

# Daniella F. Lato

HBSc, PhD Candidate

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## EDUCATION

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*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON*

**Doctor of Philosophy Candidate in Bioinformatics**

Sep 2015 - Present

Supervisors: Professor G. Brian Golding

Thesis Title: Spatial Patterns of Molecular Trends in Bacterial Genomes

**Honours Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Biology**

Sep 2011 - Apr 2015

Supervisors: Professor G. Brian Golding

Honours Thesis Title: Substitution Rates in Relation to Position on the Replicons of *Sinorhizobium*

## RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE

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**PhD in Bioinformatics and Molecular Genetics**

Sep 2015 - Present

*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON*

- Development and innovative application of advanced R and Python algorithms, analysis pipelines and other computational techniques to research phenomenon in molecular evolution and genomics.
- Familiarization with bioinformatics tools and experimental design related to data visualization, statistics, large-scale genomic data analysis, genetics, sequence annotation, molecular evolution, gene expression, and genome assembly.
- Create detailed documentation on operating procedures for computational pipelines.
- Considerable training in implementing Bayesian methods in high performance computing and programming (Unix/Linux), data visualization, statistical analysis, big data storage, and software tool development (Bio-Conductor libraries) and version control (Git).
- Independently designed and implemented experimental tools for bio-statistical testing and analytical processes using R, Python, and Perl, resulting in three first author papers [1, 2, 3].
- Collaborated with students, professors and other academics from the Anthropology, Health Sciences, Mathematics, and Statistics departments to complete complex problems related to molecular genetics, infectious disease, and ancient DNA in a timely and reliable manner.
- Managed undergraduate student research projects by providing vision, critical thinking, and direction regarding experimental design, research, and task distribution resulting in a successful projects.
- Concisely communicated scientific research to field specific, public audiences, and funding agencies of up to 230 people at 4 international conferences, culminating in overwhelming positive oral and poster presentation feedback.
- Awarded National and local funding for research by editing and writing grants outlining the proposed and completed research on bacterial genomic evolution.
- Generated progress reports for funding agencies tracking research projects, cost and inventory of research materials, and summary of the investigation, resulting in renewal of grants.

**Department of Biology**

May - Aug 2014

*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON*

- Comprehensive training in bioinformatic software and high performance computing such as Python, R, and Unix command line.
- Conducted computational research on the molecular evolution of mutations in the bacteria *Sinorhizobium* using sequence analysis and phylogenetics.
- Presented research, methods, and results to 250 people at a Biology Symposium at McMaster University,

**Surgical Oncology**

May - Aug 2013

*University of Toronto, Toronto, ON*

- Completed extensive clinical/health data and literature reviews in the surgical oncology field.

## SickKids

May - Aug 2012

*Motherisk, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON*

- Acquisition and analysis of clinical/health administrative data from Primary Care Electronic Medical Record, datasets, and surveys to determine the impacts of maternal genetic testing and adverse infant effects resulting in a second author publication [4].

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] Lato, D. F. and Golding, G. B. (2020a). Genomic Inversions and Their Impact on *Escherichia coli* Gene Expression. *In Prep: Genome Biol Evol.*
- [2] Lato, D. F. and Golding, G. B. (2020b). Spatial patterns of gene expression in bacterial genomes. *J Mol Evol*, 88:510–520.
- [3] Lato, D. F. and Golding, G. B. (2020c). The Location of Substitutions and Bacterial Genome Arrangements. *Recently Submitted: Genome Biol Evol.*
- [4] Moretti, M. E., Lato, D. F., Berger, H., Koren, G., Ito, S., and Ungar, W. J. (2017). A cost-effectiveness analysis of maternal CYP2D6 genetic testing to guide treatment for postpartum pain and avert infant adverse events. *Pharmacogenomics J.*

## CODING AND HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

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R	Git/GitHub	Perl
R-shiny	Unix/Linux	tcsh
Python	Bio-Conductor	bash
BioPython	L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X	zcsch

## TEACHING

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<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Department of Biology, McMaster University</i> Introduction to Bioinformatics	Sep 2015-Present
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Department of Biology, McMaster University</i> Genetics	Sep 2015-Present
<b>Guest Lecture</b> <i>McMaster University, Hamilton</i> Molecular Evolution	Mar 2018
<b>Workshop Leader</b> <i>McMaster University, Hamilton</i> <b>High School Plant Molecular Biology Lab Workshop</b> Department of Biology	Mar 2017 Mar 2017
<b>Software Carpentry Leader</b> Command line, Git, and R	Mar 2017
<b>Education Employee</b> <i>Education, Toronto Zoo, Scarborough</i> Conservation Biology and Ecology	Jun 2015 - Aug 2015
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Department of Mathematics and Statistics, McMaster University</i> Differential Equations	May 2014 - Aug 2014

## CONFERENCES/PANEL DISCUSSIONS

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<b>Poster Presentation</b> <i>Mutation Rate Evolution</i> Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Conference	Manchester, UK 2019
<b>Oral Presentation</b> <i>Evolutionary Biology / Molecular Evolution</i> Ontario Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution Colloquium	Hamilton, ON 2019
<b>Oral Presentation</b> <i>Evolution and Comparative Genomics COSI</i> Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology Conference	Chicago, IL 2018
<b>Panellist</b> <i>EngSci Girl</i> Women In Science and Engineering (WISE), McMaster University	Hamilton, ON 2018

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>Dr. Edna Guest Award for Graduating Athlete of the Year</b> <i>Annual Athletic Awards, McMaster University</i> \$1,000 CAD	2020
<b>McMaster Marauder Athlete Scholar</b> <i>McMaster University Department of Athletics</i>	2012 - 2020
<b>All Canadian Award for Outstanding Average While on a Competitive University Sports Team</b> <i>Canadian University Synchronized Swimming League (CUSSL)</i>	2012 - 2020
<b>Therese Quigley Award of Excellence for Graduate Student Leadership in Athletics</b> <i>Graduate Student Recognition Awards, McMaster University</i> \$200CAD	2018 - 2019
<b>Biology Travel Scholarship</b> <i>Department of Biology, McMaster University</i> \$500 CAD	2018-2019
<b>GSA Travel Assistance Award</b> <i>School of Graduate Studies, McMaster University</i> \$500 CAD	2019
<b>Monica Scarabello Memorial Bursary</b> <i>McMaster University</i> \$500 CAD	2016 - 2018
<b>Evolution and Comparative Genomics Subsidy</b> <i>International Society for Computational Biology</i> \$475 USD	2018
<b>RTO/ERO Scholarship</b> <i>Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO)</i> \$1,500 CAD	2017
<b>Robert John Morris Graduate Studies Bursary</b> <i>McMaster University</i> \$1,500 CAD	2016
<b>McMaster Synchronized Swimming Club VIP</b> <i>McMaster University</i>	2016
<b>Dean's Honor List</b> <i>McMaster University</i>	2012 - 2015
<b>Dr. Joachim Sparkuhl Undergraduate Research Award in Genomics, Genetics and Other Biological Sciences</b> <i>McMaster University</i> \$7,680 CAD	2014

## SELECT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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### Let's Talk Science

Sep 2017 - Present

*McMaster University, Hamilton*

Educate students aged 4-18 in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by delivering interactive experiments and activities accessibly to the Hamilton youth.

### McMaster Synchronized Swimming Varsity Team

Sep 2014 - Apr 2020

*McMaster University, Hamilton*

#### Novice Program Coach

Sep 2019 - Apr 2020

Assist swimmers in establishing individual goals, prepare them for competition and foster a positive environment by developing and facilitating practice plans, workouts and comprehensive competition packages for a range of swimming abilities, including those who are new to the sport. The team is ranked 2nd in Eastern Canada and 6th Nationally.

#### Vice President

Sep 2014 - Sep 2015, Sep 2018 - Sep 2019

Assist and advise President on delegating, organizing competition registration, travel and accommodations, practices, uniforms, and participation fees by researching and completing administrative tasks.

#### President

Sep 2015 - Sep 2018

Responsible for 84 competitive athletes and 8 coaches resulting in a successful and healthy 4 years as an varsity organization which can be seen by the steady registration rate and over 20 medals and podium finishes. This was implemented through the organization of competition registration, diligent record-keeping, travel and accommodations, practices, uniforms, and club budget.

#### Meet Manager

Nov 2016

Organized, scheduled, and executed the Canadian University Synchronized Swimming League National Competition at McMaster University, with a total of 22 Universities and 450 athletes and coaches from all over Canada in attendance.

### SNAP (Special Needs Assistance Program)

Sep 2016 - Apr 2019

*McMaster University, Hamilton*

Assist community members who have cognitive and/or physical disabilities in completing physical exercise by providing creative physical assistance, personalized workout plans, and emotional support which resulted in a 77% increase in gross motor capabilities.

### Judge for Biology Undergraduate Symposium (BUS)

Sep 2017 - Sep 2018

*Department of Biology, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON*

Critically judge final year Theses and Projects of undergraduate STEM students by reviewing the literature and asking thought provoking questions of the participants, analyzing a total of 187 studies.

### BGSS (Biology Graduate Student Society)

Sep 2016 - Aug 2017

*Department of Biology, McMaster University, Hamilton*

Assisted with planing, organizing, and running 15 social and academic events for the Biology students at McMaster.

### McMaster Arts for Children

Sep 2014 - Sep 2015

*McMaster University, Hamilton*

Promote the arts and inspire creativity among children by instructing arts and crafts programs that teach appreciation for and expose children to various aspects of the arts in the Hamilton Community.

### McMaster Athletes Care

Sep 2013 - Sep 2014

*McMaster Synchronized Swimming Club, McMaster University, Hamilton*

Create a space for vulnerable Hamilton youth to engage in sport activities by mentally supporting participants and focusing on local community development.

## REFERENCES

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**Dr. G. Brian Golding**

*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada*

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Mobile Tel: 905-865-2062

E-mail: Golding@McMaster.CA

**Dr. Marie Elliot**

*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada*

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E-mail: melliott@mcmaster.ca

**Dr. Ben Evans**

*McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada*

Office Tel: 905-525-9140 x 26973/27261

E-mail: evansbenj@gmail.com