

## Erika R. Moore-Pollard, PhD (she/her)

---

University of Memphis  
Department of Biological Sciences  
3700 Walker Avenue, Room 331  
Memphis, TN 38152

E-mail: [moore.erika.r@gmail.com](mailto:moore.erika.r@gmail.com)  
Personal website: [eramoore-pollard.com](http://eramoore-pollard.com)  
Github: [github.com/erika-r-moore](https://github.com/erika-r-moore)  
✉ @erikarmore11

### EDUCATION

---

- Ph.D., University of Memphis (UofM) – Biology 2018 – 2023  
“Investigating the impact of reticulate evolution and paralogy in phylogenomic studies using the complex genus *Packera* (Asteraceae: Senecioneae)”  
Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Mandel
- B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville – Ecology and Evolutionary Biology 2014 – 2018

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & ACADEMIC POSITIONS

---

- Post-Doctoral Researcher 2024 – Current  
Advisor: Jennifer Mandel, UofM
- Graduate Research Assistant 2023  
Advisor: Jennifer Mandel, UofM
- Graduate Teaching Assistant 2018 – 2022  
University of Memphis
- Lab Manager and Research Assistant 2018  
Susan Kalisz Lab, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Undergraduate Research Assistant 2014 – 2018  
Susan Kalisz Lab, Jen Schweitzer and Joe Bailey Lab, Elena Shpak Lab; University of Tennessee, Knoxville

### PUBLICATIONS

---

# Indicates undergraduate student

- Alan Yocca, Mary Akinyuwa, Nicholas Bailey, Brannan Cliver, Harrison Estes#, Abigail Guillemette, Omar Hasannin, Jennifer Hutchison, Wren Jenkins, Ishveen Kaur, Risheek Rahul Khanna, Madelene Loftin, Lauren Lopes, **Erika Moore-Pollard**, Oluwakemisola Olofintila, Gideon Oluwaseye Oyeboode, Jinesh Patel, Parbati Thapa, Martin Waldinger, Jie Zhang, Qiong Zhang, Leslie Goertzen, Sarah Carey, Heidi Hargarten, James Mattheis, Huiting Zhang, Teresa Jones, LoriBeth Boston, Jane Grimwood, Stephen Ficklin, Loren Honaas, Alex Harkess. A chromosome-scale assembly for ‘d’Anjou’ pear. 2024. G3: jkae003. DOI: 10.1093/g3journal/jkae003. **Cover image.**
- Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, Daniel S. Jones, Jennifer R. Mandel. Compositae-ParaLoss-1272: Complementary sunflower specific probe-set reduces paralogs in phylogenomic analyses of complex systems. 2024. *Applications in Plant Sciences*. DOI: 10.1002/aps3.11568.
- Jennifer R. Mandel, **Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, J. Mauricio Bonifacino. The Reinvention of Compositae: Vicki Funk’s legacy in the systematics of the largest plant family on Earth. 2023. *International Journal of Plant Sciences*: 184(5). DOI: 10.1086/725047.
- Erika R. Moore-Pollard** & Jennifer R. Mandel. Packed with *Packera*: Brief history of the “aureoid *Senecio*” subgroup classification. 2023. *Capitulum* 2(2): 51-58. DOI: 10.53875/capitulum.02.2.04.
- Erika R. Moore**, Carolina M. Siniscalchi, Jennifer R. Mandel. Reevaluating genetic diversity and structure of *Helianthus verticillatus* (Asteraceae) after the discovery of new populations. 2022. *Castanea* 86(2), 196-213. DOI: 10.2179/0008-7475.86.2.196. **Cover image; Southern Appalachian Botanical Society Richard and Minnie Windler Award** (DOI: 10.2179/0008-7475.87.1.147).
- J. Mauricio Bonifacino, Jennifer R. Mandel, Abigail Moore, **Erika R. Moore**, Benoit Loeuille, Lizzie Roeble. Capitulum: The Compositae Newsletter reloaded. 2021. *Taxon* 70(5): 1156-1156. DOI: 10.1002/tax.12571.
- Erika R. Moore**. What in the whorled: The rediscovery of *Helianthus verticillatus* Small (Heliantheae) over 100 years later. 2021. *Capitulum* 1(1): 61-64. DOI: 10.53875/capitulum.01.1.07.

Carolina M. Siniscalchi, Robert D. Edwards, Jorge Gomez#, **Erika R. Moore**, Jennifer R. Mandel.  
Photosynthesis metabolism in Asteraceae: current knowledge and future directions. 2021. *Taxon*  
70(2), 339-350. DOI: 10.1002/tax.12426.

Under review

Charles F. Keller, **Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, Ross A. McCauley. Taxonomic revision of the *Packera*  
*crocata/dimorphophylla* (Asteraceae: Senecioneae) complex in the in the southern Rocky Mountains.  
Target journal: *Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas*.

Carolina M. Siniscalchi, Jacqueline Bonfim e Cândido, **Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, Jorge L. Gomez#,  
Sushil Dahal, José Rubens Pirani, Ryan A. Folk, Jennifer R. Mandel, Benoit Loeuille. Phylogenomics  
reveal widespread ancient hybridization in the evolution of Lychnophorinae (Vernonieae,  
Asteraceae). Target journal: *Taxon*.

Not peer-reviewed

**Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, Jennifer R. Mandel. Resolving evolutionary relationships in the groundsels:  
phylogenomics, divergence time estimates, and biogeography of *Packera* (Asteraceae:  
Senecioneae). *bioRxiv*. DOI: 10.1101/2023.07.18.549592.

**Erika R. Moore-Pollard**, Jennifer R. Mandel. From paralogy to hybridization: Investigating causes of  
underlying phylogenomic discordance using the complex genus *Packera* (Senecioneae;  
Asteraceae). *bioRxiv*. DOI: 10.1101/2023.08.14.553290.

**Note:** Prior to 2023 I published as Erika R. Moore.

## SELECTED COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

---

DecodADAPT: Investigation of drivers of floral diversity and evolution on islands.

Countries involved: Spain, United Kingdom, USA.

North American Astereae: Collaboration using taxonomy, systematics, phylogenomics, and  
computational approaches to understand the evolutionary relationships and historical dispersal  
patterns of Astereae taxa across North America.

Countries involved: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA.

Reticulate evolution across Asteraceae: Collaboration investigating reticulate evolution across  
Asteraceae, with a focus on the relationships at the base of the phylogeny, to better understand  
evolutionary relationships and underlying discordance within the family.

Countries involved: United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA.

Target-enrichment sequencing with MinION: Collaboration developing a novel method to generate  
long-read, target-enrichment sequencing data from Oxford Nanopore technologies (MinION) for  
workshop, mentoring, or teaching purposes aimed at undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, junior  
graduate students, or collaborators interested in genomics and phylogenomics.

Countries involved: USA.

Rocky Mountain *Packera* species complex: Collaboration combining taxonomy and phylogenetics to  
delimit *Packera* species in the Rocky Mountains.

Countries involved: USA.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

---

Journal Editor

Reviewing Editor – *Applications in Plant Sciences* 2024 – Current

Associate Editor – *Capitulum* 2021 – Current

Guest Editor – *Journal of Systematics and Evolution* Special Issue: “A Botanist at  
the Extreme: Honoring the Great Contributions of Dr. Vicki A. Funk” 2022 – 2023

Reviewer

*Cladistics, Taxon* 2024

*Cladistics, HortScience, Evolutionary Applications, Molecular Biology and Evolution* 2023

*Castanea* 2022

## TEACHING/MENTORING EXPERIENCE

---

Teaching

*University of Memphis*

Biology of Organisms Lab – non-Biology major course 2018 – 2022

Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE) – Synthetic Biology	2021
Guest Lecturer	
<i>University of Memphis</i>	
Honors Biology I, Dr. Jaime Sabel – Meiosis	2024
Molecular Ecology and Conservation, Dr. Jennifer Mandel – Conservation Genetics	2023
Mentoring workshops	
<i>University of Memphis</i>	
Coding workshop (1 week) – mentored four graduate students on bioinformatics in the Biological Sciences Department	2024
Lab training (1 week) – trained three visiting high schoolers and one undergraduate student (Rice University) on wet lab and computer work	2023
Phylogenomics coding workshop (5-weeks) – mentored four undergraduate and two graduate students in the Biological Sciences Department	2023

### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

---

Kew Royal Botanical Gardens: Advances in Compositae phylogenomics – London, UK – Talk	2024
“New Compositae specific probe set reduces paralogs in complex systems”	
Memphis Area Master Gardeners – Memphis, TN – Talk	2024
“Herbaria: the foundation of plant research”	
Plant and Animal Genome Conference: Compositae Session – San Diego, CA – Talk	2024
“Systematics, Evolution, and Genomics in the Sunflower Family”	
Association of Southeastern Biologists Workshop: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee on Human Diversity – Panelist	2022 & 2023
UofM Department of Biological Sciences Workshop: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee – Panelist	2022
Association of Southeastern Biologists: Plant Conservation Genetics symposium – Little Rock, AK – Talk	2022
“Reevaluating genetic diversity and structure of <i>Helianthus verticillatus</i> (Asteraceae) after the discovery of new populations”	
Georgia Gwinnet College – via Zoom – Talk	2020
“Graduate school and research”	

### CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS

---

International Botanical Congress Conference – Madrid, Spain – Poster	2024
“New Compositae specific probe set reduces paralogs in complex systems”	
Plant and Animal Genome Conference – San Diego, CA – Poster	2024
“New Compositae specific probe set reduces paralogs in complex systems”	
Botany Conference – Boise, ID – Talk	2023
“Compositae-ParaLoss-1272: Complementary sunflower specific probe-set reduces issues with paralogs in complex systems”	
Botany Conference – Boise, ID – Poster	2023
“Investigating underlying discordance and hybridization among nuclear phylogenies of <i>Packera</i> (Asteraceae)”	
Association of Southeastern Biologists Conference – Winston-Salem, NC – Talk	2023
“Phylogenomics, divergence time estimates, and biogeography of <i>Packera</i> (Asteraceae: Senecioneae)”	
Association of Southeastern Biologists Conference – Winston-Salem, NC – Poster	2023
“Compositae in a Crate: an outreach initiative to promote plant awareness”	
Botany Conference – Anchorage, AK – Talk	2022
“Reconstructing evolutionary relationships in the genus <i>Packera</i> (Asteraceae: Senecioneae)”	
Botany Conference – Online – Poster	2021
“Reconstructing evolutionary relationships in the genus <i>Packera</i> (Asteraceae: Senecioneae)”	
Evolution Conference – Online – Talk	2021

“Understanding the systematics and evolutionary history of the genus <i>Packera</i> (Asteraceae: Senecioneae)”	
Association of Southeastern Biologists Conference – Online – Talk	2021
“Reevaluating genetic diversity and structure of <i>Helianthus verticillatus</i> (Asteraceae) after the discovery of new populations”	
The International Compositae Alliance Talks – Online – Talk	2021
“Reevaluating genetic diversity and structure of <i>Helianthus verticillatus</i> (Asteraceae) after the discovery of new populations”	
Botany Conference – Tucson, Arizona – Poster	2019
“Newly discovered population of <i>Helianthus verticillatus</i> (Asteraceae) found in Mississippi is genetically distinct from other known populations”	

## AWARDS

---

Southern Appalachian Botanical Society Richard and Minnie Windler Award – \$500 for “Best systematics paper published in <i>Castanea</i> during the previous year”	2022
Southern Appalachian Botanical Society Student Presentation Award – \$300 for “Best oral presentation” at Association of Southeastern Biologists conference 2022	2022
Association of Southeastern Biologists Student Research Award – \$1,000 for “Best oral presentation and associated published paper” at Association of Southeastern Biologists conference 2022	2022

## FUNDING

---

UofM Graduate Student Association Travel Funds – \$1,000 total	2023 & 2022
Botanical Society of America Student Travel Award – \$500	2023
American Society of Plant Taxonomists Travel Grant – \$670 total	2023 & 2019
Southern Appalachian Botanical Society Conference Support Award – \$450 total	2023 & 2022
Center for Biodiversity Research Seed Grant – \$4,500 total	2022 & 2019
Botany Conference 2022 Symposium Funding – \$500	2022
UofM College of Arts and Sciences Travel Enrichment Fund – \$300	2019

## UNDERGRADUATE MENTEES

---

Edgardo Cruz-Martinez, UofM	2023 – Current
Victoria Holyfield, UofM	2023 – Current
Mariah Mattison, UofM	2023 – Current
Paris Fouche, UofM	2023 – Current
Laura Lightbody, UofM	2023
Sam Drewry, UofM	2022 – 2023
Jorge Gomez, UofM	2019 – 2021
Paige Murin, UofM	2018 – 2019
Byanca Moreno, University of Tennessee, Knoxville	2016 – 2018

## POST-BACCALAUREATE MENTEES

---

Keiana Fields, UofM	2022 – 2023
Jorge Gomez, UofM	2021 – 2022

## CENTER OR SOCIETY POSITIONS

---

<i>Capitulum</i>	2021 – Current
Associate Editor and Founding Editorial Board member	
Center for Biodiversity Research (UofM)	2019 – 2023
<i>Research Facilitation Committee</i>	
Botany Conference Symposium organizer	2021 – 2022

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT)	Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB)
Botanical Society of America (BSA)	Center for Biodiversity Research (CBio)
Southern Appalachian Botanical Society (SABS)	Tennessee Plant Conservation Alliance (TPCA)
The International Compositae Alliance (TICA)	

## **ORGANIZATION INVOLVEMENT**

---

The International Compositae Alliance Compositae Journal Club, member	2020 – Current
UofM Book Club, organizer and member	2020 – 2022
UofM Biology Graduate Student Association, Vice President	2020 – 2021
UofM Botany Club, Secretary	2018 – 2020
UofM Biology Graduate Student Association, Secretary	2019 & 2020
UofM Committee for Diversity in Science, member	2018 – 2019
UofM Journal Club, member	2018 – 2019
UofM Writing Club, member	2018 – 2019

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH**

---

NSF funded project for primary education students (“Compositae in a Crate”)	2018 – Current
UofM Botany Club – various outreach opportunities	2018 – Current
Overton Park – City Nature Challenge plant specialist	2024
Memphis Botanical Garden – Halloween Hike	2018 & 2022
Museum of Science and History (MoSH) STEAMFest – herbarium focused	2021 & 2022
Collect Japanese honeysuckle for Genomics Capstone class at West Virginia University	2022
UofM Garden cleanup, CBio associated	2021
National Lab Day at UofM	2019
International Women in Science Day events with local public schools, Memphis, TN	2019
“Waste Tire Cleanup Day” at T.O. Fuller State Park	2019
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Chronic Wasting Disease check sites	2018 & 2019
“Talk to a Botanist” Day at Campus School; Memphis, TN	2018