

Megan Elizabeth Jane Lott

megan.lott@uga.edu | meganejlott.weebly.com | github.com/meganejlott

Education

- 2018-2022 PhD, Environmental Health Sciences, University of Georgia
Dissertation: *Toilet Talk: Evaluating Tools of the Trade in Wastewater-Based Epidemiology*
- 2017-2018 MS, Environmental Sciences and Engineering,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Thesis: *Examination of Selective Broth Culture Media for the Detection and Quantification of Vibrio Cholerae in Drinking Water Using an Adapted Compartment Bag Test*
- 2013-2017 BSPH, Environmental Health Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Professional Experience

- 2022-Present Postdoctoral Fellow, Environmental Sciences and Engineering,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Fellowships and Awards

- 2018-2022 University of Georgia Presidential Fellowship
- 2019-2022 NSF-NRT Fellow, Interdisciplinary Disease Ecology Across Scales Program
- 2020 UGA Blue Key National Honor Society
- 2021 George Hugh Boyd Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)
- 2021 Interdisciplinary Disease Ecology Across Scales (IDEAS) Small Grant (\$1,500)
- 2021 UGA Graduate School Summer Research Award (\$1,400)
- 2021 First Place, EHS Student Research Symposium (\$500)
- 2021 UGA Sustainability Grant (\$2,500)
- 2020 UGA Communication of Research and Scholarship Grant (\$1,490)
- 2020 UGA Graduate Student Travel Award (\$2,300)
- 2019 UGA College of Public Health Travel Award (\$500)
- 2019 UGA Graduate School Summer Travel Award (\$1,750)
- 2019 UGA Graduate School Innovative and Interdisciplinary Research Grant (\$2,000)
- 2019 Link Foundation/Smithsonian Institution Graduate Fellowship (\$6,000)
- 2019 UGA College of Public Health Community Mini-Grants (\$1,000)
- 2019 Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2013-2017 Carolina Covenant Scholar: Need-Based Scholarship for Low-Income Students
- 2013-2017 Carolina Firsts: First Generation College Student

Publications

1. **M. Lott**, W. Norfolk, C. Dailey, A. Foley, C. Melendez-Declet, M. Robertson, S. Rathbun, E.K. Lipp. *Direct wastewater extraction as a simple and effective method for SARS-CoV-2 surveillance and COVID-19 community-level monitoring*. FEMS Microbes. 2023.
2. A. Bivins, **M. Lott**, M. Shaffer, X. Wu, D. North, E.K. Lipp, K. Bibby. *Building-level wastewater surveillance using tampon swabs and RT-LAMP for rapid SARS-CoV-2 RNA detection*. Environ. Sci.: Water Res. Technol. 2022.
3. M. Beaudry, J. Frederick, **M. Lott**, W. Norfolk, T. Glenn, E.K. Lipp. *Effectiveness of an Ozone Disinfecting and Sanitizing Cabinet to Decontaminate a Surrogate Virus for SARS-CoV-2 on N-95 Masks*. Pre-Print. medRxiv 2020.

Conference Presentations

1. **M. Lott**, W. Norfolk, C. Dailey, A. Foley, M. Robertson, E.K. Lipp. 2021. *Direct Extraction for SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Surveillance*. Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2: Fall RCN Meeting. Lightning Talk. November 3, 2021.
2. **M. Lott**, W. Norfolk, A. Foley, M. Robertson, E.K. Lipp. 2020. *Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 in Athens, GA*. Georgia Water Resources Conference. Oral Presentation. March 23, 2021.
3. **M. Lott**, M. Wetz, E.K. Lipp. *Bloom or Bust: Influence of Harmful Algal Blooms on Vibrio Ecology in Florida's Estuaries*. Poster. American Society for Microbiology. Chicago, Illinois. Cancelled due to COVID-19.
4. **M. Lott**, K. Weiss, and M.D. Sobsey. *Direct One-Step Culture Detection of Vibrio cholerae in Drinking Water in Low-Resource and Disaster Settings*. Poster at the UNC Water Microbiology Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, May 15, 2017.

Seminar Presentations

- 2021 *From Sea to Sewer: Microbial Monitoring in the Natural and Built Environments*. University of Georgia. Department of Environmental Health Sciences Departmental Seminar. April 23, 2021.
- 2021 *Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 in Athens, GA*. Farmingdale State College. Department of Biology Departmental Seminar. March 30, 2021.
- 2020 *SEC TOWN: Sewage-based Epidemiology in a College Town*. NSF Research Coordination Network: Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2. Seminar Series. November 4, 2020.
- 2019 *Bloom or Bust: Influence of Harmful Algal Blooms on Vibrio Ecology in Florida's Estuaries*. Smithsonian Marine Station. Link Fellow Seminar Series. August 13, 2019.

Guest Lectures

- 2021 *Wastewater-based Epidemiology*. Environmental Microbiology (UGA)
- 2021 *What to do with the Poo?* Introduction to Environmental Health Science (UGA)
- 2020 *Wastewater-based Epidemiology* Public Health Microbiology (UGA)
- 2020 *Wastewater-based Epidemiology*. First Year Odyssey (UGA)
- 2017 *Introduction to Epidemiology*. Microbiology (UNC BIOL 422)

Community Service & Engagement

- 2018-2022 **Georgia Scientific Research and Education Network ([Link](#))**
2019 – 2022 *Chair*
2018 – 2019 *Leadership Team*
- 2018-2020 **Torrance Center at The University of Georgia ([Link](#))**
Instructor
- 2021 **University of Georgia Extension ([Link](#))**
Intern, Well Connected Communities

Academic Service & Engagement

- 2020-2021 UGA College of Public Health's Graduation Education Committee
- 2019-2020 Environmental Health Sciences Graduate Student Association Outreach Chair
- 2019-2020 UGA College of Public Health Course Approval Committee
- 2019-2020 Environmental Health Sciences Graduate Student Association Co-President

Mentorship and Teaching Experience

- 2018-Present **Graduate Student Mentor, University of Georgia**
Mentor for UGA Undergraduate Academic Research (Dpt. Environmental Health Sciences) and for UGA CURO Assistantship
- 2016-2018 **Graduate Student Mentor, Environmental Health Microbiology Laboratory**
Trained seven undergraduate students in environmental microbiology, mentored for UNC Undergraduate Academic Research (Dpt. of Biology, Dpt. of Chemistry), for UNC Honors Research, and for UNC Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
- SS 2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, BIOL 205: Cell and Developmental Biology (UNC)**
Led daily recitations for 30 students on primary literature and research methods
- SP 2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, BIOL 202: Genetics (UNC)** Led four weekly recitations (25 students each) on genetics, molecular methods, and bioethics
- FA 2017 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, BIOL 422: Microbiology (UNC)** Instructed research-based laboratory course in microbiology (16 students), designed and proctored exams