

## ALEXANDRA (SASHA) WRIGHT, PH.D.

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2015-present Assistant Professor, Dept. of Science & Mathematics, FIT (SUNY).  
2014-present Research Affiliate, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, Leipzig, Germany.  
2014-2015 Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology, Bard College.  
2013-2014 Postdoctoral Research Associate, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv).  
Leipzig, Germany.  
2013 Visiting Professor, Sarah Lawrence College, NY.

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2013. Department of Biology, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.  
B.A. 2005. Department of Biology, Beloit College, Beloit, WI

## AWARDS & HONORS

2016 FIT – Sustainability Grant for green roof research and curriculum development (\$5000)  
2016 FIT – Research Grant (\$1500)  
2010-2013 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship: (\$30,000/year)  
2011 Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Award (\$500)  
2011 Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research (\$500)  
2007-2010 UWM AOP Fellowship (\$15,000/year)  
2007-2013 UWM Chancellor's Graduate Student Award (\$200/year)  
2007 AmeriCorps Education Award (\$7000)  
2001-2005 Beloit College Presidential Scholarship (\$15,000/year)

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (\*indicates equal contributions by multiple authors, \*\*indicates undergraduate co-authors)

2016:

Cowles, J.M., Wragg, P.D., **Wright, A.J.**, Powers, J.S., and Tilman, D. 2016. Shifting grassland plant community structure drives positive interactive effects of warming and diversity on aboveground net primary productivity. *Global Change Biology* 22(2): 741-749.

Fischer, F., **Wright, A.J.**, Eisenhauer, N., Ebeling, A., Roscher, C., Wagg, C., Weigelt, A., Weisser, W.W., Pilar, V. P. 2016. Plant species richness and functional traits affect community stability after a flood event. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*. 371(1694): 20150276.

**Wright, A.**, de Kroon, H., Visser, E.J.W., Buchmann, T., Ebeling, A., Eisenhauer, N., Fischer, C., Hildebrandt, A., Ravenek, J., Roscher, C., Weigelt, A., Weisser, W., Voesenek, L.A.C.J., Mommer, L. *Accepted*. Plants are less negatively affected by flooding when growing in species-rich plant communities. *New Phytologist*.

2015:

**Wright, A.**, Ebeling, A., de Kroon, H., Roscher, C., Weigelt, A., Buchmann, N., Buchmann, T., Fischer, C., Hacker, N., Hildebrandt, A., Oelmann, Y., Steinauer, K., Weisser, W., and Eisenhauer, N. 2015. Flooding disturbances increase resource availability and productivity but reduce stability in diverse plant communities. *Nature Communications* 6: 6092.

**Wright, A.**, Schnitzer, S.A., and Reich, P.B. 2015. Daily environmental conditions determine the competition-

facilitation balance for plant water status. *Journal of Ecology* 103(3): 648-656.

**Wright, A.**, Tobin, M., Mangan, S., and Schnitzer, S.A. 2015. Liana competition: do lianas compete uniquely in a tropical forest understory? *Oecologia* 177: 561-569.

2014:

Fisichelli, N.\*, **Wright, A.\***, Buschena, C., Mau, A.\*\*, Rice, K., and Reich, P.B. 2014. Temperate and boreal tree seedling growth in response to increased temperature, leaf litter, and drought. *Oikos* DOI: 10.1111/oik.01349

**Wright, A.**, Bernhardt-Romermann, M., Craven, D., Ebeling, A., Engel, J., Hines, J., and Eisenhauer, N. 2014. Local-scale changes in plant diversity: reassessments and implications for biodiversity-ecosystem function experiments. *ProcPOS 1*: e6. DOI: 10.14726/procpos.2014.e6

**Wright, A.**, Schnitzer, S.A., and Reich, P.B. 2014. Living close to your neighbors – the importance of both facilitation and competition in plant communities. *Ecology* 95: 2213-2223.

2013:

**Wright, A.**, Schnitzer, S., Dickie, I., Gunderson, A., Pinter, G.A., Mangan, S., and Reich, P.B. 2013. Complex facilitation and competition in a temperate grassland: loss of plant diversity and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> have divergent and opposite effects on oak establishment. *Oecologia*. DOI: 10.1007/s00442-012-2420-y

2012:

Tobin, M., **Wright, A.**, Mangan, S., Schnitzer, S. 2012. Lianas have a greater competitive effect than trees of similar biomass on tropical canopy trees. *Ecosphere* 3(2): Article 20.

2005:

Woody, K., Atkinson, A., Clark, R., Jeffrey, C., Lundgren, I., Miller, J., Monaco, M., Muller, E., Patterson, M., Rogers, C., Smith, T., Spitzak, T., Waara, R., Whelan, K., Witcher, B., Wright, A. 2005. *In: Status of Caribbean coral reefs after bleaching and hurricanes in 2005*. ISSN: 14476185.

#### PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS IN REVIEW OR IN PREP

Barry, K., van Ruijven, J., Weigelt, A., van der Paauw, J.W., **Wright, A.**, Mommer, L. *In prep*. Prevalent species-specific niche overlap belowground in a trait-based biodiversity experiment.

Cesarz, S., Ciobanu, M., **Wright, A.**, Ebeling, A., Scherer-Lorenzen M., Vogel, A., Weigelt, A., Weisser, W., Eisenhauer, N. *In prep*. Plant species richness maintains higher soil food web complexity during extreme weather events.

Strini, J.\*\*, Barry, K., Kruse, H.\*\*, Lauko, I., Pinter, G., Reich, P.B., Schnitzer, S.A., Tilman, D., Yang, K.\*\*, and **Wright, A.** *In revision*. The importance of spatial scale in the study of biodiversity.

Weigelt, A., Wagg, C., de Luca, E., Roscher, C., **Wright, A.**, Schmid, B. *In prep*. Plant competition and facilitation in a ten year old grassland biodiversity experiment.

**Wright, A.\***, Barry, K.\*, Pinter, G., Schnitzer, S.A., and Eisenhauer, N. *In revision*. Biomass sampling in biodiversity experiments.

**Wright, A.**, Fisichelli, N., Rice, K., Stefanski, A., Pinahs, C., Montgomery, R., and Reich, P. *In prep*. Biodiversity bottleneck: seedling establishment under changing climatic conditions.

**Wright, A.**, Gaxiola, A., Wardle, D., Callaway, R. *In review: Trends in Ecology & Evolution*. The overlooked role of facilitation in biodiversity experiments.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS & INTERVIEWS

- Dunne, A. 2015. Interview: Bard Professor leads study on flooding and biodiversity. WNPR & WAMC Northeast Public Radio: <http://wnpr.org/post/bard-professor-leads-study-flooding-and-biodiversity>
- Flynn, K. 2009. Interview: **Sasha Wright** '05: From Student to Teacher. Beloit College Magazine: Fall/Winter 2009.
- Hance, J. 2009. Interview: Plant communities changing across the globe, says scientist **Sasha Wright**. [http://news.mongabay.com/2009/0329-hance\\_sashawright.html](http://news.mongabay.com/2009/0329-hance_sashawright.html). Accessed: 09/10/2009.
- Husney, J., and **Wright, A.** 2014. Build a remote-control Venus Flytrap. MAKE: Magazine, Vol. 39.
- Patterson, Matt, Andrea Atkinson, Jeff Miller, Brian Witcher, Kevin R.T. Whelan, Rob Waara, **Alexandra Wright**. 2006. South Florida/Caribbean Network Vital Signs Monitoring Plan Phase 2 Report. Palmetto Bay, Florida. 109 pp.
- Wright, A.,** and Patterson, J. 2007. Virtually Visiting a Remote Park: Increasing public awareness with three dimensions. ArcUser Magazine: <http://www.esri.com/news/arcuser/0207/seapark.html>
- Wright, A.** 2013. Why the GMO debate misses the point (Parts 1 & 2). *Popular Science: Biohackers blog*: <http://www.popsci.com/blog-network/biohackers/why-gmo-debate-misses-point>
- Wright, A.,** Herra, E.\*\*, Foerster, A., Polaski D., Pedro, S. 2014. The motion of the ocean and concentration gradients. TED-Ed educational video as a part of the flipped lesson series: <http://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-motion-of-the-ocean-the-concentration-gradient-sasha-wright>

## CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

- Cowles, JM, Clark, AT, Kosmala, M., Whittington, HR, Wragg, PD, **Wright, AJ**, Powers, JS, and Tilman, D. Interactive effects of warming and diversity on grassland community composition and ecosystem productivity. 2012 Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America. Portland, OR.
- English, J.\*\*, Delliquanti, R.\*\*, Dahan, D.\*\*, Black, T.\*\*, DePietro, D.\*\*, Dickerman, N.\*\*, Gao, Y.\*\*, Hendler, D.\*\*, Keddy-Hector, I.\*\*, Lansbury, R.\*\*, **Wright, A.J.** Flood priming and leaf loss in Brassica oleraceae. 2015. Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America, Baltimore, MD.
- Strini, J.\*\*, Yang, K.\*\*, Kruse, H.\*\*, **Wright, A.J.** The importance of spatial scale in the study of biodiversity. 2012. Oral Presentation. National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis, Undergraduate Research Conference. Knoxville, TN.
- Wright, A.** 2006. Virgin Islands National Park. 3D Visualizations for Resource Management. 2006 ESRI International User Conference Map Gallery. ESRI International User Conference
- Wright, A.,** DeKroon, H., Eisenhauer, N., et al. 2014. Not all disturbances are created equal: how flooding changes the biodiversity-stability hypothesis. 2014 Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America. Sacramento, CA.
- Wright, A.,** Schnitzer, S.A., Dickie, I., Gunderson, A., Mangan, S., and P.B. Reich. 2009. Diversity facilitates woody seedling establishment. Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America. Albuquerque, NM.
- Wright, A.,** Tobin, M., Mangan, S., and Schnitzer, S. 2010. Lianas and saplings have similar effects on seedling performance in a tropical forest understory. Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America. Pittsburgh, PA.
- Wright, A.,** Reich, P.B., and S. Schnitzer. 2012. Plant facilitation: the importance of diversity and seedling ontogeny. 2012 Annual Meeting for the Ecological Society of America. Portland, OR.

## SEMINARS/INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- July 2016, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, "*Biodiversity, ecosystem function, and facilitation: what, why, where, and how.*"
- June 2015, Hyuck Nature Preserve, "*Living close to your neighbors: competition and facilitation in plant communities.*"
- April 2015, Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies, "*Living close to your neighbors: competition and facilitation in plant communities.*"
- November 2014, Bard College, "*Facilitation in plant communities.*"
- November 2013, Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry, "*June 2013 Flooding in the Jena Biodiversity Experiment.*"
- November 2012, UW- Eau Claire Invited Speaker for departmental seminar series
- March 2, 2012, Wageningen University, Netherlands, "*Plant facilitation: models, experiments, and observations.*"

February 21, 2012, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, Spain, "*Plant facilitation: models, experiments, and observations.*"

## **JOURNAL REVIEWS**

AoB Plants, Botanical Journal of Linnean Society, Ecology, Ecology Letters, Oecologia, Journal of Ecology, Journal of Plant Ecology, Northeastern Naturalist, Perspectives in Plant Ecology Evolution & Systematics, Plant & Soil.

## **PROPOSAL PANELS**

2015 Department of Energy, Tropical Forest Ecosystems Panel.

## **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTEES**

2015 John English: The effect of global change factors on American Grasslands. Bard College Senior Thesis.

2015 Rock Delliquanti: The Bryo-fight to survive: the impact of the de-icing agent sodium chloride on germination rates of two genera of moss: Tetraphis and Orthotricum. Bard College Senior Thesis.

2013 Sydney Henck: The effect of pathogens on seed growth. Sarah Lawrence College Plant Physiology Conference Research.

2013 Nicholas Rademaker: The effect of built infrastructure on leaf abscission in *Sassafras albidum*. Sarah Lawrence College Plant Physiology Conference Research.

2013 Sarah Glass: Volatile Signaling in *Phaseolus lunatus*: How plants talk. Sarah Lawrence College Plant Physiology Conference Research.

2013 Allison Hanrahan: The effects of diversity on spearmint and peppermint germination and growth. Sarah Lawrence College Plant Physiology Conference Research.

2013 Sheila Pollozi: The effects of soil pathogens on oak germination. Sarah Lawrence College Biodiversity Conference Research.

2013 Ellen Herra: The effects of fire temperature on lodgepole pine germination. Sarah Lawrence College Biodiversity Conference Research.

2013 Hannah Valeruz: The effects of built infrastructure and landscaping on microclimate temperature and humidity. Sarah Lawrence College Biodiversity Conference Research.

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

2007-present Ecological Society of America

2013-present American Geophysical Union (Spilhaus Scientific Communication Award Committee)