PATRICIA SALINAS SORIA

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Department of Plant Pathology
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

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EDUCATION

2014 – Current
PhD, Plant Pathology
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2011 – 2014
MS, Biological Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

2004 – 2007
BS, Botany
Minor in Classical Studies
Botany Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

TEACHING

2016 Spring
Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Course: PLP 6223C Viral Pathogens of Plants
Developed and guest-lectured laboratory exercise: "Identification of viruses using amplicon sequences"
Supervisor: Dr. Jane Polston and Ms. Heather Capobianco

2013 – 2014
Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Course: Introductory Biology Lab – with research
Developed and led undergraduate research projects:

- "A Bioinformatics approach to studying colon cancer and the APC tumor suppressor gene." (2013)
- "Of Mice and Men (and Yeasts): Is the 'Ortholog Conjecture' true between *S. cerevisiae* and other model organisms?" (2014)
  - Students presented a poster at the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Symposium, Nashville, TN

RESEARCH

2014 – Current
Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Florida
Project: Population dynamics and epidemiology of *Sclerotium rolfsii*
Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Dufault

2018
Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Florida
Project: Weeds & Wilds
Supervisor: Dr. Brantlee Spake-Richter and Dr. Rosanne Healy
Collected and identified novel fungal pathogens on native Florida plants

2011 – 2014
Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University
Project: Molecular evolution of yeast gene families
Advisor: Dr. Antonis Rokas

RESEARCH (continued)

2008 – 2011
Laboratory Technician
University of Florida Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred, FL
Project: *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation of citrus cultivars
Supervisor: Dr. Vladimir Orbovic

2006 – 2007
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Botany Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Project: Population genetics of endemic and endangered Florida plants, *Crotalaria avonensis* and *Ziziphus celata*
Advisors: Dr. Matthew Gitzendanner, Dr. Douglas Soltis, Dr. Pamela Soltis

AWARDS

2017
Vermelle C. York Agricultural Scholarship
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Florida

1st Place – Graduate Student Research Award
American Phytopathological Society – Southern Division Annual Meeting, College Station, TX

Student Travel Award
American Phytopathological Society – Southern Division Annual Meeting, College Station, TX

2014
The Graduate School Grinter Fellowship
Plant Pathology Department, University of Florida

2012
Special Graduate Mosig Travel Fund
Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University

2008
Young Botanist Award
Botanical Society of America

2007
Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship
Botany Department, University of Florida

2004
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship (100% paid college tuition)

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2016 - 2017
President
Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization
Plant Pathology Department, University of Florida

2017
Volunteer Judge – 62nd State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida
Microbiology Category (Grades 9 – 12)
Lakeland, FL

2016
Gator Encounter – Volunteer and Tour Guide
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Florida
Represented the plant pathology department for this recruitment event for middle schoolers

2015 – 2016
Chair – Public Relations Committee and Outreach Committee
Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization
Plant Pathology Department, University of Florida

SERVICE AND OUTREACH (continued)

2013 — Brain Blast Volunteer
Vanderbilt Brain Institute, Vanderbilt University
Worked in the Smell & Taste Booth at this public educational event for children

2012 — Vanderbilt Student Volunteers for Science
Taught weekly hour-long science lessons at a local 7th grade classroom

2011 – 2012 — Seminar Speaker Chair (elected 2 terms)
Graduate Student Association
Department of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt University

ADDITIONAL COURSES

2016 — Microscopy, Photomicrography, and Field Photography Graduate Student Workshop
Plant Pathology Department
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2013 — Biology of Fungi
Mountain Lake Biological Station at Pembroke, VA
Instructor: Dr. Rytas Vilgalys, Duke University

2012 — Molecular Evolution Workshop
Woods Hole, MA
Directors: Dr. David Hillis, University of Texas - Austin and Dr. Mitch Sogin, Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole

MEMBERSHIP

2015 - American Phytopathological Society
2015 - American Phytopathological Society – Southern Division
2015 - American Peanut Research and Education Society

PRESENTATIONS

2017 — Talk – American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX
Special Session – Plant Pathologists of the Future: Showcasing the Top Graduate Students from APS Division Meetings
Soria PS and Dufault NS. "A phylogenetic network of the fungal pathogen *Sclerotium rolfsii*, causal agent of stem rot."

Talk – American Peanut Research and Education Society Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM
Soria PS and Dufault NS. "Population structure of *Sclerotium rolfsii* in the Southeastern US."

Talk – American Phytopathological Society – Southern Division, College Station, TX
Soria PS and Dufault NS. "A phylogenetic network of the fungal pathogen *Sclerotium rolfsii*, causal agent of stem rot."

2016 — Talk – American Peanut Research and Education Society Annual Meeting, Clearwater, FL
Soria PS, Smith ME, Dufault NS. "Genetic variation and virulence diversity among three *Scleroitum rolfsii* isolates on two peanut cultivars."

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

Poster – American Phytopathological Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL
Soria PS, Smith ME, Dufault NS. "Preliminary multilocus sequence analysis of the soilborne fungal pathogen *Scleroitum rolfsii*."

2014 Talk – Southeastern Regional Yeast Meeting, Nashville, TN
Soria PS, McGary, KL, Rokas, A. "Functional Divergence for Every Paralog"

2007 Poster – Florida Genetics Symposium, Gainesville, FL
Soria PS, Germain-Aubrey C, Weekely C, Menges ES, Soltis PS, Soltis DE, Gitzendanner MA "Conservation genetics of *Crotalaria avonensis* (Fabaceae), an endangered Lake Wales Ridge, FL plant."

EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

Soria, PS., Barocco, R., Beckham, KB., Elwakil, W., Stern, P., Shukar, E., and Dufault, NS. (2017). Evaluation of peanut seed treatments on stem rot disease in Florida, 2016. Plant Dis. Manag. Rep. (Submitted).

Soria, PS., Barocco, R., Beckham, KB., Elwakil, W., Stern, P., Shukar, E., and Dufault, NS. (2017). Evaluation of Provost Opti, Velum Total, and Propulse on stem rot and leaf spot disease control in Florida, 2016. Plant Dis. Manag. Rep. (Submitted).

Soria, PS., Beckham, KB., Elwakil, W., and Dufault, NS. (2016). Peanut cultivar and fungicide spray program effects on stem rot and leaf spot disease in Florida, 2015. Plant Dis. Manag. Rep. 10:FC019.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Soria, PS and Dufault, N. (2017) Management of Stem Rot (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) on Peanuts and Agronomic Crops in Florida. Gainesville: University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. (in prep)

Soria PS*, McGary KL*, Rokas A. (2014). Functional divergence for every paralog. Mol. Biol. Evol. 31:984–992.

Orbović V, Göllner EM, **Soria P**. (2012). The effect of arabinogalactan proteins on regeneration potential of juvenile citrus explants used for genetic transformation by Agrobacterium tumefaciens. Acta Physiol. Plant. 35:1409–1419.

Orbovic V, **Soria P**, Moore GA, Grosser JW. (2011). The use of citrus tristeza virus (CTV) containing a green fluorescent protein gene as a tool to evaluate resistance/tolerance of transgenic citrus plants. Crop Protection. 30(5):572-576.