

JOSEPH D. NAPIER

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, GRADUATE COLLEGE

Ph.D. Candidate in Plant Biology

- *The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi*

Urbana, IL

Expected May 2019

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA,

THE WILLIAM AND IDA FRIDAY PROGRAM FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

- *Classes in Ecology and Evolution, Fundamentals of Ecology, and Plant Geography*

Chapel Hill, NC

June 2013 - May 2014

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bachelor of Science in Biology

- *Minor in Chemistry*

Winston-Salem, NC

May 2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Plant Biology Hu Lab

- Plans and organizes a yearly month-long field expedition to remote areas in Alaska or Yukon to gather plant samples.
- Conducts DNA extractions and runs gel electrophoresis in order to isolate identifying genetic material at the individual level.
- Utilizes bioinformatics to analyze genomic data and draw conclusions from genetic inferences.

Urbana, IL

June 2014-Current

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

UNC Plant Ecology Lab, Carolina Vegetation Survey

- Worked in the Mitchell Laboratory to design and prepare a field enclosure experiment.
- Proposed and executed an individual experiment concerning competition-mediated community responses to variable environments.
- Authored a paper based on experimental findings that is currently in review at *Oecologia*, an ecological research journal.

Chapel Hill, NC

June 2013 - May 2014

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Research Fellow, Plant Ecophysiology Lab

- Conducted trait analyses on alpine species.
- Designed an undergraduate research study measuring the seedling/sapling growth trends of Fraser Fir, *Abies fraseri*, and Red Spruce, *Picea rubens*, at Mt. Mitchell State Park.
- Determined conclusions and presented the results at the Wake Forest University Research Symposium.

Winston-Salem, NC

June 2010 - May 2012

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Research Assistant and Lab Coordinator, Hu Laboratory

- Organizes multiple week-long field expeditions, coordinating logistics with support staff and selecting sites after researching pertinent data and accessibility of the location.
- Schedules weekly lab meeting and plans relevant guest speakers.

Urbana, IL

July 2014-current

Graduate Student Coordinator, Arctic Paleocological Group

- Compiles and distributes communications, and arranges monthly meetings.

July 2014-Current

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Napier, J.D. (2012) Is anthropogenic climate change inducing altitudinal range shifts in the relic forests of the Southern Appalachian Mountains? Presented at the Wake Forest University Research Symposium.

Napier, J.D., Mordecai E.A., and Heckman R.W. (2015). The role of drought- and disturbance-mediated competition in shaping community responses to global change. In review at *Oecologia*.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND INFORMATION

Awards: William Loius Poteat Scholarship, The Egbert L. Davis Jr. Scholarship, The George Nelson Turner Scholarship, Dean's List at Wake Forest University

Additional Leadership: Mentor to Undergraduate Student Researchers (2014-present), Elected to Wake Forest Student Government's Honor and Ethics Council

Skills: Proficient with SAS analytics software, R programming language, and Bioinformatics Processing of RAD-seq data (using STACKS, STRUCTURE, etc.). Practiced in DNA Extractions of non-model organisms and Gel Electrophoresis.