

L u c a s A . N e i l l

Department of Zoology • University of Wisconsin–Madison
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E D U C A T I O N

PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison (Fall 2016–Present)

MS, University of Florida (2014)

- *Thesis*: Exploring benefits to American alligators (*Alligator mississippiensis*) associating with long-legged wading bird nesting colonies in the Everglades

BS, Pennsylvania State University (2009)

A W A R D S

- First Year Fellowship, Department of Zoology, UW–Madison (~\$15,000; 2017)
- Runner-Up, Best Student Oral Presentation, The Waterbird Society (Fall 2014)
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention (Fall 2014)
- Gene Becker Memorial Scholarship, Mote Marine Laboratory (\$1,000; Spring 2010)
- Dean's List, Penn State University (Spring 2006, Spring 2007–Fall 2009)

P U B L I C A T I O N S

= open access = institutional access = PDF

3. **Neill LA**, Frederick PC, Mazzotti FJ, Vliet KA, Brandt LA. 2016. Presence of breeding birds improves body condition for a crocodylian nest protector. *PLOS ONE* 11:e0149572. [[Top 0.07% of articles for online impact](#)]
2. **Neill LA**, Frederick PC. 2015. Fallen nestlings and regurgitant as mechanisms of nutrient transfer from nesting wading birds to crocodylians. *Wetlands* 35:723–732.
1. Barclay VC, Sim D, Chan BHK, **Neill LA**, Rabaa MA, Bell AS, Anders RF, Read AF. 2012. The evolutionary consequences of blood-stage vaccination on the rodent malaria *plasmodium chabaudi*. *PLOS Biology* 10:e1001368. [[Top 1% of articles for online impact](#)]

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talk

- Society for Conservation Biology, University of Florida Chapter (Nov 2014)

Talks

- Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation's MS Symposium (Dec 2014)
- Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society (Nov 2014)



Posters

- Innovation Through Institutional Integration (I³) Program's Graduate Student Research Day (Oct 2014)
- Florida Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit's Annual Coordinating Committee Meeting (May 2014)
- Florida Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit's Annual Coordinating Committee Meeting (May 2013)
- Florida Museum of Natural History's 36th Annual Herpetology Conference (Apr 2013)




SCIENTIFIC DISSEMINATION

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Popular Science Articles

- **Nell, LA.** Jun 2016. Nesting with alligators. *Natural History*, 12–15. 
- **Nell, LA.** May 2016. Unlikely companions. *Biosphere*, 56–61. 

Media Appearances

- “Quirks & Quarks”, CBC Radio (12 Mar 2016) 
- “Science Update”, AAAS (7 Mar 2016) 
- “60-Second Science”, Scientific American (4 Mar 2016) 

Local Outreach

- *Volunteer at Zoology Grad Student Organization's booth*
 - Discovery Expo, Wisconsin Institute for Discovery (23 Oct 2016)
- *Speaker at Environmental Education events*
 - C.W. Norton Elementary School, Gainesville, FL (4 Oct 2013)
 - High Springs Community School, Gainesville, FL (14 Sep 2012)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- The Society for the Study of Evolution (since 2012)
- Ecological Society of America (since 2015)

TEACHING

Discussion Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin–Madison

- *Introductory Biology* (Fall 2016)

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Penn State University

- *Animal Science* (Spring 2008–Fall 2009)
- *Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity* (Fall 2008)

MENTORING

Science Fair Mentor

- Abraham Lincoln Middle School, Gainesville, FL (Fall 2012)

Invited Student Panel Participant

- Career Expo, Penn State University (31 Oct 2009)
- Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences Camp, Penn State University (1 Jul 2009)

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

University of Georgia

Sex chromosome evolution in stickleback fishes and mice (Dr. Michael White, PI)

- Research Technician (Aug 2015–July 2016)

University of Florida

Effects of nesting wading birds on alligators in the Everglades (Dr. Peter Frederick, PI)

- Research Assistant (Aug 2012–Dec 2014)

Colorado State University

Human–elephant conflict in Ruaha, Tanzania (Ms. Sarah Maisonneuve, Director)

- Field Site Manager (Jan–May 2012)
- Field Technician (Jun–Jul 2011)

Mote Marine Laboratory

Florida manatee conservation biology (Dr. John E. Reynolds, III, Director)

- Intern (Apr–Aug 2010)

Penn State University

Evolution of malaria in response to vaccination (Dr. Andrew Read, PI)

- Laboratory Technician (Aug–Dec 2009)

Effects of fire ant invasion on native lizards (Dr. Tracy Langkilde, PI)

- Laboratory Technician (May–Dec 2009)

Factors affecting ruminant digestion efficiency (Dr. Jud Heinrichs, PI)

- Laboratory Technician (May–Sep 2008)