Nina Veselka

Graduate Program in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
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EDUCATION

2010- present **M.S. Student (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology)**
University of Massachusetts (Amherst)

2005- 2009 **B.Sc. with distinction (Biology; Scholar's Electives)**
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
Honours Thesis: *An echolocation bone in bats: The stylohyal and echolocation*

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Dzal, Y**.,** McGuire, L.P., **Veselka, N.**, and Fenton, M.B. (2010) Going, going, gone: The impact of White-Nose Syndrome on summer activity of the little brown myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*). Biology Letters. doi:10.1098/rsbl.2010.0859

Orbach, D.N., **Veselka, N.**, Dzal, Y., Lazure, L., and Fenton, M.B. (2010) Drinking and flying: Does alcohol consumption affect the flight and echolocation performance of phyllostomid bats? PLoS One. 5: e8993.

Veselka, N., McErlain, D.D., Holdsworth, D.W., Eger, J.L., Chhem, R.K., Mason, M.J., Brain, K.L., Faure, P.A., Fenton, M.B. (2010) Brief communication arising: A bony connection signals laryngeal echolocation in bats. Nature. 466: E7.

Veselka, N., McErlain, D.D., Holdsworth, D.W., Eger, J.L., Chhem, R.K., Mason, M.J., Brain, K.L., Faure, P.A., and Fenton, M.B. (2010) A bony connection signals laryngeal echolocation in bats. Nature. 463: 939-942.

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Fenton, M.B., Dzal, Y.A., **Veselka, N**., Dahrouj, D.M., and Hooton, L.A. 2009. PCB contamination does not affect bat activity and diversity on the Hudson River but remediation activities may. (Internal report for General Electric Co.)

Fenton, M.B., Dzal, Y.A, **Veselka, N**., and Dahrouj, D.M. 2008. Bats and the Hudson River (Schuylerville to Fort Edward): Using radiotracking, acoustic monitoring and insect sampling to determine how bats use the Hudson River. 2008. (Internal report for General Electric Co.)

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED OR IN PREPARATION

Veselka, N., Dzal, Y., Fenton, M.B. *in prep*. Call variation of *Myotis lucifugus* at three North American locations.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

2010	Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($10,000, declined)
2009	Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($10,000, declined)
2009	NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award ($4,500)
2008	Bat Research News Award (for outstanding oral paper, $500)
2008	NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award ($4,500)
2006	UWO Excellence in Leadership Award
2005	Western Scholarship of Excellence ($2000)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Veselka, N., McErlain, D.D., Holdsworth, D.W., Eger, J.L., Chhem, R.K., Mason, M.J., Brain, K.L., Faure, P.A., Fenton, M.B. 2009. Stylohyal connection points to laryngeal echolocation. 39th North American Symposium on Bat Research (NASBR), Portland, OR.

Veselka, N. 2009. The stylohyal and echolocation. Ontario Biology Day. Windsor, ON.

Veselka, N. 2008.The ear bones of bats: Variation in the manubrium of the malleus. 38th North American Symposium on Bat Research (NASBR), Scranton, PA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall, 2010 — Biology 100, University of Massachusetts
- Lecturing (pre-lab), leading students though laboratory exercises, grading lab reports

Fall, 2009 — Biology of Bats (Online Course), University of Western Ontario
- Conducting background research, creating and recording online lectures, preparing study questions

FIELD EXPERIENCE

2010 — **Terrestrial Field Technician**, Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute
- Conducted bird, stand, soil, plant, moss, and mammal surveys
- Gained experience in the identification of Alberta flora (including mosses)

2009, 2010 **Researcher**, Lamanai, Belize

- Studied the effect of ethanol on echolocation and flight behaviour of local bat species in Belize
- Gained experience in mist netting, and identification of Central American bats

2008, 2009 **Researcher**, Hudson River, New York

- Studied local bat populations in New York state using acoustic monitoring, radio tracking, and insect sampling methods
- Developed expertise in acoustic analysis and insect identification

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2005-09 **Scholar's Electives research assistant** to Dr. M.B. Fenton, Department of Biology, University of Western Ontario

- Explored the link between morphology and echolocation behaviour in bats using skull specimens and micro-CT scans of middle and outer ear structures

2007-08 **Student Advisory Board Member**, Nelson Education, Toronto, ON

- Participated in meetings to discuss content of a first year biology book
- Wrote practice questions for several chapters of the book

RELEVENT WORK EXPERIENCE

2007 **Enforcement Assistant, GIS Assistant**, Ministry of Natural Resources

- Met with drilling rig operators to discuss drilling methods for oil and gas in southwestern Ontario
- Wrote a manual on how to use Trimble GPS units (to be used by Ministry Inspectors)

2006 **Enforcement Assistant,** Ministry of Natural Resources

- Worked independently to locate and GPS abandoned wells in southwestern Ontario

2004-05 **Laboratory Assistant**, Queens University

- Organized labs and practical exams for university students
- In charge of maintaining and preparing anatomy specimens

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

OUTREACH

2009 Adirondack School of Northeastern New York (Greenwich, NY)
Presentated "Bats in Your Backyard"- an introduction to local bat species- to middle school students

2007 London Regional Children's Museum (London, ON)
Facilitated learning activities during "Bat Day"- an educational program geared toward pre-school children

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Behavioural and physiological ecology of bats. Variation in echolocation. Relationships between morphology and diversification in bats.
- Adaptation of organisms to extreme conditions