

# Christopher J. Fiscus, PhD

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## Education

**Ph.D. Genetics, Genomics and Bioinformatics**, University of California, Riverside 2022  
Dissertation: *Causes and consequences of plant genome evolution*  
Advisor: Dr. Daniel Koenig

**B.S. Biotechnology**, University of California, Davis 2015

## Professional Experience

**Postdoctoral Scholar**, University of California, Irvine 2022 - Present  
Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Advisor: Dr. Brandon Gaut

**Graduate Student Researcher**, University of California, Riverside 2016 - 2022  
Dept of Botany and Plant Sciences  
Advisor: Dr. Daniel Koenig

**Quality Control Laboratory Technician**, Charles Krug Winery 2015 - 2016

**Harvest Laboratory Technician**, Charles Krug Winery (via Apex Life Sciences) 2015

**Undergraduate Researcher**, University of California, Davis 2014  
Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Ross-Ibarra

**Undergraduate Intern**, University of California, Davis Spring 2012  
Advisor: Dr. Kent J. Bradford

## Teaching Experience

**Guest Lecturer**, University of California, Riverside Winter 2020  
BIOL 119. Introduction to Genomics and Bioinformatics.  
Lecture: Genomics, Phenotype and Disease.

**Teaching Assistant**, University of California, Riverside Winter 2019, 2020, 2021  
BIOL 119. Introduction to Genomics and Bioinformatics  
BIOL 102. Introductory Genetics Winter 2018

**Community Education Instructor**, Modesto Junior College Summer 2013 - 2014  
Science Camp

**Community Education Assistant Instructor**, Modesto Junior College Summer 2012 - 2014  
Introductory LEGO Mindstorms NXT Robotics  
Advanced LEGO Mindstorms NXT Robotics Summer 2013 - 2014  
Video Game Programming for Kids Summer 2014

## Publications 0000-0001-9569-1809

### Preprints

**Fiscus CJ**, Herniter IA, Tchamba M, Paliwal R, Muñoz-Amatriaín M, Roberts PA, Abberton M, Alaba O, Close TJ, Oyatomi O, Koenig D. The pattern of genetic variability in a core collection of 2,021 cowpea accessions. *bioRxiv*. 2023. p. 2023.12.21.572659. doi:10.1101/2023.12.21.572659

Landis JB, Guercio AM, Brown KE, **Fiscus CJ**, Morrell PL, Koenig D. Natural selection drives emergent genetic homogeneity in a century-scale experiment with barley. *bioRxiv*. 2023. p. 2023.09.22.557807. doi:10.1101/2023.09.22.557807

### In press

Martinez SE, Conn CE, Guercio AM, Sepulveda C, **Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D, Shabek N, Nelson DC. A KARRIKIN INSENSITIVE2 paralog in lettuce mediates highly sensitive germination responses to karrikinolide. *Plant Physiol*. 2022. doi:10.1093/plphys/kiac328

## Selected Presentations

**Fiscus CJ**, Landis JB, Morales-Cruz A, Gaut BS. Disentangling the evolution of grape crop wild relatives. Talk. Southern California Plant Biology Symposium. Riverside, CA, USA

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. The genetic control of rapid genome content divergence in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Poster. SMBE 2023. Ferrara, Italy

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. The genetic control of rapid genome content divergence in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Talk. SMBEeverywhere GS7. Online

**Fiscus CJ**. Causes and consequences of plant genome evolution. Seminar. January 2023. Friends of Evolution Seminar Series, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology UC Irvine. Irvine, CA, USA

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. The genetic control of rapid genome content divergence in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Poster. PEQG2022. Pacific Grove, CA, USA

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. A catalog of genome content variation in *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Poster. TAGC 2020 Online. Online. doi: 10.6084/m9.figshare.12148632.v1

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. A K-mer based approach to characterize the dark matter of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome. Poster. Southern California Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics Meeting 2019. Irvine, CA, USA

**Fiscus CJ**, Koenig D. A K-mer based approach to characterize the dark matter of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome. Poster. SMBE 2019. Manchester, UK

## Awards and Fellowships

UCR Graduate Student Association Conference Travel Grant- \$400	2022
Earle C. Anthony Graduate Student Travel Award (UCR)-\$1000	2020
UCR Graduate Student Association Conference Travel Grant- \$900	2019
Best Student Appetizer, UCR Botany and Plant Sciences Holiday Party	2017, 2018, 2019
Dean's Distinguished Fellowship (UCR)- \$210,938	2016 - 2021

## Outreach

Scientist Mentor, PlantingScience	2017 - 2020
Volunteer, UC Riverside Plant Discovery Day	April 2019
Master Plant Science Team, PlantingScience	2017 - 2018
Guest Speaker, James C. Enochs High School Forensics/Biotechnology Career Pathway Program	March 2017

## Service

Organizer, Southern California Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics Meeting (SCaE)	2023
President, GGB Graduate Student Association (UCR)	2019 - 2020
Secretary, GGB Graduate Student Association (UCR)	2017 - 2018

## Professional Affiliations

Genetics Society of America	2020 - Present
Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution	2017 - Present

## Mentoring

Livia Nguyen, UCR undergraduate	2020
Caitlin Santos, UCR undergraduate	2019 - 2021
Johnny Nguyen-Tran, UCR undergraduate	2019
Chris Roland Valdez, NSF-CEPCEB REU Program in Next Generation Plant Biology	Summer 2018
Selena Burke, NSF-CEPCEB REU Program in Next Generation Plant Biology	Summer 2017