

2019 CCUBC Undergraduate Paper Award

Hannah Brazeau

Algoma University, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

[Examining the link between competition and negative co-occurrence patterns \(PDF\)](#)

[Dr. Jennifer Foote nomination letter of Hannah Brazeau \(PDF\)](#)

[Dr. Brandon Schamp letter of support for Hannah Brazeau \(PDF\)](#)

Hannah Brazeau completed an Honours Bachelor of Science at Algoma University, ON in 2018, where she majored in biology. In 2017, Hannah joined the lab of Dr. Brandon Schamp as a thesis student. Under the supervision of Dr. Schamp, Hannah developed and executed a multi-stage analysis to test whether negative co-occurrence patterns are an indicator of competition among species within a community, which is a question community ecologists have grappled with since the 1970's. Hannah applied this multi-stage analysis to a multi-year plant abundance data set, and found no evidence for a link between competition and co-occurrence. The analytical approach and results were published in the journal *Oikos* in 2019 in the article “**Examining the link between competition and negative co-occurrence patterns.**” Hannah has since joined the lab of Dr. Amy Parachnowitsch at the University of New Brunswick (Fredericton campus) as a Master of Science in Biology student, where she is co-supervised by Dr. Brandon Schamp. She is currently studying how simultaneously flowering species compete for pollination, and how this competition influences the evolution of floral traits.

