

Curriculum Vitae

Rachel E. Prunier

University Address:

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
75 N. Eagleville Rd.
U-3043
Storrs, CT 06269

Laboratory and Office:

Biology/Pharmacy Building room 302
Phone: (860) 486-5731
Email: rachel.prunier@uconn.edu

Education:

2004-2010	University of Connecticut (UConn)	Storrs, CT
	PhD Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB)	
2004-2005	University of Connecticut	Storrs, CT
	MS Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	
1999 - 2003	University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA	
	BA Biology With Distinction	

Presentations:

Prunier, R., K. Holsinger, C. Jones, and C. Schlichting. 2008. Pelargonium community assembly in South Africa: The influence of phylogeny, body plan, and climate. Paper presented at the joint meetings of the Botanical Society of America and Canadian Botanical Association.

Prunier, R. and K. Holsinger. 2008. Molecular and ecological diversification in the White Proteas. Paper presented at the joint meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution and the Society for Systematic Biology.

Prunier, R. and K. Holsinger. 2007. Plastic and genetic influences on Protea leaf traits. Poster presented at the joint meetings of the Botanical Society of America and American Society of Plant Biologists.

Prunier, R., K. Holsinger, A. Rebelo. 2006. Evolution in a hotspot: Patterns of morphological divergence in the genus Protea. Paper presented at the joint meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution and the Society for Systematic Biology.

Prunier, R., K. Holsinger. 2005. Evolutionary radiations of the Proteaceae in South Africa and Australia. Paper presented at the UConn EEB graduate spring symposium.

Prunier, R., J. D. Hill, R. G. Shaw. 2004. Fitness evolution in a new set of Arabidopsis mutation accumulation lines. Poster presented at the joint meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution and the Society for Systematic Biology.

Awards Received:

Schwenk Graduate Student Mentoring Fellowship 2008 \$5000

NSF DDIG DEB 0709690 \$11,965

UConn EEB Bamford Award 2006-2007 \$200

UConn Outstanding Student Fellowship: 2004-2007 \$33,750

UConn CLAS Fellowship: 2004-2006 \$6000

NSF GRFP Honorable Mention: 2004, 2005

NSF REU Awards: Summer 2001, 2002

UVA Biology Distinguished Majors Program

Research Experience:

Junior Scientist to Dr. Ruth Shaw St. Paul, MN
Fall 2003-Spring 2004 University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Implementation, data collection and maintenance of mutation accumulation experiment using *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Supervising two undergraduate assistants

Honors Thesis Advisor: Dr. Douglas Taylor Charlottesville, VA
Fall 2002-Spring 2003 University of Virginia
“The effect of life history on the rates of evolution of nuclear and organellar genomes of three closely related plant species.” [*Silene vulgaris*, *S. latifolia*, *S. acaulis*]

Research Experience for Undergraduates Advisor: Dr. Thomas Ranker; Colorado University, Boulder Nederland, CO
Summer 2002 Mountain Research Station
Development, experimental design, implementation, and data analysis of the independent project, “Genetic Variability in *Lasthenia conjugens* (Asteraceae).”

Independent Research Project Advisor: Dr. Piotr Wolski; Harry Oppenheimer Okavango Research Center (HOORC) Maun, Botswana
Spring 2002 HOORC
“The effect of island type on the vegetation of the islands in the Okavango Delta.”

Research Assistant to Dr. Douglas Taylor Charlottesville, VA
Fall 2001 University of Virginia
DNA sequencing and analysis
Pollination and maintenance of *Silene latifolia* and *Silene vulgaris* in the greenhouse

Research Experience for Undergraduates Advisor: Dr. Marilyn Walker; University of Alaska, Fairbanks Toolik Lake, AK
Summer 2001 Toolik Lake Field Station
Development, experimental design, implementation, and data analysis of the independent project, “Can *Salix lanata* Indicate Climate Change?”
Data collection for the International Tundra Experiment

Research Assistant to Dr. Laura Galloway Charlottesville, VA
Fall 2000 – Spring 2000 University of Virginia
Data collection and entry
Transplanting and maintenance of *Campanula americana*

Research Assistant to Dr. Janis Antonovics Pembroke, VA
Summer 2000 Mountain Lake Biological Station
Day to day care of 4000 *Silene latifolia* and *Silene vulgaris*
Data collection and entry
Independent research projects exploring the effects of neighboring flowers on experimental plots, and the effects of nutrient stress on the transmission of disease in *Silene latifolia*

Teaching Experience:

University of Connecticut: Storrs, CT
Biology 102 - Introductory biology for non-majors
EEB 245 – Evolution

UConn in Cape Town: Cape Town, South Africa
Graduate Resident Assistant
EEB 275 – African Field Ecology

University of St. Thomas: St. Paul, MN
Biology 201 – Adaptation and Diversity

Service:

EEB Graduate Student Association – Secretary 2007-2008

EEB Graduate Student Association –Monday Evening Seminar Coordinator 2007-2008

Graduate Student Senate – Secretary 2006-2007

Graduate Student Senate – Senator 2004-2006

EEB Graduate Student Association – Executive Committee 2004-2006