

April Wynn

Assistant Professor at University of Mary Washington

Fredericksburg, VA, US

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Biography

Dr. Wynn is a plant geneticist by training and is interested in research examining the intersection of genetic regulatory networks for seed and flower formation with plant response to environmental stress. Working on a family of genes responsible for flower formation and ovule (seed precursor) development is exciting work ? especially when the genes are named after Dr. Wynn?s favorite childhood book author, Dr. Seuss! Using the model plant system, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, Dr. Wynn aims to understand the effects of environmental conditions on ovule size and development by looking at the role transcription factors play in regulating flower patterning genes. Transcription factors are like light switches for genes ? they turn other genes on, off, or up/down. In this way they are useful in helping plants to respond to changes in their environment, including day length, temperature and drought.

Areas of Expertise

Genetic Regulation, Developmental Genetics, Plant Genetics, Molecular Biology

Affiliations

American Society of Plant Biologists, Virginia Academy of Science

Education

North Carolina State University

Ph.D. Genetics

Texas A&M University

M.Sc. Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education

McMurry University

B.Sc. Natural Sciences

Accomplishments

Outstanding Young Faculty Member Award

UMW Alumni Association

Outstanding Teaching Apprentice
NCSU Genetics Department

Outstanding Teaching Apprentice
NCSU Genetics Department

Best Presentation Award
Genetics Graduate Student Association Symposium

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