Anna C. Nelson

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied dynamical systems, mathematical biology, polymerization, mathematical modeling

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Duke University, Department of Mathematics, Durham, NC

Phillip Griffiths Assistant Research Professor (postdoctoral)	August 2024 – present
William W. Elliott Assistant Research Professor (postdoctoral)	August 2021 – July 2024

EDUCATION

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT — May 2021
Ph.D., Mathematics
Thesis: Kinetic Polymerization Models and the Roles of Fibrinogen in Fibrin Gel Formation
Advisor: Aaron Fogelson

Boise State University, Boise, ID — December 2012
B.S., Applied Mathematics, *Summa Cum Laude*
Minor: Computer Science

PUBLICATIONS

7. A. Kent, K. Leiderman, **A. C. Nelson**, S. S. Sindi, M. M. Stadt, L. Xiong, and Y. Zhang. "Studying the effects of oral contraceptives on coagulation using a mathematical modeling approach." In *Mathematical Modeling for Women's Health: Collaborative Workshop for Women in Mathematical Biology*, pages 83–132. Springer Nature, 2024.

6. **A. C. Nelson**, M. M. Rolls, M. V. Ciocanel, and S. A. McKinley. "Minimal mechanisms of microtubule length regulation in living cells." *Bulletin of Mathematical Biology*, 86(58), 1-33, 2024.

5. **A. C. Nelson** and A. L. Fogelson. "Towards understanding the effect of fibrinogen interactions on fibrin gel structure." *Physical Review E*, 107(2):024415, 2023.

4. A. L. Fogelson, **A. C. Nelson**, C. Zapata-Allegro, and J. P. Keener. "Development of fibrin branch structure before and after gelation." *SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics*, 82(1), 2022.

3. **A. C. Nelson**, M. A. Kelley, L. M. Haynes, and K. Leiderman. "Mathematical models of fibrin polymerization: past, present, and future." *Current Opinion in Biomedical Engineering*, 20 (100350), 2021.

2. **A. C. Nelson**, J. P. Keener, and A. L. Fogelson. "Kinetic model of two-monomer polymerization". *Physical Review E*, 101(2), 2020.

1. J. L. Herlin, **A. C. Nelson** and M. Scheepers. "Using ciliate operations to construct chromosome phylogenies". *Involve*, 9(1), 2016.

PREPRINTS

A. C. Nelson, E. Yao, Y. Zhang, S. Fischer-Holzhausen, C. V. Cook, L. K. Bruce, P. Dutta, S. Gholami, and A. N. Ford Versypt. "Towards Mathematical Modelling of Bone Remodelling in Surgical Menopause." *In preparation*.

FUNDING

Seed Grant, Duke Office for Faculty Advancement — February 2022 – March 2023
$14,000 award for Faculty-Student (FaSt) Math Series to build bridges and community among students and faculty. Grant aims include organizing events and programs such as book clubs, student professional development panels, faculty mentorship training, and invited speakers.

Travel grants

AMS MRC Collaboration Travel Grant — 2024
$800 to travel for Mathematical Research Community collaboration

AWM Travel Grant — 2023
$3500 to attend ICIAM 2023 in Tokyo, JP

AIM SQuaRE Grant — 2024, 2025, 2026
Travel funding for collaboration at Pasadena, CA on "Mathematical modeling and analysis to understand mechanisms of thrombosis and oral contraceptives" for three years

NSF Research Training Grant Fellowships

DMS-2038056 (Training Tomorrow's Workforce in Analysis and Applications)   2021 – 2023
DMS-1148230 (Research Training in Mathematical and Computational Biology)   2014 – 2015

University Teaching Assistantship, Graduate College, University of Utah   2018 – 2019
Co-awarded for the mathematics Graduate Teaching Mentorship (GTM) program.

Travel awards
Duke University Arts & Science Travel Fund   2024
$1000 to attend JMM 2024 in San Francisco CA
AWM/NSF Travel Award   2023
$1500 to attend AWM Research Symposium in Atlanta GA
SIAM Early Career Travel Award   2023
$650 to attend SIAM Dynamical Systems 2023 in Portland, OR
MAA Project NExT Fellow   2021 – 2023
$5000 to attend MAA Mathfest 2022 & 2023 and JMM 2023
SIAM Student Travel Award   Spring, Summer 2020
$650 to attend SIAM Annual 2020 & Life Sciences 2020 (cancelled due to COVID)
University of Utah Graduate School Travel Award   Spring 2020
$500 to attend JMM 2020

AWARDS

Top 5% of Duke University undergraduate instructors, Trinity College   Fall 2023
For at least two of of the following categories: Overall quality of course, overall quality of instructor, intellectual stimulation of course

Lewis Blake Award for Excellence in Teaching, Mathematics, Duke University   2023
Annual postdoctoral award given for excellence in teaching.

BioFire Scholar Award, Mathematics, University of Utah   2020
Annual award to one graduate student in department; includes stipend, tuition, and travel.

AWM Student Chapter Award for Scientific Excellence   2020
One of four national awards given by the Association for Women in Mathematics while as Student Chapter Vice President.

**INVITED &
CONTRIBUTED TALKS**

Building connections and community in mathematics
Math For All Conference in Clemson, SC (**Plenary**)   April 2024

Mathematical models of polymerization processes in physiology
Biomath Seminar, Virginia Commonwealth University   March 2024
Mathematics Colloquium, University of Cincinnati   January 2024
Mathematical Biology Seminar, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*   December 2023
Biomath Seminar Series, NC State University   November 2023
Mathematical Biology Seminar, University of Pennsylvania   October 2023
Mathematical Biology Seminar, Brandeis University*   February 2023
Applied and Computational Mathematics Seminar, Tulane University   November 2022
Applied Math Seminar, Claremont Center for Mathematical Sciences*   October 2022

Modeling mechanisms of microtubule dynamics and polarity in neurons
SIAM Dynamical Systems, Invited Special Session   May 2025
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Invited Special Session   January 2025
SIAM Annual Meeting, Invited Minisymposium   July 2024
Biology and Medicine Through Mathematics, Oral Presentation   May 2024
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Invited Special Session   January 2024
10th ICIAM, Invited Minisymposium   August 2023
MAA MathFest, Invited Paper Session   August 2023
SMB Annual Meeting, Invited Minisymposium   July 2023
SIAM Conference on Applications of Dynamical Systems, Contributed Session   May 2023
AMS Spring Central Sectional Meeting, Invited Special Session   April 2023
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Invited AMS Special Session   January 2023

Towards a model of platelet aggregation and fibrin polymerization
Joint Mathematics Meeting, Invited AMS Special Session   January 2024

	AWM Research Symposium, Invited Special Session	September 2023
	AWM Research Symposium, Invited Special Session	June 2022

Kinetic polymerization models and the roles of fibrinogen in fibrin gel formation
 Applied Mathematics Colloquium, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill April 2024
 Mathematical Biology Seminar, University of California, Davis* October 2021
 Mathematical Biology Seminar, Duke University September 2021
 Mathematical Biology Seminar, U. of British Columbia & U. of Utah* March 2021

Understanding the effects of fibrinogen interactions on fibrin gel structure
 40th SEARCDE Conference, Contributed Session November 2022
 SIAM Conference on the Life Sciences, Special Session July 2022
 SMB Annual Meeting, Invited Minisymposium* June 2021
 SIAM Conference on the Life Sciences, Invited Special Session* June 2020

A kinetic model of two-monomer polymerization
 Joint Mathematics Meeting, AMS-AWM Special Session January 2020
 AMS Fall Western Sectional Meeting, Special Session November 2019
 Boise State University Mathematics REU Program, Boise State University July 2019
  * Remote talk

SELECT POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Triangle Computational and Applied Mathematics Symposium, Durham NC⋆	November 2023
AWM Research Symposium Poster Session, Minneapolis MN	June 2022
AWM Graduate Student Poster Session at JMM (virtual)	January 2021
AWM Graduate Student Workshop at SIAM Annual (virtual)	July 2020
IMA Workshop for Women in Mathematical Biology, Minneapolis MN	May 2018
SACNAS Poster on Graduate Research, Salt Lake City UT	October 2017
Modeling Complex Fluids for Biological Applications, Salt Lake City UT	May 2017
 ⋆ Postdoc poster award winner

INVITED WORKSHOPS

ICERM, Brown University, Providence RI	January 2025
Patterns, Dynamics, and Data in Complex Systems	
National Institute for Theoretical and Mathematical Biology, Chicago IL	November 2024
Random Dynamical Systems with Applications in Biology	
AMS Mathematical Research Community, Java Center NY	June 2023
Complex Social Systems	
Banff International Research Station, Banff AB	March 2023
Sex Differences in Physiology: Mathematical Modelling and Analysis	
Collaborative Workshop for Women in Mathematical Biology, Eden Prairie MN	June 2022
Mathematical Approaches to Support Women's Health,	
IMA Workshop for Women in Mathematical Biology, Minneapolis MN	May 2018

MENTORSHIP

Graduate Research
 Hannah Scanlon, Duke University Spring 2022 – present

Undergraduate Research
 Carson Dudley (undergraduate thesis), Duke University Spring 2022 – Spring 2023
 Maycol Vilchez, University of Utah (with Aaron Fogelson) Spring 2020

Undergraduate Directed Reading Program, University of Utah Spring 2019
 Chase Stolworthy, use machine learning for predictions on voting data in Utah

AWM Undergraduate Mentor 2019 – present
Paired with undergraduate students to meet monthly to discuss semester, future plans, and build community at University of Utah and Duke University.

SPIRE Fellows Postdoctoral Assistant and Faculty Mentor 2021 – 2023
Assisted in organizing monthly events. and running academic support/mentoring system for high achieving undergraduates from historically excluded backgrounds. Taught course titled "Being Human in STEM at Duke", which is a discussion-based course on identity and humanity in STEM.

TEACHING **EXPERIENCE**	**Duke University**	
	MATH 353/753, Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations	Fall 2024
	MATH 353/753, Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations	Spring 2024
	BIO 218/MATH 183, Biological Clocks: How Organisms Keep Time	Fall 2023
	MATH 577, Mathematical Modeling[†]	Spring 2023
	MATH 75, Being Human in STEM for First Year SPIRE Fellows	Spring 2023
	BIO 218/MATH 183, Biological Clocks: How Organisms Keep Time	Fall 2022
	MATH 75, Being Human in STEM for First Year SPIRE Fellows	Spring 2022
	MATH 353/753, Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations	Spring 2022
	MATH 353/753, Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations	Fall 2021

University of Utah

MATH 2250, Differential Equations and Linear Algebra[♯]	Spring 2019
MATH 1030, Intro to Quantitative Reasoning[‡]	Summer 2018
MATH 1220, Calculus II	Spring 2018
MATH 1100, Business Calculus	Fall 2017
MATH 1050, College Algebra[‡]	Summer 2017
MATH 1050, College Algebra	Spring 2017
MATH 1050, College Algebra	Fall 2016
MATH 1030, Intro to Quantitative Reasoning[‡]	Summer 2016
MATH 1030, Intro to Quantitative Reasoning	Spring 2016

† Graduate level course,   ‡ Asynchronous online course,   ♯ >100 students

Project NExT Fellowship   2021 – 2023

Professional development program for early career mathematicians directed towards improving the teaching and learning of mathematics, fostering inclusivity in the mathematics community, and providing early career faculty strategies to engage in research, scholarship, and service opportunities.

Mathematics Instructor Training Facilitator, University of Utah   2017, 2018, 2019

Facilitated annual workshop for new teaching assistants in the mathematics department. Responsibilities include organizing/planning workshops, observing new teachers, and giving lectures on teaching pedagogy.

SERVICE **& OUTREACH**	**Service to the profession:**	
	Secretary, Society for Mathematical Biology	November 2024 – present
	Cell and Developmental Biology Subgroup	
	Co-organizer	
	Special Session, Joint Mathematics Meeting, Seattle WA	January 2025
	"Diversity in Mathematical Biology"	
	Minisymposium, SIAM Annual Meeting, Spokane WA	July 2024
	"Modeling Dynamics in Biological Systems"	
	Minisymposium, AWM Research Symposium, Atlanta GA	September 2023
	"Promoting children's and women's health with mathematical and computational approaches"	
	Minisymposium, 10th ICIAM, Tokyo JP	August 2023
	"Recent Advances in Modeling Complex Systems and Multiscale Problems in Mathematical Biology"	
	Invited Paper Session, MAA MathFest, Tampa FL	August 2023
	"Recent Advances in Mathematical and Computational Biology, Highlighting Contributions from Undergraduate Researchers."	
	Minisymposium, SIAM Life Sciences, Pittsburgh PA	July 2022
	"Mathematical Modeling of Blood Clotting and its Application"	
	Minisymposium, SMB Annual Meeting, Virtual	June 2021
	"Mathematical Modeling of Blood Clotting: From Surface-Mediated Coagulation to Fibrin Polymerization"	
	Judge	
	TriCAMS poster Session, Chapel Hill NC	October 2024
	SIAM Annual AWM Graduate Student Poster Session, Spokane WA	July 2024

JMM Undergraduate Student Poster Session, San Francisco CA	January 2024
MAA MathFest Student Poster Session, Tampa FL	August 2023
SIAM Dynamical Systems Red Sock Poster Session, Portland OR	May 2023
MAA MathFest Student Poster Session, Philadelphia PA	August 2022
JMM Undergraduate Student Poster Session, Denver CO	January 2020

Assistant, AMS Mathematical Research Communities Week 3, Java Center NY — June 2023
  "Complex Social Systems"

Referee, Mathematical Biosciences, Journal of Theoretical Biology, PLOS Computational Biology

Service to the university and department:

Co-organizer, Duke Mathematical Biology Seminar — 2022 – present
  Organization of weekly research seminar for faculty, graduate students and postdocs.

Presenter

Grad-Fac Seminar, Department of Mathematics, Duke University	October 2023
"The mathematics of bell-ringing"	
Grad-Fac Seminar, Department of Mathematics, Duke University	January 2023
"Mathematical modeling of polymerization processes in physiology"	
SPIRE Speaker Series, Duke University	August 2021
"Who can do math?"	
Math Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Utah	October 2020
"Computing in the Natural World: *In vivo* and *in vitro*"	
Math Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Utah	February 2020
"The mathematics of bell-ringing"	
CSME Exchange, University of Utah	November 2018
"Teacher Training & Community Building: From Graduate Student to Colleague"	
(joint with Kelly MacArthur, Rebecca Terry)	
Undergraduate Math Colloquium, University of Utah	April 2018
"On the rheology of cats: Are cats fluids?"	
Math Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Utah	November 2017
"On the rheology of cats: Are cats fluids?"	
Math Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Utah	September 2015
"Computing in the Natural World: *In vivo* and *in vitro*"	

Organizer, Biofluids research seminar — 2020 – 2021
  Organization of weekly research seminar for faculty, graduate students and postdocs.
  Department of Mathematics, University of Utah

Service to promote diversity, equity, and inclusivity:

Committee member, Mathematics DEI Team, Duke University — August 2022 – May 2024

Panelist, GROW (Graduate Research Opportunities for Women), Duke University — October 2022
  "From day 1 to PhD"

Panelist, Society for Women in Mathematics (SWiM), Colorado School of Mines — October 2020
  "Graduate school panel" (virtual)

Co-organizer, Faculty-Student Weekly Tea, FaSt Grant — February 2022 – December 2023
  Department of Mathematics, Duke University

Co-organizer, Faculty-Student Math Book Club — February 2022 – May 2023
  Department of Mathematics, Duke University

Co-chair, AWM Speaker series committee, Mathematics, University of Utah — 2020 – 2021
  Invite and host mathematicians from underrepresented groups to give talks and network with department.

Vice President, AWM Student Chapter, University of Utah — 2019 – 2020
  Organize monthly student events for undergraduates and graduate students, organize outreach events on and off campus, and meet with job candidates.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Co-organizer, Duke Math Circles, Durham NC — August 2023 – present
  Manage volunteers and activities for Duke Math Circles program

Volunteer, Duke Math Circles, Durham NC — August 2022 – April 2024
  Provide exploratory instruction for K-6 students at Central Park School for Children

Presenter, Girls Exploring Math, Duke University — June 2023
  "Math: We R_0 afraid to use it!"

Volunteer, Defining Your Path – Field Trip Program, University of Utah February 2020
Judge, State of Utah Sterling Scholar Award, Mathematics, Salt Lake City UT January 2020
Panelist, Clayton Middle School – Career Fair, Salt Lake City UT January 2020
Presenter, Science Day at the U., University of Utah November 2019
    "Computing in Nature: Using DNA to solve math problems"
Presenter, Girls Full STEAM Ahead Camp, Leonardo Museum, Salt Lake City UT July 2016
    "Math: We R_0 afraid to use it!"

WORK EXPERIENCE

Bioinformatics Summer Intern May 2019 – August 2019
Sera Prognostics, Salt Lake City, UT
    Developed R scripts to remove batch and technical effects in proteomic data to aid in preterm birth prediction.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Mathematical Society
Association for Women in Mathematics
Mathematical Association of America
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Society of Mathematical Biology