

# Chung-Wing Ko

845-505-5273 | [chungwingko@utexas.edu](mailto:chungwingko@utexas.edu) | 1502 Hunter Ace Way, Cedar Park TX 78613

## EDUCATION

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### University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

Bachelor of Science in Biology Honors. GPA: 3.81

Aug. 2017 – Dec. 2020

Certificate in Environment and Sustainability

- Thesis: Plant thermosensors in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Advised by Prof. Sibum Sung

### Land Use and Sustainability Issues in Costa Rica

Costa Rica

Maymester Study Abroad Program with UT Austin

May 2019 – Jun. 2019

- Discussed the implications of globalization and ecotourism on local sustainability initiatives.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

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### Undergraduate Research Assistant

Sep. 2018 – Present

*UT Austin, under Dr. Sibum Sung*

*Austin, TX*

- Wrote literature review on thermosensors in *Arabidopsis*.
- Prepared for senior thesis using immunoprecipitation and cell transformation to study the genetic pathway of temperature regulation within *Arabidopsis*.
- Performed plant DNA genotyping, cell transformation, media prep, and other laboratory duties.

### Research Volunteer

Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2019

*UTEX Culture Collection of Algae, under Dr. Schonna Manning*

*Austin, TX*

- Infused algal solutions with CO<sub>2</sub> to study the effect of acidification on freshwater algae.
- Studied quorum sensing and metabolite identification using mass spectrometry and Metlin.

### Teaching Assistant/Peer Mentor

Jan. 2018 – Aug. 2019

*UT Austin Biodiversity FRI Stream, under Dr. Susan Cameron Devitt*

*Austin, TX*

- Analyzed DNA of red invasive fire ants, studying the effect of a fungal pathogen on colony size.
- Performed species surveys over two field stations to compile species lists for future research.

## WORK AND LEADERSHIP

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### Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for Climate Change Skepticism

Aug. 2020 – Present

*UT Austin, under Dr. Mary Poteet*

*Austin, TX*

- Assisted in teaching a course about climate science, skepticism, and policy.
- Dedicated 10 hours a week to leading small group discussions/activities and grading assignments.

### Student Organization President

Aug. 2019 – Present

*Taiwanese American Students Association*

*Austin, TX*

- Directed a university-wide event showcasing Taiwanese culture featuring free food and performances.
- Coordinated working with performers, food vendors, businesses, financial sponsors, and volunteers.
- Led the officer board in providing enjoyable social activities and promoting Taiwanese culture.

### Nonprofit Volunteer

May 2020 – Aug. 2020

*Rainforest Partnership*

*Austin, TX*

- Organized World Rainforest Day. Dedicated 90 hours to reaching out to partners, creating social media content, and writing email templates and blog posts.
- Started a new youth-led initiative called Gen Z for the Trees. Conducted research to educate our growing base of supporters and led the team in formulating both short-term and long-term goals and agendas.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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### Dean's Honors Program | UT Austin, College of Natural Sciences

Aug. 2018 – Present

- A four-year honors program limited to 1.5% of undergraduates in the UT College of Natural Sciences.
- Took honors courses and wrote an undergraduate thesis focusing on plant thermomorphogenesis.

### Texas Excellence in Jobs and Service (TEJAS) Award

Aug. 2018 – May 2019

- Work-study award designed to supplement research and mentoring hours in the lab.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- “The effect of acidification on density and competition of freshwater algae.” *Bridging Disciplines Program Virtual Poster Session*. Apr. 2020.
- “Instant messaging: experiments in algae quorum sensing.” *Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium*. Sep. 2019.
- “The effect of acidification on density and competition of freshwater algae.” *College of Natural Sciences Undergraduate Research Forum*. Apr. 2019.
- “Microalgae diversity at two UT field stations, Brackenridge Field Laboratory and Stengl Lost Pines Biological Station.” *Capital of Texas Undergraduate Research Conference*. Nov. 2018.
- “Microalgae diversity at two UT field stations, Brackenridge Field Laboratory and Stengl Lost Pines Biological Station.” *Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium*. Sep. 2018.

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Mandarin Chinese (conversational)

**Technical Skills:** R Studio, Word, Excel