

**BRYAN NICHOLAS DANFORTH**

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**ACADEMIC RANK:** Professor

**CAMPUS ADDRESS:** Department of Entomology  
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**TRAINING:** **BS zoology**, Duke University, Durham, NC, 1983.  
**MS entomology**, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 1987.  
Advisor: C.D. Michener.  
**PhD entomology**, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, May, 1991.  
Advisor: C.D. Michener.

**FIELD OF SPECIALIZATION**

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**Research/Teaching:** Insect phylogeny, social evolution, behavioral ecology, systematics, pollination biology. Specialization: phylogeny, ecology, and social evolution of bees.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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1982	Teaching assistant, Department of Zoology, Duke University, Durham, NC (Animal Diversity)
1985	Teaching assistant, Department of Entomology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (Introductory Biology).
1985-1986	Teaching assistant, Department of Entomology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (Introductory Entomology).
1987-1989	Research assistant, Department of Entomology, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. Supervisor: C.D. Michener.
1989-1991	Pre-doctoral Fellow. Department of Entomology, Smithsonian Institution. Supervisor: Ronald J. McGinley.
1991-1992	Research Assistant, Department of Entomology, Smithsonian Institution. Supervisor: Ronald J. McGinley.

- 1992 Post-doc, Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside. Advisor: P. Kirk Visscher
- 1993-1995 Post-doc, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Advisor: G.C. Eickwort.
- 1993 Lecturer, Genome Variation Analysis Facility, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; Analysis of Genomic Variation (Instructor: Bernie May)
- 1995 Lecturer, Insect Morphology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 1996-2002 Assistant Professor, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2002-2008 Associate Professor, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2008-Present Professor, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

## **PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**

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- Cum Laude, Duke University, 1983.  
Fulbright Scholarship Finalist, 1983.  
H.B. Hungerford Award for an outstanding thesis, University of Kansas, 1987.  
United States Department of Agriculture, Unit Award for Superior Service, 1993.  
Thomas Say Award, Entomological Society of America, 2014  
CALS Outstanding Accomplishments in Extension and Outreach (group award), 2017

## **PROFESSIONAL ACITIVITIES (1990 to present)**

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### **A. Professional societies**

- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Entomological Society of America
- Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society
- Pan-Pacific Entomological Society
- Society of Systematic Biologists
- Society for the Study of Evolution
- Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution

### **B. Professional Assignments**

Reviewer for the following journals:

- American Museum Novitates
- American Naturalist
- Animal Behaviour
- Annals of the Entomological Society of America
- Annals of the South African Museum
- Apidologie
- Behavioral Ecology
- Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology
- Biological Journal of the Linnean Society
- Canadian Entomologist

Canadian Journal of Zoology  
Cladistics  
Current Biology  
Ecology  
Ecological Entomology  
Environmental Entomology  
Entomological News  
Entomological Society of Washington  
Ethology  
Evolutionary Biology  
Gene  
Heredity  
Insectes Sociaux  
Journal of Animal Ecology  
Journal of Apicultural Research  
Journal of Applied Ecology  
Journal of Biogeography  
Journal of Insect Behavior  
Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society  
Journal of Zoology  
Molecular Ecology  
Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution  
Oecologia  
Pan-Pacific Entomologist  
Proceedings Royal Society of London  
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)  
Science (AAAS)  
Systematic Biology  
Systematic Entomology  
Zoologica Scripta

Ad hoc grant reviewer for:

Australian National Research Council  
National Geographic Society  
National Science Foundation (USA)  
National Sciences and Engineering Research Council (Canada)

**C. Invited Lectures/Seminars**

University of Maryland, Department of Entomology, 10 November, 1991  
Harvard University, Department of Organismal and Evolutionary Biology, 20 February,  
1992  
York University, Department of Biology, 7 March, 1994  
University of Kansas, Department of Entomology, 20 November, 1997  
State University of New York, Stonybrook, 15 October, 1998

University of Maryland, Department of Entomology, 12 March, 2001  
Ithaca College, Department of Biology, 26 February, 2004  
Cornell University, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 24 January, 2005  
American Museum of Natural History, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, 15 April, 2005  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Apr. 17, 2006  
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, Oct. 5, 2006  
Dresden meeting on insect phylogeny September 21-23, 2007  
International Pollination Symposium June 24-28, 2007  
Evolution Joint Annual Meeting, July 1-3, 2008  
XXIII International Congress of Entomology, July 6-12, 2008  
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, January 3-7, 2009  
56th Annual Systematics Symposium, Missouri Botanical Garden, October 9-11, 2009  
Department of Entomology, Cornell Experiment Station, Geneva, NY, November 2, 2009  
UC Davis Entomology, Davis, CA, September 20, 2012, "*The new view of bee phylogeny*"  
Rutgers University, Rutgers, NJ, November 29, 2012, "*The new view of bee phylogeny*"  
Eastern Branch, Entomological Society of America, "*How molecular data have altered our understanding of bee phylogeny and evolution*", Lancaster, PA, March 16-19, 2013  
Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, February 27, 2014, "*The new view of bee phylogeny*"  
University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, November 7, 2014, "*The new view of bee phylogeny*"  
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, February 9, 2015, "*The new view of bee phylogeny*"

#### **D. Invited Symposia**

ESA Symposium on the Biology of Native Bees, 20 December, 1992  
ESA Symposium on Phylogenomics, 26 October, 2003  
ESA Symposium on Bee Phylogeny, 15 November, 2004  
International IUSSI meeting; Symposium on Bee Phylogeny, Aug. 2006  
Dresden meeting on insect phylogeny, 21 September 2007  
ESA Symposium on fossil-calibrated phylogenies. 15 December, 2010

#### **E. University, College, and Departmental Committees**

Faculty Representative to the Career Development Office (1998-2002)  
Cornell University Insect Collection Committee/Bradley Committee (1996-present)  
Department of Entomology representative to the CALS Faculty Senate (1998-2000)  
Chair, Department of Entomology Curriculum Committee (2005-2011)  
CALS Curriculum Committee representative for Entomology (2005-2011)  
Department of Entomology Graduate Admissions Committee (1998-2002)  
CALS Committee on Teaching and Learning (2008-2011)  
Department of Entomology Griswold Committee Chair (2011-2012)  
CUIC Collections Manager Search Committee (Fall 2011)

Honeybee Extension Associate Search Committee (Fall 2015)  
CUIC Collections Committee (2000-present)  
University Faculty Senate, Entomology representative (2012-2015)  
Chair, Department of Entomology (2017-present)  
EvoDay organizer May 11, 2017. Organized a one-day event at the Lab of Ornithology on "Phylogenomics". Hosted the Harrison Lecturer, Brant Faircloth.

#### **F. Outside activities**

Advisory Panel, Southwestern Research Station, Portal, AZ. (Three year term: 1997-1999)  
Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Panel, National Science Foundation (24-25 Feb., 2000). Reviewed 25 grants.  
Research Associate, Division of Invertebrate Biology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park west @ 79<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY  
Editor, Special Issue of *Apidologie* [vol. 39(1)], "Insights into Bee Evolution: A tribute to Charles D. Michener" (co-editor: Eduardo Almeida)  
International Scientific Board of *Apidologie* (January 2012-December 2015). INRA Centre PACA/ Dept SPE, 400 route des Chappes, 06903 Sophia-Antipolis Cedex, FRANCE [<http://www.apidologie.org/>]  
NYS DEC advisory panel on surveying the bees of NY. Meetings and conference calls starting in Fall, 2016 and extending to Spring, 2019

#### **The Bee Course**

"The Bee Course" has been taught annually for the past ten years and will be offered again this year (August, 2012). The course is organized by Jerome G. Rozen, Jr. and Ronald J. McGinley and is taught at the Southwestern Research Station, Portal, AZ for ten days in August or September. The course is limited to 20 students and has been over-subscribed for the past two years. The course provides instruction in bee identification (to the generic level) for all genera collected in North and Central America (using the following text book: Michener, C.D., R.J. McGinley & B.N. Danforth. 1994. The Bee Genera of North and Central America (Hymenoptera: Apoidea). Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. vii+209pp.).

More information can be found on the website: <https://www.thebeecourse.org/>

#### **Invited public lectures**

Museum of the Earth, Ithaca, NY 19 March, 2005 [Public lecture on bees]  
Finger Lakes Native Plant Society, 17 Oct., 2006 [Public lecture on bees]  
Tompkins County Beekeepers Association, 19 Nov., 2006 [Public lecture on bees]  
Jupiter Island Club, West Palm Beach, FL 19 Jan., 2008 [Public lecture on bees]  
Taft School, Watertown, CT 16 Nov., 2012 [Lecture to AP Biology class]  
Finger Lakes Beekeeping club, 21 April, 2013 [Public lecture on apple pollination]

Tompkins County Environmental Management Council, 12 March, 2015 [Public lecture entitled "Honey bees, colony collapse disorder, and the importance of wild bees in crop pollination"]

Science Cabaret, 21 April, 2015 [Public lecture on the importance of wild bees for crop pollination]

## **GRANT FUNDING**

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### **Current grant funding:**

National Science Foundation (DEB: Systematic Biology): (\$850,500) (Jan. 5, 2016 to Jan. 4, 2020). Title: Phylogeny and diversification of the stinging Hymenoptera (Aculeata) using targeted enrichment of ultra-conserved elements. Lead PI: Bryan Danforth (Sean Brady, James Pitts, Robert Ross, co-PIs)

USDA Hatch grant: (\$88,500) (Oct. 1, 2015 to Sept 30, 2018). Title: The interacting effects of pesticides, pathogens, and symbionts on the squash bee: *Peponapis pruinosa*.

### **Pending grant funding:**

USDA-AFRI Foundational Program: (\$494,829) (Jan. 1, 2018 to Dec. 31, 2021). Title: Osmia bees as bioindicators of solitary bee health in agroecosystems. Lead PI: Bryan Danforth (Katja Poveda, co-PI)

Northeast Sustainable Agriculture, Research and Extension (NE-SARE): (\$186,580) (Jan. 15, 2015 to Jan. 14, 2018). Title: Northeast Pollinator Partnership: developing cost-effective pollinator management for New York apple growers

### **Past grant funding** (in reverse chronological order):

USDA-AFRI grant: (\$495,925) (Feb. 1, 2011 to January 31, 2016). Title: Quantifying and enhancing pollination services provided by native bees for sustainable apple production.

USDA-Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) grant: (\$129,488) (Jan. 2, 2012 to Dec. 31, 2016). Title: Pollination and Security for Fruit and Vegetable crops in the Northeast. Lead PI: Anne Averill, Umass, Amherst. Cornell subcontract. \$2M grant

Apple Research and Development Program (ARDP), New York Farm and Markets grant: (\$54,686) (March 1, 2015 - Feb. 28, 2016). Title: Mason bees as pesticide biomonitors in apple orchard habitats. Co-PIs: Katja Poveda, Brian Eitzer

New York Farm Viability Institute (NYFVI): (\$100,000) (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017). Title: Northeast Pollinator Partnership: developing cost-effective pollinator management for New York apple growers

Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future (Cornell University): (\$99,581) (Sept. 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013) Title: Impacts of Pathogens and Pesticides on Wild Pollinators in Eastern Apple Orchards. Collaborators: Motoko Mukai (VTPMD), Eric Nelson (PLPA), and Andre Kessler (EEB)

USDA Hatch Grant: (\$85,200) (Oct. 1, 2012 to Sept. 30 2015). Title: Pesticide and Pathogen Screening of the Alternative Pollinator *Osmia cornifrons*. Collaborators: EJ Blitzer, Shannon Hedtke.

National Science Foundation Improvements to Biological Research Collections (NSF-BRC) Program: (\$150,314) (May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2014). Title: Collaborative databasing of North American bee collections within a global informatics network. Collaborative grant with John Ascher and Jerome Rozen (AMNH) and Douglas Yanega (UC Riverside). \$3M grant

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$370,000) [DEB-0742998] (February 15, 2008 to May 31, 2013). Title: REVSYS: Phylogeny and systematics of megachilid bees. *Collaborative grant with Dr. Terry Griswold, USDA Bee Biology and Systematics Laboratory, Logan Utah*

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$393,736 + \$7,500 REU supplement) [DEB-0814544] (September 1, 2008 to August 30, 2012). Title: Phylogeny of Apidae (Hymenoptera) with an emphasis on the evolution and antiquity of eusociality

USDA Hatch Grant: (\$57,900) (Oct. 1, 2008 to Sept. 30 2011). Title: Diversity and Pollination Biology of Native and Managed Bees in Apple Orchards in New York

National Geographic Society (Fideliini) (\$10,000). (Oct. 1, 2008 to Oct. 14, 2009) Title: Phylogeny, historical biogeography, and host-plant evolution of the Fideliini (Hymenoptera: Apoidea).

NSF (Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Program): (\$11,992) [DEB-0709956] (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008). Title: DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Evolution of cleptoparasitism in apid bees (Hymenoptera: Apidae).

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$286,681) [DEB-0412176] (September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2008). Title: Phylogeny and historical biogeography of the primitive bee family Colletidae.

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$185,745) [DEB-0211701] (July 15, 2002 to June 30, 2005) Title: Collaborative Research: Reconstructing the early evolution of the bees and the history of

bee/angiosperm relationships.

NSF (Multi-user Equipment and Instrumentation Resources for Biological Sciences): (\$123,745) [DBI-0400433] (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005). Title: A new capillary sequencer for the evolutionary genomics core facility at Cornell University (with K. Zamudio [project director], R. Harrison, J.J. Doyle, C.D. Hopkins).

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$7,300) [DEB-0211701] (July 15, 2002 to June 30, 2005). REU supplement to DEB-0211701.

National Geographic Society: (\$18,574, September 1, 2001 to July 31, 2003). Title: Historical biogeography and sociality of African halictine bees (NGS grant no. 6946-01)

NSF (Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Program): (\$9,383) [DDIG-0104893] (July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2003) Title: DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Phylogeny and evolution of subsocial behavior in the New World Treehopper family Membracinae (Homoptera: Membracidae).

NSF (Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Program): (\$7,000) [DDIG-0206096] (May 1, 2002 to April 31 2004). Title: DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Native Hawaiian bees (*Hylaeus*): phylogenetics and pollen usage.

NSF (Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Program): (\$9,880) [DDIG-0206093] (June 1 2002 to November 30 2003). Title: DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Phylogeny and evolution of host associations and fighting behavior in Neotropical derelomine weevils (Coleoptera: Curculionidae).

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$150,000) [DEB-9815236] (April 15, 1999 to March 31, 2003). Title: Phylogenetic analysis of the subfamily Halictinae (Hymenoptera: Halictidae) with an analysis of social evolution.

Smithsonian Scholarly Studies Grant (\$35,000; Jan. 2000- Dec. 2002). Title: Comparative population genetic structure and within-group genetic relatedness of solitary and social neotropical sweat bees (*Lasioglossum*, Halictidae) (in collaboration with William Wcislo, Smithsonian Institution).

NATO Collaborative Research Grant. In collaboration with Prof. F. Andrietti in Milan, Italy (\$6,000 for travel and per diem related expenses to study solitary ground-nesting bees)

NSF (Systematics Program): (\$189,000) [DEB-9508647] (April 15, 1996 to March 31 1999). Title: Phylogenetic systematics and social evolution in the bee genus *Lasioglossum* (Hymenoptera: Halictidae).



NSF (Multi-user Equipment and Instrumentation Resources for Biological Sciences): (\$120,234) [DBI-9970113] (April 1, 1999 to May 31 2001). Title: An Automated DNA sequencing and genotyping facility for studies of ecology, systematics, evolution, and behavior (with K. Zamudio [project director], R. Harrison, J.J. Doyle, H.K. Reeve).

USDA Hatch Grant: (\$40,000) (July 1 1997 to June 31 2002). Title: Phylogenetic analysis, faunal studies, and social behavior of halictine bees in New York State.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Refereed publications** (in reverse chronological order; n=106):

In prep:

Heather's phylodiversity paper

Erin's Ascospaera paper

Mary's path analysis *Osmia* paper

Elizabeth's masarine paper

Encyclopedia of Social Insects – book chapter

106. Steffan, S.A., H.R. Gaines-Day, P.S. Dharampal, Y. Chikaraishi, Y. Takizawa, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Omnivory in bees: Elevated trophic positions among all major bee families. *American Naturalist* [*in review*]
105. Murray, E., J. Burand, H. Grab, & **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Viral transmission in honey bees and native bees, supported by a global black queen cell virus phylogeny. *Environmental Microbiology* [*in press*; should be published in early 2019].
104. Almeida, E.A.B, L. Packer, G.A.R. Melo, **B.N. Danforth**, S. Cardinal, F.B. Quinteiro, and M.R. Pie (2018). The diversification of neopasiphaeine bees during the Cenozoic (Hymenoptera: Colletidae). *Zoologica Scripta* [*available online 18 December*. DOI: 10.1111/zsc.12333]
103. Murray, E.A., S. Bossert, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Pollenivory and the diversification dynamics of bees. *Biology Letters* 20180530 [*available online 15 November*; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2018.0530>]
102. Bossert, S., E. Murray, E.A.B. Almeida, S. Brady, B. Blaimer, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Combining transcriptomes and ultraconserved elements to illuminate the phylogeny of Apidae. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 130 (2019): 121–131 [*available online 14 October*]
101. Grab, H. K. Poveda, **B.N. Danforth**, G. Loeb (2018). Landscape context shifts the balance of costs and benefits from wildflower borders on multiple ecosystem services.

Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B (Biological Sciences). [available online 1 August 2018. DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2018.1102]

100. Dorchin, A., **B.N. Danforth**, T. Griswold (2018). A new genus of eucerine bees endemic to southwestern North America revealed in phylogenetic analyses of the *Eucera* complex (Hymenoptera: Apidae: Eucerini). *Arthropod Systematics and Phylogeny* 76(2): 215-234 [open access: [http://www.senckenberg.de/root/index.php?page\\_id=8057](http://www.senckenberg.de/root/index.php?page_id=8057); available online 29 June, 2018]
99. Park, M.G., N.K. Joshi, E.G. Rajotte, D.J. Biddinger, J.E. Losey, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Apple grower pollination practices and perceptions of alternative pollinators in New York and Pennsylvania. *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems* 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742170518000145>
98. Bossert, S. and **B.N. Danforth** (2018). On the universality of target enrichment baits for phylogenomic research. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* 00:1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.12988>.
97. Dorchin, A., M.M. López-Urbe, C.J. Praz, T. Griswold, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Phylogeny, new generic-level classification, and historical biogeography of the *Eucera* complex (Hymenoptera: Apidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 119: 81-92.
96. Grab, H., K. Poveda, **B.N. Danforth**, G. Loeb (2018). Landscape simplification reduces classical biological control and crop yield. *Ecological Applications* 28(2): 348–355 [published online 18 January 2018]
95. Pauw, A., B. Kahnt, M. Kuhlmann, D. Michez, G.A. Montgomery, E. Murray, **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Long-legged bees make adaptive leaps: linking adaptation to coevolution in a plant-pollinator network. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, B* 284 (1862), 20171707. [published online ## August, 2017, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.1707>]
94. Kahnt, B., G.A. Montgomery, E. Murray, M. Kuhlmann, A. Pauw, D. Michez, R.J. Paxton, **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Playing with extremes: origins and evolution of exaggerated forelegs in South African *Rediviva* bees. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 115: 95-105.
93. Russo, L. & **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Pollen preferences among the bee species visiting apple (*Malus domestica*) in eastern New York. *Apidologie* 48(6): 806-820 [published online 3 July, 2017, DOI: 10.1007/s13592-017-0525-3]
92. Glastad, K.M. S.V. Arsenault, K.L. Vertacnik, S.M. Geib, S.Kay, **B.N. Danforth**, S.M. Rehan, C.R. Linnen, S.D. Kocher, B.G. Hunt (2017). Variation in DNA methylation is not consistently reflected by sociality in Hymenoptera. *Genome Biol. Evol.* 9(6):1687-1698.

91. Russo, L., E.J. Blitzer, M.L. Park, & **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Flower handling behavior and abundance determine the relative contribution of pollinators to seed set in apple orchards. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 246: 102-108.
90. Lichtenberg, E.M., C.M. Kennedy, C. Kremen, et al. (2017). A global synthesis of the effects of diversified farming systems on arthropod diversity at field and landscape scales. *Global Change Biology* 6 [DOI: 10.1111/gcb.13714]
89. Grab, H., E.J. Blitzer, **B.N. Danforth**, G. Loeb, & K. Poveda (2017). Temporally dependent pollinator competition and facilitation with mass flowering crops affects yield in co-blooming crops. *Nature Scientific Reports* 7:45296 [DOI: 10.1038/srep45296]
88. Bossert, S., E.A. Murray, B.B. Blaimer, & **B.N. Danforth** (2017). The impact of GC bias on phylogenetic accuracy using targeted enrichment phylogenomic data. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 111: 149-157.
87. Branstetter, M.G., **B.N. Danforth**, J.P. Pitts, B.C. Faircloth, P.S. Ward, M.L. Buffington, M.W. Gates, R.R. Kula, & S.G. Brady (2017). Phylogenomics and improved taxon sampling resolve relationships among ants, bees, and stinging wasps. *Current Biology* 27(7):1019-1024. [See commentary published in same issue of *Current Biology*: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960982217303536>]
86. López-Urbe, M. J. Cane, R. Minckley, **B.N. Danforth** (2016). Crop domestication facilitated rapid geographic expansion of a specialist pollinator, the squash bee *Peponapis pruinosa*. *Proc. Royal Soc. Lond. (B)* 283: 20160443
85. Litman, J.R., T. Griswold, **B.N. Danforth** (2016). Phylogenetic systematics and a revised generic classification of anthidiine bees (Hymenoptera: Megachilidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 100: 183-198. [DOI: 10.1016/j.ympev.2016.03.018]
84. Blitzer, E.J., J. Gibbs, M.G. Park, **B.N. Danforth** (2016). Pollination services for apple depend on functionally diverse wild bee communities. *Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment* 221: 1-7
83. Park, M.G., R.A. Raguso, J.E. Losey, **B.N. Danforth** (2016). Per-visit pollinator performance and regional importance of wild *Bombus* and *Andrena* (*Melandrena*) compared to the managed honey bee in New York apple orchards. *Apidologie* 47:145–160 [published online 25 August 2015, 10.1007/s13592-015-0383-9]
82. Russo, L., M.G. Park, J. Gibbs, **B.N. Danforth** (2015). The challenge of accurately documenting bee species richness in agroecosystems: bee diversity in eastern apple orchards. *Ecology and Evolution* 5(17): 3531–3540 [published online 5 August 2015, doi: 10.1002/ece3.1582]
81. Hedtke S.M., E.J. Blitzer, G.A. Montgomery, **B.N. Danforth** (2015). Introduction of

- non-native pollinators can lead to trans-continental movement of bee-associated fungi. PLoS ONE 10(6): e0130560 [published online 23 June 2015, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0130560]
80. Kleijn, D., R. Winfree, I. Bartomeus, L. Cavalheiro, et al. (2015). Managing for pollinators or pollination: conflicts between biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service delivery. Nature Communications 6:7414 [published online 16 June, 2015, DOI: 10.1038/ncomms8414]
  79. Park, M.G., E.J. Blitzer, J. Gibbs, J.E. Losey, **B.N. Danforth** (2015). Combined effect of pesticides and landscape simplification compromises wild pollinators. Proc. Royal Soc. Lond. (B) 282: 20150299 [published online 3 June 2015, DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2015.0299]
  78. López-Urbe, M.M., S.J. Morreale, C.K. Santiago, **B.N. Danforth** (2015) Nest suitability, fine-scale population structure and male-mediated dispersal of a solitary ground nesting bee in an urban landscape. PLoS ONE 10(5): e0125719. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0125719
  77. López-Urbe, M.M., K.R. Zamudio, C.F. Cardoso and **B.N. Danforth** (2014). Climate, physiological tolerance, and sex-biased dispersal shape genetic structure of Neotropical orchid bees. Molecular Ecology 23(7): 1874-1890 [published online 7 February, 2014, DOI: 10.1111/mec.12689]
  76. Bartomeus, I., M.G. Park, J. Gibbs, **B.N. Danforth**, A.N. Lakso, & R. Winfree (2013). Biodiversity as insurance against plant-pollinator phenological asynchrony. Ecology Letters 16:1331-1338 [published online 23 August, 2013, doi: 10.1111/ele.12170]
  75. Hedtke, S., S. Patiny, **B.N. Danforth** (2013). Resolving the Bee Tree of Life : bioinformatic approaches to apoid phylogeny. BMC Evolutionary Biology 13:138 <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2148/13/138>
  74. Gibbs, J., L. Packer, S. Dumesh, and **B.N. Danforth** (2013). Revision and reclassification of *Lasioglossum* (*Evylaeus*), *L.* (*Hemihalictus*) and *L.* (*Sphexodogastra*) in eastern North America (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Halictidae). Zootaxa 3672 (1): 1-117
  73. Litman, J.R., C.J. Praz, T.L. Griswold, **B.N. Danforth**, S.C. Cardinal (2013). Origins, evolution, and diversification of cleptoparasitic lineages in long-tongued bees. Evolution 67(10): 2982-2998 [published online 7 June, 2013, DOI: 10.1111/evo.12161]
  72. Cardinal, S. & **B.N. Danforth** (2013). Bees diversified in the age of eudicots. Proc. Royal Soc. Lond (B) 280: 1-9 [available online 30 January, 2013]
  71. Kennedy, C.M., E. Lonsdorf, M.C. Neel, **et al.** (2013). A global quantitative synthesis of local and landscape effects on native bee pollinators in agroecosystems. Ecology Letters 16(5): 584-599 [published online 11 Mar. 2013, DOI: 10.1111/ele.12082]

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**Abstracts, Posters and Presented Papers** (in reverse chronological order):

Urban-Mead, K., S. McArt, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Bees in the trees: Early spring forest canopy

- resources support orchard pollinators. Joint Entomological Society of America and Entomological Society of Canada meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (November 10-14, 2018).
- Bossert, S., E.A. Murray, E.A. Almeida, S. Brady, B. Blaimer, S. Cardinal, **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Combining transcriptomes and ultraconserved elements to illuminate the phylogeny of Apidae. Joint Entomological Society of America and Entomological Society of Canada meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (November 10-14, 2018).
- Centrella, M., K. Poveda, **B.N. Danforth**, A. Fersch, N. Baert, B.D. Eitzer, M. VanDyke, K. Böröczky, and S. McArt (2018). Do solitary and social bees respond in the same way to stressors in agroecosystems? Joint Entomological Society of America and Entomological Society of Canada meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (November 10-14, 2018).
- Brochu, K. & **B.N. Danforth** (2018). Love it or leave it: Digestive adaptations of specialist and generalist bees on cucurbits. Joint Entomological Society of America and Entomological Society of Canada meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (November 10-14, 2018).
- Danforth, B.N. (2018). New insights into bee phylogeny -- Charles Michener was (almost) always right. Joint Entomological Society of America and Entomological Society of Canada meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (November 10-14, 2018).
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- Murray, E., Bossert, S., Blaimer, B.B., and **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Origins and antiquity of pollen-feeding in the vespid wasps, based on phylogenomic analysis of ultraconserved elements. Entomological Society of America, Denver, CO (November 4-8, 2017).
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- Mary Centrella, Brian D. Eitzer, Heather Grab, Katja Poveda and **B.N. Danforth** (2017). Fitness responses of wild bees (*Osmia cornifrons*) to their environment: The interactive effects of landscape complexity, pesticide exposure and pollen diet diversity, Entomological Society of America, Denver, CO (November 4-8, 2017).

- Erin Krichilsky, Mary Centrella, Brian Eitzer, **B.N. Danforth**, Heather Grab (2017). Taking Inventory: Drivers of the bee associated fungi (Genus: *Ascosphaera*) in the solitary mason bee, *Osmia cornifrons*. Entomological Society of America. Denver, CO. November 6, 2017.
- Brochu, K.; and **Danforth, B.N.** (2017). Microbial communities in ground-nesting bee brood cells: diverse, stable, and unique. Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America. Denver, CO (November 4-8, 2017)
- Lemnian, I., A. Soro, M. Bonn, M. Lopez-Urbe, **B.N. Danforth**, I. Grosse, R.J. Paxton. The genetic underpinning of eusociality in a socially polymorphic sweat bee *Halictus rubicundus*. European Society of Evolutionary Biology, Groningen, The Netherlands (Aug. 20-25, 2017).
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- Centrella, M., K. Poveda, **B.N. Danforth** (2016). Landscape effects on mason bee fitness mediated by diet diversity and pesticide exposure. Entomological Society of America and International Congress of Entomology, Miami, FL (Sept 25-30, 2016)
- Grab, H., J. Brokaw, **B.N. Danforth**, J. Gibbs, A. Hutchinson, R. Isaacs, K. Poveda, M. Renauld, and G.M. Loeb (2016). Landscape simplification constrains adult body size in native bees. Entomological Society of America and International Congress of Entomology, Miami, FL (Sept 25-30, 2016)
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- Branstetter, M., B. Faircloth, **B.N. Danforth**, J. Pitts, & S. Brady (2014). Ultraconserved elements provide new insights into the phylogeny and evolution of Hymenoptera. ESA meeting, Portland, OR (November 16-19, 2014)
- Park, M.G., R.A. Raguso, E.J. Blitzer, J. Gibbs, J. Losey, & **B.N. Danforth** (2014). Filling the pollination gap: Assessing the potential for wild bees to maintain adequate apple pollination as honey bee colonies decline. Ecological Society of America meeting, Sacramento CA, Aug. 10-15, 2014
- Russo, L., M.G., Park, **B.N. Danforth** (2014). Host specialization in a wild bee community: Variation in the composition of pollen collected by apple pollinators. Ecological Society of America meeting, Sacramento CA, Aug. 10-15, 2014
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- Hedtke, S., S. Patiny, & **B.N. Danforth**. The bee tree of life: Insights from a supermatrix approach to apoid phylogeny. ESA meeting, Austin, TX (November 10-14, 2013) [*Invited symposium*]
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Conservation Science, New York, NY (October 9-11, 2013).

López-Urbe, M.M. & **B.N. Danforth**. Integrative taxonomy of orchid bee species in the genus *Eulaema* (Apidae: Euglossini). VIII Congreso Mesoamericano de abejas nativas, San José, Costa Rica (Aug 30-31, 2013).

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Hedtke, S.H. & **B.N. Danforth**. The pleasures and pitfalls of bee phylogenetics. Evolution meeting, Snowbird, UT (June 21-25, 2013).

Debevec, A., S.C. Cardinal, **B.N. Danforth**, & J.W. Whitfield. Investigating outgroup taxon sampling: empirical examples from Noctuoidea (Lepidoptera) and bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea). North Central Branch ESA meeting, Rapid City, South Dakota (June 16-19, 2013).

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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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### **1. Bee Phylogeny**

A major focus of my work over the past 20 years has been on resolving higher-level relationships in bees. Bees include over 20,000 described species currently placed into 7 families and 23 subfamilies. Bees arose sometime between 140 and 100 million years ago and bee diversification almost certainly influenced the explosive diversification of the angiosperms (flowering plants) in the early to mid Cretaceous. Understanding the evolutionary history of bees can therefore help provide insights into the diversification of the angiosperms, or what Darwin called the "abominable mystery."

My lab has worked on all seven extant bee families, as well as relationships among closely-related apoid wasps (Debevec, et al. 2012). Our approach has been heavily focused on single-copy nuclear gene data, but some studies combine morphological and molecular data, and some studies are based entirely on morphology. Single-copy nuclear genes provide excellent data sets for resolving deep divergences in bees because (1) alignments of protein-coding regions are unambiguous, (2) the bee genome consists of over 12,000 protein-coding genes, making these data readily available for phylogenetic analysis, and (3) these genes have been shown to perform more effectively than mitochondrial (Lin & Danforth 2004) and ribosomal genes (Danforth et al. 2005) in comparative studies. My laboratory pioneered the use of single-copy nuclear genes as phylogenetic markers in bees and closely related wasps.

### **Insights that have been gained from these studies include the following areas:**

a. **Bee antiquity** – I have been involved in a number of studies focused on both fossils and fossil-calibrated phylogenies. In collaboration with George Poinar (Oregon State), I helped described the morphology and phylogenetic significance of *Melittosphex burmensis* – the oldest known bee fossil (Poinar & Danforth 2006, Danforth & Poinar 2011). In collaboration with my students and post-docs, I have published fossil-calibrated phylogenies for Colletidae (Almeida et

al. 2012), Halictidae (Gibbs et al. 2013), Apidae (Cardinal et al. 2010), Megachilidae (Litman et al. 2011) and bees as a whole (Cardinal & Danforth 2013).

**b. Family-level phylogeny** – A major focus of my lab over the past 10 years has been to establish a robust phylogeny for the bee families, subfamilies, and tribes. We have used a variety of approaches, including large, multigene, nucleotide data sets (Danforth et al. 2006a), nucleotide data sets in combination with morphology (Danforth et al. 2006b), patterns of unique intron gains and losses (Brady & Danforth 2004), and analysis of gene duplications (Brady et al. 2011). Our results have provided important new insights into where the root node of bees falls. Previous studies supported a root node near or within Colletidae. However, all our molecular studies have indicated a root node at or within the family Melittidae, a small, enigmatic, relictual, host-plant specialist family with greatest diversity in southern Africa. Subsequent studies, based on both expanded gene and expanded taxon sampling that continues to support this hypothesis (Cardinal & Danforth 2013.; Hedtke et al. in review).

**c. Social behavior** – Bees are fascinating creatures for many reasons, but one of the most important is that they exhibit multiple origins of complex forms of eusociality. The families Halictidae and Apidae include species that range from solitary nesting to advanced eusociality. My laboratory has made heavy use of phylogenetic analysis to investigate the patterns of social evolution in both Halictidae (Danforth 1999, 2002; Danforth et al. 1999, 2003, 2008; Soucy & Danforth 2002; Brady et al. 2006) and Apidae (Cardinal & Danforth 2011). Our results have revealed an unforeseen pattern: eusociality in bees has had relatively few origins while within eusocial clades one can see multiple reversals to solitary nesting. Our current estimate is as few as four origins of eusociality in bees: (1) corbiculate Apidae, (2) Xylocopinae, (3) Augochlorini, (4) Halictini (*Halictus*+*Lasioglossum*).

**d. Cleptoparasitism** – Approximately 10% of all bee species are cleptoparasitic (brood parasitic), meaning they enter the nests of other bees and lay an egg without actually collecting either pollen or nectar provisions. Cleptoparasitism has been reported from all bee families except Andrenidae, Melittidae, and Stenotritidae. Phylogenetic studies in my lab have provided a comparative framework for examining the evolution of cleptoparasitism in Halictidae, Megachilidae, and, most recently, in Apidae. My student and former post-doc Sophie Cardinal used a comprehensive phylogeny of the Apidae and Bayesian, ancestral state reconstruction methods to show that, what had previously been regarded as multiple origins of cleptoparasitism were, in fact, more likely a single, ancient origin of cleptoparasitism in Apidae (Cardinal et al. 2010). This result has significant implications for understanding the evolution of cleptoparasitism in bees because nearly 20% of apid bees are cleptoparasites.

**e. Historical biogeography** – Phylogenies play an important role in understanding how the current distribution of organisms on earth came to be. Research in my laboratory has made use of phylogenies for Halictidae (Danforth et al. 2004, Patiny et al. 2007), Melittidae (Michez et al. 2009), Megachilidae (Litman et al. 2011), and especially Colletidae (Almeida & Danforth 2009, Almeida et al. 2012) to analyze biogeographic patterns with both parsimony and model-based methods. Work by my former student, Eduardo Almeida on colletid bees has demonstrated a series of repeated interchanges between Australia and South America via Antarctica over the

past 90 million years (Almeida et al. 2012). Australia's bee fauna was therefore composed entirely of colletid bees up until the Oligocene, when additional bee families arrived via Asia.

In summary, the phylogenetic work in my laboratory has provided significant new insights into the evolution of bees, including their historical biogeography, social behavior, antiquity, and life history evolution. Future work will focus on expanding the range of genes and data sets we use to reconstruct bee phylogeny. Currently, we are exploring two avenues of research: (1) next-generation (Illumina) sequencing of bee transcriptomes as a way to greatly expand the range of genes we can use and (2) super-matrix approaches to bee phylogeny in which we extract data from Genbank using automated, bioinformatics approaches to downloading, aligning, and analyzing large nucleotide data sets (in collaboration with Shannon Hedtke).

## **2. Pollination biology**

I have recently expanded my research into the area of applied pollination biology. Starting in 2007, my laboratory has been surveying and characterizing native bee diversity in NY State apple orchards with the goal of understanding the role of native bees in apple pollination. We recently obtained a USDA-AFRI grant to expand this study and to relate bee diversity and abundance to fruit set in commercial apple orchards. To date, we have identified over 100 native bee species that are potentially contributing to apple pollination in central New York (Park, et al., in prep.). In addition, we have used careful experimental approaches to determine per-visit pollen deposition in a number of native bee species. Our data indicate that native bees deposit two to three times more pollen grains per visit than honey bees (Park, et al., in prep.). Finally, we have demonstrated that in central New York apple orchards, there is clear evidence of pollen limitation, as indicated by comparison of hand vs. open-pollinated flowers. This study has allowed me to use my expertise in bee taxonomy to develop more sustainable management practices in commercial apple orchards.

## **3. Bee biodiversity**

I am currently involved in an NSF-funded, multi-institutional effort to database major bee collections across the US. The Cornell University Insect Collection is one of the 12 collections being databased for the purpose of examining long-term trends in bee distribution and phenology. This is a highly collaborative effort led by John Ascher (AMNH) and Douglas Yanega (UC Riverside). Our study has already yielded two published papers (Bartolomeus et al., 2011, 2013) documenting shifts in native bee flight phenology and geographic distribution over the past 140 years in eastern North America. Over the first two years of the grant we have databased over 30,000 bee specimens from Cornell alone.

I also continue to conduct field work in areas of high bee diversity, including Australia, South Africa, Kenya, and Mediterranean Europe.

### **Future directions:**

1. Next-gen sequencing and bioinformatics: the field of molecular systematics is moving

incredibly fast and new technologies are transforming how we approach DNA sequencing. Next-gen sequencing (Illumina and 454) technologies now allow us to generate massive transcriptome and genome datasets. These data sets require new skills, in particular bioinformatic skills, to make effective use of the data. I would like to explore the use of transcriptome data sets across multiple bee and wasp species in order to greatly expand the range of genes we are currently using for phylogenetic analysis. We already have a pilot experiment underway using Illumina RNA-seq data from 12 bee and wasp species and there is clearly a lot of overlap in the genes sequenced across these species. However, distinguishing paralogs and orthologs is not trivial in the absence of closely related reference genomes.

2. The transition from carnivory to pollenivory – gut transcriptomics: One of the “key innovations” in the evolution of bees from predatory wasps was the transition from larval carnivory to larval pollenivory. From a nutritional standpoint, arthropod prey and pollen are similar in that both provide a diet rich in proteins and amino acids (Roulston and Cane 2000). However, extraction of these nutrients requires significant alteration in larval digestive physiology. The external layer of the pollen grain, the pollenkitt, contains nutritive lipids. There are one or two additional layers which must be broken down before the cytoplasm of the pollen can be released and the nutrients absorbed (or further digested): the *exine* (present in most flowering plants, but not all monocots), which is made up of a tough complex carbohydrate called sporopollenin, and the *intine*, which is made up of cellulose and pectin. Digestion appears to occur through a combination of osmotic and enzymatic processes as pollen passes through the midgut of the bee, and thus requires both morphological changes in the structure of the intestine and in the enzymes that contribute to the breakdown of these pollen walls (reviewed in Roulston and Cane 2000). I propose to examine the evolutionary changes associated with pollen-feeding by comparing the gut transcriptomes of larval crabronid wasps and bees. My prediction is that we will find significant alterations in the expressed genes and that there will be an increase in genes associated with (1) carbohydrate metabolism, and (2) detoxification of plant secondary compounds.

3. Chemical ecology and phylogeny of bee-plant interactions: One aspect of bee evolution that has received surprisingly little attention is the co-evolutionary interactions between bees and their host-plants. Bees vary widely in their host plant preferences. Polylectic (generalist) bees collect pollen and nectar from a wide variety of host-plants while oligolectic (specialist) bees collect pollen and nectar from a much more narrow range of host-plants, usually restricted to a family, tribe, genus or even species of host plant. Specialization in bees involves both behavioral preference for certain host plants as well as morphological adaptations to host-plant flower and pollen morphology. We know very little about the evolution of both host plant range (oligolecty and polylecty) and host plant preference in bees. Two previous studies have used phylogenies and character mapping to examine the evolution of host-plant preferences in bees (Sipes & Tepedino 2005, Sedivy et al. 2008). We have learned from these studies that (1) polylecty is often derived from within oligolectic clades and (2) host-switching, when it occurs, often involves switches to phylogenetically *unrelated* host-plants. Whether host switching is driven by floral morphology or floral chemistry remains to be seen. I propose to examine the evolution of host-plant associations within one or more bee genera in which a mixture of polylectic and oligolectic species occur (e.g., *Andrena*, *Perdita*, *Dufourea*, *Dasypoda*,

*Hesperapis*). The goal of such studies would be to reconstruct species-level relationships based on multi-gene data sets and to use ancestral state reconstruction methods to trace the evolution of host-plant range and preference. When closely-related bee are on unrelated host-plants I would like to examine whether the host plants share similar morphological or chemical attributes. My prediction is that the either host-plant chemistry or host plant floral morphology drives such switches. I am actively seeking a collaborator with expertise in chemical ecology for this project.

4. Bees and microbes – does “defensive mutualism” exist in mass-provisioning bees: A number of insect species have been shown to have associations with beneficial microbes, primarily bacteria, that have been described as “defensive mutualisms” (Kaltenpoth 2009). These defensive mutualists can provide a variety of functions, but they are often involved in protecting valuable resources (for example, the fungal gardens in leaf-cutting ants) from invasion by pathogenic microbes. The pollen/nectar provisions of bees are rich in carbohydrates and proteins and are stored in harsh environments (soil, wood, stems) where attack by microbes would appear to be easy. I would like to explore the possible microbial symbionts of bees using metagenomic methods based on high-throughput next generation sequencing.

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Sipes, S.D. & V.J. Tepedino (2005). Pollen-host specificity and evolutionary patterns of host switching in a clade of specialist bees (Apoidea: Diadasiinae). *Biol. J. Linn. Soc.* 86: 487-505.

Soucy, S.L. & B.N. Danforth (2002). Phylogeography of the socially polymorphic sweat bee *Halictus rubicundus* (Hymenoptera: Halictidae). *Evolution* 56 (2): 330-341.

## **MENTORING**

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### **1. Post-docs**

#### Current:

Dr. Jessica Gillung

#### Past:

Dr. Elizabeth Murray  
Department of Entomology  
National Museum of Natural History  
Smithsonian Institution  
10th St. & Constitution Ave. NW  
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Dr. Laura Russo  
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Web site: <http://www.science.siu.edu/plant-biology/Faculty/sipes/index.html>

## 2. Graduate students

Current:

Mary Centrella (co-advised with Katja Poveda)  
Silas Bossert (currently at the Smithsonian Institution)  
Katherine Urban-Mead (co-advised with Scott McArt)

Past:

Kristen Brochu  
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### 3. Undergraduate students

*Undergraduate research students:*

Current:

Peter Lannoo (Biology, 2017)  
Erin Krichilsky (Entomology, 2017)

Past:

Chris Desjardins (Entomology, 1997 [2 years])

Luke Ballard (Biology, 1999 [3 years; Cornell Presidential Research Scholar Program])  
Lindsay Conway (Animal Science, 2000 [2 years])  
Adam Pearson (Biology, 2002 [3 years; Cornell Presidential Research Scholar Program])  
Alison Novick (Biology, 2003[2 years])  
Stephanie Johnson (Entomology, 2005[1 semester])  
Alex Swanson (Biology, 2006[1 years])  
Allison Meisner (Entomology, 2006[1 years])  
Kojun Kanda (Entomology, 2007[2 years])  
Neha Botapati (Biology, 2009[1 semester])  
Chris Castorena (Engineering, 2009 [1 semester])  
Michael Orr (Entomology, 2009 [2 years])  
Andrew Debevec (Entomology, 2011 [2 years; Hughes Undergraduate Research Scholars Program])  
Jamer Bellis (Biology, 2011[1 semester])  
Yang Zhang (Biology, 2011 [1 year])  
Lori Moshmann (Plant Biology, 2012 [4 years])  
Kyle Rossner (Continuing Education, 2012 [1 year])  
Isa Betancourt (Entomology, 2013 [1 year])  
Patrick Brown (Entomology, 2013 [1 year])  
Christine Santiago (Human Ecology, 2013 [3 years; Undergraduate Minority Student Fellowship])  
Michelle Jennifer Rogals (Biology, 2014 [1 year])  
Corey Jack Keane (Biology, 2014 [1 year])  
Christina Harden (Biology, 2015 [1 year])  
Julia Brokaw (Natural Resources, 2013 [3 year])  
Graham Montgomery (Entomology, 2015 [2 years])  
Nolan Amon (Entomology, 2015 [2 years])

*Undergraduate advisees:*

Elia Andrea Garcia (Entomology, 1998)  
Susan Margaret Packard (Entomology, 2001)  
Peter Michael Fisk (Entomology, 2004)  
Megan Vidler (Entomology, 2005)  
Phil Torres (Entomology; 2008)  
Taro Eldredge (Entomology; 2009)  
Keith Ciccaglione (Entomology; 2011)  
Lori Moshmann (Entomology; 2012)  
Patrick Brown (Entomology; 2013)  
Dan Pearlstein (Entomology; 2013)  
Leah Buchmann (Entomology; 2016)  
Clifton Stacy (Entomology; 2017)

**Undergraduate publications (1999 to present):**

Papers with undergraduate co-authors (in **bold**) are listed below.

- Danforth, B.N. & **C. A. Desjardins** (1999). Male dimorphism in *Perdita portalis* (Hymenoptera: Andrenidae) has arisen from preexisting allometric patterns. *Insectes Sociaux* 46:18-28.
- Danforth, B.N., S. Ji, & **L.J. Ballard** (2003a). Gene flow and population structure in an oligolectic desert bee, *Macrotera (Macroteropsis) portalis* (Hymenoptera: Andrenidae). *J. Kansas Entomological Society* 76(2): 221-235.
- Danforth, B.N., **L. Conway**, & S. Ji (2003b). Phylogeny of eusocial *Lasioglossum* reveals multiple losses of eusociality within a primitively eusocial clade of bees (Hymenoptera: Halictidae). *Syst. Biol.* 52(1): 23-36.
- Danforth, B.N., S.G. Brady, S.D. Sipes & **A. Pearson** (2004). Single copy nuclear genes recover Cretaceous age divergences in bees. *Syst. Biol.* 53(2): 309-326.
- Brady, S.G., S.D. Sipes, **A. Pearson**, B.N. Danforth (2006). Recent and simultaneous origins of eusociality in halictid bees. *Proc. Royal Soc. London, Series B (Biological Sciences)* 273:1643-1649.
- Debevec, A.H.**, S. Cardinal, & B.N. Danforth (2012). Identifying the sister group to the bees: a molecular phylogeny of aculeata with an emphasis on the superfamily Apoidea. *Zoologica Scripta* [published ahead of print 14 June 2012, DOI: 10.1111/j.1463-6409.2012.00549.x]
- Gibbs, J., S. Brady, **K. Kanda**, & B.N. Danforth (2012). Phylogeny of halictine bees supports a shared origin of eusociality for *Halictus* and *Lasioglossum* (Apoidea: Anthophila: Halictidae). *Mol. Phylogen. Evol.* 65: 926-939.
- López-Urbe, **C.K. Santiago**, S.M. Bogdanowicz, B.N. Danforth (2012). Discovery and characterization of microsatellites for the solitary bee *Colletes inaequalis* using Sanger and 454 pyrosequencing. *Apidologie* 44(2): 163-172.
- Hedtke S.M., E.J. Blitzer, **G.A. Montgomery**, B.N. Danforth (2015). Introduction of non-native pollinators can lead to trans-continental movement of bee-associated fungi. *PLoS ONE* 10(6): e0130560
- Pauw, A., B. Kahnt, M. Kuhlmann, D. Michez, **G.A. Montgomery**, E. Murray, B.N. Danforth (2017). Long-legged bees make adaptive leaps: linking adaptation to coevolution in a plant-pollinator network. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, B* 284 (1862), 20171707. [published online ## August, 2017, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.1707>]
- Kahnt, B., **G.A. Montgomery**, E. Murray, M. Kuhlmann, A. Pauw, D. Michez, R.J. Paxton, B.N.

Danforth (2017). Playing with extremes: origins and evolution of exaggerated forelegs in South African *Rediviva* bees. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 115: 95-105.



## TEACHING

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### a. Accomplishments

Over the past 20 years I have taught 19 courses (Entom 2010 [*Alien Empire: Bizarre Biology of Bugs*], Entom 3220 [*Insect Comparative Morphology*], Entom. 3310/3311 [*Insect Phylogeny and Evolution*], and Entom. 6350 [*Insect Molecular Systematics*] to a total of 863 students. Course evaluations for all these classes were high (4.0 or above on most questions; see attached course evaluations, below).

**Entom. 2010/2011** is an elective, non-majors class that is meant to introduce undergraduate students to the bizarre and fascinating world of insects. This course emphasizes insect evolution, behavior, natural history, and ecology, but also covers topics related to the interaction between humans and insects. I have worked very hard in *Alien Empire* to captivate the students with the bizarre and interesting lives of insects. I make heavy use of color photographs to illustrate the diversity of insect form and anatomy. I use audio recordings to introduce students to the world of insect acoustic communication. I place short films (~5 mins.) throughout the lectures to show live insects in action. I also try to keep things entertaining with occasional segments from popular movies such as “Joe’s Apartment” and “Bugs Life”.

*Alien Empire* is one of my favorite courses to teach and I think the students react well to my enthusiasm. I have been told by some students that Entom 2010/2011 is the best course they have had at Cornell. Other student comments included: “I have never had a more enthusiastic instructor since I have been at Cornell,” “Bryan is an enthusiastic teacher -- he loves the subject and transferred this excitement well,” “I really enjoyed this class... Bugs are really neat!”, “I loved this course and would recommend it to all my friends.”

**Entom 3310/3311** is a graduate/undergraduate level course in insect phylogeny and evolution. I taught this class for the first time in Spring, 2007 and am currently teaching it in Fall, 2011. This course provides students with a broad overview of insect diversity, phylogeny, evolution and fossil history. This is an important course for our undergraduate and graduate program because insects are one of the largest and most diverse groups of organisms on the planet. Phylogeny provides the comparative and evolutionary framework for investigating insect biology and this course strives to develop a solid understanding of both the methods we use to reconstruct phylogeny as well as our current estimate of insect evolutionary relationships. I emphasize that phylogenies are hypotheses that are constantly changing as new data and new methods are applied. The course also investigates how phylogenies can be used to investigate evolutionary questions, such as host-plant evolution, co-evolution of hosts and symbionts, and the evolution of eusociality. Students give presentations at the end of the semester on independent research they have done on one group of insects. The laboratory portion of the course (Entom. 3311; 1 credit) involves field collections and identification to the family level.

I have also taught other courses at Cornell. Two courses (Entom 3220, *Insect Comparative Morphology* and Entom 6350, *Insect Molecular Systematics*) are no longer offered.

**b. Courses taught (1997-2016)**

<b><u>Course number</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Semester</u></b>	<b><u>Enroll</u></b>
Entom. 3220	<i>Insect Comparative Morphology</i>	Sp., 1997	22
Entom. 2010	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 1998	65
Entom. 3220	<i>Insect Comparative Morphology</i>	Sp., 1999	22
Entom. 2010	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2000	55
Entom. 3220	<i>Insect Comparative Morphology</i>	Sp., 2001	24
<b>Sabbatical leave (Jan.-July 2002)</b>			
Entom. 3220	<i>Insect Comparative Morphology</i>	Sp., 2003*	20
Entom. 2010	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2004*	65
Entom. 6350	<i>Insect Molecular Systematics</i>	Sp., 2004	8
Entom. 3220	<i>Insect Comparative Morphology</i>	Sp., 2005*	18
Entom. 2010	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2006*	98
Entom. 6350	<i>Insect Molecular Systematics</i>	Sp., 2006*	6
Entom. 3310/3311	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Sp., 2007*	14
Entom. 2010	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2008*	140
Entom. 2010/2011	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2009*	140
Entom. 3310/3311	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Fa., 2009*	16
<b>Sabbatical leave (Jan.-July 2010)</b>			
Entom. 2010/2011	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2011*	136
Entom. 3310/3311	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Fa., 2011*	18

<b>Entom. 2010/2011</b>	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2013	130
<b>Entom. 3310/3311</b>	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Fa., 2013	12
<b>Entom 3340</b>	<i>Tropical Field Entomology</i>	Wn., 2015	10
<b>Entom 4610</b>	<i>Model-based Phylogenetics and Hypothesis Testing</i>	Spr. 2015	22
<b>Entom. 3310/3311</b>	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Fa., 2015	10
<b>Entom. 2010/2011</b>	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2016	100
<b>Entom. 3310/3311</b>	<i>Insect Phylogeny and Evolution</i>	Fa., 2017	16
<b>Entom. 2010/2011</b>	<i>Alien Empire: Bizarre Bio Bugs</i>	Sp., 2018	125

\* Please see attached spreadsheet that summarizes course evaluations for these semesters.

### c. Course descriptions:

#### **ENTOM 2010 - Alien Empire: Bizarre Biology of Bugs**

Spring. 2 credits. S-U or letter grade option. B.N. Danforth

Insects are the most abundant and diverse animals on earth. This course explores the bizarre biology of insects and their interaction with humans. It examines both the detrimental roles insects play (e.g., pests and vectors of disease) as well as their beneficial roles (e.g., pollination, edible insects, insect products such as waxes, dyes, and silk). The course also explores the symbolic representation of insects in art, literature, and religion.

#### **ENTOM 2011 - Alien Empire: Bizarre Biology of Bugs**

Spring. 3 credits. S-U or letter grade option. B.N. Danforth

Insects are the most abundant and diverse animals on earth. This course explores the bizarre biology of insects and their interaction with humans. It examines both the detrimental roles insects play (e.g., pests and vectors of disease) as well as their beneficial roles (e.g., pollination, edible insects, insect products such as waxes, dyes, and silk). The course also explores the symbolic representation of insects in art, literature, and religion. Students taking the course for 3 credits meet once per week for small group discussions, debates, demonstrations, and documentary films on the biology of insects.

#### **ENTOM 3220 Comparative Insect Morphology [NO LONGER OFFERED]**

Spring. 4 credits. Prerequisite: ENTOM 2120 or 2410. Lec, lab. B.N. Danforth.

Provides a detailed introduction to the external and internal anatomy of insects. Lectures introduce basic concepts in insect morphology, such as the organization of the insect body plan and organ systems, functional morphology, homology, phylogeny, modularity, and development. The lab introduces students to the basic methods of insect microdissection, specimen preparation, and scientific illustration. High-quality, publishable illustrations are produced based on student artwork.

**ENTOM 3310 - Insect Diversity and Evolution**

Fall. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENTOM 2120. Co-requisite: ENTOM 3311. Offered alternate years. B. N. Danforth.

Insects are the dominant terrestrial organisms on planet earth both in terms of the number of species as well as in biomass. This course will provide a detailed look at insect diversity, phylogeny, natural history, and the insect fossil record. We will examine what is known about insect higher level relationships based on morphology and DNA sequence data and explore how phylogenies can be used to examine the evolution of behavior, life history, ecology, and natural history. Students will come away from the class with a deeper understanding of insect biodiversity, evolution, natural history, and phylogeny.

**ENTOM 3311 - Insect Diversity and Evolution Laboratory**

Fall. (Offered alternate years) 1 credit. Prerequisite: ENTOM 2120. Co-requisite: ENTOM 3310. Course fee: Lab fee \$40. B.N. Danforth.

This laboratory will introduce students to the diversity of insects and their identification. Collections will be made in the early part of the semester. Labs will introduce students to insect collecting techniques and insect identification to the family level. Optional weekend field trips to natural areas will take place early in the semester. Entomology undergraduates wishing to count Insect Phylogeny and Evolution toward their Group A requirement should take the laboratory as well as the lecture for a total of 4 credits.

**ENTOM 3340 - Tropical Field Entomology**

Winter. 4 credits. Prerequisite: ENTOM 2120 or BIOEE 1610.

This course will give students hands-on exposure to insect biodiversity, ecology, and behavior in a neotropical rainforest environment. Students will gain experience in insect sampling and survey methods, insect identification to the family level, insect natural history, experimental design and data collection in a field setting, basic statistics, interpretation and evaluation of scientific literature, and scientific writing. Course takes place over a two-week period for approximately 12 hr/day. The course takes place at the La Selva Field Station in Costa Rica from January 4-18, 2015. Applications are due to Professor Danforth by October 1, 2014.

**ENTOM 4610 - Model-Based Phylogenetics and Hypothesis Testing**

Spring. 3 credits. Prerequisite: BIOEE 1780 or BIOMG 2800 or equivalent, or permission of

instructor. E. Murray, B. Danforth

A variety of disciplines in biological research address questions that rely on a phylogenetic framework for hypothesis-testing, including the fields of ecology, epidemiology, behavior, physiology, evolution, and genomics. This course will provide an advanced undergraduate/graduate level introduction to model-based methods of phylogenetic analysis including maximum likelihood and Bayesian methods. The emphasis will be on DNA sequence data and issues associated with reconstructing phylogenetic trees from multiple gene loci. In addition, the course will cover how phylogenies can be used in the context of evolutionary hypothesis testing (including fossil-calibrated phylogenies, character mapping, ancestral state reconstruction, community ecology, and historical biogeography) using rigorous statistical methods. The course will include a computer laboratory for performing analyses using real data sets. Beginning skills in R programming will be introduced, and students will build an independent dataset to analyze using the techniques introduced in class.

**ENTOM 6350 - Insect Molecular Systematics [NO LONGER OFFERED]**

Spring. 2 credits. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. B.N. Danforth

Analysis of DNA sequence variation can provide a powerful tool for resolving problems in insect systematics, from species-level taxonomic decisions to higher-level (ordinal) relationships. This course introduces students, through readings of the primary literature, to the basic methods of insect molecular systematics, including DNA extraction, gel electrophoresis, PCR, DNA purification, and DNA sequencing (manual and automated). Results are analyzed using available computer programs. Students are encouraged to collect preliminary data for thesis or post-doctoral research.

**d. Student Evaluations**

I have summarized the student evaluations over the past 11 semesters in the spreadsheet on the following page and have provided the most recent course evaluations for two classes: Entom 2010/2011, *Alien Empire, Spring 2011* and Entom 3310/3311, *Insect Phylogeny and Evolution, Fall 2009*. Overall, my teaching evaluations are good. Out of a total of 5 points, the students evaluated my overall teaching between 4.06 and 4.86. Similarly, the courses I have taught are ranked between 3.96 and 4.86. Entom 2010/2011 (*Alien Empire: Bizarre Biology of Bugs*) has the largest enrollment of undergraduate students (between 60 and 140 students since inception) and the students ranked this class between 4.1 and 4.48 over the past four offerings. The graduate-level courses (Entom 3220, 3310/3311, and 6350) have similarly high ratings. My teaching skills receive some of the highest scores: between 4.31 and 4.75. There do not appear to be obvious changes in the ratings my classes receive over time.

Recent student evaluations of Entom 2010/2011, *Alien Empire, Spring 2011* were overall extremely positive. Students gave the course an overall rating of 4.34 and scored my teaching skills as 4.69. One student commented: "Danforth was AWESOME! Unbelievably caring, nice,

and a great teacher. By far one of the best professors I've had at Cornell. The class was incredibly enjoyable, and I'd recommend it to anyone. His organization (i.e. the website) was great, and truly wanted us to learn. A+” Another student commented: “I really loved this class. I wish I had time to take more entomology courses because they are so interesting, but it will probably be a while before I can if I ever can. This is a good course for anyone, no matter their interest. Professor Danforth is also a really effective lecturer and I never had trouble paying attention, which has been the case in some of my other classes.”

Recent student evaluations of Entom 3310/3311, *Insect Phylogeny and Evolution, Fall 2011* were very high. The course was given an overall rating of 4.75 and my teaching skills were rated 4.75. Recent student comments included: “Professor Danforth was particularly good at explaining methodology, and treating it as a variable tool which must be considered along with results. His explanation of molecular phylogenetic modeling and analysis was the most clear and easiest to grasp of many that I have been exposed to.” and “I loved the lecture course!”

## **EXTENSION**

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I do not have a formal extension appointment at Cornell, but I am a strong believer that scientific results, including studies of biodiversity, phylogeny, and pollination ecology, be made readily accessible to the general public. As part of our USDA-funded apple pollination project (see Research section), we are making a serious effort to disseminate our findings to the apple growers, orchard managers and anyone who can make effective use of our findings. We do this in a number of ways. First, a number of people in my lab (Mia Park, EJ Blitzer, Laura Russo myself) have given extension talks at regional meetings of New York apple growers. We have developed recommendations for managing and maintaining native bee diversity in and around apple orchards in central NY. We have also recently published one extension publication (Park, M.G., et al. 2010) and one extension booklet based on funding from the Northeast IPM program (Park, M.G., et al. 2012)

My lab is also heavily involved in the annual open house sponsored by the Department of Entomology at Cornell. This one-day event (Insectapalooza!) attracts over 3000 visitors to our department every fall semester. My lab presents displays and posters about bee biodiversity, bee biology and ecology, and the importance of conserving native pollinators. We have developed a powerpoint template that allows anyone in my lab to develop a high-quality, professional-style display on any topic. Our displays include photos, text, pinned insects, and other biological specimens relevant to the topic (see figure at right). We have prepared over 12 such displays over the past three years.

Finally, I have been involved with a local elementary school (Cayuga Heights Elementary) in developing a 5<sup>th</sup> grade project on the biology of mason bees. This project was initially developed in 2010 with the help of a fifth grade teacher, Connie Patterson. The program is now run every year by Cayuga Heights instructors.

### **Extension publications:**

Danforth, B.N. & C.M. Marshall. 2003. Insect morphology meets the WWW. *Amer. Entomol.* 48(4): 197-199.

Danforth, B.N. & K.N. Magnacca (2002). Bees of New York State. NY State Biodiversity Clearinghouse, New York State Biodiversity Project and New York State Biodiversity Research Institute. [<http://www.nybiodiversity.org/>]

Danforth, B.N., J. Fang, S. Sipes, S.G. Brady, & E.A.B. Almeida (2005). Phylogeny and molecular systematics of bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea). Cornell University, Ithaca, NY [<http://www.entomology.cornell.edu/BeePhylogeny/>]

Park, M.G., M.C. Orr, & **B.N. Danforth** (2010). The role of native bees in apple pollination. *New York State Fruit Quarterly* 18(1): 21-25.

Park, M.G., **B.N. Danforth**, J. Losey, D. Biddinger, Mace Vaughan, J. Dollar, E. Rajotte, & A. Agnello (2012). *Wild Pollinators of Eastern Apple Orchards and How to Conserve Them*. Cornell University, Penn State University, and The Xerces Society. URL: <http://www.northeastipm.org/park2012>

Danforth, B.N., M. T. van Dyke (2015) The wild bees of New York: Our insurance policy against honey bee decline. *New York Fruit Quarterly* 23(4): 17-22.

#### **Extension talks to apple growers:**

New York Pollinator Conservation Planning Short Course. September 23, 2010, Big Flats Plant Materials Center, Big Flats, NY, "*The role and importance of native bees in apple pollination*" [extension talk]

Fruit EXPO, Syracuse, NY, Jan. 22, 2014, "*Honeybees, CCD, and the importance of wild pollinators for orchard pollination*" [extension talk]

NY State IPM advisory council meeting, Syracuse, NY, Feb. 25, 2014, "*Honeybees, CCD, and the importance of wild pollinators for orchard pollination*" [extension talk]

Lake Ontario Winter Fruit School, Lockport, NY, Feb. 1, 2016. "*Pollinator Management: The Importance of Wild Bees*". [extension talk]

Lake Ontario Winter Fruit School, Newark, NY, Feb. 2, 2016. "*Pollinator Management: The Importance of Wild Bees*". [extension talk]

Red Tomato Annual Growers Meeting, The Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, Hyde Park, NY, March 15, 2016. "*Wild pollinator diversity and ecology in NY orchards*". [extension talk]

New York Pollinator Protection Plan Meeting, NY, November 1, 2017. "*Wild bee research in the Danforth lab*"

#### **Extension workshops:**

NYS DEC pollinator workshop May 23-26, 2017. Four-day pollinator identification workshop held at Huyck Preserve in Rensselaerville, NY.

**Extension websites:**

The Northeast Pollinator Partnership Project: Bee Abundance Assessment Tool.  
<http://northeastpollinatorpartnership.org>

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