

ALLISON T. KARP

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Professional Appointments

2020-Present **Yale University**, The Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, New Haven, CT
Postdoctoral Associate, Global Biome Ecology Lab
Supervisor: Dr. Carla Staver

Education

2020 **Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D. in Geosciences**
The Pennsylvania State University
Dissertation Title: *The role of fire ecology in vegetation change during the Neogene: New applications of molecular and isotopic proxies for vegetation burning in the paleorecord*
Advisor: Dr. Katherine H. Freeman

2015 **Bachelor of the Arts, A.B. in Biology: Ecology and Evolution; Environmental Earth Science**
Washington University in St. Louis
Graduated *Cum Laude* with Highest Distinction in Earth and Planetary Sciences
Thesis Title: *Using leaf wax biomarkers to constrain land-use change associated with Mississippian settlements*
Advisor: Dr. Alexander Bradley

Research Grants, Awards, and Scholarships

Grants

Pending NSF EAR-PF: Multi-scale calibrations of fecal biomarkers: new tools to evaluate how herbivores shaped past ecosystem dynamics (PI)

2019 Global Programs Graduate Student Travel Grant

2018 European Association of Organic Geochemists (EAOG) Research Award

2016 Charles A. & June R.P. Ross Research Award

2016 Geological Society of America (GSA) Graduate Student Research Grant

2015-20 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF-GRFP)

Scholarships and Awards

2019 Richard Standish Good Graduate Scholarship

2018 Alley Family Graduate Scholarship in Climate Science

2017 Urbino Summer School in Paleoclimatology (USSP-NSF) Scholarship

2017 Donald B. and Mary E. Tait Scholarship in Microbial Biogeochemistry

2016 Charles E. Knopf, Sr., Memorial Scholarship

2016 Isocamp National Science Foundation (Isocamp-NSF) Participant Award

2016 PSU Geoscience Graduate Colloquium Award, 1st Place Talk by a pre-comps PhD student

2015-19 Paul D. Krynine Scholarship Award

Publications

Google Scholar link

1. **Karp A.T.**, Faith J. T., Marlon, J. R., Staver A.C., (2021) Global response of fire activity to late Quaternary grazer extinctions. *Science*. 374, 1145-1148. **Media Coverage:** [Le Monde](#), [NHM London](#), [New Scientist](#)
2. Staver A.C., Abraham J.O., Hempson G.P, **Karp A.T.**, Faith J. T. (2021) The past, present, and future of herbivore impacts on savanna vegetation. *Journal of Ecology*. 1-19
3. **Karp A.T.**, Uno K.T., Polissar P.J., Freeman K.H. (2021) Late Miocene C₄ grassland fire feedbacks on the Indian Subcontinent. *Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology* 36 (4) e2020PA004106

4. Polissar P.J., Uno K.T., Phelps, S.R, **Karp A.T.**, Freeman K.H., Pensky, J.L. (2021) Hydrologic changes drove the Late Miocene expansion of C₄ grasslands on Northern Indian Subcontinent *Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology* 36 (4) e2020PA004108
5. **Karp A.T.**, Andrae J.W., McInerney, F.A., Polissar P.J., Freeman K.H. (2021) Carbon loss and suppressed fire feedbacks during late Pliocene C₄ grassland expansion in Australia. *Geophysical Research Letters* 48. e2020GL90964
6. Lyons, S.L., **Karp A.T.**, Bralower T., Grice K., Schaeffer B., Gulick S., Morgan J., Freeman K. H. (2020) Mixed Sources for Global Burn Markers at the Cretaceous-Paleogene Boundary *PNAS* 117, 25327-25334. **Media Coverage:** [Popular Science](#), [Scientific American](#)
7. **Karp A. T.**, Holman A. I., Hopper P., Grice K. and Freeman K. H. (2020) Fire Distinguishers: Refined interpretations of paleofire from polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 289, 93–113.
8. **Karp A. T.**, Behrensmeier A. K. and Freeman K. H. (2018) Grassland fire ecology has roots in the late Miocene. *PNAS* 115, 12130–12135. **Media Coverage:** [Science Magazine](#)

Manuscripts in review

1. Vachula., R.S., **Karp, A.T.**, Denis, E.H., Balasico, N. L., Canuel, E.A., Huang, Y., Spatially calibrating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) as proxies of area burned by fire (in review) *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*
2. Podrug E, McClure S.B., Kačar S., Perhoč Z., Reed K., Tykot H.R., Marguš D., Mazzucco N., Guilbeau D., Jović J, Ilijanić N., Miko S., Ivkić I., Tadesse V.H., **Karp A.T.** (in review) The results of the archaeological excavation of the central-political settlement and the geological exploration of the paleo-lake in the Bribirsko-ostrovski polje (northern Dalmatia). *Croatian Archaeological Society*

Invited Seminar Talks

1. EPS Seminar Series, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, *Northwestern University*, IL
May 20th 2022
2. YIBS Seminar Series, Yale Institute of Biospheric Studies, *Yale University*, CT
Oct 8th 2021
3. Paleofire Seminar Series, *International Paleofire Network (IPN)*, Virtual Seminar
Jun 24th 2021
4. Pal(a)eo PERCs, Early Career Virtual Seminar
Oct 6th 2020
5. Biology and Paleo Environment (BPE) Seminar, *Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University*, NY
Mar 30th 2020 - Postponed due to COVID-19
6. Early Career Scientists Symposium, Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, *University of Michigan*, MI
Mar 16th 2019
7. Climate Dynamics Seminar Series, Earth System Science Center, *Pennsylvania State University*, PA
Feb 13th 2019
8. Sprigg Center Seminar, Department of Earth Sciences, *University of Adelaide*, SA, Australia
Sep 21st 2018

Conference Abstracts (*Invited)

1. ***Karp A.T.**, Uno., K.T., Berke, M.A., Russell. J.M., Scholz, Faith J. T., C.A., Staver A.C., (2021) Savanna Fire Activity Responds Heterogeneously to Rainfall Shifts During the African Humid Period. 2021 AGU Annual Meeting New Orleans, LA (Invited Talk)
2. **Karp A.T.**, Faith J. T., Marlon, J. R., Staver A.C., (2021) Fire-Grazer Interactions During the Late Quaternary Extinctions. 2021 AGU Annual Meeting New Orleans, LA (Poster)

3. Freeman K.H., Baczynski A.A., **Karp A.T.**, Lyons S.L., Ferland T.M., (2019) Tracking Kerogen Weathering and Recycled Fossil Carbon Accompanying Cenozoic Climate and Landscape Perturbations. 2019 AGU Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA. (Talk)
4. Polissar P.J., Uno, K.T., Phelps S.R., **Karp A.T.**, Jake Andrae, Freeman K.H., McInerney, F.A., deMenocal P.B. (2019) Environmental Drivers of the Late Neogene Expansion of C₄ Ecosystems. 2019 AGU Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA. (Poster)
5. Del Vecchio J., Stanton C.L., Ferland T.M., Rossetto-Harris G., Carr J.C., Silverhart P., **Karp A.T.**, Barnes B.D., Stiles E., Eberle B.A., Sclafani J., Hajek E.A. (2019) Student-led organizations as a mechanism for improving department culture. 2019 AGU Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA. (Poster)
6. ***Karp A.T.**, Andrae J.W., McInerney, F.A., Polissar P.J., Freeman K.H. (2019) Molecular insights on fire ecology and carbon cycling during the Neogene C₄ expansion in Australia. 2019 GSA Annual Meeting Phoenix Arizona (Invited Talk)
7. **Karp A.T.**, Holman, A.I., Hopper, P., Grice, K., Freeman K.H. (2019) Refined paleo-fire interpretations from the distribution patterns and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of fire-derived molecules. 2019 Goldschmidt Conference, Barcelona, Spain (Talk)
8. **Karp A.T.**, Uno K.T., Polissar P.J., Freeman K.H. (2018) Fire Distinguishers: Molecular and isotopic tools for identifying grassland burning in deep time. 2018 AGU Annual Meeting Washington, D.C. (Talk)
9. **Karp A.T.**, Behrensmeyer A.K., Freeman K.H., (2017) Molecular evidence suggests an active fire-feedback triggered Late Miocene C₄ grassland expansion on the Indian Subcontinent. 2017 GSA Annual Meeting Seattle, WA (Talk)
10. **Karp A.T.**, Freeman K.H. (2017) Molecular evidence for fire and forest clearing associated with C₄ grassland expansion in the Late Miocene. 2017 GSA Joint Section Meeting NENC (Talk)
11. **Karp A.T.**, Suess M., Bradley A.S., (2014). Using leaf wax biomarkers to constrain land-use change associated with Mississippian settlements. 2014 Midwest Geobiology Symposium (Poster)

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

2021	Yale University , New Haven. CT <i>Instructor</i> , Modern Instructor Workshop Yale Postdoctoral Association and the Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning
2021	<i>Guest Lecturer</i> , EEB 305/705: Plant Ecology Professor: Dr. Carla Staver
2020-present	<i>Postdoctoral Mentor</i> , Women in Science at Yale (WISAY) Graduate mentee: Nia Harmon, Yale University
2019-20	The Pennsylvania State University , The Geosciences Department, State College, PA <i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Geosc 204: Geobiology Professors: Dr. Sarah Ivory & Dr. Peter Wilf
2019-20	<i>Graduate Supervisor</i> , Undergraduate thesis mentor Undergraduate mentee: Catherine Gangon, Pennsylvania State University
2017	<i>Graduate Supervisor</i> , Dept. of Meteorology, NSF-REU program in climate science Undergraduate mentee: Rebecca Miller, Brandeis University

2015-16 *Teaching Assistant*, Geosc 040: The Sea Around Us
Professors: Dr. Liz Hajek & Dr. Chris Marone

Additional International Research

2018 **Curtin University of Technology**, Department of Chemistry, Perth WA, Australia
Visiting Adjunct Researcher, The Western Australian Organic & Isotope Geochemistry Centre
Supervisor: Dr. Kliti Grice

2016 **Hrvatski geološki institut | Croatian Geological Survey**, Zagreb, Croatia
The Pennsylvania State University, The Geosciences Department, State College, PA
Graduate Researcher, PSU-HGI Holocene Lake Coring Archeological Collaboration
Supervisors: Dr. Sarah McClure, Dr. Slobodan Miko, Dr. Katherine Freeman

Professional Activities and Service

Science Outreach

2020-21 **Mentor**; Women in Science at Yale (WISAY)
2015-20 **Mentorship coordinator (2018); Secretary (2016)**; Association of Women in Geosciences (PSU)
2016-19 **Science Communication Working Group**, WE ARE for Science Advocacy Organization (PSU)
2015-17 **Science Mentor**, Pennsylvania State University Science University
2009-11 **Guest Engagement Volunteer**, John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, IL

Reviewer/Editorial

- Reviewer for: *Climates of the Past, Geology, Geophysical Research Letters, Earth and Planetary Science Letters, Minerals, Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology, Geological Bulletin, Geochemica Cosmochemica Acta*
- Grant Reviewer for: NSF-DEB

Conference Sessions

- AGU 2021 A106– The past and future of fire: paleo perspectives, historical understanding, and future projections (Convener, Primary Liaison)
- AGU 2020 PP014 – Historical and paleo-perspectives on Fire in the Earth System (Convener; Primary Liaison)
- AGU 2019 PP039 – Historical and paleo-perspectives on Fire in the Earth System (Primary Convener)

Professional Society Memberships

- Geological Society of America (GSA), American Geophysical Union (AGU), Geochemical Society, Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)

Departmental Service

2019-20 Graduate Student Faculty Search Liaison for PSU Dept. of Geosciences
2018-20 Graduate Student Representative at PSU Dept. of Geosciences faculty meetings
2015-17 Welcome Picnic Committee Chair for PSU Dept. of Geosciences

Training, Proficiencies, and Certifications

Short Courses and Workshops

2018 Biomarker Informatics and Neotoma Workshop at LDEO Columbia University
2017 The Urbino Summer School in Paleoclimatology at University of Urbino, Italy
2016 Stable Isotope Biogeochemistry and Ecology “Isocamp” at University of Utah
2013 Kaua’i Paleocology/Archeology Field School U Hawai’i at Manoa & Nat’l Botanic Garden
2014 Overseas Ecology Field Study, University of Queensland Brisbane, Australia

Analytical and Computing

- Mass spectrometry (Agilent GC-MSD; Thermo GC-MSD; Thermo GC-FID-MSD; Thermo HPLC-MSD)
- Isotope ratio mass spectrometry (ir-GCMS Thermo MAT 252, Thermo Delta V; EA-irms, Thermo XP)

- R Statistical Software

SCUBA training and certifications

- PADI Open Water Diver
- NAUI Advanced Diver, Deep Diver, EANx Diver, Rescue Diver
- AAUS Scientific Diver (all but written exam)

Medical training

- American Red Cross First Aid certification/CPR/AED
- NAUI First Aid for Dive Professionals