

## Sara Jeanes Wright

---

Rowan University • Department of Biological & Biomedical Sciences • 201 Mullica Hill Road • Glassboro, NJ 08028  
[wrights@rowan.edu](mailto:wrights@rowan.edu) • 856-256-4500 x53024 • [www.sarajwright.com](http://www.sarajwright.com)

### WORK EXPERIENCE

2019-Present Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ  
Department of Biological & Biomedical Sciences  
Lecturer

### EDUCATION

2012-2019 Washington University, St. Louis, MO  
Ph.D. in Biological and Biomedical Sciences (program in Evolution, Ecology & Population Biology)  
Dissertation: “Cyanogenesis and the genetics of local adaptation in white clover (*Trifolium repens L.*)”  
Teaching Citation, 2018

2013 Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS), Costa Rica  
8-week Graduate course: “Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach”

2007-2011 The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX  
B.S. in Biology (Dean’s Scholars Honors Program)  
*Magna cum laude*, Special Departmental Honors in Biology

2007-2011 UTeach Natural Sciences, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX  
High school teaching certifications in Science and Mathematics

### AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2021	President’s Award for Excellence in Innovative Instructional Delivery, Rowan University	
2018	New Frontiers Scholar, Corteva Agriscience Conference Travel Award	\$500
2017	WashU Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) Community Member	
2011	Phi Beta Kappa inductee	
2011	Jane Sanford Beasley Scholarship for Teaching Excellence	\$500
2011	Austin ISD Future Teacher Scholarship	\$500
2009	Eva Stevenson Woods Endowed Presidential Scholarship, UT Austin	\$1,000
2009	College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) Level I Mentor/Tutor Certification	
2009	National FFA American Degree Recipient	

### RESEARCH FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS

2016	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant “Ecological genomics of local adaptation in a perennial plant species”	\$19,825
2015	Tyson Research Center Graduate Student Research Grant	\$1,500
2013	Washington University Biology Dept. Fellowship for OTS Tropical Biology course	\$2,000
2013	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	\$121,500
2011	Undergraduate Research Fellowship, UT Austin	\$1,000
2008	Freshman Research Initiative Summer Research Fellowship, UT Austin	\$1,250

### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

2021-Present Society for Molecular Biology & Evolution (SMBE)  
2021-Present Ecological Society of America (ESA)  
2019-Present National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD)  
2018-Present American Genetic Association (AGA)  
2012-Present Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE)  
2012-Present Botanical Society of America (BSA)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Rowan University

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Course #</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>	<u># Sections</u>	<u># Students</u>
SP23 ( <i>in progress</i> )	BIOL 01204	Introduction to Ecology (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	2	25, 24
	BIOL 01301	Data Science for Biologists	Lecture & Lab Instructor	1	24
FA22	BIOL 01104	Intro. to Evolution and Sci. Inquiry	Lecture & Lab Instructor	2	24, 23
	BIOL 02301	Plant Diversity	Lecture & Lab Instructor	1	26
SP22	BIOL 01106	Introduction to Genetics (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	1	28
	BIOL 01204	Introduction to Ecology (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	1	24
FA21	BIOL 01104	Intro. to Evolution and Sci. Inquiry	Lecture & Lab Instructor	1	23
	BIOL 01204	Introduction to Ecology (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	1	26
	BIOL 02301	Plant Diversity	Lecture & Lab Instructor	1	24
SU21	BIOL 01106	Introduction to Genetics (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	1	16
	BIOL 02301	Plant Diversity	Remote Instructor (Zoom)	1	19
SP21 ( <i>Covid-19</i> )	BIOL 01106	Introduction to Genetics (Online)	Instructor (asynchronous)	2	22, 24
	BIOL 01204	Introduction to Ecology (Online)	Course Designer	N/A	N/A
FA20 ( <i>Covid-19</i> )	BIOL 01104	Intro. to Evolution and Sci. Inquiry	Remote Instructor (Zoom)	2	15, 18
	BIOL 02301	Plant Diversity	Remote Instructor (Zoom)	1	26
SP20 ( <i>Covid-19</i> )	BIOL 01104	Intro. to Evolution and Sci. Inquiry	Lecture & Lab Instructor	1	25
	BIOL 01204	Introduction to Ecology	Lecture & Lab Instructor	2	25, 25
FA19	BIOL 01104	Intro. to Evolution and Sci. Inquiry	Lecture & Lab Instructor	2	26, 25

### Washington University

<u>Semester</u>	<u>Course#</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>
SU18	U29-Bio 525	Evolution	Lab Instructor, Guest Lecturer
FA17	Bio 2950	Environmental Biology	Guest Lecturer, Teaching Assistant
SU16	U29-Bio 525	Evolution	Lab Instructor, Teaching Assistant
SU14	U29-Bio 525	Evolution	Lab Instructor, Teaching Assistant
FA13	Bio 3501	Evolution	Discussion Leader, Teaching Assistant

### Washington University, Young Scientist Program

2013-2018	“Show me Costa Rica” Project
2012-2018	Evolution and Ecology Teaching Team
2012-2014	Mentorship of local high school student

### Additional Teaching Experiences

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>
2014-17	One on One Tutoring, Inc., St. Louis, MO	tutor for >50 students (math and science)
AY 11-12	Austin ISD, Austin, TX	Substitute teacher, science and math
AY 11-12	Mathnasium, Austin, TX	Math tutor (pre-K through Calculus)
FA11	9th grade Biology, Crockett HS, Austin, TX	Apprentice Teacher, 2 sections
SU11	College of Natural Sciences, UT-Austin	College Readiness Mentor
SU11	UTeach Outreach, UT-Austin	7th grade Geology Camp Lead Intern
SP09	Freshman Research Initiative, UT-Austin	Peer Research Mentor
AY 08-09	TIP Mentor Academy, UT-Austin	Peer Mentor (to four college freshmen)
FA08	TIP Scholars Program, UT-Austin	Tutor (M408C-Differential/Integral Calculus)

## Mentoring

<u>Semester(s)</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Research credits, awarded fellowships, theses*</u>
FA20-SP22	Sofia Cook (Rowan U)	2021 REU Binghamton U (Biomedical Engineering)
SU17-SP19	Maya Dutta (Wash U)	Tyson Research Fellow, Bio 500 (x4), honors thesis
SU17-FA18	Alexander Mahmoud (Wash U)	Tyson Research Fellow, Bio 500 (x3)
SP16-SP18	Akash Oza (Wash U)	Bio 200, Bio 500 (x4), BioSURF, honors thesis
SU18-SP18	Julia Beliz (Clayton HS)	Tyson TERF Fellow, field/lab research assistant
SU17-FA17	Samantha Myers (Wash U)	Tyson Research Fellow, work-study
SU17-FA17	Eileen Kosola (Lafayette HS)	Tyson TERF Fellow, field research assistant
SU17	Erin Rowland (Concordia U-NE)	Tyson Research Fellow
SU17	August Gremaud (Wash U)	Tyson Research Fellow
SP17-SU17	Brenda Alvarado (Wash U)	Bio 200, Tyson Research Fellow
SU16-FA16	Julien Weinstein (Wash U)	Tyson Research Fellow, Bio 500
SU16	Amy Kuhle (Quincy U)	Tyson Research Fellow
SU16	Bailee Warsing (U Missouri-St. Louis)	Tyson Research Fellow
SU16	Lydia Young (Pattonville HS)	Tyson TERF Fellow
SU16	Sydney Ties (Eureka HS)	Tyson TERF Fellow
SP15-SP16	Daniel Cui Zhou (Wash U)	Bio 500 (x3), BioSURF, honors thesis
FA13	Jennie (Hokyung) Keum (Wash U)	Bio 200

\* Bio 200/500 – 6/10 hrs/week for course credit at Washington University

\* Tyson Research Fellow – 11-week, full-time undergraduate summer fellowship at Wash U’s field research center

\* Tyson TERF Fellow – 4-week, full-time high school summer research fellowship at Wash U’s field research center

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Longer-term Experiences

SP23	4-Module Teaching Productivity Certificate, Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
FA19-FA20	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Certificate (Completed 7-Module Series, Rowan University)
SU20	Online Teaching Basics Course (Completed both Parts 1 and 2, Rowan University)
FA13	Entering Mentoring: A Seminar to Train a New Generation of Scientists (WashU one-semester course)
FA08	Franklin Covey’s “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective College Students” (UT-Austin Mentor Academy)

### Rowan University Workshops

SP23	Building an Inclusive Classroom Discussion: Understanding Microaggressions & Microaffirmations
SP23	Hypothesis Workshop: Annotation Starter Assignments
SP23	Hypothesis Workshop: Annotate Your Syllabus
SU22	Rowan Seminar Training
SU22	LGBTQ 101 Training
SP22	Academic Integrity Workshop
SP22	Land Acknowledgement Workshop
SU21	Rowan Seminar Training
SP21	Safe Zone Training
SU20	Managing Bias to Create a Welcoming Environment
SU20	Trauma-Informed Pedagogy: Teaching in Uncertain Times
SP20	Suicide Reduction Training (QPR)
SP20	Communication Skills in the Workplace Training
FA19	Unconscious Bias Training
FA19	Active Shooter Awareness Training

### Washington University Teaching Center Workshops

2018	Structuring and Teaching Introductory STEM courses
2017	Peer-Led Team Learning: Philosophy and Implementation
2017	Structuring Opportunities for Active Learning
2013	Advising and Supporting Students: Understanding the TA’s Role
2013	Teaching in Review Sessions and Office Hours
2013	Teaching with Discussions: Strategies for Structuring Discussions and Increasing Participation
2013	Grading and Responding to Students’ Concerns About Grades

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### Rowan University

- FA22-Present **Founding Chair:** Student Awards Committee, Biological & Biomedical Sciences Department  
FA22-Present **Networking Co-Coordinator:** U-RISE@Rowan  
NIH-funded undergraduate training grant for underrepresented groups in biomedical research  
SP22 **Search Committee Member,** Biological & Biomedical Sciences Department  
Tenure-track position in Plant Biotechnology/Microbiology  
FA21-Present **Chair:** DEI Committee, Biological & Biomedical Sciences Department  
SU21-Present **Team Lead:** Campus Tree/Arboretum Project  
In collaboration with: Facilities & landscape design, Campbell Library's Digital Scholarship Center  
FA20-Present **Course Coordinator:** Introduction to Evolution & Scientific Inquiry, Rowan University  
Serves approximately 20 sections (~480 students) per Academic Year  
SU20-Present **Committee Member:** Department and College DEI Committees, Rowan University  
SU20-Present Peer Reviewer for PLOS ONE (<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5864-2661>)

## PUBLICATIONS ([Google Scholar](#))

\* Denotes undergraduate student (at the time research was conducted)

\*\* Denotes equal contributions

**Wright SJ,** Goad DM, Gross BL, Muñoz PR & Olsen KM. **2022.** Genetic trade-offs underlie divergent life history strategies for local adaptation in white clover. *Molecular Ecology* 31: 3742-3760. [doi.org/10.1111/mec.16180](https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.16180)

- **Highlighted article:** "From the Cover"
- See also: [Perspective](#) by Dr. Jill T. Anderson

Ruhl N, Crumrine P, Oberle J, Richmond C, Thomas S, & **Wright S.** **2022.** Harnessing the Four-Dimensional Ecology Education framework to redesign an introductory ecology course in a changing higher education landscape. *Ecosphere* 13(2): e03857. [doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3857](https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3857)

Olsen KM, \*\*Goad DM, \*\***Wright SJ,** \*Dutta ML, \*Myers SR, Small LL, & Li L.-F. **2021.** Dual-species origin of an adaptive chemical defense polymorphism. *New Phytologist* 232: 1477-1487. [doi.org/10.1111/nph.17654](https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.17654)

**Wright SJ,** \*Cui Zhou D, \*Kuhle A & Olsen KM. **2018.** Continent-wide climatic variation drives local adaptation in North American white clover. *Journal of Heredity* 109: 78–89. [doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esx060](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esx060)

Branham SE, \***Wright SJ,** Reba A & Linder CR. **2016.** Genome-wide association study of *Arabidopsis thaliana* identifies determinants of natural variation in seed oil composition. *Journal of Heredity* 107: 248-256. [doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esv100](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esv100)

Branham SE, \***Wright SJ,** Reba A, Morrison GD & Linder CR. **2016.** Genome-wide association study in *Arabidopsis thaliana* of natural variation in seed oil melting point: a widespread adaptive trait in plants. *Journal of Heredity* 107: 257-265. [doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esw008](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esw008)

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

**Wright SJ & Ruhl N.** “Leveraging local environments and cross-cutting themes to implement 4DEE.” Virtual Water Cooler Chat, Ecological Society of America, April, 8, 2022.

**Wright SJ.** “Combining genetic sequencing and field experiments to study white clover adaptation in diverse climates.” Biological & Biomedical Sciences Seminar Series, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ, March, 24, 2022.

**Wright SJ.** “Combining genetic sequencing and field experiments to study white clover adaptation in diverse climates.” STEM World Classroom Virtual Speaker Series, Rowan College of South Jersey, Gloucester, NJ, March, 10, 2022.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L, Kuhle A & Olsen KM. “Cyanogenesis and local adaptation in white clover.” St. Louis Ecology, Evolution and Conservation (SLEEC) meeting, Principia College, Elsah, IL, September 17, 2016.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L & Olsen KM. “Selective mechanisms shaping local adaptation in North American white clover.” 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Ecological Genomics Symposium, Manhattan, KS, November 6-8, 2015.

**Jeanes SR**. “Using Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) to identify the genetic structure of polygenic traits in *Arabidopsis thaliana*.” Dean’s Scholars Journal Club, The University of Texas at Austin, November 2, 2010.

## OTHER RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

### Oral Presentations

**Wright SJ**. “Three years in clover: Lessons learned mentoring undergraduates in eco-evo research.” Evolution, Ecology & Population Biology Seminar Series, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, December 7, 2017.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L, Kuhle A & Olsen KM. “Cyanogenesis and local adaptation in white clover.” Bioforum Seminar Series, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, December 2, 2016.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D & Olsen KM. “Ecological and genetic mechanisms of local adaptation in white clover.” Evolution Conference, Austin, TX, June 17-21, 2016.

**Wright SJ**. “Being in (white) clover: combining ecology and genomics to study local adaptation.” Evolution, Ecology & Population Biology Seminar Series, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, February 11, 2016.

**Wright SJ**. “Population genomics of local adaptation in white clover (*Trifolium repens*).” Evolution, Ecology & Population Biology Seminar Series, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, April 9, 2015.

### Poster Presentations

**Wright SJ**, Goad DM, Gross BL, Muñoz PR, & Olsen KM. “Uncovering the genetic architecture of local climatic adaptation in white clover.” New Frontiers in Genetic Evaluation, Corteva Agriscience, Johnston, IA, July 25-27, 2018.

Gomez-Quijano MJ, **Wright SJ**, Olsen KM & Gross BL. “Variation in cyanide production of white clover (*Trifolium repens*) across a steep environmental gradient.” Botany Conference, Rochester, MN, July 21-25, 2018.

**Wright SJ**, Gross BL, Muñoz PR, & Olsen KM. “Uncovering the genetic architecture of local climatic adaptation in white clover.” American Genetic Association President’s Symposium: Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics in the Wild. University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, March 23-25, 2018.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L, Kuhle A & Olsen KM. “Cyanogenesis and local adaptation in white clover.” Danforth Plant Science Center Symposium, St. Louis, MO, September 28-30, 2016.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L & Olsen KM. “Ecological field studies and copy number variation (CNV) analyses shed light on the selective mechanisms maintaining North American white clover cyanogenesis clines.” Ecological Genomics Symposium, Manhattan, KS, November 6-8, 2015.

**Wright SJ**, Cui Zhou D, Small L & Olsen KM. “Ecological field studies and copy number variation (CNV) analyses shed light on the selective mechanisms maintaining North American white clover cyanogenesis clines.” Missouri Botanical Garden and Danforth Plant Science Center Joint Symposium, St. Louis, MO, October 8-10, 2015.

**Jeanes S** & Linder CR. “Do leaf anthocyanin concentrations in *Arabidopsis thaliana* vary according to latitude: developing methods to test the hypothesis.” Undergraduate Research Forum, The University of Texas, Austin, TX, April 2011.

Eschenbach A, **Jeanes S**, Lopez L, Su Y & Heineman R. “T7+ Bacteriophage Host Adaptation.” Undergraduate Research Forum, The University of Texas, Austin, TX, April 2009.

**Mentored Student Research Posters** (Washington University Undergraduate Research Symposia)

Dutta M, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "Cyanogenic glucoside induction across an environmental gradient in white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." April 12, 2019.

Mahmoud A, **Wright S**, Goad D & Olsen K. "Identifying locally adaptive SNPs in white clover using environmental association analysis (EAA)." April 12, 2019.

Mahmoud A, Beliz J, Olsen K & Johnson M. "Urban-to-rural trends in white clover cyanogenesis across St. Louis." October 27, 2018.

Oza A, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "The contributions of gene copy number variation to drought tolerance in white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." April 13, 2018.

Alvarado B, **Wright S** & Olsen K. "The evolution of chemical defense in white clover: when and where does cyanogenesis matter most?" October 21, 2017.

Beliz J, Kosola E, **Wright S** & Olsen K. "Wild sampling in white clover informs interpretations of controlled field experiment data: herbivory and soil moisture." October 21, 2017.

Dutta M, **Wright S** & Olsen K. "Buffering against heat, drought, and fungus in white clover: does cyanogenesis play a role?" October 21, 2017.

Mahmoud A, Gremaud A, **Wright S** & Olsen K. "Insect diversity survey of white clover in wild vs cultivated environments." October 21, 2017.

Myers SR, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "Ecological drivers of local adaptation in white clover: herbivores or winter temperatures?" October 21, 2017.

Oza A, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "The contributions of gene copy number variation to drought tolerance in white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." October 21, 2017.

Ties S, Young L, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "Cyanogenesis and local adaptation in early life stages of white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." October 29, 2016.

Cui Zhou D, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "Gene copy number variation and molecular mechanisms of local climatic adaptation in white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." April 9, 2016.

Cui Zhou D, **Wright SJ** & Olsen KM. "Gene copy number variation and molecular mechanisms of local climatic adaptation in white clover (*Trifolium repens*)." October 10, 2015.

**ADDITIONAL MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & SYMPOSIA**

- 2023 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Flying First (First Generation) Symposium, Rowan University, February 15-16
- 2022 Rowan Teaching Connection (RTC) Mini-Conference, November 4
- 2022 Virtual RStudio::conf, July 27-28
- 2022 Rowan Teaching Connection (RTC) Virtual Mini-Conference, April 8
- 2022 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Flying First (First Generation) Symposium, Rowan University, February 2-3
- 2021 Virtual Ecological Society of America Conference, August 2-6
- 2021 AAAS-IUSE: Promoting Equity in STEM Classrooms through Pedagogical Approaches, May 13
- 2021 DEI Summit, Rowan University, March 23
- 2021 NIST Virtual Happy Hour: Adapting a CURE to a virtual environment, February 19
- 2021 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Flying First (First Generation) Symposium, Rowan University, February 10-12
- 2020 GLAM EvoGen: Great Lakes Evolutionary Genomics (Virtual) Annual Meeting, July 20-24
- 2020 AVIDA-ED LENS (Virtual) Workshop, July 1-2
- 2020 UTeach STEM Educators (Virtual) Summit, June 30-July 1
- 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Flying First (First Generation) Symposium, Rowan University, February 13
- 2017 St. Louis Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (SLEEC) meeting, Saint Louis University, September 16

- 2016 Genotyping-by-Sequencing (GBS) Workshop, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, April 11-12
- 2015 St. Louis Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (SLEEC) meeting, St. Louis Zoo, August 24
- 2015 I-CARES Climate Change and Biodiversity Symposium, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, Sept. 10-11
- 2015 UCLA Conservation Genomics Workshop, La Kretz Field Station, March 22-26
- 2013 Introduction to PERL Workshop, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, January 8-12
- 2013 Plant Genomics Congress, St. Louis, MO, September 23-24
- 2013 St. Louis Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (SLEEC) meeting, St. Louis Zoo, September 28
- 2013 50th Anniversary meeting of the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) and the Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC), San Jose, Costa Rica, June 23-27
- 2012 Software Carpentry Workshop (intro to Python), Washington University, St. Louis, MO, November 10-11
- 2012 St. Louis Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (SLEEC) meeting, Principia College, September 29