Bennett A. McIntosh

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July 31, 2025

PhD Candidate • History of Science, Medicine, and Technology
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI
Graduate Affiliate, Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies
Dissertation: *Genetic Associations: A Data-Centric History of the Social Genome, 1990–present*

Education

2022 **M.A. • History of Science, Medicine, and Technology**
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI
Thesis: *Abstraction, Data-Centric Biology, and Social Science after the Genome*

2017 **M.S. • Science Writing**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
Thesis: *SuperAgers: Do octogenarians with exceptional memory hold the key to healthy aging?*

2016 **B.A. • Chemistry** • *magna cum laude*
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
Thesis: *Negative Selection with a de novo Library of Amphiphilic Peptides from Unevolved Sequence Space*

Professional Experience

2022–2023 **Editorial Assistant**
Social Studies of Science, Madison, WI

2016–2022 **Freelance Science Reporter & Editor**
Harvard Magazine; *NOVAnext; Oceanus*; *Princeton Alumni Weekly*; *Science for the People Magazine*; *Tenderly*

2018–2020 **Science Communications Consultant**
Hertz Foundation; National High Magnetic Field Laboratory; Princeton University; University of Georgia

2017–2018 **Communications Officer**
The Fannie & John Hertz Foundation, Livermore, CA

Publications

Peer-Reviewed

2017 Al-Garawi, Z. S., B. A. McIntosh, D. Neill-Hall, A. A. Hatimy, S. M. Sweet, M. C. Bagley, and L. C. Serpell. **"The Amyloid Architecture Provides a Scaffold for Enzyme-like Catalysts."** *Nanoscale* 9, no. 30 (2017): 10773–83. doi.org/10.1039/C7NR02675G

Not Peer-Reviewed

2025 McIntosh, B. A. **Review of Conley, D. *The Social Genome: The New Science of Nature and Nurture*.** June 2025, H-Sci-Med-Tech

2024 McIntosh, B. A. **Review of Hoeyer, K. *Data Paradoxes: The Politics of Intensified Data Sourcing in Contemporary Healthcare*.** March 2024, H-Sci-Med-Tech.

Manuscripts

In preparation McIntosh, B. A., K. Ichikawa, N. Nelson. **"Adversarial reanalysis and the challenge of open data in regulatory science."** Preprint: osf.io/preprints/metaarxiv/jfbr8_v1

Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

2025 **"Seeing like a meta-analysis: A data-driven history of GWAS consortia"**
International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology meeting, Porto, PT.
Co-organizer with Kathryne Metcalf of panel "'Population' Revisited: Histories of an Idea in Human Genetics"

"**Reducing or Reproducing: Precisely how are social categories geneticized?**"
European Social Science Genomics Network Conference, Bristol, UK

"**Precisely how are social categories geneticized?"**
The Advances in Social Genomics Conference, Madison, WI

2024 **"Managing Data, Managing Controversy: Data sharing in social genomics"**
European Association for the Study of Science and Technology/Society for Social Studies of Science, Amsterdam, NL

"Biobanks for Social Science? Data- and values-sharing between biobanks and social genomics"
BIO-CONTEXT workshop: "Data flows? Making and Sharing Data in Biomedical Research: Between Local and Cross-Border Practices," Athens, GR

2022 **"Abstraction, Data-Based Biology, and Social Science after the Genome"**
Midwest Junto for the History of Science, Ames, IA (Junto cancelled due to Covid)

2014 **"Exploring the conformational space of a new domain in EcoR124I's translocation-restriction subunit"** (with P. Grinkevich, A.R. Li, R. Ettrich)
Summer School in Molecular Biophysics and Systems Biology, Nové Hrady, CZ

Teaching

† *Online asynchronous* * *Undergraduate introductory*

Instructor of Record • University of Wisconsin–Madison

2024 **Bees, Trees, Germs, and Genes: A History of Biology**†*

Graduate Teaching Assistant • University of Wisconsin–Madison

2024, 2021 **The Digital Age*** (with Devin B. Kennedy)

2023 **Biology and Society, 1950–present*** (with Nicole C. Nelson)

2022 **The Making of Modern Science*** (with Devin B. Kennedy)

Grants & Awards

2025 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation

Summer Scholar Award, Holtz Center for Science & Technology Studies, UW–Madison

John A. Neu Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, UW–Madison

2020 Top-up Award, Holtz Center for Science & Technology Studies, UW–Madison

2016 Fulbright Award (Host Institution: Lund University, Lund, SE); Declined

High Meadows Research and Communications Fellowship (Host Institution: Climate Central, Princeton, NJ); Declined

Professional Service

Peer Review

Nature Human Behavior; *Social Studies of Science*

Other Service

2024 Graduate Advisory Committee for faculty search, UW–Madison History Dept.

2020–2021 Publisher, *Science for the People Magazine*

Professional Affiliations

International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology
Society for the Social Studies of Science
History of Science Society

Professional Development & Non-Degree Coursework

2021 **The Discussion Project** • Discussion-based pedagogy workshop, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, UW–Madison

Qualitative Research Methods: Analyzing Data • Online course, MITx

Qualitative Research Methods: Conversational Interviewing • Online course, MITx

2019 **Risk, Fortune, and Futurity** • Graduate seminar with William Deringer & Caley Horan, MIT, Cambridge, MA

2018 **Societal and Political Implications of Technology** • Graduate seminar with M. Roe Smith, MIT, Cambridge, MA

Journalism & Public Writing

2022 *Princeton Alumni Weekly*: "Blending Neuroscience and Psychiatry"

2020 *Harvard Magazine*: "Butterfly Wings in a New Light" • "Coastal Banks Shed Risky Mortgages—Putting the Financial System at Risk" • "Cornering COVID-19" • "Ghost Stories for the Apocalypse" • "An Interstellar Ribbon of Clouds in the Sun's Backyard"

Princeton Alumni Weekly: "The Link Between Nature and Nurture in Teen Smoking" • "Physics Professor and Colleagues Develop New Respirator for COVID" • "Q&A: Laura Kahn on COVID's Spread and How We Defeat It" • "Scientists Consider Parallels in Climate, Conservation, and COVID-19" • "Small Ways to Keep COVID at Bay" • "Weather Cycles Boost Wind Farms"

Tenderly Magazine: "Don't let COVID-Induced Racism Protect American Animal Cruelty"

2019 Goodman, Daniel. *Find Your Path: Unconventional Lessons from 36 Leading Scientists and Engineers*, MIT Press (as contributing editor)

Harvard Magazine: "Are Super Responders Special?" • "Cities Too Smart for Their Own Good?" • "A Crossroads in Biomedicine?" • "Gene Editing and Ethics" • "The Lost History of Iberia" • "The Science of Sex" (Profile of historian Sarah Richardson) • "Speciation is More Complicated than Darwin Could Have Imagined" • "There's (Still) No Gay Gene"

Princeton Alumni Weekly: "Bias, Quantified" • "Designs for an Uncertain Future" • "How Facts Are Distorted" • "Janet Vertesi on Fair Necessities" • "Troubling Online Shopping Habits? Vendors' Practices Might Be to Blame"

Science for the People Magazine: "Red Wine, a Fraying Order, and the Science Journalism We Need"

2018 *Harvard Magazine*: "Genetics and the Human Revolution"

Princeton Alumni Weekly: "Looking at the Sun" • "Making Smart Machines Fair" (Profile of computer scientist Olga Russakovsky) • "A Species in the Making"

2017 *NOVA Next:* "Common House Dust Could Contain Cancer-Causing Molecules"

Oceanus: "How do Fish Find Their Way?"

Princeton Alumni Weekly: "Domestic Dogs' Affability May Be Thanks to a Genetic Boost"

2016 *NOVA Next*: "Ancient Cultural Exchanges May Have Driven Modern Human Behaviors" • "Emergency Response, Courtesy of Twitter" • "'Superaging': How Some 80-Year-Olds' Memories Are as Sharp as 20-Year-Olds'"