Victoria E Amaral
Curriculum Vitae

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Academic Qualifications

2018 BSc. (*Summa Cum Laude)* — *North Carolina State University, Raleigh USA*
Present PhD (*Presidential Scholar*) — *The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR*

Awards and Grants

2025 Demonstrators Award. Recognizing outstanding demonstrators for the academic year 2024/25.
2024 Environment Conservation Fund (ECF 224/2024) **(1,318,639 HKD)**
2023 Additional Funding from the RGC for HKPF Students: 3rd Round **($ 2000 HKD)**
2022 Additional Funding from the RGC for HKPF Students: 2nd Round **($ 18,837 HKD)**
2021 HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Program (HKU-PS) recipient **($ 1,538,335 HKD)**
2017 Research Experience for Undergrads (REU) Recipient **($ 3,000 USD)**
2016 Undergraduate Research Grant, North Carolina State University **($ 500 USD)**

Manuscripts in Review

Amaral VE, Woo SY, So TC, Dingle C, Bonebrake TC, Ashton LA. ALAN exerts little local influence on diverse moth communities in highly urbanized Hong Kong.
Accepted to *Biotropica*.

Amaral VE, Yang RM, Bonebrake TC, Mizuno T, Boyle MJW, Ashton LA, Nakamura A. Artificial light increases prey abundance, but suppresses predation, in a tropical primary forest.
Under Review at *Journal of Animal Ecology*.

McCormick E, Pinilla-Gallego M, **Amaral VE**, Adler L, Irwin B. Can nest architecture influence parasite spread in Bombus impatiens (Hymenoptera: Apoidea) colonies?
Under Review at *Journal of Economic Entomology*.

Published Papers

Pinilla-Gallego MS, Ng WH, **Amaral VE**, Irwin RE (2022) Floral Shape Predicts Bee-Parasite Transmission Potential. *Ecology,* 103(7), e3730.

Figueroa LL, Fowler A, Lopez S, **Amaral VE**, Koch H, Stevenson PC, Adler LS (2023) Sunflower spines and beyond: mechanisms and breadth of pollen that reduce gut pathogen infection in the common eastern bumble bee. *Functional Ecology*, 37, 1757–1769.

Invited Presentations and Conference Events

2024 Conference Talk. International Congress of Entomology Meeting, Kyoto, Japan. Hong Kong as a case study for Anthropogenic outcomes in the tropics.
2023 Invited Presentation. Harvard Natural History Museum. Boston, MA.
2023 Conference Talk. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Portland OR, USA**.** Impact of artificial light

at night on Hong Kong moth communities.

2019 Conference Poster. Ecological Society of America Meeting, New Orleans LA, USA. Wasps disperse to and have lower abundance in patches with more edge.

2018 Conference Poster. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Louisville, KY, USA. Patch shape, rather than connectivity, influences Hymenoptera abundance and offspring quality.

Academic Development and Exchanges

2025 Visiting Scholar. *School of Biological Sciences, University of Bristol, UK*. Hosted by Dr. Hannah Griffiths. March-May 2025.

2023 International eDNA workshop. The University of Hong Kong. Learned eDNA fieldwork, laboratory DNA workflows, metabarcoding, bioinformatics analysis, statistical analysis.

Mentoring & Teaching

2026 Mentor, *Final Year Project*, The University of Hong Kong.

2024 Teaching Assistant, two-week field course in Borneo, Malaysia.

2024 Volunteer, *Letters to a Pre-Scientist* (LPS), STEM pen-pal to primary school classrooms.

2024 Mentor, secondary-school student volunteer, UWCSEA Singapore.

2023 Mentor, *Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability (*SEEDS), Ecological Society of America. Mentorship for underrepresented early career scientists.

2022 Mentor, *Final Year Project*, The University of Hong Kong.

2021 Mentor, *Bees and Microbes in Organized Research Experience* (BEEMore) Mentor, North Carolina State University.

Employment

2026 Post-Doctoral Researcher. Ashton Lab, The University of Hong Kong.

2019-2021 Lab Manager. Irwin Lab, North Carolina State University.
Plant-pollinator interactions, disease ecology.

2018-2019 Lab Technician. Haddad Lab, Michigan State University.
Habitat connectivity & restoration, endangered species management, field crew leader.

2017 REU Field Technician. Hoffmann Lab, North Carolina State University.
Fire ecology, plant identification.

2016 Field Technician. Haddad Lab, North Carolina State University.
Endangered species management, habitat restoration.

2015-2016 Lab Technician. Silverman Lab, North Carolina State University.
Structural entomology, pest management.

2015 Lab Technician. Kullman Lab, North Carolina State University.
Environmental toxicology, endocrine disruptors, water pollution.

References

Dr Louise Ashton, Assistant Professor
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The University of Hong Kong
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Dr Timothy C Bonebrake, Professor
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