

David Allen Wickell, PhD

NSF Postdoctoral Fellow

Department of Ecology and Environmental Biology
University of Connecticut
75 N. Eagleville Road, Unit 3043, Storrs, CT 06269
Email: david.wickell@uconn.edu
(316) 734-4006
www.wickellomics.net

EDUCATION and POSITIONS HELD:

NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in Biology , <i>University of Connecticut; Storrs, CT</i>	2024- Present
Postdoctoral Research Associate , <i>University of Connecticut; Storrs, CT</i>	2023-2024
Doctorate in Plant Biology , <i>Cornell University; Ithaca, NY</i>	2018 - 2023
Master of Science in Biology , <i>Wichita State University; Wichita, KS</i>	2013 - 2015
Bachelor of Science in Biology , <i>Wichita State University; Wichita, KS</i>	2008 - 2013

FUNDING:

NSF 23-620: Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology (PRFB), \$240,000 <i>The power of plasticity: aquatic plants' response to an ever-changing environment</i>	2024-2027
--	-----------

PUBLICATIONS:

- Wickell, D.A.**, R. Field, K. Weitz, R. Chu, *et al.* 2024. Integrative analysis of CAM photosynthesis reveals its impact on primary metabolism in *Yucca*. *bioRxiv*. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.11.01.621533>
- Suissa, J.S., G.Y. De La Cerda, L.C. Graber, C. Jelley, **D.A. Wickell**, *et al.* 2024. Comparative phylogenomic analyses of SNP versus full locus datasets: insights and recommendations for researchers. *Applications in Plant Science*: e11611. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aps3.11611>
- Wickell, D.A.**, J.B. Landis, E.A. Zimmer, F.W. Li. 2024. Population genomics of the *Isoetes appalachiana* (Isoetaceae) complex supports a 'diploids-first' approach to conservation. *Annals of Botany*, mcad180. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcad180>
- Li*, C., **D.A. Wickell***, L-Y. Kuo, X. Chen, *et al.* 2024. Extraordinary preservation of gene collinearity over three hundred million years revealed in homosporous lycophytes. *PNAS*, 121(4): e2312607121. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2312607121>
*Equally contributed.
- Huang*, X., W. Wang*, T. Gong*, **D.A. Wickell***, *et al.* 2022. The flying spider-monkey tree fern genome: Insights into fern evolution and arborescence. *Nature Plants*, 8(5): 500-512. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41477-022-01146-6>
*Equally contributed; Featured in [New York Times](#) and [Scientific American](#)
- Wickell, D.A.**, L.Y. Kuo, H.P. Yang, A.D. Ashok. *et al.* 2021. Underwater CAM photosynthesis elucidated by *Isoetes* genome. *Nature Communications*, 12(1): 1-3. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-26644-7>
- Wickell, D.A.** and F.W. Li. 2020. On the evolutionary significance of horizontal gene transfers in plants. *New Phytologist*. 225(1):113-117 <https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.16022>

- Wickell, D.A.**, M.D. Windham, X. Wang and J.B. Beck. 2017. Can asexuality confer a short term advantage? Investigating apparent biogeographic success in the apomictic triploid fern *Myriopteris gracilis* (Pteridaceae). *American Journal of Botany*. 104.8: 1254-1265. <https://doi.org/10.3732/ajb.1700126>
- Moore, M.R., C.F. Beza Beza, **D.A. Wickell**, J.B. Beck and M. Jameson. 2015. Molecules, morphology, and *Mimeoma Scarabs*: evolutionary implications for a palm-associated scarab group. *Systematic Entomology*. 40: 891-900. <https://doi.org/10.1111/syen.12139>

AWARDS and ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Cornell - CALS Outstanding Teaching Assistant (2023)
 Cornell - SIPS Barbara McClintock Award (2023)
 Washington Biologists Field Club - Research Award (2022)
 American Fern Society - Edgar T. Wherry Award – Honorable Mention (2021)
 Smithsonian Institution 10-week Graduate Student Fellowship (PI: Liz Zimmer; 2021)
 Schmittau-Novak Integrative Plant Science Grant (2021)
 American Society of Plant Taxonomists Graduate Student Research Grant (2014)

PRESENTATIONS:

- Multi-omics analysis in *Yucca* reveals downstream effects of CAM on nitrogen metabolism. **Botany 2024**, Grand Rapids Michigan, June 2024.
- Seed-free Synteny: A history of genomic stasis in homosporous ferns and lycophytes. **Botany 2023**, Boise, ID, July 2023.
- Syntenic Analysis of Seed-Free Plant Genomes Reveals Evolutionary Stasis over Hundreds of Millions of Years. **PAG 30**, San Diego, CA, January 2023.
- Allopolyploid speciation in the enigmatic quillworts of the Appalachian plateau. **Botany 2022**, Anchorage, AK, July 2022.
- The convergent evolution of aquatic CAM in *Isoetes*. **LUOMUS seminar series**, invited speaker, presented remotely at the Finnish Museum of Natural History for the University of Helsinki, April 2022
- Gene fractionation and differential expression of homoeologues following whole genome duplication in the tree fern *Alsophila spinulosa*. **Botany 2021**, virtual meeting July 2021
- The life aquatic: Genomic and transcriptomic insights into crassulacean acid metabolism in *Isoetes*. **Botany 2020**, virtual meeting, July 2020.
- CAM photosynthesis in the aquatic lycophyte *Isoetes taiwanensis*. **Botany 2019**, Tucson AZ, July 2019.
- Does asexuality confer a short term evolutionary advantage?: a case study of the asexual fern *Myriopteris gracilis*. - Presented at "Next Generation Pteridology" the **13th Smithsonian Botanical Symposium**, Smithsonian Institution, June 2015 and **Kansas Academy of Science**, Pittsburg KS, March 2015
- Molecules, morphology, and *Mimeoma scarabs*: evolutionary implications for a palm-associated scarab group. **89th Kansas (Central States) Entomological Society meeting**, Pittsburg KS, April 2013 and **Wichita State Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum**, Wichita KS, March 2013.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- Plant structural Diversity** – *University of Connecticut*; Fall 2023
 Invited guest instructor for aquatic plants section

Concepts and Techniques in Computational Biology – <i>Cornell University; Graduate TA</i>	Spring 2022 & 2023
Vascular Plant Systematics (lab) – <i>Cornell University;</i> Graduate TA (2020), Invited guest instructor for pteridophyte lab (2022)	Spring 2020 & Fall 2022
Introductory Plant Diversity and Evolution (lab) – <i>Cornell</i> <i>University; Graduate TA</i>	Fall 2019
Introduction to Biology I & II (lab) – <i>Wichita State</i> <i>University; Adjunct instructor</i>	Fall 2017
Human Anatomy and Physiology – <i>Wichita State</i> <i>University; Graduate TA</i>	Spring 2015
General Ecology – <i>Wichita State University; Graduate TA</i>	Spring 2014
Introduction to Biology I – <i>Wichita State University;</i> Graduate TA	Fall 2013 & 2014

VOLUNTEER/OUTREACH EXPERIENCE:

Free Science Workshop; Ithaca, NY (2019 - Present)
 Physics Bus STEM outreach program; Ithaca, NY (2019 - 2023)
 Big Red Barn Kid's Science Day – Pollination Station; Cornell University (2023)
 In Defense of Plants Podcast – Invited guest, [Episode 331 Unraveling Quillwort Mysteries](#)
 (2021)
 Diversity Preview Weekend; Cornell University (2019)
 Judy's Day Family Learning Festival: Lycophyte booth; Cornell University (2018)
 Expanding Your Horizons, STEM careers workshop; Wichita State University (2015)
 Science Olympiad State Competition: Heredity; Wichita State University (2014)
 Exploration Place: Insect exhibit in Kansas Pavilion; Wichita, KS (2012)

SERVICE and TRAINING:

Botanical Society of America – Early Career Professional Development Committee (2024-2027)
 CIMER Mentorship Training – UCONN RaMP program (2024)
 Botanical Society of America – PLANTS mentor (2024)
 Botanical Society of America – Cornell Student Chapter President (2022-2023)
 Cornell Plant Biology Graduate Student Association – President (2019-2020)

MEMBERSHIP in PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES:

Botanical Society of America
 American Fern Society