

Christopher J. Fiscus

Graduate Student Researcher
Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Genetics, Genomics and Bioinformatics

University of California, Riverside, expected 2021

B.S. Biotechnology

University of California, Davis, June 2015

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Riverside, 9/2016-present

Investigating genetics, genomics and evolution of the Poaceae and Brassicaceae.

PI: Dr. Daniel Koenig, Department of Botany & Plant Sciences

Undergraduate Researcher, University of California, Davis, 1/2014- 10/2014

Investigated evidence of centromere drive from next-generation sequence data in maize.

PI: Dr. Jeffrey Ross-Ibarra, Department of Plant Sciences

Undergraduate Intern, University of California, Davis, 4/2012- 6/2012

Investigated genetic and environmental interactions affecting seed dormancy in lettuce.

PI: Dr. Kent J. Bradford, Department of Plant Sciences

EMPLOYMENT

Quality Control Laboratory Technician, Charles Krug Winery, 12/2015- 8/2016

Performed laboratory analyses of finished wine to ensure that legal and product quality specifications are met.

Harvest Laboratory Technician, Charles Krug Winery (via Apex Life Sciences), 8/2015- 11/2015

Supported winemaking operations by performing quantitative physical, chemical, and microbiological analyses of berries, musts, and wines.

Tutor, One-on-One Tutoring and Educational Mapping, 9/2014- 6/2015

Assisted students in grades 9-12 with academic coursework in science and mathematics.

Student Assistant, Ross-Ibarra Laboratory, University of California, Davis, 10/2012- 9/2013

Assisted with laboratory and greenhouse experiments in support of faculty-sponsored research projects.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside, 1/2018- 3/2018

BIOL 102: Introductory Genetics

Community Education Instructor, Modesto Junior College, 6/2013, 6/2014

Science Camp

Community Education Assistant Instructor, Modesto Junior College, 2012-2014

Introductory LEGO Mindstorms NXT Robotics, 6-7/2012, 6-7/2013, 6-7/2014

Advanced LEGO Mindstorms NXT Robotics, 6/2013, 7/2014

Video Game Programming for Kids, 7/2014

CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS (+ denotes presenter)

Landis JB+, Guercio AM, Fiscus CJ, Koenig D. Phenotypic variation and genetic control of long-term success in a near century long study of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Botany Conference 2018

Landis JB+, Fiscus CJ, Guercio AM, Koenig D. Elucidating the genetic control of long-term success in a near century long study of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Evolution Conference 2017

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Dean's Distinguished Fellowship (UCR), 2016-2021

California Highway Patrol 11-99 Foundation Scholarship, 2011-2015

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution, 2017-present

Botanical Society of America, 2017-present

OUTREACH

National History Day Judge, Riverside Unified School District, 1/2018

Master Plant Science Team, PlantingScience, 2017-2018

Guest Speaker, James C. Enochs High School Forensics/Biotechnology Career Pathway Program, 3/2017

Design/ Core Values Judge, FIRST LEGO League, 2010-2014

MENTORING

Chris Valdez, NSF-CEPCEB REU Program in Next Generation Plant Biology, 6-8/2018

Selena Burke, NSF-CEPCEB REU Program in Next Generation Plant Biology, 6-8/2017

SERVICE

Secretary, GGB Graduate Student Association (UCR), 2017-2018