CHRISTOPHER DISTEL

Schreiner University, Kerrville, TX
Cadistel@schreiner.edu
830-792-7470
Research Interest Score = 132.7
Chris Distel
273 citations; h-index = 8
0009-0001-7739-4058

Education

Ph.D.	**Miami University** 2006-2010
M.S.	**Eastern Kentucky University** 2002-2004
B.A.	**Hiram College** 1998-2002

Professional Summary

Professor 2010-present	Schreiner University Biology & Interdisciplinary Studies
Director 2014-present	Schreiner University Field Station
Copy Editor 2020-2022	Statehouse Press
Research Assistant 2006-2010	Miami University Zoology Department
Research Technician 2004-2006	Cleveland Clinic Center for Surgery Research
Herpetological Collections Service Fellow & Field Technician 2002-2004	Eastern Kentucky University Biological Sciences Department

Courses Taught at Schreiner University

Concepts of Biological Science & lab
Organismal Biology & lab
Human Anatomy and Physiology II
Nutrition in the Healthcare System
Practical Research Experience
Examining Research
Writing & Research in Science
Evolutionary Biology
Animal Behavior / Behavioral Biology & lab
Conservation Biology
Ecosystems & Resource Management
Wildlife Management
Herpetology & lab
Mammalogy & lab
Ornithology & lab
Field Ecology & lab
Professional Skills in Biology 1-4
Senior Internship in Biology
Senior Research in Biology
Freshman Seminar
Perspectives in Critical Thinking
The Creative Experience
Problems & Solutions in a Global Society
Recycling Seminar
The Arts and Sciences of Beer

Professional & Research Service

Conservation Committee Chair 2024-present	American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists
Journal Planning Committee 2024-present	Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles
Editorial Board 2022-present	
Co-Editor 2019-2021	*Journal of Herpetology*
Associate Editor 2016-2018	
Board of Directors 2022-present	Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry – South-Central Chapter
Annual Conference Local Host 2024	
Chair of Conservation Ecology 2012-2014, 2016-2019	Texas Academy of Science
Vice-chair, Conservation Ecology 2011-2012, 2014-2016	
Chair of Sciences 2015-2017	
Biology Program Coordinator 2013-2018	Schreiner University
Student Achievement Showcase Coordinator 2012-2021, 2023-present	
Schreiner University Liaison 2011-present	Texas Water Symposium
Natural Areas / Collections Volunteer 2005	Cleveland Museum of Natural History Division of Natural Areas

Formal Committee Service at Schreiner University

Undergraduate Research Committee*
Honors Committee
Promotion & Tenure Committee*
Environmental Stewardship / Campus Infrastructure*
Contract Grievance Committee
Compensation Committee
Assessment Committee
Faculty Search Committees (x16)*
Dean Search Committee*
Academic Planning Committee

**Served as chair*

Research & Professional Application in the Community

Planning Group Member	Kerrville Public Nature Art	2023-present
Advanced Training Instructor	Native Plant Society of Texas Urban Wildlife & Habitat Wkshp Texas Master Naturalists	2023, 2024 2022 2020, 2023, 2024
Planning Group Member	Bird City Texas – Kerrville	2022-present
NEd Talk Series Presenter	Riverside Nature Center	2019-2021
Session Leader	Dynamic Learning Institute	2018, 2019
Program Leader	Hill Country Master Gardeners	2018, 2024
WildTexas Instructor	Wolf Creek Camp	2017-2018
Classroom Guest Speaker	8 different public schools	2008-present
Science Instructor	Homeschool; Hill Country Micro-School	2013-present
Field Test Designer and Judge	Texas Envirothon	2015
Creator & Director	Schreiner Youth Ecologist Program	2011-2015
Guest Speaker	Chevron Retirees Association	2014
Earth Day Speaker	Riverside Nature Center	2012, 2023
Education and Nature Consultant for interpretive signage	Kerrville River Trail	2011-2013

Awards & Honors

Schreiner Faculty Nominee 2013, 2017, 2023	Minnie Stevens Piper Professorship
Elmore Whitehurst Award for Creative Teaching 2018	Schreiner University
Fellow since 2015	Texas Academy of Science
Life Member since 2014	Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society
Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity 2012	Schreiner University

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Distel, C.A. 2024. (Book Review) Salamanders of the Eastern United States. *Reptiles & Amphibians* 31:e22823.

Owsley, C.M., C.E. Neleigh, M.L. Vaughan, J.D. Castiglione, C.A. Distel. 2017. Exotic armored catfish may reduce survival and growth of native amphibians. *BIOS* 88(2):86-91.

Distel, C.A., and M.D. Boone. 2011. Insecticide has asymmetric effects on two tadpole species despite priority effects. *Ecotoxicology* 20(4):875-884.

Distel, C.A., and M.D. Boone. 2011. Pesticide has asymmetric effects on two tadpole species across density gradient. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 30(3):650-658.

Bulen, B.J., and C.A. Distel. 2011. Carbaryl concentration gradients in realistic environments and their influence on our understanding of the tadpole food web. *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 60:343-350.

Schussler, E., F.E. Rowland, C.A. Distel, J.M. Bauman, M.L. Keppler, Y. Kawarasaki, M.R. McCarthy, A.M. Glover, and H.S. Salem. 2011. Promoting the development of graduate student teaching philosophy statements. *Journal of College Science Teaching* 40(3):32-35.

Webber, N.R., M.D. Boone, and C.A. Distel. 2010. Interactions between aquatic and terrestrial exposure to the insecticide carbaryl on American toads. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 29(10):2323-2327.

Distel, C.A., and M.D. Boone. 2010. Effects of aquatic exposure to the insecticide carbaryl are species-specific across life stages and mediated by heterospecific competitors in anurans. *Functional Ecology* 24(6):1342-1352.

Distel, C.A., and M.D. Boone. 2009. Effects of aquatic exposure to the insecticide carbaryl and density on aquatic and terrestrial growth and survival in American toads. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 28(9):1963-1969.

Cohen, P.A., G.K. Koski, B.J. Czerniecki, K.D. Bunting, X.-Y. Fu, Z. Wang, W.-J. Zhang, C.S. Carter, M. Awad, C.A. Distel, H. Nagem, C.C. Paustian, T.D. Johnson, J.F. Tisdale, and S. Shu. 2008. STAT3- and STAT5-dependent pathways competitively regulate the pandifferentiation of CD34(pos) cells into tumor-competent dendritic cells. *Blood* 112:1832-1843.

Distel, C.A. 2005. *Chelydra serpentina serpentina* (Common snapping turtle): Flatulence. *Herpetological Review* 36:310.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

Perry, G., E. Muths, M.L. Crump, C. Distel, R.W. Hansen, M.B. Harvey, J. Rowe, S.C. Walls, S. Woodley. 2020. Increasing Diversity and Inclusivity in Herpetology: Small but Critical Steps from the Editors of Herpetological Journals. *Herpetological Review* 51(4):765-766.

Doan, T.M., P. Bartelt, C. Distel, J. Rowe. 2019. Thanks and Welcome: Another Changing of the Guard. *Journal of Herpetology* 53(1):1-2.

Stevens, F., C. Distel. 2013, March 15. Feral Cats Present Danger to Bird Population. *Kerrville Daily Times.*

Distel, C.A. 2004. Swimming in the Black-crowned Night Heron. *The Ohio Cardinal 28*(1):38-40.

Selected Conference Presentation Venues

Presentations given	
Amer Assoc of Colleges & Universities PKAL STEM Ed	2022
Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists	2009, 2017, 2025
Texas Academy of Science	2012, 2014, 2017
Reacting to the Past Institute	2012
Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry	2008, 2009
Student presentations mentored & coauthored	
Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists	2023-2024
Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry	2021-2024
Texas Academy of Science	2012-2025
Schreiner University Student Achievement Showcase	2012-2024
Non-presenting author	
Texas Association of Allied Health Professionals	2012
Texas Academy of Science	2012

External Grant Procurement & Administration

Program	Role	Year
US Department of Education Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions program STEM Grant	Section Author/ Section Admin	2016-2021
Native Plant Society of Texas Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas Grant	Co-PI	2014
American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Gaige Award	PI	2009
International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Amphibian Specialist Group Seed Grant	PI	2008
Kentucky Society of Natural History	PI	2003

Selected Community Service

Member 2023-present	Texas Public Radio Community Advisory Board
Director 2022-present	Riverside Nature Center Board of Directors
Secretary/Treasurer 2012-2019	Playhouse 2000 Board of Directors
Team Coach 2017-2020	*FIRST* LEGO League
Team Coach 2017, 2018, 2021	American Youth Soccer Organization

Hobbies

Birding

Community Theater (mainly acting, but also backstage and production work)

Hiking

Professional References

Dr. Susan Klinedinst (Direct Supervisor)
Director, Division of Science
Associate Professor of Biology
Schreiner University
slklinedinst@schreiner.edu
830-792-7248

Dr. Ruth Grubesic
Professor of Nursing and Public Health
Schreiner University
rbgrubesic@schreiner.edu
830-792-7250

Dr. Kiley Miller
Professor of Chemistry
Schreiner University
kpmiller@schreiner.edu
830-792-7247

Detailed Professional Experience

Schreiner University Biology Department
Professor of Biology 8/2019-present
Associate Professor of Biology 8/2016-8/2019
Assistant Professor of Biology 8/2010-8/2016

- Taught 20 distinct courses in biology and 6 in interdisciplinary studies
- Developed student research opportunities in the Field Biology Signature Program
- Mentored undergraduate researchers through execution of their own experiments from design to publication
- Chaired Undergraduate Research Committee and coordinated Student Achievement Showcase
- Served as director of the SU field station and Sciences department chair
- Initiated research-designated coursework in the catalog and taught 10 "R" courses

Miami University Zoology Department 8/2006-8/2010
Research Assistant & Teaching Assistant

- Designed and executed experiments on pesticide exposure and ecological competition in aquatic and terrestrial systems in field and in lab studies
- Mentored undergraduate researchers through execution of their own experiments from design to publication
- Sought advanced training in teaching and faculty development
- Instructor of record for Herpetology lab, Environmental Biology, Animal Physiology lab

The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Center for Surgery Research 8/2004-8/2006
Research Technician

- Prepared, conducted, and followed-up surgical experiments on live mice to assess the effects of novel cancer treatments on tumors
- Designed and conducted chemotaxis experiments to determine the abilities of cultured immune cells to respond to tumor cells
- Cultured and fused immune and tumor cells for cancer therapies in mice

Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Division of Natural Areas 1/2005-9/2005
Natural Areas / Collections Volunteer

- Conducted original surveys of mammals and breeding birds on Natural Areas lands
- Prepared study skins of birds and mammals for use in the Museum collection

Eastern Kentucky University, Department of Biological Sciences 6/2002-7/2004
Herpetological Collections Service Fellow, Field Technician, teaching assistant

- Assisted faculty and graduate students in experimental field research and numerical surveys on small and large mammals, reptiles, songbirds, and endangered Running Buffalo Clover
- Organized, cataloged, and maintained herpetofaunal collection, including preserved museum specimens, skeletons, and live reptiles and amphibians
- Instructor of record for Human Physiology lab, Biology for Nonmajors lab