

McKenzi Norris

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mckenzi.com

Education

University of Washington, September 2021 – Present

Seattle, WA

Master of Science in Epidemiology

- Expected graduation: June 2023

University of South Carolina, 2017 – 2020

Columbia, SC

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

- GPA: 3.982/4.0
- Leadership distinctions: Research and Professional & Civic Engagement

Professional Experience

Center for One Health Research, UW

Volunteer Research Assistant

November 2021 – Present

- Supporting the Discovery & Exploration of Emerging Pathogens - Viral Zoonoses (DEEP VZN) project's literature review by tagging and managing citations.

Advanced Technology Lab, Brotman Baty Institute for Precision Medicine

Operations Assistant

September 2021 – Present

- Supporting the logistical and operational efforts of multiple COVID-19 and influenza research studies affiliated with the Seattle Flu Study and the University of Washington.
- Assisting study materials assembly, fulfillment, shipping, participant communications, and analytics.

University Health Services, UofSC

COVID Outbreak Response Worker

July 2020 – July 2021

- Investigated 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.
- Assisted COVID-19 vaccination efforts by providing information about and scheduling vaccine administration for community members.
- Verified student immunization records using multiple electronic health records and data entry while maintaining HIPAA and FERPA compliance.

Laboratory of Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases, UofSC

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, UofSC

Resident Mentor

August 2018 – May 2020

- Provided paraprofessional advising and supported housing policies for 40+ undergraduate residents while maintaining FERPA standards.
- Developed and implemented educational programming to improve community relations, personal and academic performance, and cultural competence.
- Resolved interpersonal conflicts and struggles with personal and academic development.
- Performed several administrative duties including data analytics, 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.

Advisement Experience

Adjunct Advisor to the Association of Public Health Infectious Disease Students, UofSC,

November 2020 – July 2021

Activities

EcoHealth Alliance, Member, June 2021 – Present

International Epidemiological Association, Member, May 2021 – Present

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

One Health Commission, Member, October 2018 – Present

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

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

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

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

Magellan Scholar Award, UofSC: “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

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

Honors & Awards

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