

# Rowan Christie

Former initials S. C.

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*I am an undergraduate student at RIT studying bioinformatics and ecoinformatics. I have learned various skills such as R, python, and ArcGIS during the course of my study. I hope to learn more about interdisciplinary approaches utilizing software tools in my future research.*

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## EDUCATION

BS in Bioinformatics, Rochester Institute of Technology

*expected 2021*

High School Diploma, Academy of Arts and Academics

*2017*

## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

*NTID/RIT RISE fellowship*

*2018 - 2021*

The Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement is a PhD prep program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing undergraduates in science. Two scholars are selected each year to conduct research with a mentor for three years, participate in specialized research courses, and receive professional development training.

*RIT COS HHMI Inclusive Excellence fellowship*

*2018*

The HHMI Inclusive Excellence fellowship is a summer research program which aims to provide students from nontraditional pathways opportunities in STEM research and develop an inclusive environment within this field.

## HONORS & AWARDS

*David M. Baldwin Memorial Scholarship*

*2020*

*Special Interest Housing Community Service Person of the Year Award*

*2019*

*RIT Dean's List Fall 2017-2019, Spring 2018-2019*

*2017 - 2019*

*Joseph C. and Loretta F. Wolf Scholarship*

*2018*

*NTID Presidential Scholarship*

*2018*

*NTID Academic Excellence Scholarship*

*2018*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

*Research Scholar, Rochester NY*

*8/27/2018-present*

*Rochester Institute of Technology Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement*

With Dr. Kaitlin Stack Whitney, I continued my independent research, creating spatial and GIS models focusing on freshwater macroinvertebrates. Additionally, I started a new project with collaborators from Kent State University, focusing on temporal analyses on long term *Ixodes scapularis* (tick) abundance data.

*Research Fellow, Rochester NY*

*5/28/2018-8/3/2018*

*2018 RIT HHMI Inclusive Excellence Summer Research Fellowship Program*

With Dr. Kaitlin Stack Whitney, I developed an independent research project examining how freshwater macroinvertebrates respond to environmental variables in the US using ecoinformatics approaches and R statistical software.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

S. Christie, K. Whitney. Invited panelist for “Working Together: Establishing Productive Training Environments with Hearing Mentors and D/HH Trainees in Science.” Deaf-Engaged Academic Forum (DEAF ROC) at the University of Rochester. Rochester NY, August 2019.

## **CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS**

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Comparing Stability Trends in Long Term Deer Tick Population Datasets.” Poster for Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. Anaheim, CA. November 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.10269734.v2>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Comparing Stability Trends in Long Term Deer Tick Population Datasets.” Poster for 46th Annual Rochester Academy of Sciences Fall Scientific Paper Session. Rochester, NY. November 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.10269734.v2>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “*Ixodes scapularis* (Lyme disease vector) population interannual stability trends in long term datasets”. Poster for Deaf-Engaged Academic Forum (DEAF ROC). Rochester, NY. August 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9461405.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “*Ixodes scapularis* (Lyme disease vector) population interannual stability trends in long term datasets.” Oral presentation for RIT Undergraduate Research Symposium. Rochester, NY. August 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9461453.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Modeling Macroinvertebrate Communities and Ecological Health.”  
Poster for NTID Research Fair. Rochester, NY. April 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8800967.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Modeling Macroinvertebrate Communities and Ecological Health.”  
Oral presentation for Research Spotlights: Health and Life Sciences. Rochester, NY. April 2019.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8637011.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Modeling Macroinvertebrate Communities and Ecological Health.”  
Poster for Entomology Society of America. Vancouver, British Columbia. November 2018.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8812850.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Modeling Macroinvertebrate Communities and Ecological Health.”  
Oral presentation for 45th Annual Rochester Academy of Sciences Fall Scientific Paper Session.  
Geneseo, NY. November 2018.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8812922.v1>

S. Christie, K. Whitney. “Modeling US freshwater macroinvertebrate communities and  
ecological health.” Poster for RIT Undergraduate Research Symposium. Rochester, NY, August  
2018.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8813051.v1>

## **SERVICE**

*Project Manager, RIT House of General Science*

*2018-2019*

Elected project manager of a Special Interest House for RIT dorm students with an interest in any field of science. Managed and guided 7 project teams to present at ImagineRIT and coordinated school outreach events. I also frequently participate in social and community service events.

*Member, RIT Fowl Play*

*2018-2019*

An entertainment troupe dedicated to comedy. I regularly participate in skits and improv games. Performed in 3 shows.

*Tech Head, RIT House of General Science*

*2017*

Elected Tech Head of a Special Interest House for RIT dorm students with an interest in any field of science. Improved the website, set up a server, and maintained the groupchat.

## OUTREACH

*Volunteer, National Chemistry Week at the Rochester Museum and Science Center. October 2019.*

Helped present inorganic metal-based chemistry activities to the public at a chemistry event hosted by the RMSC.

*Volunteer coordinator, House of General Science at K-12 Campus Visits. October 2019.*

Coordinated two activities involving fruit batteries and structures with skewers and clay for groups of elementary and middle school aged kids visiting RIT to learn about science.

*Exhibitor, House of General Science at ImagineRIT. April 2019.*

As the head of the project, created a wooden Rube Goldberg Machine to demonstrate the law of conservation of energy for the annual innovation festival at RIT.

*Volunteer coordinator, House of General Science at STEAM Day at Jefferson Road Elementary School. April 2019*

Coordinated a demonstration creating homemade Lava Lamps to present to elementary-aged kids.

*Exhibitor, House of General Science at ImagineRIT. April 2018.*

Helped create a gloved device that can play different instruments for each finger when tapped on a conductive piece of metal for the annual innovation festival at RIT.

## SKILLS

*Coding languages*

R, python, Java, C++, Javascript

*Relevant coursework*

Bioinformatics (Fall 2019), Evolutionary Biology (Fall 2019), Organic Chemistry 1 (Fall 2019), Advanced GIS (Spring 2019), Genetics (Spring 2019), Intro to GIS (Fall 2018), Cellular and Molecular Biology (Fall 2018), Fundamentals of Bioinformatics (Spring 2017), Introduction to Statistics I (Spring 2018)

## REFERENCES

Dr. Kaitlin Stack Whitney, [kxwsbi@rit.edu](mailto:kxwsbi@rit.edu)

Dr. Karl Korfmacher, [kfkscl@rit.edu](mailto:kfkscl@rit.edu)