly, and Covered in Dust: The Future of Humans in Space

2020 Purdue University: Department of Biological Sciences
What's Gotten Into You?: Parasite Manipulation of Host Phenotype in Two Systems

Rockhurst University: Visiting Scholar Lecture
How Little We Know: Why Most of Our Opinions Are Probably Wrong

University of Calgary's Host-Parasite Interactions Seminar
What's Gotten Into You?: Parasite Manipulation of Host Phenotype in Two Systems

2019 University of Virginia's Department of Biology EcoLunch
An unusual niche: Parasites, behavior, and a new local space for field work

University of Oklahoma Biology Department Seminar
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

2018 Bowling Green State University Biology Department Seminar
Soonish: Ten Emerging Technologies That'll Improve And/Or Ruin Everything

University of California Merced Cognitive and Information Sciences program's Minds, Technology, and Society seminar invited speaker

Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

University of Central Florida Department Seminar
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

Zombie Medicine Conference (Arizona State University)
Welcome to Zombieland: Real tales of parasites manipulating host behavior

2017 The Royal Institution
Spoke on two consecutive nights about our book, Soonish

Talks at Google (NYC)
Soonish: 10 Emerging Technologies That'll Improve and/or Ruin Everything

2016 Rice Science Café
Talk entitled "*Brain-Infecting Parasites: What can zombie-makers teach us about the brain, immune system, and behavior*?" given to a general audience at the Black Labrador Pub.

2015 Smithsonian Magazine's Future is Here Festival
Will the zombie-makers of today yield the neuroscience drug discoveries of tomorrow?
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/videos/will-the-zombie-makers-of-today-yield-the-neur/

Bowling Green State University Biology Department Seminar
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

University of Michigan Early Career Scientists Symposium
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

2014 University of California San Francisco Evolution Seminar Series
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

Rice University Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department Seminar
Parasite manipulation of host phenotype: mechanisms, behavior, ecology, and evolution

2011 University of Eastern Finland Host-Parasite Workshop
Trematode parasites manipulate the behavior and physiology of California killifish (Fundulus parvipinnis)

SCIENCE COMEDY EVENTS

Comedians Interview Experts - Expert for their "Parasites" show

2026 – Caveat, NYC.

BAHFEST (The Festival of Bad Ad Hoc Hypotheses) – organizer, and host of the San Francisco shows

2013 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater)

2014 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), San Francisco (Castro Theater)

2015 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), San Francisco (Castro Theater), Seattle

2016 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), San Francisco (Castro Theater), London (Imperial College, Great Hall)

2017 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), San Francisco (Castro Theater), London (Imperial College, Great Hall) & Seattle

2018 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), London (Imperial College, Great Hall), Rice University (Houston)

2019 Boston (MIT, Kresge Theater), London (Imperial College, Great Hall)

Press for BAHFest:

The Wall Street Journal, written by Angela Chen. At This Conference, Scientists Spout Bogus Theories on Bugs, Yawns, and Belly Fat. Dec 1, 2014. https://www.wsj.com/articles/at-this-conference-scientists-spout-bogus-theories-on-bugs-yawns-and-belly-fat-1417395149

Science Friday with Ira Flato. Festival of Fake Hypotheses Generates Real Laughs. April 3, 2015. https://www.sciencefriday.com/segments/festival-of-fake-hypotheses-generates-real-laughs/

Moms on Mars – co-writer and presenter (in collaboration with Cat Bohannon)

2024 Cambridge Science Festival at the MIT Museum (Cambridge, MA, USA)

2025 Hay Festival, Discovery Stage (Hay-on-Wye, Wales, UK) & Royal Institution (London, England, UK)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2024 Awards for A City on Mars

Winner: Royal Society Trivedi Book Prize

Winner: Hugo Award for Best Related Works

Short-list: LA Times Book Prize for Science and Technology

Winner: New Worlds Odyssey Award for Excellence in Non-Fiction Literature

Winner: Space Hipsters Prize for the Best Book on Exploration or Space History

2018 Genentech grant awarded to Egan and Weinersmith

NSF Award #IOS-1755421: "Collaborative Research: Expression and dynamics of reproductive tactics in a wild population of smallmouth bass". Co-PIs: Wiegmann, Egan, and Weinersmith

2015 Huxley Faculty Fellowship in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Rice University

2013 National Science Foundation symposium funding [IOS #1338574]
Awarded for "Meeting: SICB 2014 parasitic manipulation symposium, Austin, Texas 3-7 January 2014". Lead PI: Zen Faulkes ($12,238)

2012 American Society of Parasitologists Outstanding Student Paper Award

Awarded for talk entitled "Two manipulative trematode parasites modify the physiology and behavior of California killifish (*Fundulus parvipinnis*)"

American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship

Parasites and personality: Interactions between the behavior and physiology of hosts and their parasites ($20,000)

UCD and Humanities Graduate Research Award in Ecology ($1,500)

UCD Graduate Group in Ecology Block Grant Fellowship (2 quarters)

2011 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant [IOS #1110639]

Dissertation Research: Reciprocal interactions between host behaviors, steroid hormones, and parasites ($14,600)

Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grant

Parasites and personality: Behavioral and hormonal interactions between California killifish and their behaviorally manipulative trematode parasites ($1,500)

SciFund Challenge Round 1: An Experiment in Crowdfunding

Zombie Fish ($5,000): My proposal received popular press attention from LiveScience.com, prominent science bloggers and journalists Ed Yong and Carl Zimmer, and my video proposal received over 27,000 views from members of the general public.

University of California Davis Department of Environmental Science and Policy Travel Grant ($1,000)

2010 UCD Graduate Group in Ecology Block Grant Fellowship (2 quarters)

2009 Natural Reserve System Mildred E. Mathias Graduate Student Research Grant ($1,500)

UCD Peter J. Shields and Henry A. Jastro Research Fellowship ($1,500)

2008 University of California Davis Department of Environmental Science and Policy Travel Grant ($1,000)

2007 UCD Graduate Group in Ecology Block Grant Fellowship (4 quarters)

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

OUTREACH

2021 – 2024 Daniel and Jorge Explain the Universe
I guest host ~1 episode per month.

2017 – present Cards Against Humanity Science Ambassador Scholarship
Board Member for the Science Ambassador Scholarship, which is a full-tuition scholarship for women in STEM.

2022 34th National Convention of the American Society of Engineers of Indian Origin
Panelist in the Space Access & Tourism session.

2021 National Youth Science Foundation's STEM Seminar Series (March 2021)
Gave a virtual lecture plus Q&A entitled: Careers in Parasitology & Nature's Zombie Makers

American Society of Parasitologists Parasite Week (March 2021)
Gave a virtual zoom lecture on parasitism to a class of high school students in Florida, and answered their questions about careers in parasitology.

2011-2019 Science…sort of podcast
Science podcast co-host.

2019 Lecture for Charlottesville Master Naturalists class (April 2019)

"Town Hall" at the University of Oklahoma (November 2019)
"How Soonish Taught Me That Most of My Opinions Are Wrong"

Skype Question and Answer Sessions with Students
Session with Cris Hawken's high school classroom
Session with Mark Martin's college classroom

2018 Kids' Tech University at Bowling Green State University
Presented "When Sci-Fi Comes to Life: When Parasites Control Host Behavior" to a group of 9-12 year-olds, and mentored students through activities in the afternoon. (March 2018)

2017 Tales from the Crypt
Press for "Tales from the Crypt: a parasitoid manipulates the behaviour of its host" generated press from *The Atlantic, National Geographic, BBC World, BBE Earth, CBC Quirks & Quarks, Science, Nature, New Scientist, Live Science, Future Proof (Ireland's NewsTalk FM radio), Popular Science, Gizmodo, San Francisco Chronicle, Phys.org, The Scientist, CBS News*, and *Yahoo News* (among others).

We also did a Reddit Science AMA, which had a total reach of 1.19 million people, with 4,749 people clicking through to read the answers (according to data provided by Reddit r/Science moderators).

BASIS San Antonio North Central presentation
Gave a presentation to and fielded questions from San Antonio middle school students about my research and careers in science research.

Comments to Journalists
Provided comments on recently published manuscript for article written by Ed Yong for The Atlantic ("How the Zombie Fungus Takes over Ants' Bodies to Control Their Minds").

2016 Interviewed by Science News for Students
Interviewed by Kathryn Hulick Gargolinski for an article in *Science News* Media Group's *Science News for Students* about parasites that manipulate host behavior. The article "Real Zombies" will be released this Halloween.

Rice Civic Scientist Program
Visited Mr. Michael Tee's AP Environmental Science class at Davis High School, and gave a talk about my journey into science and parasitology.

2015 Synapse: The University of California San Francisco Student Paper
Interviewed for article on Synapse entitled, "Renaissance woman: Kelly Weinersmith on science, outreach and family"

Interviews for popular science articles:
Buzzfeed – "6 of Nature's Most Horrifying Mind-Controlling Parasites" by Tom Chivers

New Scientist – "Zoologger: Necrophiliac spider mite prefers its mate dead" by Agata Blaszczak-Boxe

2014 Great Adaptations – A Children's Book About Evolution
Collaborated with a poet and an artist to share the story of how *Euhaplorchis californiensis* manipulates the behavior of California killifish. This book is aimed at getting children excited about the concepts of evolution and adaptation, and so far over 1,500 copies have been sold.

University of California San Francisco Women in the Life Sciences
I was invited to speak to the UCSF WiLS group about work-life balance, my graduate school experience, applying for postdoctoral positions, and my outreach activities.

Bay Area Science Festival
Co-hosted a live-recording of the science podcast Science…sort of, which was attended by an audience of ~40 people. I also hosted the Festival of Bad Ad Hoc Hypotheses, or BAHFest, which was attended by over 1,000 people. This festival brings people together to laugh about plausible-sounding evolutionary theories that are clearly false.

2013 #SciFund Outreach Training Course
Co-organized and taught a free, online course to train scientists on techniques commonly used for outreach. I wrote a series of blog posts on the topic for the #SciFund blog, and my efforts were featured in Slate Magazine's Bad Astronomy blog.

K-12 Outreach
Spoke with National Honors Society students at Youngker High School about careers in science.

Australian Society of Parasitologists: Parasitologists in the Spotlight
I was an invited guest on this Google On Air Hangout, which run by the Australian Society of Parasitologists and covered the topic of parasite manipulation of host phenotype.

2011 Women in Science Panel at Geek Girl Con (Seattle, WA)
I organized and moderated a panel on women in science at a conference aimed at getting young women excited about geek culture (including geek science culture).

Adventures in Animal Behavior: A Science Event at Wonderlab (Bloomington, IN)
I organized a station where visitors (largely elementary school students and their parents) could view trematode parasites emerging from their snail intermediate hosts while learning about parasites with complex life cycles.

2008 Reviewer of the Science Framework for California Public Schools
I made general comments on the text, reviewed the information for accuracy, and made suggestions regarding recent scientific advances that may be pertinent to the curriculum.

SERVICE

2008-present Manuscript review
Animal Behaviour (6/2017, 7/2019, 3/2020, 8/2020, 9/2020, 10/2021, 6/2023, 5/2026)
Behaviour (12/2011)
Behavioral Ecology (6/2013)
Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology (10/2008)
Biology Letters (07/2019)
Coral Reefs (06/2021)
Current Zoology (1/2018)
Ecological Entomology (12/2017, 4/2018)
Environmental Biology of Fishes (5/2018)
Ethology (6/2020)
Evolution (3/2016)
Functional Ecology (6/2022)
International Journal of Parasitology (3/2015)
Integrative Zoology (9/2024, 2/2025)
Journal of Applied Ecology (10/2018, 07/2021)
Journal of Ethology (11/2011)
Journal of Experimental Biology (3/2023)
Journal of Experimental Zoology (5/2015)
Journal of Molluscan Studies (7/2019)
Journal of Parasitology (9/2015, 6/2016, 6/2018, 2/2025)
Marine Biology (4/2016, 7/2016)
Nature of Science (12/2019)
Oecologia (2/2025)
Physiology & Behavior (8/2015)
PLoS One (1/2018)
Proceedings of the Royal Society B (5/2020, 5/2024, 11/2024)
The American Naturalist (2/2013, 1/2018)

Book review
Johns Hopkins University Press (12/2025)

2022 – Present American Society of Parasitologists
Newsletter Editor

Helminthological Society of Washington
President

2026 American Society of Parasitologists
President

2025 American Society of Parasitologists
President Elect
Priorities and Planning Committee (Chair)
Public Relations Committee (Chair)

2024 American Society of Parasitologists
Vice President
Priorities and Planning Committee

Public Relations Committee (co-chair)
Ad hoc Insurance Committee (co-chair)
Investments Committee (chair)

2023 American Society of Parasitologists
Ad Hoc Committee on the ASP Bernie Fried Undergraduate Student Research Grants (chair)

2018-2021 American Society of Parasitologists
Public Relations Committee (co-chair)
Newsletter Editor
Member at Large
American Society of Parasitologists blog editor
Organizer of Parasite Day 2019 (which reached ~1,370 students)
Executive Committee Member at Large (2020-2024)

Helminthological Society of Washington
Member at Large

2017-2018 American Society of Parasitologists
Public Relations Committee (co-chair)
Student Awards Committee (fill-in judge for annual conference)

2015-2017 American Society of Parasitologists
Student Awards Committee (member)
Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Social and Digital Media

2013-2014 Symposium organization
Co-organizer of symposium entitled "Parasitic manipulation of host phenotype, or how to make a zombie" for the SICB 2014 conference (Austin, TX). Talks from this symposium were featured in an article in Science: Pennisi E (2014). Parasitic puppeteers begin to yield their secrets. *Science* 343: 239.

American Society of Parasitologists Communications Committee
I co-ran the Twitter account for the American Society of Parasitologists.

2008-2009 Ecology Graduate Student Association (EGSA)
Co-chair of the EGSA.

2007-2008 Graduate Student Senate (GSA)
EGSA representative.

2006-2007 Biology Graduate Student Association (BGSA):
President of the EGSA.

University Committee on Ogg Science Library
Committee member.

2005-2006 Graduate Student Senate
BGSA representative.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING

2018 & 2020 & 2024 & 2026 Guest lecturer for Public Science Communication Seminar (NSCI 320/520 at Rice University)
Created and presented a lecture about public science communication through the mediums of podcasts, events, and books.

2015-2026 Guest Lecturer for Evolution class at Rice University (BIOS 334)
Created and presented a lecture about parasites and evolution.

2016 Co-instructor for Field Bird Biology Lab (EBIO 337 at Rice University)
Instructor for Lab Module in Ecolrogy (EBIO 316 at Rice University)
Instructor for Parasitology Reading Group (EBIO 542 at Rice University)

2015 Co-instructor for Field Bird Biology Lab (EBIO 337 at Rice University)
Lectured, led field trips, and supervised independent research projects for this one credit hour course. A subset of students were guided through the process of creating a bird habitat restoration plan, which will be implemented at the Hogg Bird Sanctuary.

Instructor for Lab Module in Ecology (EBIO 316 at Rice University)
I lectured and led field ecology lab experiments for this course. The students also conducted a large class project which is in review at *Parasites & Vectors*.

2013 Guest lecturer for Behavioral Ecology (Bowling Green State University)
Created and presented lectures on behavioral syndromes and group social behavior for this graduate student course.

2012 Guest lecturer for Anatomy and Physiology (University of Alabama)
Created and presented a lecture on interactions between parasites and host physiology.

2011 Summer Session Research Mentorship Program (University of California Santa Barbara)
Mentored 3 high school students through an intensive 6 week research program. Two students earned co-authorship on the publication being prepared from the data they collected.

2008 Teaching assistant for General Ecology (University of California Davis)
Moderated discussions and debates, led review sessions, and assisted in grading.

2007 Teaching assistant for Animal Behavior (Bowling Green State University)
Oversaw in-class experiments and assisted the students in designing and executing individual animal behavior projects.

2006 Guest lecturer and teaching assistant for Population and Community Ecology (Bowling Green State University)
Delivered three lectures and a series of presentations on mathematical and statistical techniques in ecology. Graded assignments associated with these presentations and course examinations.

2005 Teaching assistant for The Environment of Life (Bowling Green State University)
Oversaw in-class experiments and graded lab reports.

GRADUATE COMMITTEES

Graduation year

2024 **Robert Laroche.** *Understanding Patterns of Phenotypic Variation in a Contemporary Population and Ancient Lineage of Fish.* PhD Degree from Rice University.

2023 **Brian Okwiri.** *"Factors impacting survival following parental care in male smallmouth bass (Micropterus dolomieu)".* Master's Degree from Bowling Green State University.

Bennett Perry. *"Exploring host-parasite interactions in the Euhaplorchis californiensis-Fundulus parvipinnis system".* Master's Degree from Nova Southeastern University.

2021 **Mazie Lee Davis**. "*Does experience influence nest characteristics or timing of reproduction by male smallmouth bass (Micropterus dolomieu)?"* Master's Degree from Bowling Green State University.

STUDENT MENTORING

*Students are or will be co-authors on manuscripts arising from our collaborations.

2021 - 2024 Brian Okwiri* (Master's, Bowling Green State University), Erica Stegens* & Gabrielle Philips* (Undergraduate, Bowling Green State University), and Robert LaRoche* (PhD, Rice University)
Skills taught: I co-advised these students. I worked with all students to become familiar with the literature on alternative reproductive tactics, generate protocols for determines ages and growth rates of smallmouth bass from fish scales, discussed experimental design, and analyses in R.

2019 - 2021 Mazie Lee Davis* (Master's, Bowling Green State University), Brian Okwiri* (Master's, Bowling Green State University), and Robert LaRoche* (PhD, Rice University)
Skills taught: I co-advised these students. I worked with all students to become familiar with the literature on alternative reproductive tactics, generate protocols for determines ages and growth rates of smallmouth bass from fish scales, and discussed experimental design.

2018-2019 Abhinav Birda*, Jasmine Terhall*, James Riddell, Jessica Cameron, Reyna Carillo, Matthew Campos, and Khang Tong (Scripps Institution of Oceanography)
Skills taught: Video processing and quantification of fish behavior.

2017-2018 Brandon Mukogawa, Veranca Shah, Sarra Larif, Adrian Castillo, Jasmine Terhall, Abhinav Birda, Karina Cobain*, Kaia Quigg, Jennifer Dusto*, Paige Mathias, DeAundre Puritty, Morgan Prince, and Courtney (Quartz) Clark (Scripps Institution of Oceanography)
Skills taught: Video processing and quantification of fish behavior.

Sydney Cottingham* (Lousiana State University)
Skills taught: Detection of helminth parasites in lower digestive tract of lesser scaup

2016-2017 Sean Liu* (Rice University)
Skills taught: Branch dissections for the Tales from the Crypt paper

Jasmine Akiko Garcia (Scripps Institution of Oceanography)
Skills taught: Quantification of fish behavior, manuscript preparation, poster presentation.

2016 Marcella Pinnel, Alice Zhu, and Laura Nicholson* (Rice University)

Skills taught: Techniques for analyzing videos of animal behavior.

2012-2014 Jelani Grace* and Walter Smith (University of Alabama)
Skills taught: Killifish hormone collection and measurement, killifish dissection and parasite quantification, and quantification of fish behavior.

2013-2014 Cameron Calhoun*, Lee House*, Morgan Lancaster*, and Tyler King* (University of Alabama)
Skills taught: Killifish dissection and parasite quantification, and quantification of fish behavior.

2012-2013 Madeline Haddock* (University of Alabama)
Skills taught: Killifish hormone collection and measurement, killifish dissection and parasite quantification, and quantification of fish behavior.

2011-2012 Zöe Zilz (University of California Santa Barbara)
Skills taught: Killifish dissection and parasite quantification.

2011 Jessie Lei, Virginia Tan*, Chloe Warinner* (High school students mentored at the University of California Santa Barbara)
Skills taught: Parasite collection, killifish dissection and parasite quantification, and parasite volume measurements.

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Presenter's name in bold. *Denotes presentation by student I mentored or co-mentored.

Weinersmith KL. Introduction of President Anindo Choudhury (2026). Oral Presentation. American Society of Parasitologists. Orlando, FL.

Weinersmith KL and Janovy JJ. Navigating the publishing world (2025). Oral presentation. American Society of Parasitologists. Winston-Salem, NC.

Weinersmith KL. A history of reports of self-experimentation in the *Journal of Parasitology* from 1914-1924 (2025). Oral presentation. American Society of Parasitologists. Winston-Salem, NC.

Laroche RAS*, Weinersmith KL, Angeloni LM, Egan SP and Wiegmann DD (2023). Parental genotype and environment influence offspring reproductive traits in smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*). Oral presentation. Evolution conference. Albuquerque, NM.

Laroche RAS*, Weinersmith KL, Angeloni LM, Egan SP and Wiegmann DD (2022). Parental genotype and environment influence offspring reproductive traits in smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*). Oral presentation. Animal Behavior Society conference. Costa Rica.

Laroche RAS*, Weinersmith KL, Angeloni LM, Egan SP and Wiegmann DD (2021). The influence of energetics and competition on smallmouth bass reproductive behavior. Oral Presentation. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Virtual Conference.

Weinersmith KL, Forbes AA, Ward AKG and Egan SP (2020). Tales from the crypt: A parasitoid manipulates the behavior of its gall wasp hosts. Oral Presentation. Animal Behavior Society. Virtual Conference.

Laroche RAS*, Weinersmith KL, Angeloni LM, Egan SP and Wiegmann DD (2020). The influence of energetics and competition on smallmouth bass reproductive behavior. Oral Presentation. Animal Behavior Society. Virtual Conference.

Cottingham SL, Stroud CM, England CJ, Weinersmith KL and **Ringelman KM** (2019). Gastrointestinal parasites of Less Scaup wintering in Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. Poster Presentation. North American Duck Symposium. Winnipeg.

Weinersmith KL (2019). "Oh! That looks fun too!" Or, how to cobble together a career when everything sounds fun. Invited Oral Presentation for the Student Symposium. Oral Presentation. American Society of Parasitologists Annual Conference. Rochester, MN.

Weinersmith KL, Ward AKG, Khodor OS, Egan SP and Forbes AA (2019). A keeper of many crypts: the parasitoid *Euderus set* manipulates the behavior of a taxonomically diverse array of oak gall wasp species. Oral Presentation. Helminthological Society of Washington Annual Conference. Winchester, VA.

Hernandez RN*, Weinersmith KL and Hechinger RF (2019). Commencing evasive maneuvers: California killifish, moe, dart, and scratch more during trematode exposure and attack. Oral Presentation. Southern California Society of Parasitologists Annual Conference.

Weinersmith KL, Nadler LE, Helland-Riise SH, Dusto J, Bengston E, Turner A, Øverli Ø and Hechinger RF (2018). The influence of *Euhaplorchis californiensis* on California killifish (*Fundulus parvipinnis*) behavior across contexts and ontogeny. Oral Presentation. American Society of Parasitologists Conference. Cancun, Mexico.

Helland-Riise SH, Turner AV, Bengston E, Vindas MA, Johansen IB, Nadler L, Weinersmith KL, Hechinger RF and Øverli Ø (2018). Behavioral differences in California killifish experimentally infected with the brain parasite *Euhaplorchis californiensis*. Oral Presentation. Society for Experimental Biology Conference. Florence, Italy.

***Cottingham SL**, Ringelman KM, Stroud CM and Weinersmith KL (2018). Gastrointestinal helminth abundance in lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*) wintering on Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. Oral Presentation. American Society of Parasitologists Conference. Cancun, Mexico.

***Cottingham SL**, Ringelman KM, Stroud CM and Weinersmith KL (2018). Gastrointestinal helminth abundance in lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*) wintering on Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. Oral Presentation. Southeastern Society of Parasitologists. Mississippi State University. Starksville, MS.

***Cottingham SL**, Stroud CM, Weinersmith KL, and Ringelman KM (2017). Gastrointestinal helminth abundance in lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*) wintering on Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana. Poster Presentation. Louisiana Wildlife Society.

Winner of the Gamma Sigma Delta's Undergraduate Research Grant Poster Award (first place) & the Agriculture Residential College Student's Choice Award.

Weinersmith KL, Liu SM, Forbes AA, and Egan SP (2016). Tales from the Crypt: A parasitoid changes emergence behavior in a crypt-forming gall wasp. Oral Presentation. American Society of Parasitologists conference.

Weinersmith KL, Renick VC, King T, Payne E, Sih A, and Earley RL. (2015). Does a brain-infecting parasite influence host behavioral type and behavioral correlations? Oral presentation. American Society of Parasitologists conference.

Weinersmith KL. Science outreach through blogging and podcasting (2015). Invited talk for the American Society of Parasitologists Students' Symposium.

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