

# Quentin D. Read

Using big open data to understand how humans influence the natural world

## Contact information

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## Postdoctoral research and education

**National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)**, Annapolis, MD *2018-present*

NSF-funded Socio-Environmental Immersion Postdoctoral Fellowship

“Food waste and the Environment”

Mentor: Dr. Mary Muth (RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC)

**Michigan State University (MSU)**, East Lansing, MI *2016-2018*

Department of Forestry; Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, & Behavior Program

Funded by NSF EAGER grant: “Intraspecific trait variation and community structure at a continental scale”

Advisors: Dr. Phoebe Zarnetske (MSU) and Dr. Sydne Record (Bryn Mawr College)

**University of Tennessee (UT)**, Knoxville, TN *2011-2016*

Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

*Dissertation:* “Individual variation in plant traits drives species interactions, ecosystem functioning, and responses to global change”

Advisor: Dr. Nathan Sanders

**University of North Carolina**, Chapel Hill, NC *2005-2009*

B.S. with highest distinction, Environmental Science

## Skills

Data processing, visualizing, and analysis in R, including tidyverse and Rmarkdown

Bayesian modeling with STAN and Jags

Spatial analysis and modeling with GDAL, QGIS, and GIS libraries in R

Working knowledge of Python

High-performance parallel computing using Linux server

Using GitHub for version control and remote collaborations

Synthesizing data and theory, both in ecology and beyond

Fluent in spoken and written German; communicate effectively in spoken and written Spanish

## Publications, presentations, and invited talks

### **Publications (for full list see [Google Scholar](#))**

Six first-authored publications in *Ecography*, *Biology Letters*, *Journal of Plant Ecology*, *Journal of Vegetation Science*, *Oikos*, and *Functional Ecology*

Two publications first-authored by an undergraduate whom I mentored, in *Ecology* and *Oecologia*

Ten co-authored publications in journals including *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, *PNAS*, and *PLoS One*

### **Conference presentations**

International Association of Landscape Ecology, Chicago, IL

*2018*

Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR 2017  
Ecological Society of America, Baltimore, MD 2015

### **Invited research talks**

Commission for Environmental Cooperation, Arlington, VA 2018  
National Ecological Observatory Network, Boulder, CO 2017  
MSU Department of Forestry, Hanover Forest Science Seminar Series, East Lansing, MI 2016  
University of Notre Dame biology education seminar, Notre Dame, IN 2015  
Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory seminar, Gothic, CO 2014  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge, TN 2014

## **Teaching and mentoring**

### **Teaching**

Co-instructor of graduate course at MSU 2017  
Graduate teaching assistant for eight semesters at UT 2011-2016  
Delivered four guest lectures in undergraduate courses at UT 2013-2015

### **Curriculum development and course design**

Designed graduate teaching module at MSU 2018  
Designed and led workshop on R and ggplot2 2015  
Designed and led workshop on statistical analyses in R 2014  
Served on panel developing and reforming undergraduate biology curriculum at UT 2013-2014  
Surveyed biology instructors on current professional development opportunities for graduate teaching assistants, creating recommendations to improve TA training 2013

### **Mentoring**

Mentored 4 undergraduates through Summer Research Opportunities Program and High Performance Computing Center, MSU 2017 & 2018  
Mentored 8 summer research undergraduates, Rocky Mtn. Biological Laboratory 2012-2015  
Mentored 3 undergraduate laboratory assistants, UT 2013-2015

## **Honors and awards**

Science Alliance award, for exemplary accomplishments as a graduate student, UT 2015  
Outstanding Outreach and Community Service award, UT Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (awarded for leadership of Darwin Day) 2014  
Dr. Jean H. Langenheim Endowed Graduate Fellowship in the Ecology and Evolution of Plants, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory 2013-2014  
Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship 2013  
Dr. Lee R. G. Snyder Memorial Fellowship, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory 2012

## **Professional outreach**

Peer reviewer for 30 manuscripts in 23 different journals 2013-2019  
Review panelist, SESYNC immersion postdoctoral fellowship program February 2019  
Gave public research talks on climate change and citizen science, MSU 2017-2018  
Volunteered at kids' science education events in TN, CO, and NC 2011-2015  
Organized Darwin Day, a campus-wide science education event, UT 2014

## **Selected work experience**

**Jim Clark Lab, Duke University**, Durham, NC  
Research technician Summer 2008 and May 2010-January 2011  
**North Carolina Botanical Garden**, Chapel Hill, NC  
Conservation and Land Management intern June-November 2009