

Lauren Glevanik

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EDUCATION

- University of California, Los Angeles** 2022 – Present
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Thesis: *Community consequences of seed dispersal in an annual California grassland*
Advisor: Dr. Nathan Kraft
- University of California, Davis** 2016 – 2020
B.S. Plant Biology
Minors: Professional Writing; Ecology, Evolution & Biodiversity

PRESENTATIONS

(* indicates mentored undergraduate author)

Invited Lectures

- L Glevanik**. 2026. “Modeling performance-dispersal feedbacks in a serpentine annual plant community.”
Invited speaker. California Native Plant Society Channel Islands Chapter Meeting.
- L Glevanik**. 2025. “Trait plasticity alters seed dispersal potential in an annual California grassland community.” Invited speaker. California Native Grassland Association GRASS Speaker Series.
- L Glevanik**. 2025. “Species-specific seed dispersal in an annual plant community.” Invited speaker. California Native Plant Society LA/SMM Chapter Meeting.

Selected Presentations

- L Glevanik**, J Austria,* L Anderson,* N Kamps,* NJB Kraft. 2025. “Rainfall influences seed persistence in an annual grassland community.” Contributed oral presentation. AMEBA x Biological Sciences Council Research Showcase.
Awarded audience choice best presentation.
- A Wu,* NJB Kraft, **L Glevanik**. 2025. “Video-based determination of terminal velocity of seeds from a southern California annual plant community.” Contributed oral presentation. UCLA Undergraduate Research & Creativity Showcase, Los Angeles, CA.
- L Anderson,* NJB Kraft, **L Glevanik**. 2025. “Examining species-specific seed bank persistence in an annual grassland.” Contributed oral presentation. UCLA Undergraduate Research & Creativity Showcase, Los Angeles, CA.
Awarded the Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Science.
- L Glevanik**, NJB Kraft. 2025. “Community consequences of stress-induced seed dispersal shifts in an annual grassland.” Contributed oral presentation. Better Grasslands Through Knowledge: A Science-Based CNGA Symposium, Hopland, CA.
- L Glevanik**, NJB Kraft. 2024. “Quantifying species-specific seed dispersal in annual grassland communities.” Contributed oral presentation. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Long Beach CA.
- L Glevanik**, SA Martinez, K Morton. 2021. “Epigenetic Enhancement of Yield in Hybrid Processing Tomatoes.” Seminar. HM.CLAUSE, Davis, CA.

L Glevanik. 2020. "Improving Fresh Market Tomato Flavor & Fruit Quality." Four-part seminar series. HM.CLAUSE, Davis, CA.

L Glevanik, R Davis. 2020. "Basics of iNaturalist: The City Nature Challenge and 'Naturing at Home.'" Three-part webinar series. UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, Davis, CA.

Contributed Posters

A Wu,* NJB Kraft, L Glevanik. 2025. "Video-based determination of terminal velocity of seeds from a southern California annual plant community." Poster presentation. UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.

Honorable Mention, Donald J. Buth Award for Outstanding Poster Presentation.

J Austria,* L Anderson,* N Kamps,* NJB Kraft, L Glevanik. 2025. "Rainfall influences species-specific seed mortality in a southern California annual grassland." Poster presentation. UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.

G Marcelino-Searles,* NJB Kraft, L Glevanik. 2025. "Intraspecific seed size – viability tradeoffs in a California annual grassland community." Poster presentation. UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.

L Anderson,* NJB Kraft, L Glevanik. 2025. "Examining species-specific seed bank persistence in an annual grassland." Poster presentation. LA Bioscience Ecosystem Summit (LABEST), Los Angeles, CA.

H Gray,* M McEwen,* NJB Kraft, L Glevanik. 2024. "Seed shape correlates of dispersal distance in California serpentine annual plants." Poster presentation. UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.

3rd place, Donald J. Buth Award for Outstanding Poster Presentation.

L Glevanik, S Rowland, K Zumstein, N Sinha. 2018. "How to Build a Better Tasting Tomato." Poster presentation. UC Davis Undergraduate Research Conference, Davis, CA.

PUBLICATIONS

Reports (non-peer-reviewed)

L Glevanik. 2020. "Breeding for Improved Fruit Quality and Flavor in Tomato: A Review." Grey literature for internal use at HM.CLAUSE.

L Glevanik. 2020. "Population sex ratio of coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) in Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve." *UC Davis Prized Writing*, 31: 162-168.

Selected Media Articles

L Glevanik. 2025. [Antarctica's geography reveals its ancient origins and hints toward the continent's future.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2025. [Wildfires leave long-lasting impacts on water quality in the Western U.S.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2025. [Island-dwelling iguanas first arrived in Fiji by rafting across 5000 miles of open ocean.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2024. [Birds of a feather flock to bad weather: Study reveals how seabirds chase cyclones.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2024. [Mowing through challenges: Cutting-edge ways to improve grassland restoration efforts.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2024. [Hive minds: Bumblebees collaborate to learn complex behaviors.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2024. [These bat teeth were made for chompin': An evolutionary history of bat teeth.](#) *Envirobites*.

L Glevanik. 2020. [An alien invasion threatens wildflower habitat.](#) *Student Conservation Corner*. UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology.

L Glevanik. 2020. [Researchers develop field test for toxic mushrooms.](#) *The California Aggie*, 138(19): 10-11.

- L Glevanik. 2020. [Bumblebees change flight modes to carry heavy loads of nectar](#). *The California Aggie*, 138(18): 8,11.
- L Glevanik. 2020. [“Reverse” solar panels harness Earth’s heat to generate energy](#). *The California Aggie*, 138(17): 8.
- L Glevanik. 2020. [Orchid bees mix unique perfumes to signal potential mates](#). *The California Aggie*, 138(14): 13.

AWARDS & GRANTS

California Native Plant Society LA/SMM Conference Grant, \$500	2026
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Academic Quarter Fellowship, \$9000	2025
California Native Plant Society Channel Islands Chapter Grant, \$1500	2025
La Kretz Center + Stunt Ranch Research Grant, \$1500	2024
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Research Grant, \$2000	2024
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Conference Grant, \$910	2024
California Native Plant Society LA/SMM Chapter Grant, \$1500	2024
California Native Grasslands Association GRASS Grant, \$500	2024
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Fellowship \$15000	2022-2023
Michigan State University Plant Sciences Fellowship \$30000 , <i>offered & declined</i>	2022
UC Davis College of Biological Sciences Dean’s Honors List	2020
Oliver Leonard Botany Scholarship \$1500	2019
Liliane D. Wells Botany Scholarship \$400	2016
UC Davis Cal Aggie Alumni Association Leadership Award \$1500	2016
San Diego Foundation COX Cares Scholarship \$5000	2016
Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship \$1500	2016

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, UCLA Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (2022 – Present)

Dissertation work on community consequences of seed dispersal in an annual California grassland.

Processing Tomato Breeding Aide, HM.CLAUSE (2021 – 2022)

Investigated effects of epigenetic yield enhancement of processing tomato; managed experimental trial setup, data collection, and analysis in collaboration with EpiCrop Technologies (Lincoln, NE). Collected and entered data on yield and performance for 800+ varieties grown in 4 off-station trials.

Fresh Market Tomato Breeding Intern, HM.CLAUSE (2020)

Evaluated and selected tomato hybrid and parent lines in the field for advancement to production. Managed data collection for multiple off-station trials throughout California’s Central Valley.

Vernal Pool Field Technician, Emery Lab, University of Colorado Boulder (2020 – 2021)

Censused plots of *Lasthenia sp.* within Jepson Prairie Preserve to determine evolutionary feedbacks of wildflower dispersal under variable environmental conditions. Planted seeds, identified seedlings, implemented experimental treatments in field settings, recorded data.

Habitat Horticulture Intern, UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden (2019 – 2020)

Led the program-wide iNaturalist campaign for the Spring 2020 quarter of remote instruction; engaged 50+ community members to contribute 33,000+ data points.

Undergraduate Researcher, Sinha Lab, UC Davis Department of Plant Biology (2017 – 2018)

Investigated genetic controls of tomato leaf morphology and subsequent effects on fruit sugar. DNA extraction, PCR, electrophoresis, tissue collection, microscope slide preparation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Los Angeles

- 2026 Teaching Fellow, EEB 187: Advances in Animal Ecology and Evolution
- 2025 Teaching Fellow, EEB 100L: Introduction to Ecology & Behavior Laboratory
- 2025 Teaching Associate, EEB 162: Plant Physiology
- 2025 Teaching Associate, ENV 150: Environmental Journalism, Science Communication, & New Media
- 2024 Teaching Associate, EEB 161: Plant Ecology
- 2024 Teaching Assistant, EEB 100: Introduction to Ecology & Behavior
- 2023 Teaching Assistant, EEB 161: Plant Ecology
- 2023 Teaching Assistant, EEB 100: Introduction to Ecology & Behavior

University of California, Davis

- 2018 Student Teaching Assistant, EDU 198: Foundations for University Success
- 2017 First-Year Aggie Connections Mentor, BIS 5: Exploring Biological Sciences

MENTORING

- Undergraduate Research Mentees (7 students; directed & independent projects) Jan 2023 – Present
Noah Kamps (2025, UCLA), Jalen Austria (2025, UCLA), Genelle Marcelino-Searles (2024-2025 UCLA), Aaron Wu (2024-2025, UCLA), Lily Anderson (2024-2025, UCLA), Maddie McEwen (2023-2024, UCLA), Hannah Gray (2023-2024, UCLA)
- UCLA EEB Graduate Peer Mentorship Program (3 graduate student mentees) Sept 2023 – Present
- Peer Mentor, UC Davis BioLaunch Sept 2018 – June 2020

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL) @ UCLA

- Developing a Teaching-as-Research Project (2026)
- Research as High Impact Practice in STEM Education (2025)
- Advanced Learning Through Evidence-Based STEM Teaching (2025)
- CIRTL Associate Certification (2025)
- Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching (2024)

Research Mentorship Training (Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research (CIMER), UCLA, 2024). Participated in 15 hours of evidence-based training in effective and culturally responsive research mentorship developed by NRMN and CIMER. Enacted a Mentoring Action Plan to enhance mentoring practices and develop a mentoring philosophy.

CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt and Vegetation Sampling (California Native Plant Society, 2022)

California Naturalist Certification (UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Division, 2019)

- Capstone: Lake Tahoe Water Quality Analysis using Snapshot Day Citizen Science Data
- Advisor: Dr. Laci Gerhart-Barley, UC Davis Department of Evolution and Ecology

OUTREACH & SERVICE

- Classroom Scientist Mentor, Planting Science (7 elementary & high school groups) March 2024 – Present
- Contributing Writer & Editor, Envirobites Blog (8-10k readers per month) Dec 2023 – Present
- Monitor, Snowy Plover Conservation Program, Los Angeles Audubon April 2023 – Present
- Exploring Your Universe @ UCLA K-12 Science Fair
 - Event Volunteer Nov 2022, 2025
 - Ecology Booth Coordinator Nov 2023, 2024
- Docent, Jepson Prairie Preserve, Solano Land Trust Nov 2019 – Present

Citizen Science Volunteer Contributor, UC ANR California Naturalist Program
Founder & President, Plant Biology Club at UC Davis
Classroom Science Instructor, SproutUp at UC Davis

March 2019 – Present
Sept 2017 – June 2019
Jan 2018 – May 2018

Reviewer for *Ecology Letters*, *American Journal of Botany*

Member of Ecological Society of America (ESA), California Native Plant Society (CNPS), California Native Grasslands Association (CNGA)