

Kelsey J. Solomon

Odum School of Ecology
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602
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EDUCATION

- **Ph.D., Ecology**, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2015 – Present
 - Advisor: Dr. Catherine Pringle
 - GPA: 3.92/4.0
 - Expected graduation date: March 2021
- **Post-Degree Certification Program in Science Education**, University of Phoenix/Teach for America, Phoenix, AZ 2012 – 2013
 - Certified for grades 5-12 in Life Science
- **B.Sc., Biology and History**, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 2007 – 2011
 - Undergraduate research advisor: Dr. Hank Heath
 - GPA: 4.0/4.0, Summa Cum Laude

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant**, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2018 – 2019
 - Courses: Freshwater Science, Ecology
- **Guest Lecturer**, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA 2019
- **Teacher**, Lighthouse College Preparatory Academy, Gary, IN 2013 – 2015
 - Courses: 8th Grade Integrated Chemistry and Physics; 9th Grade Biology
 - Faculty sponsor: Key Club
- **Teacher and Corps Member**, LEAD College Preparatory Charter School/ Teach for America, Gary, IN 2011 – 2013
 - Courses: 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science; 9th Grade Biology
 - Faculty sponsor: Cheerleading

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Effects of urbanization and riparian forest change on stream algal communities; diatom ecology and taxonomy; algal flora of the southern Appalachians; trophic dynamics in headwater streams.

TEACHING GOALS AND COMMITMENT

I strive to prepare my students with the passion, skills, and resources they will need to become independent and life-long learners, as well as leaders in their communities. I am committed to creating an inclusive classroom environment in which students from diverse backgrounds and perspectives feel valued, respected, and appreciated.

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- **Distinguished Graduate Student Teaching Award**, Odum School of Ecology 2020
- **3rd Place PhD Oral Presentation**, Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium 2020
- **Emerging Leaders Program**, University of Georgia 2019
- **Graduate Research Grant** (\$467), Odum School of Ecology 2019
- **Frank Golley Memorial Award**, Odum School of Ecology 2018
 - Awarded in recognition of outstanding academic and leadership qualities
- **Hannah T. Croasdale Fellowship**, Phycological Society of America 2018

- **Charles W. Reimer Scholarship**, Friends of Lakeside Lab 2018
- **2nd Place Rapid-fire PhD Oral Presentation**, Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium 2018
- **Graduate Research Grant** (\$640), Odum School of Ecology 2017
- **Graduate Research Assistantship**, University of Georgia 2015
- **Arts & Sciences Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar**, University of Alabama 2011
 - Awarded in recognition of the highest undergraduate GPA in the College of Arts & Sciences
- **Charles Grayson Summersell Memorial Scholarship**, University of Alabama 2011
 - Awarded in recognition for outstanding academic merit in the History Department
- **William Ray Moore Physical Science Scholarship**, University of Alabama 2010
 - Awarded in recognition for outstanding academic merit in the physical sciences
- **Phi Beta Kappa** 2010
- **Capstone Scholarship**, University of Alabama 2007
- **Col. Joe & Claire Shephard Endowed Scholarship**, University of Alabama Alumni Association 2007

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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- **Co-president**, Graduate Student Organization, Odum School of Ecology (OSE) 2019 – 2020
 - **Co-president**, Graduate Students, Coweeta Long Term Ecological Research Site 2018 – 2020
 - **Academic Adviser**, Alpha Omicron Pi, University of Georgia 2016 – 2020
 - **Co-organizer**, John K. Spencer Memorial 5K Run/Walk, University of Georgia 2018 – 2020
 - Raised >\$4000 for the UGA River Basin Center's John K. Spencer Research Grant Program
 - **Co-leader**, Graduate Student Orientation Day, OSE 2017, 2019
 - **Mentor**, Instars Program, Society for Freshwater Science 2019
 - **Member**, New Approaches to Graduate Recruitment Planning Committee, OSE 2018 – 2019
 - Planned informational and networking events for program attendees aimed at increasing diversity within Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Science
 - **Member**, Executive Committee, OSE 2018 – 2019
 - **Member**, Undergraduate Program Committee, OSE 2018 – 2019
 - **President**, EcoReach, OSE, University of Georgia 2016 – 2018
 - Coordinated outreach events and volunteers aimed at heightening awareness of ecology and the environment in K-12 students of Athens-Clarke County
 - Planned 35 events reaching over 1300 Athens-area students
 - **Member**, Education and Diversity Committee, Society for Freshwater Science 2017 – 2018
 - **Treasurer**, Graduate Student Organization, OSE 2017 – 2018
 - **Member**, 50/10 Reunion and Symposium Planning Committee, OSE 2017 – 2018
 - **Member**, A/V Committee, Graduate Student Symposium, OSE 2018 – 2020
 - **Mentor**, Clarke County Mentoring Program, Athens, GA 2016 – 2018
 - **Outreach Coordinator**, Women in Science (WiSci), University of Georgia 2016 – 2017
 - Coordinated outreach events and volunteers aimed at increasing representation of women in STEM fields
 - Planned 6 outreach events reaching over 120 Athens-area students
 - **Co-coordinator**, Graduate Student Symposium, OSE 2016 – 2017
 - **Co-coordinator**, EcoBox Fundraising Event, OSE 2016
 - **Member**, Food and Beverage Committee, Graduate Student Symposium, OSE 2015 – 2016
 - **Student Leader**, Honors College Mentoring Program, University of Alabama 2008 – 2010

- Led 6 fifth grade students and their college mentors as classroom teacher to improve math and reading skills
- Developed weekly math lessons used by 7 student leaders, reaching 30 students

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Dudley, M. D., **Solomon, K. J.**, Wenger, S. J., Jackson, R., Freeman, M., Elliott, K. J., Miniat, C. F., and Pringle, C. M., *in ms*. Nested experiments within reach-scale manipulations indicate that top-down effects of crayfish alter stream ecosystem response to rhododendron removal. *To be submitted to: Freshwater Biology*.

Dudley, M. D., **Solomon, K. J.**, Wenger, S. J., Jackson, R., Elliott, K. J., Miniat, C. F., Eliason, K. M., Benfield, E. F., Stoker, D., Wilson, A., and Pringle, C. M., *in ms*. Stream ecosystem response to experimental, reach-scale removal of a dominant riparian shrub in southern Appalachian headwater streams. *To be submitted to: Ecology*

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M., *in prep*. Characterizing stream diatom communities of the southern Appalachians at the reach scale, pre- and post- hemlock die-off. *To be submitted to: Freshwater Biology*.

Published abstracts (National Meetings)

Solomon, K. J., Dudley, M. P., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Effects of riparian rhododendron removal and top-down control by crayfish on diatom community structure in southern Appalachian streams. North American Diatom Symposium, Eatonton, GA. July 31-Aug. 3, 2019. *Oral Presentation*.

Solomon, K. J., Tomczyk, N. J., Cummins, C. S., LaVere, A., Arnold, K. Freshwater based community engagement at the university departmental level: EcoReach at the Odum School of Ecology. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. May 19-23, 2019. *Oral Presentation*.

Solomon, K. J., Dudley, M. P., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Effects of riparian rhododendron removal and top-down control by crayfish on diatom community structure in southern Appalachian streams. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. May 19-23, 2019. *Poster presentation*.

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Examining potential changes in stream algal communities in the southern Appalachians, pre- and post- hemlock die-off. North American Diatom Symposium, Put-In-Bay, OH. Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2017. *Oral presentation*.

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Examining potential changes in stream algal communities in the southern Appalachians, pre- and post- hemlock die-off. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Raleigh, NC. June 4-9, 2017. *Poster presentation*.

PRESENTATIONS (Local)

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Characterizing primary producer communities in headwater streams, before and after the loss of a foundation riparian tree species. Odum

School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2020. *Oral presentation.*

Solomon, K. J., Elliott, K. J., Miniatt, C. F., and Pringle, C. M. What are the effects of removing a riparian shrub, *Rhododendron maximum*, on stream algal communities of the southern Appalachians? Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Feb. 1-2, 2018. *Rapid-fire oral presentation.*

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Diatom Flora of Coweeta. Coweeta Long Term Ecology Program Summer Meeting, Otto, NC, June 19-20, 2019. *Poster Presentation.*

Solomon, K. J., and Pringle, C. M. What are the effects of removing riparian rhododendron on stream algal communities of the southern Appalachians? University of Georgia River Basin Center Summit, Athens, GA. Dec. 6, 2017. *Oral Presentation.*

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Response of stream algal primary producers to hemlock death from infestations of hemlock woolly adelgids. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Jan. 27-28, 2017. *Oral presentation.*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Society for Freshwater Science
- Phycological Society of America

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND TRAINEESHIPS

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| • Lulu Lacy, Research technician | 2019 |
| • Cody Hufstetler, Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO) research assistant | 2017 – 2018 |
| • Maria Flowers, Undergraduate research assistant | 2017 |
| • Wesley Peebles, Undergraduate research assistant | 2017 |
| • Madeline McDonald, Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) student | 2017 |