Training

During the course of this award, I have trained (or am still straining) three (3) PhD students and three (3) post-doctoral fellows, six (6) rotation PhD students, two (2) honors-thesis undergrads, and ~20 undergrad mentees. I work closely with mentees on all aspects of experimental design, data analysis, and writing. Our weekly meetings serve to address progress in these three areas and to work together to think about data and co-write. Graduate students have yearly progress meetings with their committees where formal assessment is given on their progress and plans. Prior to those meetings, fill out an annual self-assessment which we discuss and sign-off on. Post-doctoral mentees are advised on career planning during our weekly meetings and are encouraged to get involved in professional development, including teaching, mentorship, and society work.

Four members of my lab have left, or are in the middle of transitioning. Cory Weller, a former PhD student, is now a post-doc at the NIH; Helen Stone, a former thesis student, is now in a biology PhD program at Yale; Dörthe Becker, a former post-doc and current visiting scientist, returned to the University of Sheffield as a Marie-Curie independent scholar; and Priscilla Erickson will begin a job as an Assistant Professor at the University of Richmond after finishing one more year of post-doctoral research with me (funded through a Jane Coffins Childs Foundation to her).

Professional Development

I also encourage mentees in my lab to pursue training and professional development outside the lab. Members of the lab have become active in the Genetics Society of America and their leadership opportunities for early career scientists. Members of the lab have also had the opportunity to teach (as instructor of record) and to receive advanced training in pedagogical development through the University of Virginia.

Members of the lab have presented at the following conferences in the past year:

• European Society for Evolutionary Biology

• Drosophila meeeting

• Society of the Study of Evolution