

Wade Roberts

School of Biological Sciences
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Education

Washington State University, Pullman, WA | Aug 2012 – May 2017 (anticipated)
Ph.D. in Molecular Plant Sciences
Dissertation title: Evolutionary genomics of flower diversification in *Achimenes* (Gesneriaceae)
Major supervisor: Dr. Eric Roalson
Committee: Drs. Amit Dhingra, Joanna Kelley, and Andrew McCubbin

Whitworth University, Spokane, WA | Sep 2007 – May 2012
B.S. with Honors in Biology
B.A. with Honors in Art, sculpture and ceramics
Cumulative GPA: 3.60; Laureate Society
Advisors: Dr. Lee Anne Chaney and Ms. Katie Creyts

Experience

Research Assistant, Roalson Lab, Washington State University | Aug 2012 – Present
PI: Dr. Eric Roalson, School of Biological Sciences

Teaching Assistant, Biology, Washington State University | Aug 2013 – Present

Undergraduate Research, Whitworth University | Sep – Dec 2011
PI: Dr. Finn Pond, Biology Department

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, North Carolina State University | May – Aug 2011
PI: Dr. Jenny Xiang, Department of Plant and Microbial Biology

Publications

Roalson E.H., Roberts W.R. 2016. Distinct processes drive diversification in different clades of Gesneriaceae. *Systematic Biology*. 65(4): 662-684. **Cover Image**

In Review/Revision

Roberts W.R., Roalson E.H. Comparative transcriptome analyses during flower development in four species of *Achimenes* (Gesneriaceae). (In review at BMC Genomics)

Presentations

Evolutionary genomics of floral diversification
WSU Molecular Plant Sciences Seminar, Pullman, WA | Oct 2016 (invited seminar)

Using comparative transcriptomics to understand flower diversification: an example from *Achimenes* (Gesneriaceae)
Inland Northwest Genomics Research Symposium, Moscow, ID | May 2016 (poster) **Best poster**
WSU SBS Graduate Student Symposium, Pullman, WA | Mar 2016 (invited talk + poster)
WSU Academic Showcase, Pullman, WA | Mar 2016 (poster)
WSU Plant Sciences Retreat, Pullman, WA | Mar 2016 (poster)

Understanding flower diversification in *Achimenes* (Gesneriaceae) using a comparative transcriptomics approach
Pan-Am Evo Devo, Berkeley, CA | Aug 2015 (poster)
Botany, Edmonton, AB | Jul 2015 (talk)

Geographic processes drive diversification in different clades of Gesneriaceae
WSU Plant Sciences Retreat, Pullman, WA | Mar 2015 (poster)
WSU SBS Graduate Student Symposium, Pullman, WA | Feb 2015 (poster)

Selected Awards

2016 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$19,323)
2016 Elvin McDonald Research Endowment Fund, The Gesneriad Society (\$1,750)
2015 Student Travel Grant, American Society of Plant Taxonomists (\$300)
2012 Global Plant Sciences Initiative Fellowship, Washington State University (\$10,000)
2011 NSF REU Fellowship, North Carolina State University (\$5,000)
2007 Trustee Scholarship, Whitworth University (\$18,000 x4)

Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Washington State University | Aug 2013 – Present
Biol 332 Systematic Botany (x2, rating: 4.9 / 5)
Biol 120 Introductory Botany (x2, rating: 4.8 / 5)
Biol 106 Introductory Biology: Organismal Biology (x5, rating: 4.7 / 5)

Teaching Assistant / Supplemental Instructor, Whitworth University | Feb 2010 – May 2012
Bio 363 Genetics
Bio 153 Plant Biology (x2)
Bio 141 General Biology I: Organismal Biology

Service + Outreach

Faculty Representative, MPS Graduate Student Organization | April 2016 – Present

Student liaison for MPS fellows at annual faculty meetings

Voice concerns, suggestions, comments, and grievances to faculty

Co-Lead, Palouse Discovery Science Center Committee | Nov 2014 – Present

Organize hands-on workshops in plant science and biology for children and families

Creation and implementation of permanent plant biology exhibit

Exhibit Lead, Plant Science Day | Apr 2016

Organized and lead hands-on exhibits in science and plant biology for children and families

Native Plant / Greenhouse Guide, Palouse Outdoor Science Day | Oct 2015, Apr 2015, Oct 2014

Organized and lead short hikes for children and families to identify and collect wildflowers

Lead tours of living plant collection at Washington State University

Freelance

Consulting

Joshua Brindley, Washington State University (phylogenetics, bioinformatics)

Derek Denney, Washington State University (genomics, bioinformatics)

Student Mentoring

Graduates

Joseph Kleinkopf (Fall 2016 – Present)

Undergraduates

Julian Bennett-Ponsford (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)

Becca Saunders (Spring 2016)

Memberships

Botanical Society of America (2012 – Present)

The Gesneriad Society (2012 – Present)

Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology (2015 – 2016)

American Society of Plant Taxonomists (2014 – 2016)

Society for the Study of Evolution (2014 – 2015)

Software

TACOCAT Trim And COnstruct Combined Assembly Transcriptomes