Iowa State University



Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology

**of science and technology**

August 11, 2017

Dear Editorial Board,

We present here our original manuscript titled “Comparative genomics of an unusual biogeographic disjunction in the cotton tribe (Gossypieae) yields insights into genomic downsizing” for your consideration.

In the manuscript, we leverage newly generated genome sequences for the sister genera *Kokia* and *Gossypioides* to understand the evolution of two sister genera separated by over 17,000 kilometers of ocean for circa 7 million years. I wish to confirm that all authors have reviewed the manuscript and have approved submission.

We thank you for considering this manuscript and hope you find it suitable for publication in Genome Biology and Evolution. We look forward to the review process.

Sincerely,



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Professor and Chair

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