

Dawn Wesson

Associate Professor at Tulane University

New Orleans, LA, US

Professor Wesson is a national expert in vector-borne diseases spread by mosquitoes.

Biography

Dawn Wesson's background in medical/molecular entomology and vector biology has led to her role as a principal investigator on many research projects on vector-borne pathogens (particularly dengue, West Nile, and Chagas disease). Her research interests include the ecology of arbovirus transmission, eco-epidemiology of Chagas disease, host-pathogen co-evolution, development of novel vector control strategies and tools, and examining the effects of vector-borne pathogen infection on human pregnancy outcomes. She directs Tulane's Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases Initiative. In addition to her extensive research portfolio, she is an instructor of graduate and undergraduate courses on vector biology and ecology in the Department of Tropical Medicine at Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. She has mentored more than 170 students (BSPH, MSPH and PhD) and post-doctoral researchers.

Areas of Expertise

Mosquito-Borne Viruses, Medical Entomology, Vector Borne Disease, Zika Virus, Chagas Disease, West Nile Virus, Tropical Medicine, Dengue, Chikungunya Virus

Education

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D. Medical Entomology

University of Chicago

M.S. Ecology

North Central College

B.A. Biology and Spanish

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