

BENJAMIN PHIPPS

Phone: (217) 552-6068
benjamin.phipps@uga.edu

416 Springdale St. Apt. 2
Athens, GA 30606

EDUCATION

University of Georgia, PhD Genetics 07/2019 – present
Advisor: Dr. Michael Strand
Advanced to candidacy 05/2021

University of North Texas, BS Biology and BA Spanish 08/2015 – 05/2019
Minor in Chemistry
Thesis: “Effects of Inhaled Air Pollutants on Renin-Angiotensin Signaling and Consequences in Cardiovascular Disease, Metabolic Syndrome, and Obesity”
Advisor: Dr. Amie Lund
Graduated Summa Cum Laude

AWARDS AND HONORS

Distinguished Honors College Scholar	05/2019
Tad Lott Biology Award	04/2018
Davidson Outstanding Honors Research Student in Natural Sciences	04/2018
President’s List	05/2016, 12/2017, 05/2018, 12/2018, 05/2019
Dean’s List	12/2016, 05/2017
Eagle Excellence Scholarship	08/2015
Eagle Scout	09/2014

RESEARCH SUPPORT

NIH T32 Training in Tropical and Emerging Global Diseases (stipend)	07/2021
Raupe Travel Grant (\$750)	02/2019
Science Undergraduate Research Presentation Award (\$250)	11/2018
Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$500)	01/2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia, Athens, GA 06/2019 – present

- Advisor: Dr. Michael Strand
Topic: roles of mosquito gut microbiota and neurohormones in egg formation and vector competence
- Laboratory rotations in Integrated Life Sciences (06/2019 – 12/2019)
 - Dr. Dennis Kyle
Topic: laboratory techniques related to drug resistance research in *Plasmodium falciparum*

- Dr. Stephen Trent
Topic: lipooligosaccharide and colistin resistance in *Acinetobacter baumannii*
- Dr. Silvia Moreno
Topic: optimizing techniques for studying calcium signaling in *Toxoplasma gondii*
- Dr. Michael Strand
Topic: envelope proteins in *Microplitis demolitor* bracovirus

University of North Texas, Denton, TX

01/2018 – 07/2019

- Advisor: Dr. Amie Lund
Topic: effects of inhaled environmental air pollutants on the renin-angiotensin pathway and consequences in cardiovascular disease, obesity, and metabolic syndrome
- Advisor: Dr. Lee Hughes
Topic: programmed translational frameshifts in *Streptomyces* bacteriophages

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Phipps BL, Suwannasual U, Lucero J, Mitchell NA, Lund AK. Vehicle emissions-exposure alters expression of systemic and tissue-specific components of the renin-angiotensin system and promotes outcomes associated with cardiovascular disease and obesity in wild-type C57BL/6 male mice. *Toxicol Rep.* 2021;8:846-862.
2. Phipps B, Lucero J, McDonald JD, Lund AK. The Effects of Inhalation Exposure to Traffic-Generated Air Pollutants on Angiotensin II Receptor Expression and Inflammatory Signaling in the Vasculature and Kidney of Wildtype Mice on a High Fat vs. Low Fat Diet. Poster. Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. March, 2019.
3. Phipps B, Li A, Morales C, Nguyen T, Bhuiyan S, Hughes LE. Experiment Demonstrating the Programmed Translational Frameshift in Tail Assembly Chaperone Genes of the *Streptomyces* phage BryanRecycles. Poster. American Society for Microbiology Texas Branch Spring Meeting, New Braunfels, TX. March, 2018.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Entomological Society of America, 01/2021 – present
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, 05/2019 – present
- American Society for Microbiology, 01/2018 – present
- Sigma Delta Pi – National Spanish Honors Society, 02/2018 – 05/2019

OUTREACH/SERVICE

In the Athens community:

- **Writer and reviewer**, Athens Science Observer 11/2020 – present
 - Write science articles for non-specialist audiences, published on ASO website

- Provide feedback on other writers' articles

At UGA:

- **Treasurer**, Center for Tropical and Emerging Global Diseases Graduate Student Association 06/2021 – present
- **Treasurer**, Genetics Graduate Student Association 05/2020 – 05/2021
 - Secure and allocate funding for GGSA activities
 - Help organize GGSA events
- **New Student Ambassador**, Integrated Life Sciences 04/2020 – 04/2021
 - Act as a mentor for incoming students
 - Advise on navigating the first year of graduate school and choosing rotation laboratories

At UNT:

- **Member**, Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honors Society 02/2018 – 05/2019
 - Decorated campus for Latin American holidays
 - Provide Spanish student presentations at a local high school