

Wentao Yang

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Education

Bachelor of Science in Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity
University of California, Davis
Current accumulative GPA: 3.85

Expected graduation: June 2023

GRE scores:

Verbal Reasoning: 153

Quantitative Reasoning: 167

Analytical Writing: 4.0

Experience

Undergrad researcher, Daniel Karp's Lab, Davis, CA

January 2022-present

- Apply mist netting to capture birds and master at taking measure of birds' wing chords, tarsus, skull length and other data.
- Extract, handle and band 20+ songbird species and collect feces sample from them to investigate the likely vectors of multiple human pathogens.
- Aid with bleedings of hatchlings birds and complete plasma extraction.
- Lab experience including bacteria inoculation and E. coli plate coating to investigate pathogen survival.
- Conduct meta-analysis and build up systematic map to investigate knowledge gaps in zoonotic gastrointestinal diseases affecting food safety.
- Perform quality control of banding data from mist-netting and nest-boxes.

Research Intern, Putah Creek Nestbox Highway Project, Davis and Winters, CA

March 2022-present

- Monitor nestling birds of nestbox species including western bluebirds, tree swallow and other songbirds.
- Handle, band, and measure nestling birds of nestbox species and perform data entry independently.

Volunteer, California Raptor Center, Davis, CA

December 2020-present

- Work with 20+ raptors species and master at catching, handling, banding, health examinations and releasing raptors.
- Medicine and food preparation, cage cleaning, facilities maintenance.
- Caring of nursery during breeding season and perform elementary medical care such as water syringe.
- Aid with training session to Education Ambassadors birds including Red-tailed Hawk and Turkey Vulture.
- Take notes of raptors behavior and do public education for open house events.

Co-founder and Treasurer, Birdwatching Club at UC Davis, Davis, CA

September 2021-present

- Organize and lead bird-watching trips around Yolo County with 30+ participants.
- Apply for funds and raise funds in different events.
- Coordinate carpools, binoculars lending, and training for inexperienced birders.
- Represent in the annual Student Involvement Fair to connect more club members with officers.

Intern, Professor Gail Patricelli's Lab, UC Davis, CA

December 2020-present

- Assist with PhD student to complete a project investigating effects of diet and foraging behavior on reproductive behavior and success.
- Apply BORIS and CyberLink to perform data collection by recording mating success and strut rate of the Greater Sage Grouse.

Research Assistant, China Wildlife Conservation Association, Guangdong, China

July 2019

- Take part in “Flight Protection”, report suspicious bird catching net and contact local police for removal.
- Conduct Bird Survey along coastline to collect data of migratory shorebird and other species.

Founder and President, Birdwatching Club, Guangzhou, China

September 2016-June 2019

- Initiate the first Birdwatching Club in high school and organize weekly bird trip in the National Botanical Garden and several other city parks in Guangzhou.
- Negotiate with other club members by holding weekly club meetings and advise with publicity, organization department.
- Offer bird identification workshops and teach basic ornithology biology for 100+ students.
- Organize and lead students crew in Bird-watching Competitions in the field and bird-related quiz contests.

Skills

Field methods

- Bird mist netting, extracting, measuring, handling, and banding
- Point count and line transect surveys
- Basic level of telemetry
- Basic level of camera, small mammals trapping

Language

- English
- Cantonese
- Mandarin

Activities

- Participate in three 2021 Christmas Bird Counts in Putah Creek, Sacramento, and Rio Cosumnes.
- Posting educational blogs regarding bird physiology and conservation on Weibo and publish with photos and videos I took.
- Weekly birdwatching at Central Valley.

Awards/accomplishments

- Dean’s Honor List in College of Biological Sciences- Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Fall 2021
- Top 50 on Ebird in Yolo County
- Two times Rank #1 on China GuangFoZhao Birdwatching Competition *November 2018-2019*
- Won the 3rd prize in the first National Nanling Birdwatching Competition *June 2019*
- Member of China Wildlife Conservation Association *June 2021-present*