

Bennett A. McIntosh

University of Wisconsin–Madison • Department of History
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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*

Other 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 **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Not Peer-Reviewed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. **Review of Conley, D. *The Social Genome: The New Science of Nature and Nurture***. June 2025, H-Sci-Med-Tech
- 2024 McIntosh, B. **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., 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 Hradý, 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)

Awards & Honors

- 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 *Tenderly Magazine*: “Don’t let COVID-Induced Racism Protect American Animal Cruelty”
- 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”
- 2019 Goodman, Daniel. *Find Your Path: Unconventional Lessons from 36 Leading Scientists and Engineers*, MIT Press (as researcher & contributing editor)
- Science for the People Magazine*: “Red Wine, a Fraying Order, and the Science Journalism We Need”
- 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”
- 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’”