

# Chase M Clark

📍 University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Pharmacy

🌐 chasemc    🐦 ChasingMicrobes    ✉ chasingmicrobes@gmail.com    in hirechase    🏠 chasemc.github.io

---

## Education

2015-2020	<b>PhD Pharmacognosy</b> Chicago, IL	University of Illinois Chicago
2008-2012	<b>BS Biochemistry</b> Mount Berry, GA	Berry College
2010	<b>Principia Consortium Study Abroad</b> Glasgow, Glasgow	University of Glasgow

## Employment (Only relevant positions listed)

Jun 2021 - present	<b>Computation and Informatics in Biology and Medicine (CIBM) Postdoctoral Fellow</b> Remote, Chicago, IL	UW-Madison
Sep 2020 - present	<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b> Remote, Chicago, IL	University of Wisconsin-Madison
May 2019 - Aug 2020	<b>NIH F31 Fellow</b> Chicago, IL, US	University of Illinois at Chicago
Aug 2015 - Aug 2020	<b>Ph.D. Student</b> Chicago, IL, US <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Natural product drug discovery, specifically bacterial-derived antibiotics</li><li>• Conceived, learned to code, and built a bioinformatics program (R Shiny app) for rapid bacterial metabolomics analyses</li><li>• Isolated and cultured 1000's of bacterial isolates and performed natural product isolation and structure elucidation</li></ul>	University of Illinois at Chicago
Mar 2013 - Aug 2015	<b>Research and Development Technician</b> Kennesaw, GA, US <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Head of method development and identification of raw materials to meet CFR 21, FDA requirements.</li><li>• Assisted in the design and results analysis of three clinical studies</li><li>• Presented monthly projects to CEO, VP Sales and VP Science &amp; Technology</li><li>• Developed identifications for over 140 materials, from enzymes and botanicals to minerals, additives, and probiotics.</li><li>• Overhauled the Method Development Department establishing inter-departmental responsibilities, improving and creating new SOPs, streamlining identification requests by establishing a formal request process and interactive database</li><li>• Strengthened and created new relationships with third-party vendors, labs, and universities.</li><li>• Controlled budget of method development for purchase of standards, consumables, equipment and third-party testing.</li><li>• Mentored interns from Kennesaw Mountain High School magnet program</li></ul>	Deerland Probiotics & Enzymes
Aug 2008 - May 2012	<b>Bonner Scholar</b> Rome, GA, US <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Four-year community service scholarship requiring weekly and summer commitments.</li></ul>	Bonner Foundation

## Select Funding/Awards

2021-present	<b>Computation and Informatics in Biology and Medicine (CIBM) Training Program (T32)</b> \$100,000.00
2020	<b>St. Jude National Graduate Student Symposium (cancelled due to Covid19)</b> One of 40 participants selected from 1,000 invite-only applications
2019-2020	<b>NIH Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (F31)</b> \$90,000.00
2018	<b>R/Pharma, Travel Award</b> \$500
2017	<b>W.E. van Doren Scholar</b> \$1,000
2017	<b>American Society of Pharmacognosy Student Travel Award</b> \$600
2017	<b>University of Illinois at Chicago Provost/Deiss Award</b> \$2,500
2008-2012	<b>Bonner Scholar</b> Scholarship for students with financial need "in exchange for weekly commitment to intensive and meaningful service with a local community organization over the four years"
2008-2012	<b>Academic Scholarship</b>
2011	<b>McCaleb, Hubert Scholarship</b>
2011	<b>Frank Plummer Scholarship</b>
2010	<b>Griggs Academic Scholarship</b>
2009	<b>John R. Bertrand Scholarship</b>
2008	<b>Sierra Club College Scholarship</b>
2008	<b>Cherokee Area Eagle Scout of the Year Scholarship</b>

## Publications

- Clark, C. M., & Kwan, J. C. (2024). Creating and leveraging bespoke large-scale knowledge graphs for comparative genomics and multi-omics drug discovery with SocialGene. *Citations*: 0. 10.1101/2024.08.16.608329
- Mullowney, M. W., ..., Clark, C. M., ..., & Medema, M. H. (2023). Artificial intelligence for natural product drug discovery. *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*. *Citations*: 0. 10.1038/s41573-023-00774-7
- Waterworth, S. C., Rees, E. R., Clark, C. M., Carlson, S., Miller, I. J., Puglisi, M., & Kwan, J. C. (2023). Elevated expression of srp RiPPs across bacterial phyla in marine sponges. *Citations*: 0. 10.1101/2023.06.09.544420
- Rees, E. R., Uppal, S., Clark, C. M., Lail, A. J., Waterworth, S. C., Roesemann, S. D., Wolf, K. A., & Kwan, J. C. (2023). Autometa 2: A versatile tool for recovering genomes from highly-complex metagenomic communities. *Citations*: 0. 10.1101/2023.09.01.555939
- Clark, C. M., Hernandez, A., Mullowney, M. W., Fitz-Henley, J., Li, E., Romanowski, S. B., Pronzato, R., Manconi, R., Sanchez, L. M., & Murphy, B. T. (2022). Relationship between bacterial phylotype and specialized metabolite production in the culturable microbiome of two freshwater sponges. *ISME Communications*. *Citations*: 6. 10.1038/s43705-022-00105-8
- Clark, C. M., Nguyen, L., Pham, V. C., Sanchez, L. M., & Murphy, B. T. (2022). Automated microbial library generation using the bioinformatics platform IDBac. *Molecules*. *Citations*: 3. 10.3390/molecules27072038
- Leao, T. F., Clark, C. M., Bauermeister, A., Elijah, E. O., Gentry, E. C., Husband, M., Oliveira, M. F., Bandeira, N., Wang, M., & Dorrestein, P. C. (2021). Quick-start infrastructure for untargeted metabolomics analysis in GNPS. *Nature Metabolism*. *Citations*: 16. 10.1038/s42255-021-00429-0
- Elfeki, M., Mantri, S., Clark, C. M., Green, S. J., Ziemert, N., & Murphy, B. T. (2021). Evaluating the distribution of bacterial natural product biosynthetic genes across lake huron sediment. *ACS Chemical Biology*. *Citations*: 5. 10.1021/acscchembio.1c00653
- Clark, C. M., Murphy, B. T., & Sanchez, L. M. (2020). A call to action: The need for standardization in developing open-source mass spectrometry-based methods for microbial subspecies discrimination. *mSystems*. *Citations*: 2. 10.1128/msystems.00813-19

10. Clark, C. M., Costa, M. S., Conley, E., Li, E., Sanchez, L. M., & Murphy, B. T. (2019). Using the open-source MALDI TOF-MS IDBac pipeline for analysis of microbial protein and specialized metabolite data. *Journal of Visualized Experiments*. Citations: 7. 10.3791/59219
11. Braesel, J., Clark, C. M., Kunstman, K. J., Green, S. J., Maienschein-Cline, M., Murphy, B. T., & Eustáquio, A. S. (2019). Genome sequence of marine-derived streptomyces sp. Strain F001, a producer of akashin a and diaza-quinomycins. *Microbiology Resource Announcements*. Citations: 2. 10.1128/mra.00165-19
12. Costa, M. S., Clark, C. M., Ómarsdóttir, S., Sanchez, L. M., & Murphy, B. T. (2019). Minimizing taxonomic and natural product redundancy in microbial libraries using MALDI-TOF MS and the bioinformatics pipeline IDBac. *Journal of Natural Products*. Citations: 17. 10.1021/acs.jnatprod.9b00168
13. Clark, C. M., Costa, M. S., Sanchez, L. M., & Murphy, B. T. (2018). Coupling MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry protein and specialized metabolite analyses to rapidly discriminate bacterial function. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Citations: 69. 10.1073/pnas.1801247115

## Talks

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Mar 2024 | <b>A Multi-Repository Scale Genomic and Chemical Search Engine to Enable the Discovery, Production, and Function of Natural Products (selected GRS talk)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon Research Conference on Marine Natural Products</li> </ul> |
| Mar 2024 | <b>A Multi-Repository Scale Genomic and Chemical Search Engine to Enable the Discovery, Production, and Function of Natural Products</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) on Marine Natural Products</li> </ul>                  |
| Sep 2023 | <b>How to Write Reproducible Code for Data Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicago R User Group</li> </ul>  |
| Aug 2023 | <b>Reproducibly Building and Analyzing Knowledge Graphs for Drug Discovery with Nextflow, Neo4j and Python</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicago Python User Group</li> </ul>   |
| Mar 2023 | <b>SocialGene: Large Scale Knowledge Graphs for Microbial Based Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computation and Informatics in Biology and Medicine Seminars</li> </ul>  |
| Jan 2023 | <b>Information-Rich Platforms for Natural Product Antibiotic Drug Discovery and Microbial Characterization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northeastern University Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology</li> </ul>                                |
| Jan 2023 | <b>SocialGene: A Large Scale Search Engine to Find Metagenomic BGCs in Free-Living Organisms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2023 ASP Younger Members Symposium</li> </ul>  |
| Jun 2022 | <b>Large Scale Analysis of Protein Homology for Microbial Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Library of Medicine (NLM) T15 Training Conference</li> </ul>  |
| Mar 2022 | <b>Towards Near-Instant, Repository-Scale Searching for Homologous BGCs with Socialgene (Selected alternate speaker, didn't present)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon Research Conference on Marine Natural Products</li> </ul>                     |
| Nov 2021 | <b>New Computational Tools for Top-Down and Bottom-Up Natural Product Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computation &amp; Informatics in Biology &amp; Medicine Seminars BMI 915</li> </ul>  |
| Jun 2020 | <b>IDBac: Bioinformatics Software for Microbial Drug Discovery Prioritization and Culturomics Characterization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Jude National Graduate Student Symposium (cancelled due to Covid19)</li> </ul>                         |
| May 2020 | <b>Protein MS isn't the only MS... Programming in R for Metabolomics Mass Spectrometry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May Institute 2020: Future developers meeting</li> </ul>   |
| Feb 2020 | <b>IDBac: Bioinformatics Software for Microbial Drug Discovery Prioritization and Culturomics Characterization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gordon Research Conference on Marine Natural Products</li> </ul>   |

- Feb 2020 **IDBac: Bioinformatics Software for Microbial Drug Discovery Prioritization and Culturomics Characterization (selected GRS talk)**
- Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) on Marine Natural Products
- Aug 2019 **Your Missing Step in Reproducible R Programming: Continuous Deployment**
- R/Pharma, Harvard University
- Apr 2019 **Bioinformatics in R**
- satRdays Chicago
- Jan 2019 **Single Function Lightning Talks: “lengths(), not length()”**
- Chicago R User Group
- Aug 2018 **IDBac: A New Paradigm in Developing Microbial Libraries for Drug Discovery**
- R/Pharma, Harvard University
- Jan 2018 **IDBac: A Shiny App to Analyze Bacterial Fingerprints and Aid in the Discovery of Potential New Antibiotics**
- Chicago R User Group
- Mar 2017 **IDBac: A Proteomic & Chemometric Pipeline for Rapid Bacterial Characterization**
- Center for Biomolecular Sciences, UIC
- Nov 2016 **Rational Design of Bacterial Strain Libraries for Drug Discovery**
- UIC Specialized Metabolite Community
- Jul 2016 **Use of MALDI-MS to Create ‘Smart’ Libraries for Drug-Lead Discovery**
- Chicago Mass Spec Day
- Apr 2015 **HPLC-DAD Method for Trace Detection of Benzoic and Sorbic Acids in High Protein Matrices**
- SSAOAC Annual Meeting

### Conference Posters (only primary author and personally presented)

- Jul 2023 **Socialgene Knowledge Graphs Facilitate Real Time Exploration of Chemical, Genetic, and Phylogenetic Space Across Hundreds of Thousands of Genomes**
- American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting
- Jul 2022 **Large Scale Analysis of Protein Homology for Microbial Drug Discovery**
- American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting
- Jun 2022 **Large Scale Analysis of Protein Homology for Microbial Drug Discovery**
- Computation and Informatics in Biology and Medicine Retreat
- Mar 2022 **Towards Near-Instant, Repository-Scale Searching for Homologous BGCs with Socialgene**
- GRC Marine Natural Products
  - GRS Marine Natural Products (pre-GRC)
- Mar 2020 **IDBac: Bioinformatics Software for Microbial Drug Discovery Prioritization and Culturomics Characterization**
- GRC Marine Natural Products
  - GRS Marine Natural Products (pre-GRC)
- Jul 2019 **Using IDBac to Investigate the Microbial and Natural Product Potential of Freshwater Sponges**
- American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting
- Jan 2018 **IDBac as a Tool to Evaluate Environmental Bacterial Collections in a Single Week**
- American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting

Jul 2017	<b>Use of MALDI-TOF MS to Generate Low Redundancy Taxonomic and Specialized Metabolite Libraries from Freshwater Sponge Microbiomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting</li></ul>
Jul 2017	<b>MALDI-TOF MS to Innovate Microbial Library Generation in Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chicago Mass Spec Day, UIC</li></ul>
May 2017	<b>MALDI-TOF MS to Innovate Microbial Library Generation in Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MBRB Research Day, UIC</li></ul>
Feb 2017	<b>MALDI-TOF MS to Innovate Microbial Library Generation in Drug Discovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>UIC College of Pharmacy Research Day</li></ul>
Nov 2016	<b>Innovating Microbial Libraries for Drug Discovery Using MALDI-TOF-MS and the Cultivable Freshwater Sponge Microbiome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>UIC College of Pharmacy Research Day</li></ul>

## In Progress

IDBacDB Manuscript	<b>Web resource for sharing and searching FAIR MALDI-MS microbial spectra</b>
SocialGene Manuscript	<b>Repository-scale analyses of protein, genome, and chemical similarity</b>
clusterrule Manuscript	<b>Multinational collaboration to create a standardized collection of NP HMM models</b>
Metagenomics Review Manuscript	<b>Review on genome resolved metagenomics for natural product discovery</b>
Transcriptomics	<b>Mapping transcriptional regulation in Actinobacteria</b>
Metagenomics	<b>Improving multisample, genome resolved metagenomics</b>

## Select Individual Software Projects

2021-2023	<b>SocialGene</b> Repository-scale genomic graph database	Python, Django, Nextflow, Rust, High-throughput computing
2019	<b>electricShine</b> Shiny packaging with Electron	R, Javascript, Node/Electron
2019	<b>mzEasy</b> Shiny app for converting and visualizing mass spectrometry data	R, Shiny
2019	<b>mzPlotter</b> Automated summary of LC-MS/MS data with interactive Rmarkdown reports	R, Rmarkdown
2019	<b>mzFromImage</b> Predict a mass spectrum's values from a static image file	R, Shiny
2019	<b>mgfparse</b> Low-dependency R package for quickly and efficiently parsing mgf files into R	R
2016-2023	<b>IDBac</b> MALDI protein and small molecule bioinformatics platform	R, Shiny, Node/Electron

## Select Team Software Projects

2024-present	<b>code4np.github.io</b> Co-creator of and contributor to a blog on computational pharmacognosy	R, Python, Quarto
2021	<b>metaBenchmarks</b> Benchmark metagenomic profiling/binning software	Nextflow
2020-2023	<b>Autometa</b> Automated binning pipeline for single metagenomes	Python, Nextflow

## Workshops (host)

- Jul 2022      **ASP Annual Meeting (Co-host)**
- Hands-On training of IDBac, an informatics tool for strain prioritization
- May 2019      **Department of Pharmacognosy**
- IDBac tutorial

## Workshops (participant)

- Sep 2021      **Artificial Intelligence for Natural Product Drug Discovery (Invitation-Only; Lorentz Center)**
- Aug 2019      **Integration of Metabolomics and Genomics (University of Chicago)**
- Dec 2016      **PATRIC/RAST Workshop (Argonne National Laboratory)**

## Teaching

### Invited Guest Lectures

- Spring 2022      **PSCI 522 Advanced Pharmacognosy (two lectures)**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

## Peer Review

- Journal of Natural Products
- CRC press
- rOpenSci
- Microbiology Spectrum

## Memberships/Professional Affiliations

- American Society of Pharmacognosy
  - Chicago R User Group
  - Chicago Python User group
- 

## References

Dr. Brian Murphy  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
btmurphy@uic.edu  
312-413-9057

Dr. Laura Sanchez  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
lmsanche@ucsc.edu  
831-459-4676

Dr. Mingxun Wang  
University of California, Riverside  
mingxun.wang@ucr.edu  
951-827-5639

Dr. Jason Kwan  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
jason.kwan@wisc.edu  
608-262-3829