



Jacob L. Steenwyk

Graduate Student
Evolutionary genomics
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[Personal website](#)

EDUCATION

Present	Graduate Student Biological Sciences Advisor: Antonis Rokas GPA: 3.97	Vanderbilt University
2016	M.S. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Advisor: John G. Gibbons GPA: 3.98	Clark University
2015	B.A. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Advisor: Denis Larochelle Cumulative GPA: 3.84 Science GPA: 3.84	Clark University

AWARDS

2018	<i>GENETICS</i> Peer Review Training Program, Genetics Society of America
2018	Best poster award, Gordon Research Seminar, Holderness, NH
2018	Best poster award, Gordon Research Conference, Holderness, NH
2018	Best poster award, Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University
2018	T-shirt design contest winner, Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University
2017	Graduate student travel grant, Vanderbilt University
2016	Graduate student council travel awards, Clark University
2015	Summa cum laude, Clark University
2014	Summer research scholar, Bridging the gaps, University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine
2013	Global environmental microbiology scholar, Center for dark energy biosphere investigations, University of Southern California
2011	Jonas Clark Scholar, Clark University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- DNA damage and repair
- Gene and genome evolution
- Evolution and function of technologically and medically significant fungi
- Phylogenetics of phylogenomics

PUBLICATIONS

+ represents equal contributors

- Preprint: Mead M.E., S.L. Knowles, H.A. Raja, S. R. Beattie, C.H. Kowalski, **J.L. Steenwyk**, L.P. Silva, J. Chiaratto, L.N.A. Ries, G.G. Goldman, R.A. Cramer, N.H. Oberlies, & A. Rokas (2018). Characterizing the pathogenic, genomic, and chemical traits of *Aspergillus fischeri*, the closest sequenced relative of the major human fungal pathogen *Aspergillus fumigatus*. bioRxiv: doi: 10.1101/430728
- Preprint: **Steenwyk, J.L.**, X.-X. Shen, A.L. Lind, G.G. Goldman, & A. Rokas (2018). A robust phylogenomic timetree for biotechnologically and medically important fungi in the genera *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium*. bioRxiv: doi: 10.1101/370429
- Preprint: Eidem, H.R., **J.L. Steenwyk**, J. Wisecaver, J.A. Capra, P. Abbot, & A. Rokas (2018). integRATE: a desirability-based data integration framework for the prioritization of candidate genes across heterogeneous 'omics and its application to preterm birth. bioRxiv: doi: 10.1101/302612
- Preprint: **Steenwyk, J.**, J. St. Denis, J. Dresch, D. Larochelle, & R. Drewell (2017). Whole genome bisulfite sequencing reveals a sparse, but robust pattern of DNA methylation in the *Dictyostelium discoideum* genome. bioRxiv. doi: 10.1101/166033
- (5) Shen, X.-X.⁺, D.A. Opulente⁺, J. Kominek⁺, X. Zhou⁺, **J.L. Steenwyk**, K.V. Buh, M.A.B. Haase, J.H. Wisecaver, M. Wang, D.T. Doering, J.T. Boudouris, R.M. Schneider, Q.K. Langdon, M. Ohkuma, R. Endoh, M. Takashima, R. Manabe, N. Čadež, D. Libkind, C.A. Rosa, J. DeVirgilio, A.B. Hulfachor, M. Groenewald, C.P. Kurtzman, C.T. Hittinger & A. Rokas (2018). Tempo and mode of genome evolution in the budding yeast subphylum. Cell. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2018.10.023
- (4) Segal, E.S., V. Gritsenko, A. Levitan, B. Yadav, N. Dror, **J.L. Steenwyk**, Y. Silberberg, K. Mielich, A. Rokas, N.A.R. Gow, R. Kunze, R. Sharan, & J. Berman (2018). Gene Essentiality Analyzed by In Vivo Transposon Mutagenesis and Machine Learning in a Stable Haploid Isolate of *Candida albicans*. mBio. doi: 10.1128/mBio.02048-18
- (3) **Steenwyk, J.L.** & A. Rokas (2018). Copy number variation in fungi and its implications for wine yeast genetic diversity and adaptation. Frontiers in Microbiology. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2018.00288
- (2) **Steenwyk, J.** & A. Rokas (2017). Extensive Copy Number Variation in Fermentation-Related Genes among *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Wine Strains. G3: Genes | Genomes | Genetics. doi: 10.1534/g3.117.040105
- (1) **Steenwyk J.L.**, J.S. Soghigian, J.R. Perfect, & J.G. Gibbons (2016). Copy number variation contributes to cryptic genetic variation in outbreak lineages of *Cryptococcus gattii* from the North American Pacific Northwest. BMC Genomics. doi: 10.1186/s12864-016-3044-0

INVITED TALKS

- 2019** The Phylogenomics and Evolution Group of North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC (scheduled)
2015 TedXClarkUniversity, Clark University, Worcester, MA

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

- 2019** Science club at the library, Nashville Public Library, Nashville, TN (scheduled)
2018 Nashville Science Club, Jackalope Brewing Co., Nashville, TN
2017 Mycological Society of America, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA
2016 Mycological Society of America, Univ. of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
2016 Graduate Student Multidisciplinary Conference, Clark University, Worcester, MA

WORKSHOP TEACHING

- 2019** Founder and instructor of ‘A beginners guide to making figures in R’, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (scheduled)
2019 Teaching assistant for the workshop on Phylogenomics, Evolution and Genomics, Český Krumlov, Czech Republic (scheduled)
2018 Image approach, design and processing, ArtLab, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (scheduled)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2018** Cellular and Molecular Fungal Biology, Gordon Research Conference, Holderness, New Hampshire
2018 Cellular and Molecular Fungal Biology, Gordon Research Seminar, Holderness, New Hampshire
2018 Department of Biological Sciences Annual Retreat, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2018 Exploring the intersection between Art and Science, ArtLab, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2015 Bumpus Symposium, Clark University, Worcester, MA
2015 Traina Scholars Presentation, Clark University, Worcester, MA
2015 Summer Research Presentation, Clark University, Worcester, MA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016-Pres.** Antonis Rokas Lab at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
2015-2016 John Gibbons Lab at Clark University, Worcester, MA. Investigation of copy number variation in the human pathogen, *Cryptococcus gattii*.
2015-2016 Robert Drewell Lab at Clark University, Worcester, MA. Investigation of genome-wide methylation patterns in *Dictyostelium discoideum*.
2014 Ite A. Laird-Offringa Lab at University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. Bridging the Gaps Summer Scholar. Project aim was to map the autoimmune triggering epitope of *ELAVL4* in small cell lung cancer.

2013 John Heidelberg and Eric Webb Labs at University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. Global Environmental Microbiology Summer Scholar. Investigation of fresh and marine water microbial diversity.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2017-Pres. Teaching Assistant, Introductory Biology Lab, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2016 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Biostatistics, Clark University, Worcester, MA
2014-2015 Teaching Assistant, Cell Biology, Clark University, Worcester, MA

SERVICE

2018-Pres. Co-chair, MEGAMicrobe, Vanderbilt Institute for Infections, Immunology and Inflammation, Nashville, TN
2018-Pres. Vice President, Graduate Student Association, Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2018-Pres. Member, American Society of Microbiology Tennessee Chapter
2017-Pres. Educational outreach booth design and execution, MEGAMicrobe, Nashville, TN
2017-Pres. Communications chair, Inclusivity in Biological Sciences Association, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2017-Pres. Member of the Dean of Graduate Student's survey quantitative analysis subgroup, Graduate Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2017-Pres. Judge, Middle Tennessee Science and Engineering Fair, Belmont University, Nashville, TN
2017-2018 Secretary, Graduate Student Association, Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
2017-2018 Scientific consultant, Little Harpeth Brewing, Nashville, TN
2017 Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science, Volunteer Science Teacher, West End Middle School, Nashville, TN
2014-2015 Undergraduate Subcommittee for Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Faculty Search Committee, Clark University, Worcester, MA
2014-2015 Science Education Outreach Blogger, C-DEBI Sci-Curious Blog

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

Systematic Biology, Molecular Genetics and Genomics, BMC Genomics, PLoS One, Young Scientists Journal, Scholarly Undergraduate Research Journal