

Allison Fletcher

University of Michigan
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
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EDUCATION

- 2026-present Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate School
Advisor: Marjorie Weber
- 2021-2025 B.S. Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Environmental Studies, 4.0 GPA
University of South Carolina, South Carolina Honors College
Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *Raising Red Flags: Exploring Phenotypic Change in Tiger Moths (Apantesis) of Coastal SC Over 50 Years' Time*
Advisor: Eric LoPresti
[Graduation with Leadership Distinction](#) on Research Track
- 2021 High School Diploma, Salutatorian, 4.0 GPA
Chapin High School

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2025-2026 Lab Technician: Dr. Marjorie Weber, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2025 Curatorial Specialist Contractor, Section of Invertebrate Zoology, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2025 General Entomology Collections Assistant: Dr. Paul Goldstein & Dr. Floyd Shockley, Department of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- 2023-2025 Research Assistant, Management and Research with Richard B. Dominick Moth & Butterfly Collection, Modern Moth Sampling Efforts: Dr. Eric LoPresti, Department of Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
- 2024 Research Intern (Summer), Investigating *Dicrocheles* Ear Mites in Noctuid Moths: Dr. Kevin Keegan, Section of Invertebrate Zoology, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA

- 2020 Independent Research Study, Associations Between Weather Conditions and Preterm Labor in South Carolina: Lisa Maylath, Academic Leadership Academy, Chapin High School, Chapin, SC

PUBLICATIONS

- In Prep* Fletcher, A., Goldstein, P., Keegan, K., Ochoa, R., Ulsamer, A., & LoPresti, E., “Four new noctuid hosts of the “ear-sparing” mite, *Otopheidomenis zalelestes*” (planned submission to *Acarologia* in October 2026).
- In Review* Fletcher, A., Goldstein, P., Keegan, K., Ochoa, R., Ulsamer, A., & LoPresti, E., “An expanded survey of *Dicrocheles* ear mites (Mesosigmata) associated with tympanal cavities in noctuid moths” (in review 2026). *Acarologia*.
- In Review* Fletcher, A., Goldstein, P., Keegan, K., Ochoa, R., Ulsamer, A., Harter, B., & LoPresti, E., “A dataset of noctuid moth ear mite associations for ecological and evolutionary research” (in review 2026). *Ecology*.
- 2025 Fletcher, Allison K., "Raising Red Flags: Exploring Phenotypic Change in Tiger Moths (*Apantesis*) of Coastal SC over 50 Years' Time" (2025). *Senior Theses*. 801. https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/senior_theses/80
- 2021 Fletcher, Allison K., “The Effect of Barometric Pressure, Temperature, and Precipitation on Preterm Labor in Expecting Women in South Carolina” (2021). *Journal of the South Carolina Academy of Science*, [Vol. 19: Iss. 1, Article 6](#).

INVITED TALKS

- 2026 Tuesday Seminar Series, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (*September 22*)

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- 2026 The Harry K. Clench Award, The Lepidopterists Society (\$500)
- 2026 Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF-GRFP), The National Science Foundation (\$111,000 over 3 years)
- 2025 Discover USC Undergraduate Poster Award (Morning UG: Environmental Sciences B, First Place), “Which moths are ear-resistible? Exploring the distribution & dynamics of *Dicrocheles* ear mites in noctuid moths”
- 2025 South Carolina Entomological Society Undergraduate Oral Presentation Award, 8th Joint Annual Meeting of Georgia Entomological Society and South Carolina Entomological Society

(\$100)

2025	Graduation with Leadership Distinction on the Research Track, Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning, University of South Carolina
2025	University of South Carolina President's Award
2025	University of South Carolina Outstanding Senior Award
2025	All-American Pest Control Steam Trailblazer Scholarship, National Pest Management Association <i>(\$1,000)</i>
2021-2025	Carolina Scholars Award, University of South Carolina <i>(\$60,000 over 4 years)</i>
2021-2025	SC Palmettos Fellows Award, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education <i>(\$36,700 over 4 years)</i>
2021-2025	Presidential Scholars Award, University of South Carolina <i>(\$4,000 over 4 years)</i>
2021-2025	Schneider Electric North America Foundation Scholarship, National Merit Scholarship Corporation <i>(\$10,000 over 4 years)</i>
2021-2025	President's Honors List (8 Semesters)
2024	University Libraries Undergraduate Research Award, Second Place Garnet Track, "The Ecological Implications of Sex Pheromone Biochemistry in Moths" <i>(\$400)</i>
2024	Magellan Scholar Award, "Determining Historical Wing Coloration and Pattern Changes in <i>Apantesis vittata</i> " <i>(\$2,500)</i>
2024	Discover USC Undergraduate Poster Award (Morning UG: Biology and Environmental Sciences C, Second Place), "Longer and Earlier Flight Seasons for Moths over 50 Years' Time"
2021	First Place Physiology and Health Research Paper, South Carolina Junior Academy of Science
2019-2021	AP CollegeBoard Awards: National AP Scholar, AP Capstone Diploma, AP Scholar with Distinction, AP Scholar with Honor

2020 Center for Creative Leadership Certification

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

- 2026 “Hear Today, Gone Tomorrow: An Expanded Survey of Ear Mites in Noctuid Moths,” Oral Presentation at The Lepidopterists’ Society Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA (*June 24 – 28*)
- 2025 “Historical Moth-Parasite Interactions: A story of ear mites,” Organized Oral Session Presentation at the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD (*August 10 – 15*)
- 2025 “Which moths are ear-resistible? Exploring the distribution & dynamics of *Dicrocheles* ear mites in noctuid moths,” Poster Presentation at the Discover USC 2025 Showcase, Columbia, SC (*April 25*)
- 2025 “Which moths are ear-resistible? Exploring the distribution & dynamics of *Dicrocheles* ear mites in noctuid moths,” Oral Presentation at the 8th Joint Annual Meeting of Georgia Entomological Society and South Carolina Entomological Society, Young Harris, GA (*April 9 – 11*)
- 2024 On-Site Participant in the 6th Entomological Collections Management Workshop, Travel Scholarship Recipient (\$1,000), Co-Sponsors: Entomological Collections Network & the Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity Section of the Entomological Society of America, Yale Peabody Museum, New Haven, CT (*July 29 – 31*)
- 2024 “Which moths are ear-resistible? Exploring the distribution & dynamics of *Dicrocheles* ear mites in noctuid moths,” Paper Presentation at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists’ Society, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (*July 14 – 16*)
- 2024 “Longer and Earlier Flight Seasons for Moths over 50 Years’ Time,” Poster Presentation at the Discover USC 2024 Showcase, Columbia, SC (*April 19*)
- 2023 Student Member at the South Carolina Entomological Society Annual Meeting, Harbison, SC (*October 5 – 6*)

ADDITIONAL WORK & VOLUNTEER SERVICE

- 2026-present Graduate Student Instructor, BIO 171: Introductory Biology: Ecology, Genetics and Evolution, University of Michigan
- 2025-present Museum Outreach & Insect Pinning Volunteer, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology

- 2018-2026 Independent Tutoring (Chemistry, English, Algebra, Education, Theology)
- 2024-2025 Tour Guide & Student Volunteer, The Anne Frank Center, North American Partner of the Anne Frank House
- 2023-2025 Alpha Epsilon Delta Honor Society: Dance Marathon Philanthropy, Volunteer Service with Salvation Army
- 2023 Climate Activism Event Organizer, “The Climate Ribbon Event” in Columbia, SC with Honors Proseminar Course: *The Environmental Movement in Germany*
- 2023 Volunteer, Rosewood Community Garden

LANGUAGES

English (native)
Spanish (conversational)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Laboratory Training: chemical & lab safety training certificates, hazardous waste management, spectrometry, DNA extraction, gel electrophoresis, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), moth genitalia dissection, streak-plate procedure, insect pinning, floral pigment extraction, mite slide-mounting

Data Management & Analysis: Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets, RStudio, IGOR Pro, Maple, Minitab

Media Creation: Audacity, SoundCloud, Microsoft PowerPoint, CapCut

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2026-present American Society of Naturalists
- 2024-present Phi Beta Kappa Society
- 2024-present Ecological Society of America
- 2024-present The Lepidopterists’ Society
- 2024-2026 Anne Frank Youth Network (AFYN)
- 2023-2026 South Carolina Entomological Society (SCES)
- 2023-2025 USC Graphic Design & Illustration Club (GD+I)
- 2023-2025 Alpha Epsilon Delta Honor Society (AED), USC Chapter
- 2021-2025 American Chemical Society (ACS), USC Chapter
- 2021-2025 American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB), USC Chapter

REFERENCES

Marjorie Weber
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