

Matthew Sheik

Denver Botanic Gardens
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 2020 – Present MS in Environmental Science and Policy, George Mason University
Advisor: Dr. Andrea Weeks
Thesis: “A Floristic Checklist of Shenandoah River State Park
Warren County, VA.”
- 2016 – 2020 B.S. in Biology, West Virginia University
Concentration: Ecology and Environmental Biology

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – present Collections Assistant
Denver Botanic Gardens
- 2023 – present Leadership Team of the BIOFAIR Data Network Project
Biodiversity Collections Network and American Institute of Biological
Sciences
- 2022 – 2023 Associate Botanist and West Virginia Natural Heritage Program
herbarium (WVHP) Assistant
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
- 2023 Program Assistant for Supporting Inclusive and Sustainable
Research Infrastructure for Systematics (SISRIS)
Supervisor: Dr. Andrea Weeks, Dr. Shawn Krosnick, & Dr. Deborah
Paul
- 2021 – 2022 Research Assistant, Ted R. Bradley Herbarium (GMUF)
George Mason University
Supervisor: Dr. Andrea Weeks
- 2020 – 2021 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology
George Mason University
Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Epstein
- 2018 – 2020 Herbarium Work Study Assistant, West Virginia University
Herbarium (WVA)
West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
Supervisor: Dr. Donna Ford-Werntz
- Summer 2018 Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)
Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX

Supervisor: Dr. Allan Nelson
Project: "Floristic and community composition of riparian buffer zones of different size for the Texas Colorado River."

PUBLICATIONS

4. **Sheik, Matthew** and Andrea Weeks. 2023. A Floristic Checklist of Shenandoah River State Park Warren Co., Virginia. *Castanea*. 88 (1), 138 – 154. <https://doi.org/10.2179/0008-7475.88.1.138>
3. Nelson, Allan D., Randall Rosiere, Kimberly Gamez, Turner Cotton, Sarah Brown, **Matthew Sheik**. 2021. Near riparian vegetation on the Colorado River at Timberlake Biological Station in the Lampasas Cut Plain of Texas. *Phytologia*. 103(3): 73 – 85.
2. **Matthew Sheik** and Allan Nelson. 2019. County Records and Major Range Extensions for Angiosperms from the Lampasas Cut plain of the West Cross Timbers and Prairies in San Saba and Mills Counties, Texas. *Texas Journal of Science*. 71(1): Note 2. https://doi.org/10.32011/txjsci_71_1_Note2
1. **Matthew L. Sheik**, Kitty L. LaBounty, Erika Mitchell, Emily L. Gillespie. 2019. Fourteen polymorphic microsatellite markers for the widespread Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*). *Applications in Plant Sciences*. 7(12): e1306. doi:10.1002/aps3.11306

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 Harvill Award for Best Student Paper in Botany Section, Virginia Academy of Sciences (\$200)
- 2021 Recognition by Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning's Thank-a-Teacher Program, GMU
- 2018 Research Experience for Undergraduates, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Tx.
- 2016 John Marshall Merit Scholarship, Marshall University, Huntington, WV (\$5500)

FUNDING

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|------|---|-------|
| 2021 | Society of Herbarium Curators Student Research Award | \$500 |
| 2020 | Graduate Travel Award, GMU | \$75 |
| 2019 | Student Travel Award, WVU | \$300 |
| 2018 | Student Travel Award, Marshall University, Huntington, WV | \$300 |

TALKS

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

Sheik and Weeks. 2023. A floristic checklist of Shenandoah River State Park (SHSP), Warren County, VA. The 84th annual Association of Southeastern Biologists. Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Sheik and Weeks. 2022. Resurrecting the orphaned Lord Fairfax Community College herbarium (LFCC). Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC). Edinburgh, Scotland.

Sheik and Weeks. 2022. A floristic checklist of Shenandoah River State Park (SHSP), Warren County, VA: field season results. Lynchburg, Virginia.

Sheik and Weeks. 2021. A floristic checklist of Shenandoah River State Park (SHSP), Warren County, VA. Botany. Virtual

Sheik and Weeks. 2021. A floristic checklist of Shenandoah River State Park (SHSP), Warren County, VA. 81st annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. Virtual.

Sheik and Weeks. 2021. A floristic checklist of Shenandoah River State Park (SHSP), Warren County, VA. Virginia Academy of Science. Virtual.

Sheik and Nelson. 2019. County records and major range extensions for angiosperms from the Lampasas Cut Plain of the West Cross Timbers and Prairies in San Saba and Mills Counties, Texas. 80th annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. Memphis, Tennessee

CONTRIBUTED POSTERS

Sheik, M. and Allan Nelson. 2018. County records and major range extensions for angiosperms from the Lampasas Cut Plain of the West Cross Timbers and Prairies in San Saba and Mills Counties, Texas. 2018 Tarleton State University Research Symposium. Stephenville, Texas.

Sheik, M., K. LaBounty, E. Mitchell, E. L. Gillespie. 2018. Microsatellite marker development for the widespread north temperate Labrador tea *Rhododendron groenlandicum* (Ericaceae). 79th annual meeting of Association of Southeastern Biologists. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

COMMUNITY OUTREACH VIDEOS

Fall 2022 Video 1: *An Introduction to the George Mason University Herbarium*
<https://vimeo.com/722718386/055e4ace19>

Video 2: *Herbarium Specimen Curation for Global Research*
<https://vimeo.com/722718477/c937271b41>

TEACHING ASSISTANT

2020 – 2021 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology
George Mason University
Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Epstein

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Plant Taxonomists

Botanical Society of America

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections

Society of Herbarium Curators