Christopher "Eric" Johnson

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Curriculum Vitae

Education

St. Edward's University, Austin, TX *May 2017*
Professional Science Master's in Environmental Management & Sustainability

Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX *May 2012*
Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Publications

- Johnson, C. E., Beck, P., Concilio, A., Wasserman, M. (2018) Effects of conservation strategies on forest structure in Costa Rica. *In preparation.*
- Johnson, C. E., Kropf, A., Bryson, S., Concilio, A. (2018) Non-chemical removal and restoration methods are effective in inhibiting invasive privet (*Ligustrum japonicum* & *L. sinense*) growth in a Central Texas riparian ecosystem. *In preparation.*

Awards and Honors

- National Science Foundation International Research Experience for Students (NSF-IRES) Research Fellowship, St. Edward's University, 2017
- First Place, Graduate Student Poster Contest, Texas Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (TxSER) Conference, 2016
- Dr. Allan W. Hook Endowed Wild Basin Creative Research Fund Scholarship, St. Edward's University, 2016 - 2017
- Paideia Scholar, Southwestern University, 2012

Research Experience

National Science Foundation & Organization for Tropical Studies, Costa Rica *January 2017 - Present*
Effects of Fragmentation on Forest & *Ficus spp.* Success in Costa Rica
- Developed nested plot study design to measure different biotic and production factors across different forest fragments
- Collected extensive data pertaining to tree success, forest composition, and *Ficus spp.* recruitment in remote locations
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary project team to uncover the social, political, biological, and ecological components involved with forest fragmentation

Research Advisor: Dr. Mike Wasserman

St. Edward's University & Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve, Austin, Texas *July 2016 - October 2017*
An Assessment of Mechanical Removal Methods of *Ligustrum spp.* in Riparian Areas
- Designed BACI plot experiment to test plant community's response to mechanical removal methods of *Ligustrum spp.* in riparian zones
- Collected stem density and species composition data in experimental plots where *Ligustrum spp.* invasions occurred
- Analyzed results and presented research findings at the Texas Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration Conference & the St. Edward's University MSEM Research Symposium

Research Advisor: Dr. Amy Concilio

Research Experience Cont.

St. Edward's University & Organization for Tropical Studies, Costa Rica *May - June 2016*
Topics in Tropical Ecology
- Developed transect study design to test a potential correlation between *Ficus spp.* abundance & bird species richness across different land use types at Las Cruces Biological Research Station
- Collected data on total tree count, fruiting *Ficus spp.* abundance, and bird species richness in replicated transects in remote areas
- Analyzed and presented results at Las Cruces Biological Research Station

Research Advisor: Dr. Mike Wasserman

Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas *January - March 2012*
General Ecology
- Designed plot experiment to test the effects of different organic fertilizer applications on Red Leaf Lettuce and Russian Kale growth
- Collected and analyzed data on dry biomass, total leaf count, and change in plant height from plots set up in the campus community garden

Research Advisor: Dr. Romi Burks

Research Interests and Skills

- Strong interest and considerable experience with plant ecology and plant species identification, conservation biology, restoration ecology, tropical ecology, environmental change, invasion biology, and forest ecology measuring techniques in the field
- Extensive computing experience with SPSS, R, ArcGIS, and Microsoft Office
- Comprehensive knowledge in laboratory procedures pertaining to biology and chemistry
- Proficient in conversational Spanish

Professional Experience

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN *June 2017 - Present*
Laboratory Manager for Primate Environmental Endocrinology Lab, Dr. Mike Wasserman
Field Site Manager for NSF-IRES Costa Rica Project
- Perform methanol extractions and transfection assays for measuring phytoestrogen content in primate foods according to protocol
- Generate maps and spatial models pertaining to field sites in Uganda and Costa Rica using ArcGIS
- Supervise all undergraduate research assistants in the laboratory and ensure they are following all safety measures and are up to date on required training
- Manage all day-to-day operations in the laboratory and research projects including general upkeep
- Deployed passive air samplers at study sites in Costa Rica during January to March and collected them independently in July (2017 and 2018)
- Worked closely with the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) to oversee an interdisciplinary project team of five student researchers in Costa Rica from January to March (2018 and 2019)
- Assisted with organizing the project, booked reservations with research stations, and prepared and submitted the appropriate documentation to obtain international research permits

Relevant Experience

Commons Ford Restoration Project, Austin, TX *May 2017*
Crew Leader for Vegetation Surveys in Mixed Grass Prairie

Lady B. Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin, TX *2014 - 2015*
Volunteer Gardener

Relevant Experience Cont.

Georgetown Area Middle and High Schools, Georgetown, TX *2013 - 2016*
Math and Science Tutor

Southwestern University & The Boys and Girls Club, Georgetown, TX *May - August 2012*
Student Teacher & Gardener
- Tended and maintained the SU Community Garden and the garden at the local Boys and Girls Club
- Developed and executed programming ideas for children that pertained to gardening and plant science

JPG Technologies, Inc. dba MediMobile, Georgetown, TX *August 2012 - December 2016*
Executive Assistant
- Generated invoices, processed payments, bills, payroll, and recorded deposits
- Created and responsible for the inventory management process for all supplies and IT equipment
- Built HR database and compiled all employee documentation into electronic format

Presentations

- Johnson, C. E., Bryson, S., Kropf, A. Supplemental mechanical removal methods are effective in inhibiting regrowth of Privet (*L. japonicum* & *sinense)* at Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve. Oral presentation at the Society for Ecological Restoration (TxSER) Conference, Denton, Texas, November 2017
- Johnson, C. E., Kropf, A., Bryson, S. Evaluating restoration techniques for riparian areas: an assessment of mechanical removal methods of Privet (*Ligustrum japonicum* & *Ligustrum sinense)*. Poster presentation at the International Association for Landscape Ecology (US-IALE) Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, April 2017
- Bryson, S., Johnson, C. E., Kropf, A. An assessment of mechanical removal methods of Privet (*Ligustrum japonicum* & *Ligustrum sinense)* at Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve. Poster presentation at the Texas Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (TxSER) Conference, Livingston, Texas, November 2016

Community Outreach and Coauthored Presentations

- Iruri-Tucker, A., Beck, P. Steiniche, T., Johnson, C. E., et al. The effects of a payment for ecosystem service program and ecotourism on primates in Costa Rica. Poster presentation at the International Primate Society meeting, Nairobi, Kenya, August, 2018
- Beck, P., Wasserman, M., Johnson, C. E., Steiniche, T., et al. Measuring the effectiveness of landowner incentives at ecosystem service provision across forest fragments in Costa Rica. Oral presentation at the North American Congress for Conservation Biology, Toronto, Ontario, July 2018
- Wasserman, M., Beck, P., Steiniche, T., Johnson, C. E., et al. Primate ecotoxicology in Costa Rica: assessing an overlooked threat to primates across a series of forest fragments. Oral presentation at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists (AAPA) Conference, Austin, Texas, May 2018
- Johnson, C. E., Piecing the puzzle together: an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the effects of fragmentation in Costa Rica. Organization for Tropical Studies' AMIGOS Newsletter 2017 (Issue 88, p.8-9)
- Johnson, C. E., Steiniche, T., Wasserman, M., et al. Do conservation incentives have positive impacts on forest quality & primate health in Costa Rica? Poster presentation at community outreach event at Las Cruces Biological Station, Costa Rica, July 2017
- *Biodiversity and how to measure it in the field.* Guest lecture for an undergraduate biology class, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, August 2018
- *Carbon sequestration and forestry techniques.* Guest lecture for an undergraduate biology lab at the IU Teaching & Learning Preserve, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, September 22, 2017
- *Fig trees, Costa Rica, and global change*. Guest lecture for a graduate level field course, St. Edward's University, Las Cruces Biological Research Station, Costa Rica, July 17, 2017
- *Effects of fragmentation on forest and primate health*. Guest lecture for an undergraduate field course, Bethel College, Las Cruces Biological Research Station, Costa Rica, January 8, 2017