

Chandler J. Olson

PhD Candidate | Kocot Lab
University of Alabama Department of Biological Sciences
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EDUCATION

- 8/2021-present PhD Student | University of Alabama | Kocot Lab
Dissertation Title: Aplacophora Systematics and Taxonomy Focused on the Waters Surrounding Iceland
Dissertation Committee: Kevin M. Kocot, Gustav Paulay, Benjamin Titus, Micheal McKain, Phillip Haris
- 7/2017-3/2021 B.S. in Biological Sciences, Drexel University
Concentration: Evolution/Genomics/Ecology
Sum Cum Laude

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Béchade, B., Cabuslay, C. S., Hu, Y., Mendonca, C. M., Hassanpour, B., Lin, J. Y., Su, Y., Fiers, V. J., Anandarajan, D., Lu, R., **Olson, C. J.**, Duplais, C., Rosen, G. L., Moreau, C. S., Aristilde, L., Wertz, J. T., & Russell, J. A. (2023). Physiological and evolutionary contexts of a new symbiotic species from the nitrogen-recycling gut community of turtle ants. *The ISME Journal*, 17(10), 1751–1764.

PEER-REVIEWED NOTES & SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

2. **Olson C. J.** and Torija-Olson E.J. (2024) First Records of the Thrush Cowrie, *Naria turdus* (Lamarck, 1810) (Gastropoda: Cypraeidae), in Mexico. *The Nautilus*, [submitted for publication]
1. Apellido K. A., [et al, including **Olson C. J.**] (2019) Complete Genome Sequences of 12 B1 Cluster Mycobacteriophages, Gareth, JangoPhett, Kailash, MichaelPhcott, PhenghisKhan, Phleuron, Phergie, PhrankReynolds, PhrodoBaggins, Phunky, Vaticameos, and Virapocalypse, *ISME*, 8(8): 1-3.

PRESENTATIONS

16. *Farris W. J., McLaughlin E, **Olson C. J.**, McLaughlin E, Cobo MC, Kocot K. 2023. A New Species of Dondersia (Mollusca, Aplacophora, Solenogastres) from the Gulf of Mexico (poster). Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Seattle, WA
15. ***Olson C. J.**, McLaughlin E, Cobo MC, Kocot K. 2023. Icelandic Aplacophora: Remarkable undescribed diversity in the deep sea (talk). American Malacological Society Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL
14. ***Olson C. J.**, Torija E. 2023. Seahorse and Co: Engaging thousands in malacology through online resources (poster). American Malacological Society Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL
13. *Yap-Chiongco M. K., Cobo M. C., **Olson C. J.**, Farris W.J., Kocot K. M.. 2023. First Records of Epimeniidae (Solenogastres, Aplacophora) from the Arabian Sea (poster). American Malacological Society Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL
12. Bergmeier F. S., Cobo M. C., Gerken S., McLaughlin E. L., **Olson C. J.**, Roberts N. G., Vandersommen V., Yap-Chiongco M., *Kocot K. M. 2023. First records of Monoplacophora from the Eastern Antarctica (poster). American Malacological Society Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL

11. *Cobo M. C., Bergmeier F. S., McLaughlin E. L., **Olson C. J.**, Roberts N. G., Farris W. J. Yap-Chiongco M., Kocot K. M. 2023. First records of parasitic Nematoda in Solenogastres (Mollusca, Aplacophora): findings of the NBP23-03 “IcyInverts” expedition to the Eastern Antarctic (poster). American Malacological Society Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL
10. *Bennett R. M., **Olson C. J.**, Farris W. J., McLaughlin E., Rohlwing N., Cobo MC, Kocot K. 2023. Description and identification of a new species of solenogasters (Mollusca, Aplacophora) (poster). Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Conference, Tuscaloosa, AL
9. ***Olson C. J.**, McLaughlin E, Cobo MC, Kocot K. 2023. Diversity of Solenogasters (Mollusca, Aplacophora) in Deep Icelandic Waters (poster). Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Austin, TX
8. ***Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Smith Z., Joury S., Schneider S., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Variation in worker caste morphology of *Melipona beecheii* bees in Cuba (poster). II Conferencia Científica Internacional de la Universidad de Cienfuegos, Cienfuegos, Cuba.
7. *Joury S., **Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Smith Z., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Conditioning Bees in Cuba: assessing the cognitive behavior and color preferences of *Melipona beecheii* through visual associative learning assays (poster). II Conferencia Científica Internacional de la Universidad de Cienfuegos, Cienfuegos, Cuba.
6. *Smith Z., Joury S., **Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Microhabitat and introduced species’ effects on native bee community structure in Cienfuegos, Cuba (poster). II Conferencia Científica Internacional de la Universidad de Cienfuegos, Cienfuegos, Cuba.
5. McCurdy M., Smith Z., Joury S., **Olson C. J.**, Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Limited thermoregulatory mechanisms in foraging *Melipona beecheii* bees (poster). STAR Scholars Summer Showcase, Philadelphia, PA.
4. ***Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Smith Z., Joury S., Schneider S., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Variation in worker caste morphology of *Melipona beecheii* bees in Cuba (poster). STAR Scholars Summer Showcase, Philadelphia, PA.
3. *Joury S., **Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Smith Z., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Conditioning Bees in Cuba: assessing the cognitive behavior and color preferences of *Melipona beecheii* through visual associative learning assays (poster). STAR Scholars Summer Showcase, Philadelphia, PA.
2. *Smith Z., Joury S., **Olson C. J.**, McCurdy M., Thomas R., Márquez S., Barrett M., Machado J.A.M., Ward D.C. 2018. Microhabitat and introduced species’ effects on native bee community structure in Cienfuegos, Cuba (poster). STAR Scholars Summer Showcase, Philadelphia, PA.
1. ***Olson C. J.**, *Truxon A., *Johnson H., *Gandhi R. 2018. A study of phage isolation using varied phage host and soil types (poster). SEA-PHAGES Poster Showcase, Philadelphia, PA.

FUNDED GRANTS/AWARDS/ FELLOWSHIPS

2023	Levitetz Innovation Seed Grant (\$3000)
2023	NMNH/Smithsonian Institute, Visiting Researcher Fellowship (~\$3,000)
2023	Chermock Prize (\$500)
2022	Levitetz Innovation Seed Grant (\$1000)
2022	Graduate Council Fellowship (\$24,000 + tuition)
2021	NWCA Academic All-American
2020	Charles Wentz Co-op Fellowship Award (\$10,000)
2018	Drexel STAR Scholar (~\$3,000)

- 2017-21 Dean's Scholarship, Drexel University (~\$80,000)
- 2017-21 Athletic Scholarship (~\$130,000)
- 2017-21 Drexel Legacy Scholarship (~\$9,000)
- 2017-21 Drexel Grant (~\$6,000)
- 2017-21 Gary & Marla Colton Endowment Scholarship (~\$5,000)

FIELD RESEARCH

- 2023 Icy Inverts. RVIB Nathaniel B. Palmer. 70 days. Eastern Antarctica.
- 2023 Global ARMS Program. Smithsonian Institute. 21 days. Oman.
- 2022 Meiofauna BioBlitz. 6 days. Dauphin Island, Alabama
- 2018 Bee Biodiversity and Urban Beekeeping. 28 days. Cienfuegos Cuba

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020-21 Curatorial Assistant | Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia, Dept. of Malacology
- 2019-20 Undergraduate Researcher | Russel Lab, Drexel University
- 2019 Content Intern | AdMed Inc.
- 2019 iSTAR Undergraduate Researcher | Ward Lab, Drexel University

OUTREACH

- 2024 Volunteered at Alabama Museum of Natural History "Under the Sea" Family Day
- 2022 Designed activity and volunteered at UA Ar-BOO-return event
- 2022 Volunteered at Alabama Museum of Natural History Bama Bug Fest
- 2021-22 Designed activity and volunteered at UA Homecoming Outreach Tent

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Seahorse and Co: Founder

Science outreach platform for making biodiversity more accessible with a focus on marine invertebrates.

- Seashell Identification Guides for States of Eastern U.S.

- 30,000 Website Visits in 2023

- Averages 8.5 minutes per visit.

- Educational Videos

- 46,000 views in 2023

ADVANCED COURSEWORK

- 2022 Biodiversity and Integrative Taxonomy of Invertebrates, Friday Harbor Marine Labs, WA

SELECT SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 2023 Co-organizer American Malacological Society Annual Meeting in Tuscaloosa, AL
- 2018-19 Drexel Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- 2018-19 Recruitment Committee TriBeta Biological Honor Society of Drexel University

MENTORING

Undergraduate Students

- 2023-present Dora Brummett

CERTIFICATIONS

- 2016 PADI Advanced Open Water SCUBA Diving Certification

MEMBERSHIPS

American Malacological Society