# Robert J. Mooney

rjmooney@wisc.edu, robertmooney.weebly.com

### **EDUCATION**

# Ph.D., Zoology (in progress)

Expected May 2020

University of Wisconsin - Madison

### M.S., Biology - aquatic science concentration

December 2014

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Thesis: Glossosoma intermedium case periphyton as a nutritionally beneficial resource for lotic communities

### B.S., Biology - aquatic science concentration, chemistry minor

May 2011

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **Research Assistant**

**Summer 2011/Summer 2012** 

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

• Collected and processed aquatic organisms from 11 lakes in the Laurentian Great Lakes region

#### Field Technician

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

July 2010

• Collected and prepared water and top and deep sediment samples from 80 sites in a Minnesota lake

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant** 

Winter 2014 - Ongoing

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, River Studies Center

 Using Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy-Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy to map elemental distribution on periphyton colonizing caddisfly cases

### Master's Thesis

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Fall 2011 - Winter 2014

- Received a total of \$2,200 to investigate *Glossosoma intermedium* case periphyton as a nutritionally beneficial resource for lotic grazing communities
- Presented methodology at the 2013 Upper Midwest Stream Restoration Symposium and results at the 2013 Society for Freshwater Science Conference and the 2014 Joint Aquatic Science Meeting

### **Undergraduate Research**

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Fall 2010 - Spring 2011

- Received a total of \$1,323 to investigate the consumer-driven nutrient recycling between a keystone, lotic herbivore and its periphyton resources
- Presented results at the 2011 UW-L Celebration of research and creativity, the 2011 Sigma Xi
  International Research Conference, the 2011 Mississippi River Research Consortium, and the 2012
  Society for Freshwater Science Conference

### Dean's Distinguished Undergraduate Research Fellowship

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Summer 2010

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- Received a total of \$3,150 to investigate the effects of phosphorus on phytoplankton communities in an Upper Mississippi River backwater lake
- Presented results at the 2011 UW-L Celebration of research and creativity and the 2011 Mississippi River Research Consortium

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

**Mooney, R.J.**, E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2014. Nutrient recycling by caddisflies alleviates phosphorus limitation in case periphyton. Freshwater Science 33(4):1086-1092.

**Mooney. R.J.**, E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. In revision. Nutrient-specific foraging by *Glossosoma intermedium* leads to conspecific case grazing. Freshwater Science.

### **HONORS**

Awarded a UW-Madison Department of Zoology Fellowship for Spring and Summer 2016

## Best poster presentation (basic research) - Society for Freshwater Science Conference

Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2013. *Glossosoma intermedium* case periphyton as a nutritionally beneficial resource for lotic grazing communities. Poster presentation. Jacksonville, FL.

Served as the student representative on the board of the 2013 Mississippi River Research Consortium

# Poster Competition Runner-Up - Upper Midwest Stream Restoration Symposium

Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2013. Unique behavior of an aquatic insect may allow it to overcome nutrient limitation in southwestern Wisconsin streams. Poster presentation. La Crosse, WI.

**Best undergraduate research presentation (oral or poster) - Society for Freshwater Science Conference** Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2012. You graze my back and I'll feed yours: the stoichiometric relationships among the case-grazing caddisfly, *Glossosoma intermedium*, and its environment. Oral presentation. Louisville, KY.

### Best student platform presentation - Mississippi River Research Consortium

Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2012. Stoichiometric analysis of the relationship between the case-grazing caddisfly, *Glossosoma intermedium*, and its periphyton resources. Oral presentation. La Crosse, WI.

## Superior graduate poster in ecology - Sigma Xi International Research Conference

Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2011. Consumer-driven nutrient recycling between a keystone, lotic herbivore and its periphyton resources. Poster presentation. Raleigh, North Carolina.

Best undergraduate poster presentation - Annual UW-La Crosse Celebration of Research and Creativity Mooney, R.J., E.A. Strauss, and R.J. Haro. 2011. Consumer-driven nutrient recycling between a keystone, lotic herbivore and its periphyton resources. Poster presentation. La Crosse, WI.

Received a Dean's Distinguished Fellowship grant, a Undergraduate Research and Creativity grant, and a Research, Service, and Educational Leadership Grant for a total of \$4,023.00

## TEACHING AND ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant Fall 2015

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• Lead discussion sections that cover material from cell biology, genetics, and ecology units within the Zoology 101 class

### **Biology and Chemistry Review Session Instructor**

Summer 2014 - Spring 2015

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

• Lead review sessions for undergraduate students enrolled in a First Year Research Experience program

### **McNair Scholars Graduate Assistant**

Fall 2013 - Summer 2014

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

- Assisted scholars with poster and oral presentation preparation, statistical analysis, grant writing, graduate school applications, and travel to national conferences
- Organized travel and accompanied McNair scholars and SSS students to the WAEOPP McNair and SSS Retreat and the National McNair Conference
- Organized travel and accompanied McNair scholars on visits to various campuses in the Midwestern United States

## **Biology Laboratory Instructor**

Fall 2011 - Spring 2013

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

• Instructed over 250 students in introductory biology laboratory and helped prepare unit quizzes

## **Teaching Assistant**

Fall 2010/Spring 2012

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

Prepared Limnology laboratory and Standard Methods of Water Analysis laboratory

### **Guest Lecturer**

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, Stream Ecology

Spring 2014

• Lectured on consumer-driven nutrient recycling by lotic invertebrates to a stream ecology class of 20 undergraduate and graduate students

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, First Year Research Experience

Fall 2013

• Lectured on stream biomonitoring to a group of 14 students participating in a First Year Research Experience program and organized a field research day for the group

# Longfellow Middle School

Fall 2011

• Lectured on the ecology of freshwater ecosystems to three classes of 30 seventh grade students

#### **Laboratory Assistant**

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse, Girls in Science

June 2010

• Assisted with preparation and completion of two water quality activities designed for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students