



Insect-Microbial Interactions (IMI) National Needs Graduate Fellowships

Department of Entomology, University of Georgia

Do you like insects? Are you interested in learning more about how microbes might affect the ecology, evolution, and impact of insects? We are seeking motivated students interested in insect-microbial interactions (IMI) for USDA NIFA-funded Ph.D. and M.S. graduate fellowships. Come work with world-class faculty members in a interdisciplinary department.

The IMI NNF graduate fellows will not only be pursuing excellent research, they will have the opportunity to explore potential career paths by participating in a professional placement during their degree program. Placements will be with industry, government, regulatory agencies, or extension, depending on a student's interest.

Participating Faculty:

Gaelen Burke

evolutionary genetics and genomics (Athens campus)

Trish Moore

insect evolutionary ecology, behavior and reproduction (Athens campus)

Kerry Oliver

evolution and ecological consequences of associations between insects and heritable microbes (Athens campus)

Ash Sial

biochemistry and genetics of invasive species in the development of management strategies (Athens campus)

Bill Snyder

natural solutions to conservation and sustainable agriculture (Athens campus)

A few potential projects:

Bugs helping bugs: role of bacterial symbionts in kissing bugs, the vector for Chagas' disease

Microbes and oviposition in spotted wing Drosophila

Clever plant viruses manipulate and exploit their insect vectors

Bacterial bodyguards for agricultural biosecurity



Babu Srinivasan

basic and applied research on insect transmitted plant viruses (Griffin campus)

Michael Strand

insect physiology and behavior, particularly the interaction among insects and their microbial symbionts (Athens campus)

Mike Toews

basic and applied ecology and strategies for sustainable pest management (Tifton campus)

Kevin Vogel

bioinformatics approaches to insect physiology and the interaction between insects and their microbial symbionts (Athens campus)



UGA's Graduate School and the Department of Entomology are committed to promoting diversity by encouraging the enrollment of students from historically underrepresented groups including race/ethnicity, gender, and first generation. Application fee waivers are available to qualifying students.

Interested? Contact Dr. Trish Moore
(pjmoore@uga.edu) or see
<https://ent.uga.edu/graduate/imi-fellowships.html> for further information



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
College of Agricultural &
Environmental Sciences
Department of Entomology