

# Thomas Jefferson Sharpton

Department of Plant and Microbial Biology, 321 Koshland Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720  
Phone 510.642.8441 • Fax: 510.642.4995 • sharpton@berkeley.edu

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## **Education:**

*University of California, Berkeley*

Ph.D. Microbiology with Designated Emphasis in Computational Biology (2003-2008, projected)

*Oregon State University*

B.S. Biochemistry and Biophysics [cum laude] (1999-2003)

## **Scientific Research Experience:**

*University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA* Laboratory of Dr. John W. Taylor

PhD Student (10/2003 – current)

Dissertation: Evaluation of the Evolution and Adaptation of Fungal Genomes through Comparative Genomic Methodologies.

*The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard University, Boston, MA* Microbial Sequencing Center

Research Assistant (1/2005 - 5/2005)

Primary Advisor: Dr. James E. Galagan

Project: Comparative genomic analysis of spliceosomal intron evolution in *Cryptococcus*

*Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR* Laboratory of Dr. Virginia Weis

Undergraduate Research Assistant (3/2002-6/2003)

Project: Determining the effect of sunlight intensity on protein expression in the sea anemone *Anthopleura elegantissima*

*University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK* Laboratory Dr. Kyung-Hoon Shin

Undergraduate Research Assistant (6/2001-9/2001)

Project: Evaluating carbon nutrient cycling in the Arctic Ocean.

*Frontier Research, Fairbanks, AK*

Undergraduate Data Analyst (6/2000-9/2000)

Project: Modeling historical polar ice edge migration

## **Publications:**

**Sharpton, TJ**, Stajich, JE, Taylor, JW. “Comparative Genomics Reveals the Life History of Coccidioides” (In Preparation)

**Sharpton, TJ**, Neafsey DE, Galagan, JE, and Taylor, JW. (2008) Mechanisms of Intron Gain and Loss in *Cryptococcus*.” *Genome Biology* 9 (1).

**Sharpton, TJ** and Jhaveri AJ. (2006) “Leveraging the Knowledge of our Peers: Online communities hold the promise to enhance scientific research.” *PLOS Biology* 4(6).

## **Invited Talks:**

“The Comparative Genomics of Coccidioides and the rise of Virulence” American Society for Microbiology. Boston MA. June 2008.

“The Comparative Genomics of Coccidioides” Dean’s Advisory Meeting. University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA. November 2007.

“What makes a pathogenic fungus? A comparative genomics approach to Coccidioides” UC Berkeley Microbiology Student Symposium, Berkeley, CA. April 2007.

“The Effect of Light Intensity on Sym 32 Expression in *Anthopleura elegantissima*” HHMI Student Symposium Corvallis, OR. 2002.

## **Presentations:**

“The Comparative Genomics of Neurospora” Neurospora. Asilomar, CA. March 2008.

“What makes a pathogenic fungus?” Bay Area Meeting on Pathogenesis. University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA. 2007.

“What makes a pathogenic fungus?” Fungal Genetics Meeting. Asilomar, CA. 2007.

“The evolution of spliceosomal introns in *Cryptococcus neoformans*”. University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA. 2006.

### **Awards and Honors:**

Department’s Student Research Representative at the Dean’s Council Meeting 2007

Effectiveness in teaching award 2007

Chang-Lin Tien Graduate Research Fellowship 2006

Oregon State University Leadership Fellowship 2002

Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Fellowship. 2002

Dr. Donald MacDonald Excellence in Science scholarship 2002

OSU College of Science Excellence in Science scholarship. 2002

OSU Provost Scholarship 1999

American Legion Student Ethics Award 1999

### **Service:**

Webmaster for the Microbiology Student Group 2006-2008

President of the Plant and Microbial Graduate Student Group 2007

President of the Microbiology Student Group 2007

UC Berkeley Microbiology Student Symposium Chair 2006

Joint Genome Institute’s IUMS comparative genome browser advisory board member 2005

### **Teaching Experience:**

Seminar Organizer, Comparative Genomics Seminar, UC Berkeley, Spring 2007

Graduate Student Instructor, The Diversity of Fungi, UC Berkeley, Fall 2006

Graduate Student Instructor, Introduction to Biology, UC Berkeley, Fall 2004

Undergraduate Student Instructor, Cell and Molecular Biology, Oregon State University, Spring 2003

### **Other Experience:**

Siphs.com

Founder, Core Programmer and Web Developer (5/2005 – current)

Languages utilized: Java/JSP, PERL/PHP, MySQL, HTML/Javascript/AJAX, XML

Contributing Author of Fungalgenomes.org (7/2006 - current)

### **References:**

Dr. John Taylor

321A Koshland Hall

University of California

Berkeley, CA, 94720

Email: [jtaylor@socrates.berkeley.edu](mailto:jtaylor@socrates.berkeley.edu)

Phone: 510.642.5366

Fax: 510.642.4995

Dr. Sandrine Dudoit

101 Havaland Hall, #7358

University of California

Berkeley, CA, 94720

Email: [sandrine@stat.berkeley.edu](mailto:sandrine@stat.berkeley.edu)

Phone: 510.643.1108

Fax: 510.643.5163

Dr. Kimmen Sjolander

308C Stanley Hall

University of California

Berkeley CA 94720

Email: [kimmen.sjolander@gmail.com](mailto:kimmen.sjolander@gmail.com)

Phone: 510.642.9932

Fax: 510.642.5835

Dr. Thomas Bruns  
321C Koshland Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA, 94720

Email: [pogon@berkeley.edu](mailto:pogon@berkeley.edu)  
Phone: 510.642.7987  
Fax: 510.642.4995

Dr. Jason Stajich  
321 Koshland Hall,  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA, 94720

Email: [jason\\_stajich@berkeley.edu](mailto:jason_stajich@berkeley.edu)  
Phone: 510.642.8441  
Fax: 510.642.4995