

Mary E. Washburn

M.S. Student, Department of Plant Biology, University of Georgia
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Passionate educator, mentor, and communicator who strives to make science accessible to all.

Education

University of Georgia, Plant Biology M.S., 2020-Present (Projected Graduation: Jul 2023)

- Principal Investigator: Brad Nelms
- Research Focus: Cellular response during meiosis in *Zea mays*

University of North Georgia, B.S. Biology, 2017-2020

- Research Focus: Biology education, curriculum, and pedagogy; Mycological response to pesticide exposure
- Relevant Publication:
Washburn, M. E., Shanks, R. A., McCartney, M., Robertson, C. L., & Segura-Totten, M. (2023). Discussion of annotated research articles results in increases in scientific literacy within a cell biology course. *Journal of Microbiology & Biology Education*, 24(1), e00154-22.

Relevant Experience

Graduate Laboratory Assistant: University of Georgia, Spring 2022

- Instructor of record for BIOL 1107L (Intro to Biology Lab for Biology Majors) (Two 3 credit hour sections; 48 students total)
- Created lesson plans using research-based practices
- Content Included: Basic biological principles, experimental design, scientific writing, data analysis, presentation skills

Graduate Research Assistant

University of Georgia, 2020 - present

- Mentored undergraduates through Crop & Soil Sciences REEU Program (2022) to improve laboratory, experimental design, and presentation skills

Undergraduate Research Assistant/Administrative Assistant

University of North Georgia, 2018 – 2020

- President of the Biology Honor Society: Organized guest speakers, community outreach, and special events
- Lead laboratory assistant: Mentored undergraduates in learning laboratory skills and experimental design

United States Navy, Enlisted

Nuclear Electronics Technician - USS George Washington CVN 73, 2010 - 2016

Relevant Coursework

- Pedagogy of Writing Intensive Disciplines (WIPP 7001)
- Graduate Teaching Seminar (GRSC7770)
- Critical Issues in Education (EDUC 2110)
- Exploring Learning and Teaching (EDUC 2130)
- Communicating in Diverse Cultures (COMM 1503)
- Exploring Sociocultural Perspectives on Diversity (EDUC 2120)

Professional Involvement

- Maize Genetics Mentoring Program (2022- present)
- American Society of Plant Biology: Early Career Researchers Section (2019- present)
- Georgia Association of Educators (2018-2020)

Outreach

- AP Biology Seminar Series Presenter, Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology; (2023)
- Plant Biology Graduate Student Association: University of Georgia; Secretary (2022-2023)
- Bethlehem Elementary Garden Club Partner (2022-2023)
- Beta Beta Beta Biology Honor Society: University of North Georgia; President (2019-2020); Treasurer (2018-2019)

Awards and Acknowledgments

- Palfrey Student Research Grant recipient (Spring 2023)
- Osborne Assistantship Award recipient: University of Georgia (2020-2021)
- Ben W. Sanders Biology Award: University of North Georgia (2020)
- Dean Hyams Leadership Award Finalist: University of North Georgia (2020)
- Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal: U.S. Navy (2016)
- Sea Service Deployment Award: U.S. Navy (2013-2015)
- Humanitarian Service Medal: U.S. Navy (2013)