

Christopher D McFarland

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Education

Ph.D. Biophysics	Harvard University	2014
<i>The role of deleterious passenger mutations in cancer</i> , Advisor: Dr. Leonid A Mirny		
B.S. Physics & B.S. Biochemistry	University of Rochester	2008
<i>Magna cum laude</i>		

Research Experience

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY	2014 – 2020
Developed a DNA barcode and CRISPR-based method to investigating the fitness landscape and growth heterogeneity of lung adenocarcinoma in vivo with Dr. Dmitri A. Petrov and Dr. Monte M. Winslow	
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF BIOPHYSICS	2008 – 2014
Identified passenger mutations as deleterious to cancer cells and a barrier to carcinogenesis using evolutionary theory, genomic analyses, and experimental validation, advised by Dr. Leonid A. Mirny	
UC SAN DIEGO, CENTER FOR THEORETICAL BIOLOGICAL PHYSICS	2007
Studied hydrogen-bonding in proteins using molecular dynamics with Dr. José Onuchic	
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOPHYSICS	2006 – 2008
Determined the cytosolic regions of STE2 in yeast with Dr. Mark E. Dumont	
WADSWORTH CENTER, MOLECULAR GENETICS	2002 – 2004
Identified the binding partners of STP3 in yeast with Dr. Randall Morse	

Awarded Grants

R01, NCI	2022
PI , Tumor-barcoding coupled with high-throughput sequencing for quantitative radiogenomics of the abscopal response in NSCLC, \$1,396,660 (CA271540)	
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center: Pilot Grant	2021
PI , <i>Cancer evolution under androgen receptor inverse agonist</i> , \$80,000	
K99/R00, NCI: PATHWAY TO INDEPENDENCE	2018
PI , <i>Quantifying the sources and dynamics of tumor growth variability using Tuba-seq</i> , \$985,260 (CA226506)	
VELOSANO, CLEVELAND CLINIC: RACING FOR THE CURE	2018
Co-Investigator (PI: Omar Mian, MD, PhD), <i>Establishing the function of key differentially-expressed genes in small-cell carcinoma of the bladder</i> , \$100,000	
R01, NCI: TRANSLATIONAL CLINICAL IGR	2016
Co-author (PI: Monte Winslow), <i>A quantitative multiplexed platform for the pharmacogenomic analysis of lung cancer</i> , \$554,000 (CA207133)	
U54, NCI PS-OC: YOUNG-INVESTIGATORS AWARD	2013

PI, *Direct visualization of the role of horizontal gene transfer in the evolution of drug resistance in cancer*, \$15,000 (CA143874)

U54, NCI PS-OC: TRANS-NETWORK GRANT 2011
Co-Author (PI: Leonid Mirny), *Genotypic determinants of metastatic fitness: a delicate balance of passenger and driver mutations*, \$400,000 (CA143874)

Teaching Experience

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY 2016
Mentored Mahi Elango on using machine learning to understand drug vulnerabilities of the Cell Line Encyclopedia, which was an Intel ISEF 2016 Regional Finalist

MASSACHUSETTES INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, PRIMES PROGRAM 2011 – 2012
Mentored [Dash Elhauge](#) and Michael Zhang, high school students who investigated: *The role cell fusion in cancer development*

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY 2010
Teaching Assistant for both undergraduate- and graduate-level Statistical Thermodynamics, Instructor: [Dr. Eugene Shakhnovich](#)

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR TALENTED YOUTH 2008
Teaching Assistant for Nuclear Science (Instructor: [Dr. Yuliya Kuznetsova](#)) and Fast-Paced High School Physics (Instructor: [Dr. William M. Kallfelz](#))

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY 2008
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Biochemistry, Instructor: [Dr. Terry Platt](#)

Scholarships & Awards

Scholarship to Physicists working on Cancer, Weizmann Institute of Science 2018

CSBS Postdoctoral Fellowship, Stanford University 2015

CEHG Postdoctoral Fellowship, Stanford University 2014

Scholarship to Emergent Order in Biology, IAS, Cargèse, France 2012

Best Poster Award, NCI Physical Sciences in Oncology Investigator's Meeting 2011

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Rochester 2008

Martin Tiernan Scholarship, University of Rochester 2005

Invited Talks

Grand Rounds, University of Cincinnati 2024

Department of Genetics, University of Georgia 2023

Max Planck for Evolutionary Biology, Plön Germany 2020

Integrative Genetics and Genomics Graduate Group, UC Davis 2019

Center for Theoretical Evolutionary Genomics Seminar, UC Berkeley 2018

Molecular Biology & Genetics Seminar, Johns Hopkins University
THOR Seminar, Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve

2018
2017

Patents

Winslow, MM; Petrov, DA; **McFarland CD**; Rogers ZN; Winters IP. 2017. *Compositions and Methods for Multiplexed Quantitative Analysis of Cell Lineages*. US Patent Application 62481067, filed April 2017. Patent Pending.

Other

[Verified Referee](#) for *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, *PLoS Computational Biology*, *PLoS One*, *Genome Biology*, *Genome Biology & Evolution*, *Cancer Research*, *Physical Biology*, *Journal of Theoretical Biology* & *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*

Guest editor for *Frontiers in Genetics* Structural Biology of Genetic Mutations

Developed and maintain several software packages:

[fast_prng](#) – Fastest exponential & normal pseudorandom number generator in C
[tuba-seq](#) – Processing & interpretation of ultra-deep DNA barcode sequencing

Publications

- J Maltas, DS Tadele, A Durmaz, **CD McFarland**, M Hinczewski, JG Scott. (2024) Frequency-dependent ecological interactions increase the prevalence, and shape the distribution, of pre-existing drug resistance. *PRX Life*, [In Press](#).
- J Sax, **CD McFarland**, B Carroll. (2024) Limitations of the Commercially Available Gene Expression Test in Predicting Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma Metastasis and Clinical Outcomes. *J Am Acad Derm*, [10:1016](#).
- Y Wang, A Khalil, A Kamar, M Du, T Dinh, **CD McFarland**, Zhenghe Wang. (2023) Unveiling immune checkpoint regulation: exploring the power of in vivo CRISPR screenings in cancer immunotherapy. *Front in Genetics*, [14:1304425](#).
- T Dinh, M Rahm, Z Wang, **CD McFarland**, Athar Khalil. (2023) Exploring the molecular landscape of NNK-induced transformation: A comprehensive genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 screening. *Genes & Diseases*, [11:101131](#).
- J Tian, **CD McFarland**, J Woodard. (2023) Structural understanding of the functional consequences of missense mutation. *Front in Genetics*, [14:1325326](#).
- S Tilk, S Tkachenko, C Curtis, DA Petrov, **CD McFarland**. (2022) Most cancers carry a substantial deleterious load due to Hill-Robertson interference. *eLife*, [67790](#).
- C Li, WY Lin, H Rizvi, H Cai, **CD McFarland**, ZN Rogers, M Yousefi, IP Winters, CM Rudin, DA Petrov, MM Winslow. (2021) Quantitative in vivo analyses reveal a complex pharmacogenomic landscape in lung adenocarcinoma. *Cancer Res*, [8:5472](#).
- H Cai, SK Chew, C Li, MK Tsai, L Andrejka, CW Murray, NW Hughes, EG Shuldiner, EL Ashkin, R Tang, KL Hung, LC Chen, SC Lee, M Yousefi, WY Lin, CA Kunder, L Cong, **CD McFarland**, DA Petrov, C Swanton, MM Winslow. (2021) A Functional Taxonomy of Tumor Suppression in Oncogenic KRAS-Driven Lung Cancer. *Cancer Discov*, [20:1325](#).

- ZN Rogers*, **CD McFarland***, IP Winters, JA Seoane, JJ Brady, S Yoon, C Curtis, DA Petrov, MM Winslow. (2018) Mapping the in vivo fitness landscape of lung adenocarcinoma tumor suppression in mice. *Nat Genetics*, [50:483-6](#).
- IP Winters, SH Chiou, NK Paulk, **CD McFarland**, PV Lalgudi, RK Ma, L Lisowski, AJ Connolly, DA Petrov, MA Kay, MM Winslow. (2017) Multiplexed in vivo homology-directed repair and tumor barcoding enables parallel quantification of Kras variant oncogenicity. *Nat Commun*, [8:2053-69](#).
- ZN Rogers*, **CD McFarland***, IP Winters*, S Naranjo, CH Chuang, DA Petrov, MM Winslow. (2017) A quantitative and multiplexed approach to uncover the fitness landscape of tumor suppression in vivo. *Nat Methods*, [14:737-42](#).
"Research Highlight" at *Nat Rev Genetics*, [18:456](#).
- CD McFarland***, JA Yaglom*, JW Wojtkowiak*, JG Scott, DL Morse, MY Sherman, LA Mirny. (2017) The damaging effect of passenger mutations on cancer progression. *Cancer Res*, [77:4763-72](#).
- BM Grüner, CJ Schulze, D Yang, D Ogasawara, MM Dix, ZN Rogers, C Chuang, **CD McFarland**, S Chiou, JM Brown, BF Cravatt, M Bogyo, MM Winslow. (2016) An in vivo multiplexed small-molecule screening platform. *Nat Methods*, [13:883-9](#).
- CD McFarland**. (2015) A modified ziggurat algorithm for generating exponentially and normally distributed pseudorandom numbers. *J Statist Comput Simulations*, [86:1281-94](#).
- CD McFarland**, LA Mirny, KS Korolev. (2014) A tug-of-war between driver and passenger mutations in cancer and other adaptive processes. *PNAS*, [111:15138-43](#).
"Editor's Choice" at *Science*, [306:597](#).
- JA Yaglom, **CD McFarland**, LA Mirny, MY Sherman. (2014) Oncogene-triggered suppression of DNA repair leads to DNA instability in cancer. *Oncotarget*, [5:8367-78](#).
- CD McFarland**, KS Korolev, GV Kryukov, SR Sunyaev, LA Mirny (2013). Impact of deleterious passenger mutations on cancer progression. *PNAS*, [110:2910-2915](#).
"Research Highlight" at *Nat Rev Cancer*, [13:219](#).

*Contributed Equally