

# Dylan Harrison Cohen, Ph.D.

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Chicago Botanic Garden  
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## Professional Appointments

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### Postdoctoral Research Associate

Negaunee Institute for Plant Conservation and Science Action  
Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Illinois  
Postdoctoral advisor: Dr. Krissa Skogen

June 2021-present

### Research Associate

California Botanic Garden  
Claremont, California

June 2021-present

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## Education

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### Ph.D. in Botany

Claremont Graduate University  
Advisor: Dr. Lucinda McDade

2015-2021

Thesis: From the Mojave Desert to the southern Andes: Phylogenomic and Biogeographic studies of Loasaceae

### B.S. in Environmental Studies

California University of Pennsylvania

2013-2015

### B.S. in Communications Media/Minor in Sociology

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

2006-2009

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## Publications

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**Cohen, D.H.** and J. J. Schenk. 2022. Investigating Phylogenetic Placement and Species-Level Relationships in a Recent Radiation of *Mentzelia* section *Bartonia* (Loasaceae) from the Mojave Desert. *Systematic Botany* 47: 140-151.

Acuña-Castillo, R.H., **D.H. Cohen**, M. Weigend, A. Slanis, M.C. Perea, and A. Grau. 2021. Loasaceae. *Flora vascular de la República Argentina* 19: 263-311.

Santilli, L., **D.H. Cohen**, and R. Acuña. 2020. New insights into *Grausa*: reinstatement, distribution, and affinities of *Loasa acaulis* (Loasaceae, Loasoideae). *Darwiniana, nueva serie* 8: 372-388.

**D.H. Cohen**, and A. Maza. 2019. The first collection of *Pinnasa volubilis* (Loasaceae) for the Flora of Argentina. *Darwiniana, nueva serie* 7: 330-334.

*In prep*

**Cohen, D.H.**, A. Doucet, J. Fant, and K. Skogen. In prep. Conservation genomics of *Amsonia tharpii*, a hawkmoth pollinated plant. Target Journal: *Annals of Botany*

**Cohen, D.H.**, L. Santilli, N. Lavandero, R. Acuña, M. Poston, and L. McDade. In prep. Biogeography and diversification of the South Andean Loasa. Target Journal: *International Journal of Plant Sciences*

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## Teaching Experience

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**PBC 451: Field and Lab methods** - Northwestern University - Fall 2022, 2023  
This course is co taught by multiple faculty members. I instructed two classes and labs on phylogenetic theory and methods.

**PBC 450: Topics in Ecology and Conservation** - Northwestern University - Fall 2021  
I taught three classes on 1) Conservation Genetics, 2) Evolutionary Applications, and 3) Plant Animal Interactions.

**SRI: Summer Research Institute** - California Botanic Garden - Summer 2019  
This was a two week intensive course for undergraduates that are interested in graduate school. I was an instructor and teaching assistant for several labs and lectures.

**BIO 44L: Biology Lab Instructor** - Keck Science Department - Spring 2019, 2020  
These labs were separate from BIO 44 lecture, but included lecture and lab components that focused on evolutionary ecology and the scientific method.

**BOT 380: Plant Systematics TA** - Claremont Graduate University - Spring 2018  
I assisted with setting up and running labs, helping students with lab exercises, and grading assignments.

**Community Education TA** - California Botanic Garden - Fall 2017  
I helped teach and run several community classes in association with the Botanic Garden.

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## Students Mentored

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Steve Girard. Master's thesis, Northwestern University 2022-present  
Recipient of American Society of Plant Taxonomist student grant 2023. Project: Exploring the potential for hybridization in conservation collections at Botanic Gardens.

- Alissa Doucet. Master's thesis, Northwestern University 2021-present  
Project: How spatial distribution within and between populations impacts genetic diversity through pollen dispersal and seed viability.
- Evelin Munoz. NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, Summer 2023  
Project: A Comparative Analysis of the Genetic Diversity of *Amsonia kearneyana*.
- Audrey Lilian Bamfo College First Program, High School Student, Summer 2022  
Project: Testing the association between starting leaf mass and DNA concentration yield.
- Madison Dieffenbach. NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, Summer 2022  
Project: The Impacts of habitat change on the genetic diversity of *Amsonia tharpjii*, a rare plant species. Won best poster design.
- Daja Dortch. College First Program, High School Student, Summer 2022  
Project: Testing DNA concentrations from herbarium specimens across time.
- Kyann Young, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, Summer 2021  
Project: Genetic diversity and germination of *Amsonia tharpjii*, a rare plant species. Won best poster presentation at symposium.

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## Grants and Awards (\$50,070)

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- 2023 - United States Fish and Wildlife Service (\$30,000)  
2019 – Alpine Garden Society (\$1,470)  
2019 – Botanical Society of America (\$1,500)  
2019 – International Association of Plant Taxonomists (\$2,500)  
2019 – Nevada Native Plant Society Margaret Williams Award (\$1,000)  
2019 – California Native Plant Society BristleCone Chapter (\$1,000)  
2018 – California Botanic Garden Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,000)  
2017 – California Native Plant Society Conservation Grant (\$600)  
2017 – California Botanic Garden Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,000)  
2017 – Claremont Graduate University Travel Award (\$300)  
2017 – University of Washington Summer Institute Travel Grant (\$450)  
2016 – California Botanic Garden Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,000)  
2016 – MicroMorph Travel Grant (\$500)  
2016 – American Society of Plant Taxonomists (\$750)  
2015 – California Botanic Garden Graduate Student Research Grant (\$1,000)

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## Contributed Talks and Invited Seminars

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- Cohen, D.H.** 2023. Population genetic and systematic studies of *Amsonia* (Apocynaceae). Invited Seminar at Ohio University. Athens, Ohio

**Cohen, D.H.**, J. Fant, A. Doucet, and K. Skogen. 2023. Conservation genomics of *Amsonia tharpii*, a hawk moth pollinated plant. Botanical Society of America Conference. Boise, Idaho

**Cohen, D.H.**, M. Poston, R. Acuña-Castillo, N. Lavandero, L. Santilli, and L. McDade. 2023. Biogeography and diversification of the South Andean Loasa. Botanical Society of America Conference. Boise, Idaho

**Cohen, D. H.**, M. Poston, and L. McDade. 2021 Consequences of glaciation in the southern Andes Mountains: Phylogenetic relationships of *Pinnasa*, and patterns of migration, isolation, and secondary contact in the *Pinnasa pinnatifida* complex (Loasaceae). Botanical Society of America Conference. Virtual.

**Cohen, D. H.**, M. Poston, and L. McDade. 2019. Herbarium Genomics: Testing for phylogenetic signal and assessing rarity in Chilean Loasaceae. Botanical Society of America Conference. Tuscon, Arizona

**Cohen, D. H.**, M. Poston, and L. McDade. 2019. Herbarium Genomics: Testing for phylogenetic signal and assessing rarity in Chilean Loasaceae. Invited Seminar at Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile

**Cohen, D. H.**, M. Poston, and L. McDade. 2019. Herbarium Genomics: Testing for phylogenetic signal and assessing rarity in Chilean Loasaceae. California Botanical Society Student Symposium. San Luis Obispo, California.

**Cohen, D. H.** and J. Schenk. 2018. Decrypting phylogenetic placement and species level relationships in a recent radiation for the CNPS listed rare plant *Mentzelia polita* (Loasaceae). California Native Plant Society Conference. Los Angeles, California.

**Cohen, D. H.**, M. Poston, and L. McDade. 2017. Taxonomy, systematics, and biogeography of *Loasa sensu lato* (Loasaceae) in the Southern Andes. California Botanical Society Student Symposium. Santa Barbara, California

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## Poster Presentations (\* = Undergraduate)

Munoz, E.\* and **D. H. Cohen**. 2023. A Comparative Analysis of the Genetic Diversity of *Amsonia kearneyana*. REU Research Symposium. Chicago, Illinois.

Acuña-Castillo, R., L. Santilli, N. Lavandero, **D. H. Cohen**, and M. Weigend. 2023. Contributions towards a taxonomic revision for the Flora de Chile. Botanical Society of America Conference. Boise, Idaho.

Dieffenbach, M.\*, **D. H. Cohen**, A. Doucet, and K. Skogen. 2022. The Impacts of habitat change on the genetic diversity of *Amsonia tharpii*, a rare plant species. REU Research Symposium. Chicago, Illinois.

Young, K.\*, **D. H. Cohen**, and K. Skogen. 2021. Genetic diversity and germination of *Amsonia tharpii*, a rare plant species. REU Research Symposium. Chicago, Illinois.

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## Outreach

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- International Moth night, Chicago Botanic Garden - 2023  
Helped organize and run "light trapping" event to observe night time insects at Botanic Garden.
- Moth watching nights, West Ridge Nature Preserve, Chicago, Illinois 2023  
Assisted with "light trapping" for moths over the summer and into the fall. These events are free and open to the public.
- Plant and Insect outreach, Arlington Heights Elementary School - 2023  
Organized materials for a plant and pollinator table for Earth Day at Elementary school. Brought museum collections (insects and plants) to show to kids in grades 1-6 and their parents.
- At Botany's Edge, California Botanic Garden - 2019  
Helped to design and organize (also presented) at this exhibit highlighting student research at the Botanic Garden. These posters were left up on display for several months.
- Things that go bump in the night, California Botanic Garden - 2015-2019  
This event was hosted at the botanic around Halloween and was held multiple weekends. I organized and ran tables on mushrooms, toxic plants, and bats. This is the gardens most popular outreach event and would sell out every year.

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## Service

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- Botanical Society of America Graduate Student Research Award Committee 2023-2026
- Moderator at Botanical Society of America Conference Boise, Idaho - 2023
- Board Member-Southern California Botanists 2017- 2021
- Student representative Graduate Student Council 2019 - 2020

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## Manuscript Reviews

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- Southwestern Naturalist - 2023
- United States Government SSA (Species Status Assessment) - 2023
- International Journal of Plant Sciences – 2022/2023
- Reviewer for Conservation Genetics- 2022
- Western North American Naturalist - 2021
- Madroño - 2019