

# Fay-Wei Li

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## EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2023 –	Associate Professor, Boyce Thompson Institute
2017 –	Assistant Professor, Boyce Thompson Institute
2017 –	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Plant Biology Section, Cornell University
2016 – 2017	Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Zurich Advisor: Peter Szövényi
2015 – 2016	Postdoctoral Researcher, UC Berkeley and Duke University Advisor: Carl Rothfels and Kathleen Pryer
2010 – 2015	Ph.D., Department of Biology, Duke University Advisor: Kathleen Pryer
2009 – 2010	Tank platoon commander/Ammunition officer, 2nd lieutenant, ROC Army, Taiwan
2005 – 2009	B.S., Department of Life Science, National Taiwan University

## PUBLICATIONS (lab members in **bold**)

### IN REVIEW

Li, C.\*, **D. Wickell\***, L.-Y. Kuo, X. Chen, B. Nie , X. Liao, D. Peng, J. Ji, J. Jenkins, M. Williams, S. Shu, C. Plott, K. Barry, S. Rajasekar, J. Grimwood, X. Han, S. Sun, Z. Hou, W. He, G. Dai, C. Sun, J. Schmutz , J.H. Leebens-Mack, **F.-W. Li#**, L. Wang#. Three hundred million years of static genome evolution revealed in homosporous lycophytes. **Nature Plants** in revision. \*Equally contributed; #Corresponding authors

### 2023

**Rahmatpour, N., L.-Y. Kuo**, J. Kang, E. Herman, L. Lei, M. Li, S. Srinivasan, R. Z, S.M. Wolniak, C. Delwiche, S. Mount, **F.-W. Li**. 2023. Analyses of *Marsilea vestita* genome and transcriptomes do no support widespread intron retention during spermatogenesis. **New Phytologist** 237: 1490–1494.

Kumar, S., Y. Wang, Y. Zhou, L. Dillard, **F.-W. Li**, C. Sciandra, N. Sui, R. Zentella, M. Borgnia, A. Bartesaghi, T.-p. Sun, P. Zhou. 2023. Structure and dynamics of the *Arabidopsis* O-fucosyltransferase SPINDLY. **Nature Communications** 14: 1538.

De La Cerda, G.Y., J.B. Landis, E. Eifler, A. Hernandez, **F.-W. Li**, J. Zhang, C.M. Tribble, N. Karimi, P. Chan, T. Givnish, S. Strickler, C.D. Specht. 2023. Balancing read length and sequencing depth: optimizing Nanopore sequencing for monocots with an emphasis on Liliaceae. **Applications in Plant Sciences** in press.

Song, M.J., C.J. Rothfels, E. Schuettpelz, J. Nitta, L. Huiet, **F.-W. Li**, K.M. Wefferling. 2023. Resolving deep relationships and revealing ancient whole-genome duplications in Pteridaceae using transcriptomic data. **American Fern Journal**. in press.

### 2022

Huang, X.\*, W. Wang\*, T. Gong\*, **D. Wickell\***, L.-Y. Kuo, X. Zhang, J. Wen, H. Kim, F. Lu, H. Zhao, S. Chen, H. Li, W. Wu, C. Yu, S. Chen, W. Fan, S. Chen, X. Bao, L. Li, D. Zhang, L. Jiang, X. Yan, Z. Liao, G. Zhou, Y. Guo, J. Ralph, R.R. Sederoff, H. Wei#, P. Zhu#, **F.-W. Li#**, R. Ming#, Q. Li#. 2022. The flying spider-monkey

tree fern genome provides insights into fern evolution and arborescence. **Nature Plants** 8: 500–512.

**Cover** \*Equally contributed; #Corresponding authors

**Featured in:** [New York Times](#), [Scientific American](#), [Science](#)

Marchant, D.B., G. Chen, S. Cai, F. Chen, **P. Schafran**, J. Jenkins, S. Shu, C. Plott, J. Webber, J. Lovell, G. He, L. Sandor, M. Williams, S. Rajasekar, A. Healey, K. Barry, Y. Zhang, E. Sessa, R. Dhakal, P. Wolf, A. Harkess, **F.-W. Li**, C. Rössner, A. Becker, L. Gramzow, D. Xue, Y. Wu, T. Tong, Y. Wang, F. Dai, S. Hua, H. Wang, S. Xu, F. Xu, H. Duan, G. Theissen, R.J. Schmitz, D. Stevenson, C. Zumajo-Cardona, B.A. Ambrose, J.H. Leebens-Mack, J. Grimwood, J. Schmutz, P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, Z.H. Chen. 2022. Dynamic genome evolution in a model fern. **Nature Plants** 8: 1038–1051.

**Robison, T.A., J.M. Nelson, D.A. Hauser, L.A. Lewis, F.-W. Li.** 2022. Dynamic plastid and mitochondrial genomes in Chaetopeltidales (Chlorophyceae) and characterization of a new chlorophyte taxon. **American Journal of Botany** 6: 939–951.

**Featured in:** [The Hill](#), [Slate](#), [Blavity](#), [Cornell Chronicle](#)

**Petlewski, A.R., D.A. Hauser, M. Kim, J. Schmutz, J. Grimwood, F.-W. Li.** 2022. Re-evaluating the systematics of *Dendrolycopodium* using restriction-site associated DNA-sequencing. **Frontiers in Plant Science** 13: 912080.

Ke, B.-F., G.-J. Wang, P.H. Labiak, G. Rouhan, Goflag Consortium, C.-W. Chen, L. Shepherd, D.J. Ohlsen, M.A.M. Renner, K.G. Karol, **F.-W. Li**, **L.-Y. Kuo**. 2022. Systematics and plastome evolution in Schizaeaceae. **Frontiers in Plant Science** 13: 885501.

**Gunadi, A., F.-W. Li, J. Van Eck.** 2022. Accelerating the gametophyte growth of the model hornwort *Anthoceros agrestis* (Anthocerotaceae). **Applications in Plant Sciences** 10: e11460.

Neubauer, A., S. Ruaud, M. Waller, E. Frangedakis, **F.-W. Li**, S.I. Nötzold, S. Wicke, A. Bailly, P. Szővényi. 2022. Step-by-step protocol for isolation and transient transformation of hornwort protoplasts. **Applications in Plant Sciences** 10: e11456.

**Petlewski, A.R., A. Patterson\*, F.-W. Li.** 2022. Characterizing culturable bacterial endophytes of five Lycopodiaceae species. **American Fern Journal** 112: 79–92. \*BTI summer REU student

Trigoboff, N. and **F.-W. Li**. 2022. *Crepidomanes intricatum* (Hymenophyllaceae), a sporophyte-less filmy fern new to Central New York. **American Fern Journal** 112: 139–141.

Powell, A.F. J. Zhang, **D.A. Hauser**, J. Vilela, A. Hu, D.J. Gates, L.A. Mueller, **F.-W. Li**, S. Strickler, S.D. Smith. 2022. Genome sequence for the blue-flowered Andean shrub *Iochroma cyaneum* reveals extensive discordance across the berry clade of Solanaceae. **The Plant Genome** e20223.

Chatterjee, P., **P. Schafran, F.-W. Li**, J.C. Meeks. *Nostoc* talks back: Differential gene expression during nitrogen starvation of *Anthoceros* and establishment of its symbiosis with *Nostoc*. **Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions** 35: 917–932.

**Schafran, P., F.-W. Li, C.J. Rothfels.** 2022. PURC v2.0: a program for improved sequence inference for polyploid phylogenetics and other manifestations of the multiple-copy problem. In Y. Van de Peer (Ed.), *Polyplodiy: Methods and Protocols*. Springer Nature (New York).

## 2021

**Wickell, D., L.-Y. Kuo, H.-P. Yang, A.D. Ashok, I. Irisarri, A. Dadras, S. de Vries, J. de Vries, Y.-M. Huang, Z. Li, M.S. Barker, N.T. Hartwick, T.P. Michael, F.-W. Li.** 2021. Underwater CAM photosynthesis elucidated

by *Isoetes* genome. **Nature Communications** 12: 6348.

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**Rahmatpour, N., D.A. Hauser, J.M. Nelson, P.Y. Chen, J.C. Villarreal, M.-Y. Ho, F.-W. Li.** 2021. A novel thylakoid-less isolate fills a billion-year gap in the evolution of Cyanobacteria. **Current Biology** 31: 2857–2867. [Cover](#)

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**Szövényi, P., A. Gunadi, F.-W. Li.** 2021. Charting the genomic landscape of seed-free plants. **Nature Plants** 7: 554–565.

**Li, F.-W.** 2021. Decolonizing botanical genomics. **Nature Plants** 7: 1542–1543.

**Yang, H.-P., M. Wenzel, D.A. Hauser, J.M. Nelson, X. Xu, M. Eliáš, F.-W. Li.** 2021. *Monodopsis* and *Vischeria* genomes shed new light on the biology of eustigmatophyte algae. **Genome Biology and Evolution** 13: evab233.

**Nelson, J.M., D.A. Hauser, F.-W. Li.** 2021. The diversity and community structure of symbiotic cyanobacteria in hornworts inferred from long-read amplicon sequencing. **American Journal of Botany** 108: 1731–1744.

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Frangedakis, E., M. Waller, T. Nishiyama, H. Tsukaya, **X. Xu**, Y. Yue, M. Tjahjadi, **A. Gunadi**, J. Van Eck, **F.-W. Li**, P. Szövényi, K. Sakakibara. 2021. An *Agrobacterium*-mediated stable transformation technique for the hornwort model *Anthoceros agrestis*. **New Phytologist** 232: 1488–1505. [Cover](#)

Frangedakis, E., M. Shimamura, J.C. Villarreal, **F.-W. Li**, M. Tomaselli, M. Waller, K. Sakakibara, K.S. Renzaglia, and P. Szövényi. 2021. The hornworts: morphology, evolution and development. **New Phytologist** 229: 735–754. [Cover](#)

## 2020

**Li, F.-W., T. Nishiyama, M. Waller, E. Frangedakis, J. Keller, Z. Li, N. Fernandez-Pozo, M.S. Barker, T. Bennett, M.A. Blázquez, S. Cheng, A.C. Cuming, J. de Vries, S. de Vries, P.-M. Delaux, I.S. Diop, J. Harrison, D. Hauser, J. Hernández-García, A. Kirbis, J.C. Meeks, I. Monte, S.K. Mutte, A. Neubauer, D. Quandt, T. Robison, M. Shimamura, S.A. Rensing, J.C. Villarreal, D. Weijers, S. Wicke, G.K.-S. Wong, K. Sakakibara, P. Szövényi.** 2020. *Anthoceros* genomes illuminate the origin of land plants and the unique biology of hornworts. **Nature Plants** 6: 259–272.

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Radhakrishnan, G.V, J. Keller, M.K. Rich, T. Vernié, D.L. Mbaginda, N. Vigneron, L. Cottret, H.S. Clemente, C. Libourel, J. Cheema, A.-M. Linde, D.M. Eklund, S. Cheng, G.K.-S. Wong, U. Lagercrantz, **F.-W. Li**, G.E.D. Oldroyd, P.-M. Delaux. 2020. An ancestral signalling pathway is conserved in plant lineages forming intracellular symbioses. **Nature Plants** 6: 280–289.

**Kuo, L.-Y., Y.-H. Chang, Y.-H. Huang, W. Testo, A. Ebihara, G. Rouhan, L.G. Quintanilla, J.E. Watkins Jr, Y.-M. Huang, F.-W. Li.** 2020. A global phylogeny of *Stegnogramma* ferns (Thelypteridaceae): generic and sectional revision, historical biogeography and evolution of leaf architecture. **Cladistics** 36: 164–183.

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**Wickell, D.A. and F.-W. Li.** 2020. On the evolutionary significance of horizontal gene transfers in plants. **New Phytologist** 225: 113–117.

Windham, M.D., K.M. Pryer, D.B. Poindexter, **F.-W. Li**, C.J. Rothfels, and J.B. Beck. 2020. A step-by-step protocol for meiotic chromosome counts in flowering plants: A powerful and economical technique revisited. **Applications in Plant Sciences** 8: e11342.

Bell, D., Q. Lin, W.K. Gerelle, S. Joya, Y. Chang, Z.N. Taylor, C.J. Rothfels, A. Larsson, J.C. Villarreal, **F.-W. Li**, L. Pokorny, P. Szövényi, B. Crandall-Stotler, L. DeGironimo, S.K. Floyd, D.J. Beerling, M.K. Deyholos, M. von Konrat, S. Ellis, A.J. Shaw, T. Chen, G.K.-S. Wong, D.W. Stevenson, J.D. Palmer, S.W. Graham. 2020. Organellomic data sets confirm a cryptic consensus on (unrooted) land-plant relationships, and provide new insights into bryophyte molecular evolution. **American Journal of Botany** 107: 91–115.

Bouchard, R., Peñaloza-Bojacá, G., S. Toupin, Y. Guadalupe, J. Gudiño, N. Salazar Allen, **F.-W. Li**, J.C. Villarreal. 2020. Contrasting bacteriome of the hornwort *Leiosporoceros dussii* in two nearby sites with emphasis on the hornwort-cyanobacterial symbiosis. **Symbiosis** 81: 39–52.

Dawes, T., J.C. Villarreal, P. Szövényi, I. Bisang, **F.-W. Li**, D.A. Hauser, D. Quandt, D.C. Cargill, L.L. Forrest. 2020. Extremely low genetic diversity in the European clade of the model bryophyte *Anthoceros agrestis*. **Plant Systematics and Evolution** 306: 49.

Henkhaus, N., M. Bartlett, D. Gang, R. Grumet, I. Jordon-Thaden, A. Lorence, R. Lyons, S. Miller, S. Murray, A. Nelson, C. Specht, B. Tyler, T. Wentworth, D. Ackerly, D. Baltensperger, P. Benfey, J. Birchler, S. Chellamma, R. Crowder, M. Donoghue, J. Pablo Dundore-Arias, J. Fletcher, V. Fraser, K. Gillespie, L. Guralnick, E. Haswell, M. Hunter, S. Kaepller, S. Kepinski, **F.-W. Li**, S. Mackenzie, L. McDade, Y. Min, J. Nemhauser, B. Pearson, P. Petracek, K. Rogers, A. Sakai, D. Sickler, C. Taylor, L. Wayne, O. Wendroth, F. Zapata, D. Stern. 2020. Plant science decadal vision 2020–2030: Reimagining the potential of plants for a healthy and sustainable future. **Plant Direct** 4: e00252.

## 2019

**One Thousand Plants Initiative.** 2019. One thousand plant transcriptomes and the phylogenomics of green plants. **Nature** 574: 679–685. **Cover** (cover image taken by graduate student Alaina Petlewski)

**Nelson, J.M., D.A. Hauser**, J.A. Gudiño, Y.A. Guadalupe, J.C. Meeks, N. Salazar, J.C. Villarreal, **F.-W. Li**. 2019. Complete genomes of symbiotic cyanobacteria clarify the evolution of Vanadium-nitrogenase. **Genome Biology and Evolution** 11: 1959–1964.

**Petlewski, A.R. and F.-W. Li.** 2019. Ferns: the final frond-tier in plant model systems. **American Fern Journal** 109: 192–211.

**Kuo, L.-Y. and F.-W. Li.** 2019. A roadmap for fern genome sequencing. **American Fern Journal** 109: 212–223.

Eily, A.N., K.M. Pryer, **F.-W. Li**. 2019. A first glimpse at genes important to the *Azolla–Nostoc* symbiosis. **Symbiosis** 78: 149–162.

**Kuo, L.-Y.**, T.-C. Hsu, Y.-S. Chao, W.-T. Liou, H.-M. Chang, C.-W. Chen, Y.-M. Huang, **F.-W. Li**, Y.-F. Huang, W. Shao, P.-F. Lu, C.-W. Chen, Y.-H. Chang, W.-L. Chiou. 2019. Updating Taiwanese pteridophyte checklist: a new phylogenetic classification. **Taiwania** 64: 367–395.

**Li, F.-W.** and S. Mathews. 2019. Phylogenetic method to study light signaling. In A. Hiltbrunner (Ed.), *Phytochromes: Methods and Protocols*. Springer Nature (New York).

Wu, C.-C., **F.-W. Li**, E.M. Kramer. 2019. Large-scale phylogenomic analysis suggests three ancient superclades of the WUSCHEL-RELATED HOMEOBOX transcription factor family in plants. **PLoS ONE** 14: e0223521.

Yang, E. J., C. Y. Yoo, J. Liu, H. Wang, J. Cao, **F.-W. Li**, K.M. Pryer, T.-P. Sun, D. Weigel, P. Zhu, M. Chen. 2019. NCP activates chloroplast transcription by controlling phytochrome-dependent dual nuclear and plastidial switches. **Nature Communications** 10: 2630.

Delaux, P.-M., A.J. Hetherington, Y. Coudert, C. Delwiche, C. Dunand, S. Gould, P. Kenrick, **F.-W. Li**, H. Philippe, S.A. Rensing, M. Rich, C. Strullu-Derrien, J. de Vries. 2019. Reconstructing trait evolution: A guideline for plant evo-devo studies (and beyond). **Current Biology** 29: R1105–R1121.

## 2018

**Li, F.-W.**, P. Brouwer, L. Carretero-Paulet, S. Cheng, J. de Vries, P.-M. Delaux, A.N. Eily, N. Koppers, **L.-Y. Kuo**, Z. Li, M. Simenc, I. Small, E. Wafula, S. Angarita, M.S. Barker, A. Braeutigam, C. dePamphilis, S. Gould, P.S. Hosmani, Y.-M. Huang, B. Huettel, Y. Kato, X. Liu, S. Maere, R. McDowell, L.A. Mueller, K.G.J. Nierop, S.A. Rensing, T. Robison, C.J. Rothfels, E.M. Sigel, Y. Song, P.R. Timilsina, Y. Van de Peer, H. Wang, P. K.I. Wilhelmsson, P.G. Wolf, X. Xu, J.P. Der, H. Schluemann, G.K.-S. Wong, and K.M. Pryer. 2018. Fern genomes elucidate land plant evolution and cyanobacterial symbioses. **Nature Plants** 4: 460–472. **Cover**

**Featured in:** [Discover Magazine](#), [Mongabay](#), [Cosmos](#), [Earth.com](#), [Quartz](#), [Yale Environmental 360](#), [Cornell Chronicle](#), [Faculty of 1000](#), [Nature Plants News & Views](#)

**Li, F.-W.**, and A. Harkess. 2018. A guide to sequence your favorite plant genomes. **Applications in Plant Sciences** 6: e1030.

**Kuo, L.-Y.**, X Qi, H. Ma, **F.-W. Li**. 2018. Order-level fern plastome phylogenomics: new insights from Hymenophyllales. **American Journal of Botany** 105: 1545–1555.

Song, M\*. **L.-Y. Kuo\***, L. Huiet, K.M. Pryer, C.J. Rothfels, **F.-W. Li**. 2018. A novel chloroplast gene reported for flagellate plants. **American Journal of Botany** 105: 117–121.

\*Equally contributed

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Huiet, L., **F.-W. Li**, T.-T. Kao, J. Prado, A.R. Smith, E. Schuettpelz, K.M. Pryer. 2018. A worldwide phylogeny of *Adiantum* (Pteridaceae) reveals remarkable convergent evolution in leaf blade architecture. **Taxon** 67: 488–502.

Cheng, S., M. Melkonian, S. Smith, S. Brockington, J.M. Archibald, P.-M. Delaux, **F.-W. Li**, B. Melkonian, E.V. Mavrodiev, W. Sun, Y. Fu, H. Yang, D.E. Soltis, S.W. Graham, P.S. Soltis, X. Liu, X. Xu, G.K.-S. Wong. 2018. 10KP: A phylogenetic genome sequencing plan. **GigaScience** 7: giy013.

**Kuo L.-Y.**, T.-Y. Tang, **F.-W. Li**, H.-J. Su, W.-L. Chiou, Y.-M. Huang, C.-N. Wang. 2018. Organelle genome inheritances in *Deparia* ferns (Athyriaceae, Aspleniineae, Polypodiales). **Frontiers in Plant Science** 9: 486.

Dijkhuizen, L., P. Brouwer, H. Bolhuis, G.-J. Reichart, N. Koppers, B. Huettel, A. Bolger, **F.-W. Li**, S. Cheng, X. Liu, G.K.-S. Wong, K.M. Pryer, A. Weber, A. Bräutigam, H. Schluemann. 2018. Is there foul play in the leaf pocket? The metagenome of floating fern *Azolla* reveals endophytes that do not fix N<sub>2</sub> but may denitrify. **New Phytologist** 217: 453–466.

Villarreal, J.C., M. Turmel, M. Bourgouin-Couture, J. Laroche, N. Salazar, **F.-W. Li**, S. Chen, K. Renzaglia, C. Lemieux. 2018. Genome-wide organellar analyses from the hornwort *Leiosporoceros dussii* show low frequency of RNA editing and its increase during hornwort diversification. **PLoS ONE** 13: e0200491.

Schilling, M.P., Z. Gompert, **F.-W. Li**, M.D. Windham, P.G. Wolf. 2018. Admixture, evolution, and variation in reproductive isolation in the *Boechera puberula* clade. **BMC Evolutionary Biology** 18: 61.

Lang, D., K. Ullrich, F. Murat, J. Fuchs, J. Jenkins, F. Haas, M. Piednoel, H. Gundlach, M. Van Bel, R. Meyberg, C. Vives, J. Morata, A. Symeonidi, M. Hiss, W. Muchero, Y. Kamisugi, O. Saleh, G. Blanc, E. Decker, N. van Gessel, J. Grimwood, R. Hayes, S. Graham, L. Gunter, S. McDaniel, S. Hoernstein, A. Larsson, **F.-W. Li**, P.-F. Perroud, J. Philipps, P. Ranjan, D. Rokhsar, C.J. Rothfels, L. Schneider, S. Shu, D. Stevenson, F. Thümmler, M. Tillich, J.C. Villarreal, T. Widiez, G.K.-S. Wong, A. Wymore, Y. Zhang, A. Zimmer, R. Quatrano, K. Mayer, D. Goodstein, J. Casacuberta, K. Vandepoele, R. Reski, A. Cuming, G. Tuskan, F. Maumus, J. Salse, J. Schmutz, S. Rensing. 2018. The *Physcomitrella patens* chromosome-scale assembly reveals moss genome structure and evolution. **Plant Journal** 93: 515–533.

## 2017

**Li, F.-W.**, J.C. Villarreal, P. Szovenyi. 2017. Hornworts, an overlooked window into carbon-concentrating mechanism. **Trends in Plant Science** 22: 275–277.

**Li, F.-W.**, C.A. Rushworth, J.B. Beck, M.D. Windham. 2017. *Boechera* Microsatellite Website: an online portal for species identification and hybrid relationship resolution. **Database** 1: baw169.

Rothfels, C.J., K.M. Pryer, **F.-W. Li**. 2017. Next-generation polyploid phylogenetics: Rapid resolution of hybrid polyploid complexes using PacBio single-molecule sequencing. **New Phytologist** 213: 413–429.

Rockwell, N.C., S.S. Martin, **F.-W. Li**, S. Mathews, J.C. Lagarias. 2017. The phycocyanobilin chromophore of streptophyte algal phytochromes is synthesized by HY2. **New Phytologist** 214: 1145–1157.

## 2016

**Li, F.-W.**, L.-Y. Kuo, K.M. Pryer, C.J. Rothfels. 2016. Genes translocated into the plastid inverted repeat show a marked deceleration in substitution rates and an elevated GC content. **Genome Biology and Evolution** 8: 2452–2458. [Cover](#)

**Li, F.-W.**, L.Y. Kuo, Y.H. Chang, T.C. Hsu, H.C. Hung, W.L. Chiou, C.J. Rothfels, Y.M. Huang. 2016. *Asplenium pifongiae* (Aspleniaceae: Polypodiales), a new species from Taiwan. **Systematic Botany** 41: 24–31.

Hsu, P.Y., L. Calviello, H.-Y. L. Wu\*, **F.-W. Li\***, C.J. Rothfels, U. Ohler, P.N. Benfey. 2016. Super-resolution ribosome profiling reveals unannotated translation events in *Arabidopsis*. **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA** 113: E7126–E7135.

\*Equally contributed

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The Pteridophyte Phylogeny Group. 2016. A community-derived classification for extant lycophytes and ferns. **Journal of Systematics and Evolution** 54: 563–603.

## 2015

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*Featured in:* [Duke Today](#), [Faculty of 1000](#)

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**Li, F.-W.**, S. Mathews. 2015. Evolutionary aspects of plant photoreceptors. **Journal of Plant Research** 129: 115–122.

Rothfels C.J., **F.-W. Li**, E.M Sigel., L. Huiet, A. Larsson, D.O. Burge, M. Ruhsam, M. Deyholos, D. Soltis, N. Stewart, S. Shaw, L.M. Pokorny, T. Chen, C. dePamphilis, L. DeGironimo, D.W. Stevenson, S.W. Graham, G.K.-S. Wong, and K.M. Pryer. 2015. The evolutionary history of ferns inferred from 25 single-copy nuclear genes. **American Journal of Botany** 102: 1089–1107.

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## 2014

**Li, F.-W.**, J.C. Villarreal, S. Kelly, C.J. Rothfels, M. Melkonian, E. Frangedakis, M. Ruhsam, E. M. Sigel, J.P. Der, J. Pittermann, D.O. Burge, L. Pokorny, A. Larsson, T. Chen, S. Weststrand, P. Thomas, E. Carpenter, Y. Zhang, Z. Tian, L. Chen, Z. Yan, Y. Zhu, X. Sun, J. Wang, D.W. Stevenson, B.J. Crandall-Stotler, A.J. Shaw, M.K. Deyholos, D.E. Soltis, S.W. Graham, M.D. Windham, J.A. Langdale, G.K.S. Wong, S. Mathews & K.M. Pryer. 2014. Horizontal transfer of an adaptive chimeric photoreceptor from bryophytes to ferns. **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA** 111: 6672–6677.

*Featured in:* [New York Times](#), [The Economist](#), [National Geographic](#), [Scientific American](#), [Faculty of 1000](#), [Current Biology](#), [Nature Reviews Genetics](#)

**Li, F.-W.**, K.M. Pryer. 2014. Crowdfunding the Azolla fern genome project: a grassroots approach. **GigaScience** 3: 16.

*Featured in:* GigaScience Editor's pick

Sessa, E.B., J.A. Banks, M.S. Barker, J.P. Der, A.M. Duffy, S.W. Graham, M. Hasebe, J. Langdale, **F.-W. Li**, D.B. Marchant, K.M. Pryer, C.J. Rothfels, S.J. Roux, M.L. Salmi, E.M. Sigel, D.E. Soltis, P.S. Soltis, D.W. Stevenson, P.G. Wolf. 2014. Between two fern genomes. **GigaScience** 3:15.

Zhang, W.Y., L.Y. Kuo, F.-W. Li, C.N. Wang, W.L. Chiou. 2014. The hybrid origin of *Adiantum meishanianum* (Pteridaceae): a rare and endemic species in Taiwan. **Systematic Botany** 39: 1034–1041.

## 2009-2013

Rothfels, C.J., A. Larsson, F.-W. Li, E.M. Sigel, L. Huiet, D.O. Burge, M. Ruhsam, S. Graham, D. Stevenson, G.K.S. Wong, P. Korall, K.M. Pryer. 2013. Transcriptome-mining for fern single-copy nuclear regions. **PLoS One** 8: e76957.

Li, F.-W., K.M. Pryer, M.D. Windham. 2012. *Gaga*, a new genus segregated from *Cheilanthes* (Pteridaceae). **Systematic Botany** 37: 845-860.

**Featured in:** [New York Times](#), [Rolling Stone](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Wired](#), [The Guardian](#)

Li, F.-W., L.Y. Kuo, C.J. Rothfels, A. Ebihara, W.L. Chiou, M.D. Windham, K.M. Pryer. 2011. *rbcL* and *matK* earn two thumbs up as the core DNA barcode for ferns. **PLoS One** 6: e26597.

Li, F.-W. 2011. Book review: Knapp, Ralf. 2011. Ferns and Fern Allies of Taiwan. **Taxon** 60: 1233-1234.

Kuo\*, L.Y., F.-W. Li\*, W.L. Chiou, C.N. Wang. 2011. The first insight into fern matK phylogeny. **Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution** 59: 556–566.

\*Equally contributed

Li\*, F.-W., L.Y. Kuo\*, Y.M. Huang, W.L. Chiou, C.N. Wang. 2010. Tissue-Direct PCR, a rapid and extraction-free method for barcoding of ferns. **Molecular Ecology Resources** 10: 92–95.

\*Equally contributed

Li, F.-W., B.C. Tan, V. Buchbender, R.C. Moran, G. Rouhan, C.N. Wang, D. Quandt. 2009. Identifying a mysterious aquatic fern gametophyte. **Plant Systematics and Evolution** 281: 77–86.

## FUNDING

LEAD PI ON 3 NSF GRANTS TOTALING \$3,452,208 (\$2,243,151 TO BTI)

### External competitive funding

**NSF MCB Cellular Dynamics and Function** | From phylogeny to biomolecules: a cross-scale approach to understand the making of a unique carbon-concentrating mechanism in hornworts (2213841)

\$1,072,924 (2022.6.1 – 2025.5.31), Li portion: \$503,654

PI: Fay-Wei Li, Laura Gunn (Cornell Plant Biology)

**NSF IOS EDGE** | Developing transformation capacity for *Anthoceros agrestis* to facilitate gene function studies in hornworts, a remarkable phylum of plants (1923011)

\$548,419 (2019.9.1 – 2022.8.31)

PI: Fay-Wei Li

Co-PI: Joyce Van Eck (BTI)

**NSF DEB Dimensions of Biodiversity** | Integrating phylogenetics, ecophysiology, and transcriptomics to understand the diversity of hornwort-cyanobacterium symbiosis (1831428)

\$1,830,855 (2019.1.1 – 2023.12.31), Li portion: \$1,191,078

PI: Fay-Wei Li, John Meeks (University of California Davis), Jed Sparks (Cornell EEB)

**Supplement #1** | Research Experience for Post-Baccalaureate Students (2139576)

\$40,750

**Supplement #2** | Research Collaboration Opportunity in Europe (2034018)  
\$27,005

**DOE Large-Scale EMSL Research User Grant** | Understanding the genetic and structural bases of hornworts' carbon-concentrating mechanism

\$118,888 in-kind support (2021.10.1 – 2023.9.30)

PI: Fay-Wei Li

*Internal competitive funding*

**Triad Foundation Award** | Understanding how ferns can withstand extreme desiccation

\$100,000 (2021.9.1 – 2022.8.31)

PI: Fay-Wei Li

Co-PI: Sally Chambers (Marie Selby Botanical Gardens)

**Triad Foundation Award** | An “EPYC” quest to search for the Rubisco tether protein in hornwort pyrenoids

\$59,125 (2021.7.1 – 2022.6.30)

PI: Fay-Wei Li

Co-PI: Joyce Van Eck and Aleksandra Skirycz

**Triad Foundation Award** | Biosynthesis of cannabinoids in liverworts

\$75,000 (2020.9.1 – 2021.8.31)

PI: Georg Jander

Co-PI: Fay-Wei Li and Frank Schroeder

**Triad Foundation Award** | Exploring native plant diversity: what a threatened *Aconitum* can teach us about changing species distributions and medicinal compounds

\$50,500 (2018.7.1 – 2019.6.30)

PI: Suzy Strickler

Co-PI: Fay-Wei Li, Georg Jander, Chelsea Specht (Cornell Plant Biology)

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2016 Forschungskredit postdoc fellowship, University of Zurich
- 2015 Perry Price (best thesis in plant science), Duke University
- 2014 Edgar T. Wherry Award, Botanical Society of America
- 2014 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2012 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

## INVITED SEMINARS AND SIGNIFICANT MEETING PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 **Gordon Research Conference**, “Chloroplast Biotechnology”, Ventura Beach, CA (scheduled)
- 2023 **University of Arizona**, Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (scheduled)
- 2022 **EMBO Workshop**, “An integrated view of early land plant evolution”, Bhubaneswar, India
- 2022 **Plant Genome Online**, keynote speaker (virtual)
- 2021 **Louisiana State University**, Department of Biological Sciences (virtual)
- 2021 **University of Maryland**, UMD Plant Virtual Minisymposium (virtual)

- 2021 **University of California Davis**, Photosynthesis Mini-Symposium (virtual)
- 2021 **Laboratoire Reproduction et Développement des Plantes**, Lyon (virtual)
- 2021 **University of Goettingen**, Institute for Microbiology and Genetics (virtual)
- 2020 **Oxford University**, Oxford University Biological Society (virtual)
- 2020 **Botany 2020**, Colloquium on Mechanisms of rapid adaptation through the expression of “heterogenomicity” (virtual)
- 2020 **Ithaca College**, Department of Biology
- 2019 **Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History** (Botany), Washington DC
- 2019 **Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History** (“Phylopizza”), Washington DC
- 2019 **Marine Biological Laboratory**, Woods Hole, MA
- 2018 **Harvard University**, Herbarium Seminar Series
- 2018 **EMBO Workshop**, “New shores in land plant evolution”, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2018 **National Tsing Hua University** (Taiwan), Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology
- 2018 **7th Asian Symposium of Ferns and Lycophyte**, Keynote speaker, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2017 **University of Rochester**, Department of Biology
- 2017 **Arizona State University**, The Life Science Cafe seminar series
- 2017 **Iowa State University**, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology
- 2017 **Chicago Plant Science Symposium**
- 2017 **Cornell University**, Plant Biology Section
- 2016 **Utrecht University**, Institute of Environmental Biology
- 2016 **University of Zurich**, Department of Systematic and Evolutionary Botany
- 2016 **Université Laval**, Institute for Integrative Systems Biology
- 2016 **Yale University**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- 2015 **North Carolina State University**, Plant & Microbial Biology Seminar

*Declined/postponed due to pandemic*

- 2022 **University of Florida**, Department of Biology
- 2020 **Gregor Mendel Institute of Molecular Plant Biology**

## UNIVERSITY INTERACTIONS AND TEACHING

### Teaching

#### Main Instructor

**Problems in Plant Biology** (PLBIO 7410), Cornell University      2022 – 2023  
*Graduate-level seminar course; each week a different faculty provides guest lecture.*

**Plant Comparative and Evolutionary Genomics** (PLBIO 7420),  
Cornell University      2018  
*Graduate-level seminar course. Syllabus: <https://sites.google.com/site/plbio7420plantgenomics>*

#### Guest Lectures

**Introductory Plant Diversity and Evolution** (PLBIO 2410), Cornell University  
*One lecture on bryophytes*      2022

**Vascular Plant Systematics** (PLBIO 2480), Cornell University      2020 – 2022

*Two lectures on the biology of algae, bryophytes, lycophytes, and ferns*

**Problems in Plant Biology** (PLBIO 7410), Cornell University      2017 – 2021  
*One lecture around a paper of interest*

**Medical Ethnobotany** (PLBIO 1100), Cornell University      2017 – 2020  
*One lecture on the medicinal use of ferns*

**Topics in Plant Evolution** (PLBIO 6560), Cornell University      2017 – 2020  
*Participated in weekly paper discussion*

**Faculty Research** (PLBIO 7430), Cornell University      2017 – 2019  
*One lecture about my research program to the first-year graduate students*

**Principles of Biology** (BIO 110), SUNY Cortland      2022  
*One lecture about seed-free plants*

## Mentoring

### Ph.D. Students Advised

Tanner Robison	Cornell Plant Biology	2019-present
David Wickell	Cornell Plant Biology	2018-present
Alaina Petlewski	Cornell Plant Biology	2017-2020 (exited with a master degree)

### Postdoctoral Researchers Advised

Warren Ang	2022-present
Jacob Suissa	2022-present (co-advised with Corrie Moreau, Cornell EEB)
Sylvia Kinosian	2022-present (co-advised with Michael Barker, University of Arizona)
Declan Lafferty	2022-present (co-advised with Joyce Van Eck, BTI)
Peter Schafran	2019-present
Andika Gunadi	2019-2021 (co-advised with Joyce Van Eck, BTI); now Plant Transformation and Genome-editing Scientist, J.R. Simplot Company
Nasim Nahmatpour	2019-2021; now Bioinformatics Scientist, Analytical Biosciences
Jessica Nelson	2017-2019; now Lecturer of Biology, Maastricht University (Netherlands)
Li-Yaung Kuo	2017-2019; now Assistant Professor, National Tsing Hua University (Taiwan)

### Awards Received by Students

David Wickell	Smithsonian Graduate Student Fellowship, National Museum of Natural History (\$8,000)
David Wickell	Washington Biologists Field Club Research Awards (\$4,035)
David Wickell	Schmittau-Novak Integrative Plant Science Small Grants, Cornell (\$3,992)
Tanner Robison	Schmittau-Novak Integrative Plant Science Small Grants, Cornell (\$4,207)
Alaina Petlewski	R.C. Lewontin Early Award, Society for the Study of Evolution (\$2,500)
Alaina Petlewski	Andrew W. Mellon Student Research Grant, Cornell (\$780)
Alaina Petlewski	American Society of Plant Taxonomists Graduate Student Research Grant (\$1,200)

### Awards Received by Postdocs

Jacob Suissa	NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (Rules of Life track)
Sylvia Kinosian	NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (Plant Genome track)
Peter Schafran	NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (Plant Genome track)

*Dissertation/Exam Committee*

Ayress Grinage	Cornell Plant Biology	Advisor: Chelsea Specht
Joseph Cammarata	Cornell Plant Biology	Advisor: Michael Scanlon & Adrienne Roeder
Heather Phillips	Cornell Plant Biology	Advisor: Chelsea Specht
Thereis Choo	Cornell Plant Biology	Advisor: Kevin Nixon
Michael Song	UC Berkeley IB	Advisor: Carl Rothfels
Nikolai Hay	Duke Biology	Advisor: Kathleen Pryer
Blake Fauskee	Duke Biology	Advisor: Kathleen Pryer
Ariana Eily	Duke Biology	Advisor: Kathleen Pryer
Rizky Kafrawi	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Advisor: Shannon Straub

*Undergraduate/High School Students Advised*

Jenna Sins	Gannon University	2022
Anna Lipari	Grinnell College	2022
Makaila Weir	Ohio Wesleyan University	2021
Isa Johnson	Ohio Wesleyan University	2021
Ariel Patterson	Reeds College	2019 (Best poster; BTI REU symposium)
Victor Cai	Duke University	2019
Marazzano Colon	Duke University	2018
Harry Hou	Kimball Union Academy	2018

**Other Contributions and Interactions**

- Graduate student recruitment committee, Plant Biology Field, Cornell University (2023)
- Graduate student recruitment committee, Plant Biology Field, Cornell University (2019)
- Graduate student admission committee, Plant Biology Field, Cornell University (2018)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES****Internal***Committee Services*

2020 – 2022	Monday Morning Research Updates Committee
2020 – 2021	Research Reactivation Committee
2017 – 2020	Monday Morning Seminar Committee
2017 – 2020	BTI Computational Biology Center (BCBC) Committee
2017	BTI Communication Associate Hiring Committee

*Presentations*

2022	BTI Monday Morning Research Updates
2019	BTI Monday Morning Seminar (x2)
2017 – 2020	BTI REU Seminar Series
2017, 2022	BTI Board of Directors meeting

2017, 2019 BTI Scientific Advisory Board meeting

*Other Services*

2019 Organizer of BCBC nanopore symposium (with Suzy Strickler)

2019 Participated in BTI Leadership Organizational Retreat

2019 Participated in BTI Post-graduate Society mock faculty interview

**External**

*Public Outreach*

2021 **Art at BTI**, “Dead Plant Wisdom: Exploring identity, colonialism and climate change through art and herbaria”

*Conversation with Zachari Logan and AJ Bouchie. Recording.*

2020 **Fundraising campaign for Cayuga Lake harmful algal bloom research**

*Working closely with Aly Evans to put together a fundraising proposal. We held four info sessions to engage with the local communities and pitch the project idea.*

2020 **BTI Breaking Ground Discussion Series**, “Spooky Plants”

*Recording.*

2019 **Finger Lakes Native Plant Society**, “Ferntastic Ferns and Lycophytes”

*Talked about the natural history of ferns and lycophytes.*

2019 **Science on Screen: Little shop of horrors**

*Gave a pre-show presentation “Killer Plants!” in Cinemapolis as a part of the Science on Screen program. Recording.*

2018 **Sciencenter After Dark: Wicked Plants**

*Engage with the public with hands-on activities*

2018 **Sciencenter Members’ Night**, “Wicked ferns—Ferns that killed the early Australian explorers”

*The opening talk for the Wicked Plants exhibition. 75% of the audience were children.*

2018 **Judy’s Day** at Cornell Botanic Gardens

*My lab has two booths: “Ferntastic Azolla and Lycophytes” and “Amazing Bryophytes”. Jessica Nelson (postdoc) did several botanical drawings for the stickers, and I helped make sure the tree of life figure (this year’s theme) is correct*

2018 **Workshop on Pteridophyte Reproductive Biology** at Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center (Taiwan)

*A training workshop for researchers in Southeast Asia. I gave a lecture on “High-level classification of ferns and lycophytes”*

2018 **NSF INCLUDE** at Cornell University, “Biodiversity!”

*To high school students from underserved school districts*

2017 **Ithaca Garden Club**, “Ferntastic ferns and where to find them”

*To members of the garden club*

2017 **NSF INCLUDE** at Cornell University, “Biodiversity!”

*To high school students from underserved school districts*

2017 **Art at BTI**, “Tamed Wonders: Ferns and humans as seen from the BTI atrium”

*To artists and art-lovers; video recording*

2017 **BTI Giving Tuesday Livestream**

*Live video interview with Keith Hannon*

- 2017 **Fascination of Plants Day Livestream**  
*Live video interview with Keith Hannon*
- 2017 **BTI Science Bomb Podcast**  
*Audio interview with Keith Hannon*

*Media Appearance*

- 2022 Interviewed and featured by New Scientist "Horizontal gene transfer happens more often than anyone thought"
- 2022 Quoted by New Scientist "Genes from bacteria may have helped plants colonise the land"
- 2022 Quoted by Nature Plants Research Briefing "The evolutionary mechanisms of mycoheterotrophic orchids"
- 2019 Quoted by The Mercury News "Genetic code for California's iconic trees uncovered"

*Editorial Service*

- 2022 **Associate Editor**, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (handled 10 manuscripts)
- 2021 **Associate Editor**, American Fern Journal (handled 1 manuscript)
- 2021 **Associate Editor**, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (handled 16 manuscripts)
- 2020 **Associate Editor**, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (handled 24 manuscripts)
- 2019 **Associate Editor**, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (handled 17 manuscripts)
- 2018 **Associate Editor**, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (handled 7 manuscripts)

*Journal Reviewer*

- 2022 Nature Plants, Nature Communications, PNAS (x2), Current Biology, New Phytologist, Molecular Plant, American Journal of Botany, Genome Biology and Evolution, Plants People Planet, Frontiers in Plant Science, Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology
- 2021 Nature Plants (x5), Nature Ecology and Evolution, Nature Communications, Current Biology, Molecular Biology and Evolution, New Phytologist (x2), Plant Systematics and Evolution, Applications in Plant Sciences
- 2020 Nature Plants, PNAS, Genome Biology, New Phytologist (x2), Plant Journal, American Journal of Botany, Journal of Systematics and Evolution
- 2019 Nature Plants (x2), Nature Communications, Scientific Reports, Genome Biology and Evolution, G3
- 2018 Nature Plants, New Phytologist, Molecular Biology and Evolution, Applications in Plant Sciences, Frontiers in Plant Science, GigaScience (x2), Heredity, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (x2), Plant and Cell Physiology, Scientific Reports, Symbiosis, Systematic Botany
- 2017 New Phytologist, American Journal of Botany, BMC Plant Biology, Journal of Molecular Evolution, Scientific Reports
- 2016- PNAS, Taxon, Plant Systematics and Evolution (x2), Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (x2),  
2011 PeerJ, Phytotaxa (x2), Current Genetics, BMC Research Notes, BMC Evolutionary Biology, American Fern Journal (x2), Molecular Ecology Resources, Annals of Botany

*Grant Proposal Reviewer*

- 2020 The Royal Society University Research Fellowship (UK)
- 2020 Czech Science Foundation
- 2020 Academia Sinica Thematic Research Program (Taiwan)

- 2020 American Society of Plant Taxonomists Graduate Student Research Grants
- 2020 Society for the Study of Evolution Rosemary Grant Awards
- 2018 Czech Science Foundation
- 2018 Society of Systematic Biologists Graduate Student Research Awards

*Symposium/workshop Organizer*

- 2022 **Botany 2022 workshop:** *de novo* genome Assembly and Annotation with an Emphasis on Phylogenetic and Population Genetic Studies, co-organized with Suzy Strickler and Jacob Landis
- 2021 **Hornworts: the Next Generation,** Bryophytes and Lichens BL2021 (virtual)
- 2021 **Botany 2021 workshop:** *de novo* genome Assembly and Annotation with an Emphasis on Phylogenetic and Population Genetic Studies, co-organized with Suzy Strickler and Jacob Landis (virtual)
- 2020 **Botany 2020 workshop:** *de novo* genome Assembly and Annotation with an Emphasis on Phylogenetic and Population Genetic Studies, co-organized with Suzy Strickler and Jacob Landis (virtual)
- 2017 **Plant genome evolution from the very beginning,** co-organized with Charles Delwiche (University of Maryland), XIX International Botanical Congress, Shenzhen, China