

# ANDREA NAFZIGER NORD

Ph.D. Candidate in Ecology

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## EDUCATION

- 2005 – present Ph.D. candidate, Intercollege Degree Program in Ecology.  
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.  
Advisor: Dr. Dave Mortensen.  
Thesis: The influence of habitat on population growth and control of  
Japanese Stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*).  
Expected date of completion: 2010
- 1998 M.S. in Ecology.  
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.  
Advisor: Dr. Larry McCormick, School of Forest Resources.  
Thesis title: Ecological effects of municipal biosolids application in  
reclamation of surface coal mines.
- 1994 B.A. in biology with minor in environmental studies.  
Goshen College, Goshen, IN.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2003-Present Graduate Assistant, Intercollege Degree Program in Ecology. The  
Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. Research focuses on  
habitat interactions, population dynamics, and control of an invasive grass,  
*Microstegium vimineum*, in eastern deciduous forests. Assitantship duties  
involve participating in development and teaching of a graduate-level field  
course in identification of local flora.
- 2002-2003 Interim Assistant Professor of Biology at Goshen College, a small church-  
affiliated 4-year liberal arts college in Goshen, IN. Shared position with  
husband Eric. My half-time work load included responsibility for general  
biology class for non-majors: lectures, labs, and supervision of  
undergraduate teaching assistants. The remainder of my time was spent at  
the college's environmental education center, where my duties primarily  
consisted of curating the herbarium and adding to the collection,  
particularly in the taxonomic groups of Poaceae and fall-blooming  
Asteraceae; also occasionally assisting with environmental education  
programs.

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY cont.**

- 1999-2002 Environment/Natural Resources extension worker. Jointly assigned with husband Eric to the Honduran Mennonite Social Action Commission by the Mennonite Central Committee. We worked with rural mountain communities and served as resource for national co-workers in natural resource management and other environmental issues. The main concern expressed at the village level was watershed protection, which we addressed through meetings, writing, workshops, and community visits. I also wrote a small study guide in Spanish examining Biblical attitudes toward environmental concerns, for use in the context of village meetings.
- 1996-1998 Graduate Assistant, School of Forest Resources, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. I taught a field section of dendrology, a tree identification course for undergraduate forestry and wildlife management students. Occasionally assisted advising professor with ongoing research on weed seed viability.
- 1994-1996 AuSable Institute of Environmental Studies, Mancelona, MI. Teaching intern in environmental education program for elementary students during one semester. The remainder of my time there I served as head cook.
- 1993 Undergraduate teaching assistant for field-based class in general ecology.
- 1992-1993 Undergraduate research assistant for two projects. In 1992 I assisted with data collection in a long-term forest succession study. In 1992-1993 I participated in ongoing work with strains of yeast displaying mutant transport proteins.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Nord, A.N. and E.A. Nord. 2007. "Catch the Vision: God, People, and Creation." We led three sessions during a weekend retreat for the youth of Community Mennonite Church (Harrisonburg, VA), on the theme of Biblical attitudes toward the environment.
- Nord, E.A. and A.N. Nord. 2003. "Lessons from Honduras: Working with natural resource issues at the village level." We provided input and led discussions during a day-long Integrative Session at the Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies, Mancelona, MI.
- Nord, A.N. and L.H. McCormick. 1998. "Ecological Effects of Reclaiming Surface Coal Mines with Municipal Biosolids." Penn State Ecology Program seminar series.
- Nord, A.N. and L.H. McCormick. 1998. "Ecological Effects of Municipal Biosolids Application in Surface Coal Mine Reclamation." Annual meeting of the Council for Research and Reclamation of Disturbed Lands in Pennsylvania.

### **CERTIFICATES**

June 2007 (expected) Penn State Graduate School Teaching Certificate.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

2006 PSU College of Agricultural Sciences Competitive Grant Award.  
1996-1998 Gifford Pinchot Scholarship, Penn State School of Forest Resources.  
1990-1994 Menno Simons Scholarship, Goshen College.  
1992 -1993 Dan & Edith Kauffman Scholarship, Goshen College.

### **OTHER SKILLS**

Competency in use of botanical keys and field identification of vascular plants. Working proficiency in written and conversational Spanish.