

P. Camilla Durant

Education and certificates

Bachelor of Science, Biology

Concentration in Computational Biology
Departmental Honors in Biology
Minor in Science Communication

May 2022

The University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX

Research experience

Research Technologist I

The Lowry Lab
Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center

June 2022 - August 2024

Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

- Used multivariate data analysis techniques to analyze complex plant phenotypes.
- Scored shoot architecture traits for a temperate forb (yellow monkeyflower, *Mimulus guttatus*) to characterize adaptations of annuality and perenniality.
- Designed phenotype assays and analyzed for leaf surface properties such as wettability and surface water retention.
- Maintained a greenhouse collection of temperate grass (switchgrass, *Panicum virgatum*).
- Assisted in data collection in a large common garden of switchgrass used for local adaptation and microbiome studies.
- Screened for mutants in mutagenized lines of *M. guttatus*.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

NSF REU

The Juenger Lab
Department of Integrative Biology

August 2021 - May 2022

June 2021 - July 2021

The University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX

- Measured leaf morphology and performed tensile assays on switchgrass leaves.
- Ground and scanned dried leaf samples for Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS) to model leaf cell wall composition and nitrogen content.
- Performed quantitative genetics and genomic analyses on leaf traits to understand how leaf morphology impacts leaf toughness.

Writing

Durant PC, Juenger TE, Bhasin A, & Heckman RW. 2024. **Genetically correlated leaf tensile and morphological traits are driven by growing season length in a widespread perennial grass.** American Journal of Botany. 111(5):e16349. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajb2.16349>

Awards

April 2022

Thermo-Fisher Scientific Award for Excellence in Integrative Biology

Awarded at the 2022 University of Texas Undergraduate Research Forum to “the best and most innovative poster presentations.”

March 2022

University of Texas Spring 2022 Bee Competition

Awarded to the first UT student or employee to observe a mason bee (*Osmia spp.*) in Travis County in 2022.

Leadership and community

September 2023 - May 2024

Department of Plant Biology DEI Committee
Michigan State University

Research Support Staff Representative

East Lansing, MI

May 2021 - May 2022

August 2021 - May 2021

Texas Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior Club

Historian

Member

Austin, TX