

## James Theodore Melton III, Ph.D.

350 Spelman Lane

Atlanta, GA 30314

Office: Tapley 405

Email: jmelton@spelman.edu

Phone: 205.915.7027

### CURRENT POSITION:

Senior Lecturer, Biology Department, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

### EDUCATION:

- Ph.D., Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA. May 2017.
  - Advisor: Dr. Juan M. Lopez-Bautista
  - Dissertation: Molecular Systematics and Organellar Genomics of the Green Macroalgal Genus *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) with Phylogenomics of the “Core Chlorophyta”
- B.S., Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA. May 2009.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- August 2022 – present. Senior Lecturer. Biology Department. Spelman College. Atlanta, GA
- August 2020 – May 2022. Lecturer. Biology Department. Spelman College. Atlanta, GA
- August 2017 – May 2020. Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) Postdoctoral Fellow. Biology Department. Spelman College. Atlanta, GA.
  - Performing research on diversity and genomics of Amoebozoa, mentoring undergraduate research, teaching lecture/lab courses.*
- August 2011 – May 2017. Graduate Student. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.
  - August 2016 – May 2017. Graduate Council Research Fellow. Graduate School, The University of Alabama.
  - Spring 2015, 2016. Aquatic Biology Enhancement Fellow. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama.
  - August 2011 – Fall 2014, Fall 2015. Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama.
    - Performing research on diversity, organellar genomes, and phylogenomics of Chlorophyta (green algae), mentoring undergraduate research, and teaching laboratory classes*
- July 2009 – July 2011. Veterinary Technician. Banfield Pet Hospital of Hoover, AL.
  - Performing physical exams, preparing and analyzing microscope slides (e.g., fecal exams for intestinal parasites, blood smears, and urinalysis), preparing for (e.g., IV catheter insertion, induction of anesthesia, and intubation) and monitoring surgery, performing dental prophylaxis, taking blood and running blood work, testing for fungal/bacterial skin infections through culturing, administering vaccinations, taking x-rays, and educating clients on how to maintain a positive relationship with their pet and keep their pet healthy.*
- May 2007 – August 2007. General maintenance at dental office, James T. Melton Jr., D.M.D., Indian Springs, AL.

### PUBLICATIONS (bold text denotes shared first author):

- **Minicante SA, Melton JT**, Spagnuolo D, Manghisi A, Genovese G, Morabito M, Lopez-Bautista J (2024) A DNA barcode inventory of the genus *Ulva* (Chlorophyta) along two Italian regions: updates and considerations. *Botanica Marina*. (accepted)
- Liu F, Melton JT, Wang H, Wang J, Lopez-Bautista JM (2022) Understanding the evolution of mitochondrial genomes in the green macroalgal genus *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 269.
- Liu F, Melton JT (2021) Chloroplast genomes of the green-tide forming alga *Ulva compressa*: comparative chloroplast genomics in the genus *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *Frontiers in Marine Science* doi:10.3389/fmars.2021.668542
- Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista JM (2020) Diversity of the macroalgal genus *Ulva* L., 1753 (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from the east and gulf coast of the United States based on molecular data. *Journal of Phycology* doi:10.1111/jpy.13120
- Liu F, Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista J, Chen N (2020) Multiple intraspecific variations of mitochondrial genomes in the green-tide forming alga, *Ulva compressa* Linnaeus (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *Frontiers in Marine Science* doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.00714
- Liu M, Liu F, Chen N, Melton, JT, Luo, M. (2020) Mitochondrial genomes and phylogenomic analysis of *Ulva lactuca* Linnaeus (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *Mitochondrial DNA Part B*, 5(2):1638–639.
- Ayalew M, Hylton D, Sistrunk J, Melton J, Johnson K, Voit E (2020) Integration of biology, mathematics and computing in the classroom through the creation and repeated use of transdisciplinary modules. *PRIMUS* 2–31.
- Melton JT, Wood F, Branch J, Singla M, Tekle YI (2019) Phylogenomics of Thecamoebida (Discosea, Amoebozoa) with the description of *Stratorugosa tubuloviscum* gen. nov. sp. nov., a freshwater amoeba with a perinuclear MTOC. *Protist* 170: 8–20.

- Chávez-Sánchez T, Piñón-Gimate A, Melton JT, López-Bautista JM, Casas-Valdez M (2019) First report, along with nomenclature adjustments, of *Ulva ohnoi*, *U. tepida* and *U. torta* (Ulvaceae, Ulvales, Chlorophyta) from northwestern Mexico. *Botanica Marina* 62(2):113–123.
- Melton JT, Wood FC, Singla M, Tekle YI (2019) Three New Freshwater *Cochliopodium* Species (Himatismenida, Amoebozoa) from the Southeastern United States. *Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology* doi:10.1111/jeu.12764
- Melton JT (2017) Molecular Systematics and Organellar Genomics of the Green Macroalgal Genus *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) with a Phylogenomic Analysis of the "Core Chlorophyta" (Doctoral dissertation, The University of Alabama).
- Liu F, Jin Z, Wang Y, Bi Y, Melton JT (2017) Plastid genome of *Dictyopteris divaricata* (Dictyotales, Phaeophyceae): understanding the evolution of plastid genomes in brown algae. *Marine Biotechnology* 19: 627–637.
- Liu F, Melton JT, Bi Y (2017) Mitochondrial genomes of the green macroalga *Ulva pertusa* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta): novel insights into the evolution of mitogenomes in the Ulvophyceae. *Journal of Phycology* 53: 1010–1019.
- Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista JM (2017) The chloroplast genome of the marine green macroalga *Ulva fasciata* Delile (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *Mitochondrial DNA Part A* 28: 93–95.
- Melton JT, Collado-Vides L, Lopez-Bautista JM (2016) Molecular identification and nutrient analysis of the green tide species *Ulva ohnoi* M. Hiraoka & S. Shimada, 2004 (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta), a new report and likely nonnative species in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Florida, USA. *Aquatic Invasions* 11(3): 225–237. doi: 10.3391/ai.2016.11.3.01
- Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista JM (2016) *De novo* assembly of the mitochondrial genome of *Ulva fasciata* Delile (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta), a distromatic blade-forming green macroalga. *Mitochondrial DNA Part A* 27: 3817–3819.
- Melton JT, Garcia-Soto GC, Lopez-Bautista JM (2016) A new record of the bloom-forming green algal species *Ulva ohnoi* (Ulvales, Chlorophyta) in the Caribbean Sea. *Algas* 51: 62–64.
- Melton JT, Leliaert F, Tronholm A, Lopez-Bautista JM (2015) The complete chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes of the green macroalga *Ulva* sp. UNA00071828 (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). *PLOS ONE* doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0121020

#### PRESENTATIONS (names in bold denotes presenter and an \* denotes undergraduate mentees):

- **Wills M\***, **Dotson J\***, Melton J, Ganguly S. Genome sequencing of *Arthrobacter globiformis* and *Gordonia rubripertincta* phages using Nanopore and Illumina technologies. Virtual SEA Symposium. Poster.
- **Christian L\***, **Williams V\***, Melton J, Ganguly S. Morphological and molecular characterization of two *Arthrobacter* phages: Phaila and Lenoxika. Research Day 2024. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Severson M\***, **Camara A\***, Melton J, Ganguly S. Isolation and genomic analysis of the *Arthrobacter* phages NyleyClemson and Camara. Research Day 2024. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Burris D\***, **McClendon D\***, Melton J, Ganguly S. A morphological and genomic characterization of Geeche and Beted, two *Gordonia rubripertincta* phages isolated from soil. Research Day 2024. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Dotson J\***, **Augustus C\***, Melton J, Ganguly S. A morphological and molecular analysis of the *Gordonia* phage MANor and *Arthrobacter* phage BillyTP. Research Day 2024. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.
- **Edwards A\***, Melton J. Metagenomic analysis of bacteriophages and their host bacteria identified from an environmental sample of *Dictyota dichotoma*, a marine brown alga. Research Day 2023. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Boyette K\***, Melton J. A metagenomic analysis of bacteriophages from a sample of *Ulva* sp. 5, a green seaweed. Research Day 2023. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.
- **Skinner I\*** Melton J. Novel phage diversity uncovered by metagenomic analysis of the green algae *Cladophora dalmatica*. Research Day 2023. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Weaver C\***, Melton J. A metagenomic analysis of bacteria and bacteriophages present in a sample of *Halimeda*. Research Day 2023. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.
- **Durand A\***, **Wills M\***, Melton J. Research Day 2023. Effect of the M718I Missense Mutation on the function of MSH2, a protein involved with DNA mismatch repair, using a yeast model. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.
- **Jones K\***, Melton J. Who's the real killer? Hand washing vs. sanitizing. Research Day 2022. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.
- **Blanton A\***, **Chambers B\***, **Harper K\***, Melton J, Kioko S. April 22, 2022. Characterization of the G704D missense mutation in MSH2, a protein involved with DNA mismatch repair, using a yeast model. Research Day 2022. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.
- **Campbell M\***, **Burks R\***, **Clemons S\***, Melton J, Kioko S. April 22, 2022. The effect of the M718I mutation of the MSH2 protein on DNA mismatch repair using a yeast model. Research Day 2022. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.
- **Melton JT**. July 1, 2019. Improving Understanding in Bioinformatics and Phylogenetics through Case Studies and Research Projects. Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Awards (IRACDA) meeting. The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Poster.
- **Eaton V\***, **Price H\***, **Wright I\***, Kioko S, Wang D, Melton JT. April 25, 2019. The effect of the H658Y mutation in the MSH2 protein on DNA mismatch repair (MMR) using a yeast model. Research Day 2019. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.
- **Collins S\***, Melton JT, Tekle Y. April 25, 2019. New species discovery: three new species of *Cochliopodium* – one named after the Spelman mascot – Go Jaguars! Research Day 2019. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Oral.

- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 13–15, 2018. Species diversity and organellar genomes of the green macroalgal genus *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium of Advanced Research on Green Tides. Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai, China. Invited Speaker.
- **Melton JT**, Wood FC, Tekle YI. August 2018. Transcriptome data of *Cochliopodium pentatrifurcatum* (Discosea, Amoebozoa) uncover the sexual nature of fused cells. International Society of Protistologists (ISOP). Vancouver, Canada. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Wood FC, Singla M, Collins S\*, Tekle YI. August 2018. Molecular and morphological identification of two new *Cochliopodium* species with microtubule organizing centers from the Southeastern United States. International Society of Protistologists (ISOP). Vancouver, Canada. Poster.
- **Singla M**, Melton JT, Wood FC, Branch J\*, Tekle YI. August 2018. Phylogenomic placement of a new isolate of Thecamoebida (Discosea, Amoebozoa) with a unique perinuclear microtubule organizing center (MTOC). International Society of Protistologists (ISOP). Vancouver, Canada. Poster.
- **Collins SJ\***, Tekle YI, Melton JT. April 2018. New species discovery: two new amoebae species with shining crystals and microtubule organizing centers (MTOC). Research Day at Spelman College, Atlanta, GA. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. November 2016. Diversity and Organellar Genomes of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Valdosta, GA. Oral.
- **Allen ML\***, Melton JT, Garcia-Soto GC, Lopez-Bautista JM. November 2016. The Seaweeds of Alabama. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Valdosta, GA. Oral.
- **Salter C\***, Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista JM. November 2016. Diversity of *Ulva* and *Blidingia* from Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain, based on molecular data. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Valdosta, GA. Poster.
- **McDoniell J\***, Melton JT, Armeli-Minicanti S, Lopez-Bautista JM. November 2016. Molecular Analysis of the Genus *Ulva* from Venice, Italy. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Valdosta, GA. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. July 2016. Molecular systematics and organellar genomics of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) with phylogenomics of the “Core Chlorophyta”. Phycological Society of America (PSA). Cleveland, Ohio. Oral.
- **Allen ML\***, Melton JT, Garcia-Soto G, Lopez-Bautista JM. July 2016. Morphological and molecular assessment of seaweeds in the understudied coast of Alabama. Phycological Society of America (PSA). Cleveland, Ohio. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. June 2016. Organellar genomes of *Ulva* spp. and phylogenomics of the “Core Chlorophyta”. International Seaweed Symposium (ISS). Copenhagen, Denmark. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Leliaert F, Tronholm A, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2015. The organellar genomes of *Ulva fasciata* and *Ulva* sp. (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Harbor Branch, Fort Pierce, FL. Oral.
- **Allen M\***, Melton JT, Macaya E, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2015. The biodiversity of *Ulva* species (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from Atlantic USA and Chile based on molecular data. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Harbor Branch, Fort Pierce, FL. Poster.
- **Sturm N\***, Melton JT, Salter C\*, McDoniell J\*, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2015. Digitization and Cataloguing of the University of Alabama Algal Herbarium. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Harbor Branch, Fort Pierce, FL. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Leliaert F, Tronholm A, Lopez-Bautista JM. August 2015. The chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes of the tubular green macralga *Ulva* sp. (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). Phycological Society of America (PSA). Philadelphia, PA. Oral.
- **Lam DW**, Leliaert F, Melton JT, Amsler CD, Amsler MO, Lopez-Bautista JM. August 2015. An assessment of the current state of knowledge of the Ulvophyceae. Phycological Society of America (PSA). Philadelphia, PA. Oral.
- **Allen M\***, Melton JT, Lopez-Bautista JM. April 2015. Identification of *Ulva* Species (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from Wilmington, North Carolina, Using Molecular Data. Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Leliaert F, Tronholm A, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2014. The Complete Chloroplast and Mitochondrial Genomes of *Ulva* sp. (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta). Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Wilmington, NC. Oral.
- **Ward D\***, Melton JT, Macaya E, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2014. Biodiversity of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from Chile Based on Molecular Data. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Wilmington, NC. Oral.
- **Sturm N\***, Melton JT, Ward D\*, Collado-Vides L, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2014. Molecular data reveal the presence of the green tide species *Ulva ohnoi* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) as a new report for the Western Atlantic and potentially the first non-indigenous green alga in the Gulf of Mexico. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC) Wilmington, NC. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Macaya E, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. May 2014. Biodiversity of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from the Gulf of Mexico and Chile Based on Molecular Data. Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting (JASM). Portland, OR. Oral.
- Lopez-Bautista JM, Tronholm A, Melton JT, **Leliaert F**. May 2014. Chloroplast Genome Evolution in the Ulvophyceae (Chlorophyta). Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting (JASM). Portland, OR. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Macaya E, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. April 2014. Biodiversity of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) from the Gulf of Mexico and Chile based on Molecular Data. E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Symposium. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. Poster.
- **Ward D\***, Melton JT, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. April 2014. A Molecular Investigation of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta): Are *Ulva nematoidea* and *Ulva taeniata* distinct entities? Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL. Poster.

- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. September 2013. Recent Advances to the Molecular Systematics of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) in the Gulf of Mexico. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Dauphin Island, AL. Oral.
- **Ward D\***, Melton T, Wynne MJ, Lopez-Bautista JM. September 2013. A Molecular Investigation of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta): Are *Ulva nematoidea* and *Ulva taeniata* distinct entities? Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Dauphin Island, AL. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. August 2013. A Molecular Investigation of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) in the Gulf of Mexico based on the Chloroplast Markers *rbcL* and *tufA*. International Phycological Colloquy (IPC). Orlando, FL. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. March 2013. A Molecular Characterization of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) in North Central Gulf of Mexico. Frontiers in Biology Research Colloquium. Tuscaloosa, AL. Poster.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. February 2013. Recent Molecular Investigations of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) in North Central Gulf of Mexico. Graduate Student Seminar at The University of Alabama. Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. October 2012. Recent Molecular Investigations of *Ulva* (Ulvophyceae, Chlorophyta) in North Central Gulf of Mexico. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy (SEPC). Jacksonville, FL. Oral.
- **Melton JT**, Lopez-Bautista JM. June 2012. A Molecular Characterization of *Ulva/Enteromorpha* in North Central Gulf of Mexico. Phycological Society of America (PSA). Charleston, SC. Poster.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

#### Biology Department, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

- Fall 2023. BIO350 ‘Phage Discovery’; Spring 2024. BIO351 ‘Phage Genomics’
- Fall 2022, 2023; Spring 2023, 2024. SFYE102 ‘First Year Experience’
- Fall 2021. BIO233 ‘Microbiology’
- Fall 2021, 2022, 2023; Spring 2022, 2023, 2024. BIO285/485 ‘Sophomore/Senior Bioseminar’
- Fall 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023; Spring 2021. BIO471 ‘Cellular and Molecular Biology’
- Fall 2020, 2021. BIO110 ‘Population Biology’ Laboratory
- Spring 2019, 2020, 2021. BIO491-02 ‘DNA in Action’, a two-credit elective course on molecular systematics and genomics
- Fall 2019. Co-taught BIO491-01 ‘Bioinformatics’
- Spring 2019, 2020 (co-taught); Spring 2022, 2023, 2024 (lead). BIO125 ‘Molecular Biology and Genomics’

#### Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

- Fall 2013, 2015. BSC 360 ‘Plant Biology’ Laboratory
- Spring 2013. BSC 117 ‘Introductory Biology II’ Laboratory
- Spring 2012, 2014, Fall 2014. BSC 464 ‘Biology of Algae’ Laboratory
- Summer 2012, 2013. BSC 216 ‘Anatomy and Physiology’ Laboratory
- Fall 2011, 2012. BSC 115 ‘Introductory Biology I’ Laboratory
- Fall 2011–May 2017. Mentored undergraduate students in Dr. Juan M. Lopez-Bautista’s PhycoLab: sampling methods, DNA extraction, PCR (polymerase chain reaction), gel electrophoresis, preparation for Sanger sequencing and next generation sequencing (Illumina HiSeq and MiSeq Platforms), and organellar genome assembly and annotation.

### ACADEMIC AWARDS/GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS:

#### Assistantships and Fellowships

- August 2017–May 2020. Course-based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) postdoctoral fellow. Biology Department. Spelman College. \$47,500/year
- Fall 2016–Spring 2017. Graduate Council Research Fellowship. Graduate School, The University of Alabama. \$26,500
- Spring 2015, 2016. Aquatic Biology Enhancement Fellowship. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama. \$51,505.00 (including tuition waiver)
- Summer 2015. EO Wilson Summer Fellowship. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama. \$5000
- Fall 2011–Fall 2014, Fall 2015. Graduate Teaching Assistantship. Graduate School. The University of Alabama. \$7,227/semester

#### Research and Travel Funds

- NSF ‘Developing Foundations for Nanopore DNA Sequencing through Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences at Minority-Serving Institutions’ (Award 2215496) \$28,922.64
- SENIC Catalyst Grant through NSF Award #ECCS-2025462. \$1000
- Fall 2011–Spring 2017. Research and Travel Fund. The University of Alabama Graduate School. \$6,300 total including matches from advisor
- June 2016. Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) partner network to attend the Auburn University Bioinformatics Bootcamp. \$500
- Spring 2016. Walter F. Coxe Research Grant. The Birmingham Audubon Society. \$1000
- Summer 2015. Hoshaw Travel Award. Phycological Society of America (PSA). \$600
- Spring 2014. Center for Freshwater Studies (CFS) travel award for Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting (JASM). Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama. \$1000

- May 2012. Travel Award. The University of Texas at Austin: airfare and hotel for Frontiers in Phylogenetics Spring Symposium and Workshop in Washington, DC, USA. \$500

#### **Academic Awards**

- June 2016. Best oral presentation (2<sup>nd</sup> place out of 43 graduate students) at the International Seaweed Symposium, Copenhagen, Denmark. \$500
- Spring 2016. Joab Langston Thomas Scholarship. Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama. \$2000

#### **WORKSHOPS/CONTINUING EDUCATION:**

- December 2023. SEA-PHAGES Phage Genomics Workshop. HHMI Headquarters, Chevy Chase, Maryland, USA.
- June 2023. SEA-PHAGES Phage Discovery Workshop. University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
- May 2023. Nanopore Workshop. Brooklyn, NY, USA
- January 2021. Biological Big Data in Research and Teaching Workshop. Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- August 2018. Protist Taxonomy- Navigating the Nomenclatural Code, Species, and Practical Considerations. International Society of Protistologists (ISOP). University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
- Spring 2018. Fellowships in Research and Science Teaching (FIRST) 'How to teach' course. Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- June 2016. Auburn University Bioinformatics Bootcamp, Auburn University, Auburn, AL, USA.
- March 2014. Bodega Applied Phylogenetics. Bodega Marine Laboratory, Bodega Bay, California. Sponsored by the University of California, Davis, and Bodega Marine Laboratory.
- August 2013. Teaching for Understanding in Phycology: Designing Learner-centered Instruction. Phycological Society of America. Orlando, FL, USA.
- May 2013. Phylogenomics Workshop at The University of Alabama: Tools for Professional, Institutional and Educational Development. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, USA.
- May 2012. Frontiers in Phylogenetics Spring Symposium and Workshop. Smithsonian Institution. Washington, DC, USA.

#### **OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERING:**

- March 2023. STEM GEMS. Hosted approximately 100 middle school students to tour Spelman College's campus and laboratories and listen and ask questions to a panel of women from diverse backgrounds and STEM occupations.
- May 2023. Co-lead a two-week STEM LAUNCH Study abroad trip to Germany with 14 students.
- Fall 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023. Biology student field trip to Arabia Mountain, Lithonia, GA. Students explored the diversity of life in terrestrial and aquatic environments.
- Spring 2016. Proctored for the Regional Science Olympiad at The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.
- Fall 2015. The Department of Biological Sciences Homecoming Event Tent. Collected and shared freshwater algal samples from Marrs Spring on The University of Alabama campus with the public.
- Spring 2012. Helped set up exams and proctored for the Regional Science Olympiad at The University of Alabama.
- July 2010, 2011, 2015, 2017. CYE German Foreign Exchange Program. Lectured German high school students as part of an international exchange preparatory seminar. Taught courses on ACT preparation, MLA formatting, and study and research skills.
- Spring 2008. UA Arboretum – Tuscaloosa, AL. Worked with a team of students and professors to clear off an area for new planting.
- Spring 2003 and 2004. Special Needs Baseball - Heardmont Park. Birmingham, AL. Worked with special needs children participating in baseball activities.

#### **FIELD WORK:**

- August 2023. Collected soil samples around Atlanta, GA, for phage isolation.
- September 2017. Collected freshwater samples from Arabia Lake, Lithonia, GA, to explore amoeboid diversity.
- October 2011- May 2015. Collected marine macroalgae for dissertation from the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic USA.
- May 2008. Collected plants (primarily family Gesneriaceae) with Dr. John L. Clark in Ecuador.

#### **AFFILIATIONS AND SOCIETIES:**

- Phycological Society of America (PSA)
- International Phycological Society (IPS)

#### **SEARCH COMMITTEES:**

- Spring 2016. Plant Systematics search committee at The University of Alabama.
- Spring 2015. Invertebrate Zoologist search committee at The University of Alabama.
- Spring 2014. Computational Biology search committee at The University of Alabama.

#### **REVIEWED MANUSCRIPTS FOR THE FOLLOWING JOURNALS:**

Scientific Reports, PLOS ONE, Phytotaxa, and European Journal of Phycology