

# Corinna Riginos

Curriculum Vitae

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## **EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT**

**2008-present**     **Council of Science and Technology Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow  
Princeton University**

Post-doctoral advisors: Daniel I. Rubenstein, Kelly K. Caylor

**2008**             **Ph.D., Graduate Group in Ecology  
University of California, Davis**

Dissertation: Tree-grass interactions in an East African savanna: the role of wild and domestic herbivores

Graduate advisor: Truman P. Young

**2000-2002**     **Fulbright United States Student Scholar  
University of Stellenbosch**

Research advisors: Suzanne J. Milton, M. Timm Hoffman

**2000**             **B.S., Environmental Science, Magna Cum Laude  
Brown University**

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

*Doctoral research, UC Davis, Davis, CA, 9/03 – 5/08*

Conceived and executed novel studies to examine (a) the roles of grass competition, wild herbivores, and cattle in causing changes in savanna tree densities, and (b) the effects of variation in savanna tree densities on the grass layer, wild herbivores, and cattle. Research conducted at the Mpala Research Centre, Kenya. Dr. Truman Young, Department of Plant Sciences

*Fulbright Scholar, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 8/00 – 7/02*

Conceived and executed original research to examine (a) effects of sheep and goat grazing on population dynamics of declining succulent shrubs on communally-managed land, and (b) effects of soil nutrients and rainfall on the positive and negative interactions among multiple shrub species in the Succulent Karoo. Dr. Suzanne Milton, Department of Conservation Ecology and Dr. Timm Hoffman, Institute for Plant Conservation, University of Cape Town.

*Honors thesis research, Brown University, Providence, RI, 1/98 – 5/00*

Carried out original research on the maternal effects of drought stress and inbreeding on *Impatiens capensis*. Dr. Johanna Schmitt, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and Dr. Shane Heschel, Department of Biology, Colorado College.

## **TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

*Internship Supervisor, Christa Anderson, M.Sc. program, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 02/08 – present*

Supervising and assisting Masters student in design, implementation, analysis, and write-up of original field research. Mpala Research Centre, Kenya.

*Internship Supervisor, Alyce Johnson, B.Sc. program, University of Missouri, 06/08 – present*

Supervising and assisting Bachelors student in design, implementation, analysis, and write-up of original field research. Mpala Research Centre, Kenya.

*Teaching Assistant, Science in Environmental Issues, Brown University, 1/99 - 5/99 and 1/00 – 5/00*

Guided students through the design and execution of modeling exercises and group research projects. Graded and provided extensive feedback on student papers. Dr. Brian O’Neill, Center for Environmental Studies.

*Course Development, Science in Environmental Issues, Brown University, 6/99 – 12/99*

Worked closely with course professor to re-vamp laboratory section of course. Developed resources (tutorials, exercises, project ideas to facilitate advising of student research projects in laboratory and greenhouse settings. Dr. Brian O’Neill, Center for Environmental Studies.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Riginos, C.**, Grace, J.B., Augustine, D.J., and Young, T.P. *In review*. Local versus landscape-scale effects of savanna trees on grasses. *Oecologia*.

Treydte, A.C., Jeltsch, F., and **Riginos, C.** *In review*. Enhanced use of beneath-canopy vegetation by grazing ungulates in African savannahs. *Oecologia*.

**Riginos, C.** *In press*. Grass competition suppresses savanna tree growth across multiple demographic stages. *Ecology*.

Okello, B.D., T.P. Young, **C. Riginos**, D. Kelly and T. O’Connor. 2008. Short-term survival and long-term mortality of *Acacia drepanolobium* after a controlled burn. *African Journal of Ecology* 46:395-401.

**Riginos, C.**, and Grace, J.B. 2008. Tree density, wild ungulate habitat use and the herbaceous community in a Kenyan savanna: Top-down versus bottom-up effects. *Ecology* 89: 2228-2238.

**Riginos, C.**, Heschel, M.S., and Schmitt, J. 2007. Maternal effects of drought stress and inbreeding in *Impatiens capensis* (Balsaminaceae). *American Journal of Botany* 94: 1984-1991.

**Riginos, C.** and Young, T.P. 2007. Positive and negative effects of grasses and wild and domestic herbivores on *Acacia* saplings in an East African savanna. *Oecologia* 153: 985-995.

**Riginos, C.**, Milton, S.J., and Wiegand, T. 2005. Context-dependent interactions between adult shrubs and seedlings in a semi-arid shrubland. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 16: 331-340.

Heschel, M.S. and **Riginos, C.** 2005. Mechanisms of selection for drought stress tolerance and avoidance in *Impatiens capensis* (Balsaminaceae). *American Journal of Botany* 92: 37-44.

**Riginos, C.** and Hoffman, M.T. 2003. Changes in population biology of two succulent shrubs along a grazing gradient. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 40: 615-625.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Riginos, C.** and Grace, J.B. Tree density affects wild herbivore habitat preferences. Society for Conservation Biology, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, July 2007.

**Riginos, C.** and Milton, S.J. When does a seedling need a nurse? Paper presentation. Arid Zone Ecological Forum, Caltizdorp, South Africa, September 2001.

### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

- Co-authored proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Funded \$499,800. (Principal Investigator: Dr. Truman Young)
- Authored International Research Fellowship Program proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Funded \$25,000.
- Authored Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). Funded \$12,000.

### **SERVICE & OUTREACH**

- Project Manager, Kenya Long-term Exclusion Experiment, Mpala Research Centre, Kenya, 2005-present. Supervise and manage the activities of staff and vehicle fleet for major field research project.
- Reviewer for *Ecology*, *Journal of Ecology*, *Journal of Arid Environments*, *Ecography*, and *Forest Ecology and Management*
- Regular contributor to stakeholder publications: Laikipia Wildlife Forum Newsletter and Mpala Research Centre Newsletter
- Conducted stakeholder survey in Laikipia, Kenya to determine local perceptions of conservation and research priorities. Mpala Research Centre, Kenya, October – December 2007.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Society for Conservation Biology
- Ecological Society of America

### **FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

- Jastro-Shields Research Fellowship, Ecology Graduate Group, UC Davis, 2007, 2005, 2004.
- Northern California Association of Phi Beta Kappa graduate fellowship, 2006.
- Tomales Bay Fellowship, to attend Tomales Bay Writers Workshop, October 2005.
- Ben Madson Research Fellowship, Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis, 2005.
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2003 – 2007.
- Graduate Scholars Fellowship, University of California, Davis, 2003-2004.
- Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University, 2000.

### **LANGUAGES**

- Modern Greek: reading, writing, and speaking fluency
- Afrikaans: intermediate reading, writing, and speaking
- Swahili: intermediate reading, writing, and speaking