

McKenzi Norris

mckenzi.norris@gmail.com

mckenzi.com

Education

University of South Carolina, 2017 – 2020

Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Science in Public Health, *summa cum laude*

- GPA: 3.982
- Leadership distinctions: Research and Professional & Civic Engagement

Professional Experience

Student Health Services, University of South Carolina

COVID Outbreak Response Worker

July 2020 – Present

- Investigating exposed, suspected, and confirmed COVID-19 cases through contact tracing and phone hotline operations by completing interviews and responding to inquiries while adhering to HIPAA and FERPA regulations.

Laboratory of Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases, University of South Carolina

Research Assistant

September 2018 – December 2020

- Acquired epidemiologic grant- and report-writing experience.
- Supported a state-wide field surveillance of ticks of public health importance in South Carolina involving CDC-recommended trapping and speciation.
- Led a state-wide surveillance study to detect the invasive Asian longhorned tick in veterinary populations for the first time in South Carolina, which received CDC and USDA recognition.
- Supported a regional study to evaluate population genetics and distributions of *Aedes* mosquitoes through CDC-recommended egg trapping.

University Housing, University of South Carolina

Resident Mentor

August 2018 – May 2020

- Provided paraprofessional advising for 40+ undergraduate residents while maintaining FERPA standards.
- Developed and implemented community building programming to improve community building, personal and academic performance, and diversity. Confronted and resolved issues of academic performance, personal development, and roommate conflicts.

- Performed several administrative duties including data analytics, visitor check-ins, front-desk customer service, incident reports, and maintenance requests.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Intern Lab Technician

November 2019 – March 2020

- Learned and performed speciation of mosquitoes while maintaining proper handling and documentation procedures.

Freelance Web Developer

December 2014 – September 2018

- Provided digital solutions by analyzing requirements and designing, developing, and implementing software applications for multiple personal and business websites.
- Used various technologies, including WordPress and Cloudflare, to make repairs and optimize business and personal websites.

Advisement Experience

Adjunct Advisor to the UofSC Association of Public Health Infectious Disease Students,
November 2020 – Present

Activities

American College Health Association, Member, February 2021 – Present

One Health Commission, Member, October 2018 – Present

Society for Vector Ecology, Member, March 2020 – March 2021

Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association, Member, February 2020 – February 2021

UofSC Student Government, Arnold School of Public Health Senator, Health & Safety and Sustainability Committees, March 2020 – November 2020

UofSC Association of Public Health Infectious Disease Students, Co-Founder & President, October 2019 – November 2020

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Member, May 2019 – Present

UofSC Public Health Society, Member, February 2019 – May 2019

UofSC Chabad Student Organization, Vice President, October 2018 – Present

UofSC Patterson Hall Government, President, August 2017 – May 2018

Presentations

An Epidemiological Search for the Asian Longhorned Tick in South Carolina, American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Virtual, Poster Presentation, November 2020.

Engaging Undergraduate Students in Entomological Research, Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association, Greenville, SC, Poster Presentation, February 2020.

An Investigation Into the Distribution of Urban Aedes spp. in the Coastal City of Charleston, SC, Society for Vector Ecology, San Juan, PR, Poster Presentation, September 2019.

Research Funding

May 2020 – December 2020

University of South Carolina, Magellan Scholar Award: “A field epidemiologic investigation to determine at what extent invasive *Haemaphysalis longicornis* ticks pose a risk to dogs and humans in South Carolina” \$2,500

May 2019 – August 2019

University of South Carolina and crowdfunding with Experiment.com: “How do *Aedes* mosquito genetics affect their habitat choice?” \$2,000

Honors & Awards

- **Mu Chapter, Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health**, induction, University of South Carolina, April 2021
- **Magellan Scholar Award**, \$2,500, University of South Carolina, April 2020
- **President’s Award**, University of South Carolina, April 2020
- **Outstanding Senior Award**, University of South Carolina, March 2020