Connor Gorman January 2017

Contact

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Education

Current Graduate Study – Plant Pathology and Microbiology Graduate Student

Texas A&M University

2014 Bachelors Degree of Science – Plant Sciences (Biotechnology)

University of Tennessee Knoxville

Work Experience

2013 Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation – Summer Scholar in Dr Malay Saha's

Lab – Forage Improvement, Molecular Marker Lab

2011-2014 University of Tennessee – Dr. C. Neal Stewart's Lab

Plant Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology

Current Texas A&M University – Dr. Joshua Yuan's Lab

Synthetic Biology

Skills

<u>Science</u>

Molecular/Genetic Engineering Plant care Greenhouse work

Advanced PCR Techniques

in vitro Biology

Plant Transformation

Plant Tissue Culture

Grow-space Design

Field Plots/Design

Field Experiments

Lab Management

Fluorescence Microscopy Undergraduate Mentoring

Software

- Vector NTI® Software

- APHIS_BRS lvl2 ePermiting - Microsoft Office Suite

- Statistical Analysis Software - ImageJ

(SAS 9.3) - Google SketchUp 8

Matlab (MATLAB_R2010a)

Interests

Implementation of molecular techniques and biotechnology towards solutions in U.S. and international food and energy production

Learning new concepts and techniques in plant molecular biology, biotechnology and genomics

Production of compounds essential to an industrial economy in plantae as a bio-factory – examples being pharmaceutical, nutritional benefit, and/or increased plant vigor

Research Projects

Construction and validation of vectors designed for testing promoters in monocots, University of Tennessee, project leaders: Charleson Poovaiah and Neal Stewart.

Evolutionary relationship of Panicum species using molecular markers, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, project leaders: Desalegn Serba and Malay Saha,

Microspore tissue culture in switchgrass, University of Tennessee, project leaders: Hem Bhandari, Jason Burris and Neal Stewart.

Increased transformation efficiency in Panicum virgatum through genotypic bottlenecking through phenotypic selection and transformation through A. tumefaciens, University of Tennessee, project leaders: Jason Burris and Neal Stewart

Terpene Biosynthesis in Tobacco: SBPase in carbon fixation leading to squalene biosynthesis with engineered carbon redirection pathway, Texas A&M University, project leaders: Connor Gorman and Joshua Yuan

Field performance of engineered tobacco for terpene bioproduct, Texas A&M University, project leaders: Connor Gorman and Joshua Yuan

Engineering Sugarcane to produce squalene: technology transfer into monocot platform, Texas A&M University, project leaders: Connor Gorman and Joshua Yuan

Presentations of Research

2016 Tobacco Workers Conference Nashille TN

2013 University of Tennessee Plant Sciences Research Seminar Knoxville, TN

2013 Noble Summer Research Scholar Program Seminar Ardmore, OK

2012 Posters at the Capital Event

Nashville, TN

2011 Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (EUReCA) Knoxville, TN

Posters

Construction and validation of promoter testing vectors in *Panicum virgatum* -Connor Gorman, Charleson Pooviah, C. Neal Stewart, Jr.

Selection of switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum* L.) "Performer" clones for use in tissue culture and transformation

-Jason N. Burris, Connor Gorman, C. Neal Stewart, Jr.

Awards

- -Wellgates Member (Merit Based Honors Society)
- -A.E. McClanahan Agricultural Award (Merit Scholarship)
- -Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement "EUReCA" Award

Winner for Undergraduate Research

- -Invited to Present Research to Legislators at the Capitol
- -Invitation to Phi Sigma Theta Honors Society

References

Dr. Joshua Yuan — Texas A&M University joshua.yuan@agnet.tamu.edu 510-919-7668

Dr. C. Neal Stewart - University of Tennessee 2431 Joe Johnson Dr.

<u>University of Tennessee</u>

Knoxville, TN
37996-4561
nealstewart@utk.edu
865-974-7324

Dr. Malay Saha – The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation Forage Improvement Division Molecular Marker Lab mcsaha@noble.org

Dr. Desalegn Serba –The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation Forage Improvement Division Molecular Marker Lab ddserba@noble.org 402-202-8335

Jason Burris – University of Tennessee Current project mentor Jburris1@utk.edu 704-968-2445