

# Cassidy B. Johnson

Professor of Biology, Houston Community College

Faculty Lecturer, Rice University

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## EDUCATION

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2005-2011 Ph.D. Biochemistry & Cell Biology, Rice University  
2002-2005 M.S. Biology, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
1997-2001 B.S. Biology/minor Chemistry, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

## EMPLOYMENT

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2015-present Biology Professor, Dept. of Natural Science, Houston Community College  
2011-present Faculty Lecturer; Dept. of BioSciences, Rice University  
2012-2014 Houston toad specialist; Dept. Conservation & Science, Houston Zoo, Inc.

## ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2015-present **Professor of Biology**; Earth, Life, & Natural Sciences Dept., Houston Community College, Southeast Campus

- Biology II (BIOL 1407), Introductory Microbiology (BIOL 2320), Microbiology lab (BIOL 2120), Introductory Biology (BIOL 1308), Biology I (BIOL 1406)

2017-present **Faculty Lecturer**; Master of Liberal Studies Program, Rice University

- Conserving Biodiversity (MLS 552)

2014-present **Faculty Lecturer**; BioSciences Dept., Rice University

- Conservation Biology lab (EBIO 324), Conservation Biology (EBIO 323)

2010, 2011 Instructor; Dept. of Biochemistry & Cell Biology, Rice University

- Freshmen Seminar in Local Research (BIOS 115)

2006-2007 Teaching Assistant; Dept. of Biochemistry & Cell Biology, Rice University

- Cell Biology, Endocrinology

2002-2005 Laboratory Teaching Assistant; Dept. of Natural Sciences, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- Astronomy, Environmental Science, Genetics, Microbiology, Biology

## TEACHING HIGHLIGHTS

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- **Accepted into the competitive HCC West Houston Institute Innovation Fellows Program (2020-2021):** The WHI Innovation fellows program is a one year experience for faculty and staff that both explores and further develops an innovating mindset to assist the education mission of the college. The program gives fellows an opportunity to develop several projects geared towards educational innovation.
- **Awarded the League for Innovation in the Community College – Teaching Excellence Award of the Year (2019-2020):** Awarded League of Innovation

award for the designing and hosting a multi-campus “bioblitz” at HCC. The project recruited faculty and students to collect biodiversity data using a citizen science data platform that is accessible with a smartphone app called iNaturalist. In total, 10 faculty and 220+ students participated across 6 HCC campuses in October 2019.

- ***Content expert and curriculum writer for the development of a “Rice University Urban Biodiversity Academy” in partnership with Envision – Worldstrides (Spring 2020):*** The Biodiversity Academy was designed to offer a 10-day, immersive experience for high school students in urban biodiversity and sustainability. The 2020 academy was postponed to summer 2021 due to COVID-19.
- ***Event co-host and organizer for the Conservation, Ecology, and Environmental Science career forum (2017-2020):*** The CEES career forum invites experts from a variety of environmental fields to meet with students to discuss their careers. The forum also invites local agencies and organizations with that are accepting applications for job, internship, and volunteer opportunities. The CEES career forum has been held at HCC for three years, and one year at the University of Saint Thomas. 2020 marked the fourth year of the event.
- ***Organize yearly experiential, environmental opportunities to HCC students (2017-2020):*** In the fall and spring semesters, I organize multiple opportunities for HCC students to engage in Houston’s local environment, including pocket prairie planting events, habitat restoration events hosted by Houston’s Park Department, butterfly counts at Brazos Bend State Park, etc.
- ***Instruction consistently ranked to be “effective” and “highly effective” by HCC students nine semesters in a row (Fall 2015 – Spring 2020):*** Students responding to the HCC Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System scored my Biology I, Biology II, Microbiology lecture and lab courses as “highly effective.”
- ***Developed a hands-on, experiential learning laboratory course in prairie restoration for Rice University (starting Fall 2015-current):*** Designed Conservation biology lab (EBIO 324; cross-listed with Professional Master’s Course 524) where students researched, designed, and carried out a conservation effort on Rice’s campus. The main focus of the class was a coastal prairie restoration in an undeveloped area of campus. Students collaborated with administrators on the project, including Rice’s Arboretum Committee that oversees campus green space and development.
- ***Designed and taught a hands-on, course in conservation genetics at the University of Saint Thomas (Spring 2013):*** Developed and taught a 6-week workshop in collaboration with the Houston Zoo, Inc. and UST Biology faculty

entitled *Houston toad Research Collaborative Program*. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce freshmen students to research in molecular biology and demonstrate how these techniques can be used for conservation and ecology.

## **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND MENTORSHIP**

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- 2019-2020 Advisor for Fondren Fellow undergraduate scholarship recipient, Stephanie Scoville. Stephanie produced a historical document on the history of Rice University's Harris Gully Natural Area which will be featured, along with historic photos, as an educational display in Rice's Fondren library.
- 2018-current Advisor for Rice University Pocket Prairie Intern whose job is to inventory and maintain the pocket prairie on Rice's campus
- 2017-current Currently assisting in the creation of a Outdoor club for Houston Community College Students
- 2017-2018 Mentored an HCC honor's student in the construction of a pocket prairie on HCC's Central campus
- Feb. 2018-19 Conservation, Ecology, and Environmental Science Career Forum
- Organized and co-host for second, annual event that engaged area college students in environmental careers.
- Apr. 2017 University of Saint Thomas Father Meyer's Pocket Prairie
- Co-mentored UST undergraduate student with the design and construction of a pocket prairie for the university. Broke ground on project April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- 2014-current Advisor for Harris Gully Natural Area prairie restoration project
- Collaborating with students, the Rice University Arboretum Committee, and the Katy Prairie Conservancy in an effort to restore a 3 acre urban prairie
- 2015-current Engaged Houston Community College students in urban conservation projects
- November 2017, Scarcella native plant garden construction at HCC Southwest campus– 28 HCC students
  - October 2017, Houston Zoo endangered species event – 36 HCC students
  - Fall 2017, HPARD pocket prairie planting events – 9 HCC students
  - March 2017, Pollinator BioBlitz – 30 HCC students
  - April 2016, Father Meyer's pocket Prairie – 12 HCC students
  - October 2015, Urban Wildlife Count – 24 HCC students attended
- 2016-2017 Undergraduate research mentor; Houston Community College
- Local amphibian genetic barcoding project
- 2015-current Co-PI and mentor for University of St. Thomas and Houston Community College undergraduate research students in a collaborative Hispanic Serving Institution STEM grant
- *Project title: Investigating the relationship between tallgrass prairie microbial landscape, plant biodiversity, and soil properties.*
- Spring 2015 Co-mentored Rice University undergraduate Preeya Bhavsar in collaboration with Scott Egan (Rice) with senior research project titled

*Environmental DNA (eDNA) detection of the endangered Houston toad (Bufo [Anaxyrus] houstonensis)*

- *Preeya was awarded the 2014-2015 Julian Huxley Award for Excellence, the Distinction in Research and Creative Works Award, and best EEB poster at the Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium in April 2015 for this work*

- Spring 2015 Mentored a University of Saint Thomas student in the development of an informative, conservation webpage that will be used by researchers and USFWS for amphibian education ([www.thehoustontoad.org](http://www.thehoustontoad.org))
- Fall 2014 Co-mentored undergraduate Rice University honors research student in collaboration with Scott Egan (Rice) on a project developing environmental DNA probes to detect the endangered Houston toad; Rice University
- Spring 2014 Co-mentor for two Rice University students in collaboration with Adrienne Correa (Rice) and Scott Egan (Rice) investigating the prevalence of the amphibian pathogen *Chlamydomphila pneumoniae* in Harris County
- Spring 2013 Co-mentored two University of Saint Thomas students in collaboration with Shivas Amin (UST) in a biodiversity analysis of newly established pocket prairies in Buffalo Bayou Park as part of HSI Stem Grant
- 2012-2014 Mentor and research adviser to Houston toad summer, fall, and spring interns at the Houston Zoo, Inc.
- Spring 2012 Co-mentored two Rice University undergraduate students in collaboration with Amy Dunham (Rice) evaluating captive acclimation of Houston toads
- 2010-2011 Rice University graduate student peer seminar mentor for Biochemistry & Cell Biology 581 Graduate Seminar class

## **COMMUNITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- Spr. 2017 **Instructor**, Saving Planet Houston Community Education Workshop; hosted by the Katy Prairie Conservancy in collaboration with Houston Arboretum & Nature Center
- Fall 2014 **After-school garden educator** for UrbanHarvest; Whittier Elementary, Houston, TX
- 2012-2014 Education and outreach coordinator for Houston toad conservation program; Houston Zoo, Inc.
- Fall 2001 Instructor; The Outdoor School, Marble Falls, TX.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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- 2020 **Teaching Excellence Award of the Year** - League for Innovation in the Community college
- 2019 **Conservationist of the Year Award**, Native Prairie Association of Texas
- 2017 **Faculty Excellence Teaching Award**, Houston Community College  
Student-nominated award given to only 3 faculty members a year out of 150+ nominees.
- 2016-2017 **Awarded research leader position (\$6,000) on HSI STEM Articulation Grant, US Dept. of Education (P031C110128)** between Houston Community College and University of Saint Thomas.

- 2014-2015 **Houston Zoo Staff Conservation Fund Award grant recipient**  
awarded for the development of an environmental DNA detection methodology for wild Houston toads (Co-PI Scott Egan, Rice University) (\$3,000)
- Apr. 2010 Graduate Recognition for Excellence in Peer Review Award, Rice University
- 2005-2008 Harriet G. Jenkins – NASA Pre-doctoral Fellowship Award  
Funds received paid tuition, fees, and stipend for three years of graduate study at Rice University
- Aug. 2008 Graduate Seminar Presentation Award, Rice University
- 2003-2004 Texas Space Grant Consortium Graduate Fellowship
- 2002-2003 Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi Graduate Scholarship
- Fall 2002 Americorp Graduate Scholarship
- 2000-2001 Member of the Year Award; Texas A&M University Chancellor Student Advisory Board
- 1997-2001 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Presidential Scholarship Award (\$8,000)

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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- 2018-present External Committee member: Rice's Arboretum Committee
- 2015-present Microbiology and Biology program subcommittee member, Houston Community College
- 2008-2010 BCB Graduate Student Association, Rice University  
-President, 2009-2010; Vice-President, 2008-2009
- 2004-2005 University President Search Advisory Committee, TAMUCC
- Spr. 2004 Disabilities Director Search Committee, TAMUCC
- 2003-2004 Honors Program Planning Committee, TAMUCC
- 2002-2003 University Budget Committee, TAMUCC
- 2002-2004 Graduate Student Organization, TAMUCC  
-Organization co-founder, 2002
- 2000-2004 Student Fee Advisory Committee, TAMUCC
- 2000-2001 Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee, TAMUCC
- 1999-2001 Texas A&M University System Chancellor's Student Advisory Board
- 1999-2004 Student Government Association, TAMUCC  
-President, 2000-2001
- 1999-2000 Science Club President, TAMUCC
- 1998-2001 Student Recycling Advisory Committee, TAMUCC  
-Founder, 1998

## **SUMMARY OF LOCAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS**

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- 2018-current *Project Developer*, Harris Gully Natural Area Urban Prairie Project  
Successfully managed the construction of a 3-acre pocket prairie as a part of the Lowery Arboretum on the campus of Rice University. This project was a collaboration between students, the Arboretum Committee, the Katy Prairie Conservancy, and The Nature Conservancy.

- 2016-2019 **President**, Coastal Prairie Partnership  
 The Coastal Prairie Partnership is a local, Houston non-profit whose mission is to support local prairie and habitat conservation efforts through networking, program organizing, grant writing, and education
- Conference Co-chair and Programing Team Chair for North American Prairie Conference, hosted at University of Houston Clear Lake, June 2-5<sup>th</sup> 2019
  - Co-organizer for October 2018 Restoration Roundup held at Texas City Prairie Preserve
  - Co-organizer for 2018 Prairie Stampede in collaboration with Houston Chapter of Native Prairie Association
  - Organizer for June 2018 Urban Conservation Summit, held at Lake Sheldon State Park
  - Currently managing Joint Event Team (JET) between five major nonprofits with prairie conservation interests to organize Prairie and Pollinators month, 2019
  - Co-organized for National Wildlife Federations America's Grassland Conference: United for Conservation; Fort Worth Texas, November 14- 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Co-organized Texas and Cajun Prairie Symposium, September 2016, Lafayette, LA
  - Organized community workshops for volunteer training and/or general information regarding coastal prairies 2016- present
- 2015-current Lead PI for a Texas Horned Lizard presence/absence survey project in collaboration with HZI at the Katy Prairie Conservancy, Houston, TX.
- 2011-2012 Research assistant to Rachel Rommel (Houston Zoo) investigating road mortality of emydid turtles at Steinhagen Lake, TX.
- 2009-2010 Research assistant to Paul Crump (Houston Zoo) investigating the presence/absence of *Bufo houstonensis* on Skull Creek Ranch, TX.
- 2004-2005 Research Assistant to Dr. Robert Benson, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; *Radar study of migratory birds on Kennedy Ranch, Texas*

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

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- Feb 2019 Invited participant, Educator's Day, Houston Zoo Inc.
- Jun 2017 Presenter at Urban Prairie Summit on Engaging College Students in Conservation
- Jun 2016 Workshop leader, Summer Science Nights at Katy Prairie Conservancy
- Apr 2016 Invited lecture concerning Houston toads; Clear Creek ISD Science Magnet School and Houston Community College Northwest/Spring Branch STEM club
- Nov 2015 Invited participant, Texas Master Naturalists Coastal Prairie chapter Prairie Heritage Festival, Rosenberg, TX
- July 2015 Invited participant, Ladybird Johnson's Nature Center "Nature nights," Austin, TX
- Apr. 2015 Invited participant, Nature Expo hosted by GreenGrove Group, Riverstone Community, Sugarland, TX
- Nov 2014 Invited participant, Texas Master Naturalists Coastal Prairie Chapter Prairie Heritage Festival, Rosenberg, TX
- May 2014 Invited participant to Endangered Species Day hosted by Houston Zoo

July 2013 Guest Instructor for Endangered Species Day camp, Houston Arboretum  
 May 2013 Organizer for Houston toad Public Service Announcement contest for  
 Clear Creek Intermediate School's "Future Think" class  
 Mar. 2013 Guest Instructor for Herpetology Day Camp, Houston Arboretum  
 Sept. 2012 Instructor for Houston toad educator's workshop, hosted by LCRA  
 McKinney Roughs Nature Park and the Houston Zoo  
 Sept. 2013 Invited participant to Wildscapes Workshop, hosted by the Houston Zoo  
 June 2013 Invited participant to Ladybird Johnson's Nature Center "Nature nights"  
 May 2013 Invited participant to Endangered Species Day hosted by the Houston  
 Zoo  
 Apr. 2013 Invited participant to NASA fair hosted by Johnson Space Center  
 2012-2013 Nature Discovery Center volunteer, Bellaire, TX.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Crump, P., Rommel-Crump, R., **Johnson, C.**, Amin, S. 2017. *Hyla Vericolor* (Gray Treefrog). Longevity Herpetocluture Note. *Herpetological Review* 48, 3.

Bianchi, C.M., \***Johnson, C.B.**, Crump, P.S., Howard, L.L. 2013. Efficacy of fenbendazole and levamisole treatment in captive Houston toads (*Bufo [Anaxyrus] houstonensis*). *J. Zoo. and Wildlife Med.* 45, 564-568.

Texada, M.M., Simonette, R.A., **Johnson, C.B.**, Deery, W. J., and Beckingham, K. M. 2008. *yuri gagarin* is required for actin, tubulin and basal body functions in Drosophila spermatogenesis. *J. Cell Sci.* 121, 1926-1936.

**Johnson, C.B.**, Lin, C-J., Stern, M. 2012. The Ras-dependent and Ras-independent activities of PI3K in the Drosophila motor neuron. *Genes, Brains, Behav.* 11, 848-858.

**Johnson, C.B.** and Waldbeser, L. 2006. The effect of changes in gravity on human monocyte-like cell (TUR) phagocytosis. *Gravitational and Space Bio.* 19, 147-148.

## **REPORTS**

**Johnson, C.B.** 2019. Houston toad permit report and renewal. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019. 6 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2019. Houston toad permit report and renewal. Annual Report. Submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019. 6 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2018. Houston toad permit report and renewal. Annual Report. Submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. 6 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2017. Houston toad permit report and renewal. Annual Report. Submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. 4 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2017. Houston toad recovery permit Annual Report. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. 5 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2016. Houston toad recovery permit Annual Report. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 17 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2015. Houston toad recovery permit Annual Report. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. 12 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2015. Texas Parks and Wildlife Scientific Research Permit Report. Submitted to TPWD December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. 11 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2015. Prairie icons: Reintroduction assessment study of four charismatic prairie species: the American Bison, Attwater's Prairie Chicken, Houston toad, Texas horned lizard. Submitted to the Director and board of the Katy Prairie Conservancy June 2015. 40 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.**, Howard, L.L., Mays, S. 2013. Houston toad *ex situ* Conservation Annual Permit Report. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. 30 pp.

**Johnson, C.B.** 2013. Standard Operating Procedures for *ex situ* Houston toad program (manual update). Submitted to Herpetology Department Curator August, 2013. 47 pp.  
Crump, P.S., Howard, L.L., **Johnson, C.B.**, Forstner, M.R.J. 2013. Houston toad Preventing Extinction Grant Report; Agreement # 1448-2-181-J850. Submitted to U.S. fish and Wildlife Service Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013. 12 pp.

Crump, P.S., Howard, L.L., **Johnson, C.B.**, Forstner, M.R.J. 2012. Houston toad *ex situ* Conservation Annual Permit Report. Submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. 40 pp.

## **ADDITIONAL WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS**

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**Johnson, C.B.** Houston toad Conservation Program. *Pet Talk*. May 2014, 14: 60-61.

**Johnson, C.B.** Houston toad 2013 program update. *Amphibian Ark Newsletter*. Sept 2013, 24: 9.

**Johnson, C.B.** and Amin, S. R. 2013. The Houston toad Research Collaborative: Using applied research techniques to encourage conservation awareness. *Amphibian Ark Newsletter*, June 2013, 23: 11.

Crump, P.S., and **Johnson, C.B.** 2012. The recovery program for the Houston toad. *Amphibian Ark Newsletter*, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012. 21; 13.

## **INVITED TALKS**

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- Apr. 2020      Houston Museum of Natural Science and The Nature Conservancy of Houston Presents: Saving Houston's Biodiversity with Your Smartphone  
*Guest presenter*: Engaging students with citizen science projects.
- Mar. 2020      Texas Master Naturalists – Clear Lake Chapter  
*Presentation*: How plants "Do it!"
- Jun. 2019      Houston Chapter of Native Prairie Association of Texas

- Apr. 2019 *Presentation:* Plant physiological adaptations to flooding and stress  
Rice University Master Liberal Studies Program Public Lecture Series  
*Presentation:* Extinction
- Feb. 2019 2019 Texas Regional Alliance for Campus Sustainability Summit,  
*Presentation:* Planting an urban pocket prairie at Rice University  
Co-presenter: Richard Johnson, Director Center for Sustainability, Rice University
- June 2017 Urban Prairies & Meadows Managers' Summit  
*Presentation:* Engaging Local College students for Conservation
- Mar 2017 Trinity River Texas Master Naturalists club training event  
*Presentation:* Introduction to local reptiles and amphibians
- Mar 2017 Crestwood Garden Club  
*Presentation:* The mysterious, infamous Houston toad
- Mar 2017 2017 Texas Regional Alliance for Campus Sustainability Summit,  
Commerce, TX  
*Presentation:* Campus Rewilding
- May 2016 Gulf Coast Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists  
*Presentation:* The mysterious, infamous Houston toad
- Nov 2015 Endangered Species Luncheon hosted by the Center for Sustainability  
and Energy Management, Rice University  
*Presentation:* Houston toad conservation
- Oct 2015 Houston Chapter Native Prairie Association of Texas  
*Presentation:* "Bringing Back the Texas Horned Lizard to the Katy Prairie  
Conservancy"
- Aug 2015 Texas Native Plant Society Houston Chapter  
*Presentation:* "Planting for Amphibian Conservation"
- Sept 2014 Texas Master Naturalists, Coastal Prairie Chapter monthly meeting  
*Presentation:* "Amphibian declines and the Houston toad"
- Mar 2014 Amphibian Taxonomy Advisory Group annual meeting, hosted by San  
Antonio Zoo  
*Presentation:* "Houston toad (*Anaxyrus houstonensis*) program update"
- Jan 2014 Teen career conference, hosted by the Houston Zoo, Inc.  
*Presentation:* "The call of the wild (toad): Conservation as a career"
- Nov 2013 Invited lecturer to Introduction to Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Rice  
University
- Sept 2013 Leon and Robertson County landowner workshop, hosted by USFWS, the  
Texas Ag Extension office and the Texas Forest Service  
*Presentation:* "Houston we are go for toads!"
- May 2013 USFWS regional office meeting, hosted by USFWS Clear Lake office  
*Presentation:* "Houston Zoo's ex situ Houston toad conservation program  
overview"

## **POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

American Association of Zoological Veterinarians Annual Conference, 2014.  
Bianchi, C.M., **Johnson, C.B.**, Howard, L.L. Body condition scoring in the Houston toad (*Bufo [Anaxyrus] houstonensis*).

Annual Association of Zoos & Aquariums Amphibian Taxon Advisory meeting, 2012.  
**Johnson, C.B.**, Parker, T.P., Howard, L.L., Crump, P. Houston toad (*Bufo [Anaxyrus] houstonensis*) recovery update.

50<sup>th</sup> Annual Drosophila Research Conference Poster Presentation, 2009.  
**Johnson, C.B.**, Konduri, V., Huelsmann, S., Brown, N., and Beckingham, K.M. *john glenn (jog)*, a gene implicated in gravitaxis, may function downstream the Drosophila ortholog of the  $\beta$ -amyloid precursor protein.

49<sup>th</sup> Annual Drosophila Research Conference Poster Presentation, 2008.  
**Johnson, C.B.**, Konduri, V., and Beckingham, K.M. *john glenn (jog)*, a gene implicated in gravitaxis, may be involved in axon outgrowth and function downstream of Drosophila APP (APPL).

Harriett G. Jenkins Pre-doctoral Fellowship Program Conference, 2007.  
**Johnson, C.B.**, Konduri, V., Huelsmann, S., Brown, N., and Beckingham, K.M. *john glenn (jog)* has a putative role downstream APPL, the Drosophila homolog of the amyloid beta precursor protein.

48<sup>th</sup> Annual Drosophila Research Conference Poster Presentation, 2007.  
Texada, M.T., **Johnson, C.B.**, Simonette, R.A., Munjaal, R.P., Armstrong, J.D., Beckingham, K.M. The gravitaxis-affecting protein Yuri interacts with the actin cytoskeleton.

NASA Cell Science Conference Poster Presentation, 2005.  
**Johnson, C.B.**, and Waldbeser, L. The effect of changes in gravity on human monocyte cell (TUR) phagocytosis.

## **CITED IN POPULAR PRESS**

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- 2019 *Houston conservationist is helping to find new ways to protect local species and ecosystems*, by Natalie Harms. InnovationMap: Feb 28, 2019.  
<https://houston.innovationmap.com/houston-conservationist-is-helping-to-find-new-ways-to-protect-local-species-and-ecosystems-2630276167.html>
- 2014 *Saving the Houston toad* by Catherine Arnold. Rice: The Magazine of Rice University. Winter 2014: 41-42.
- 2013 "Toads gone wild: The promises and pitfalls of Houston Toad Recovery" by Mose Buchele, reporter for NPR's *State Impact*  
<http://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/2013/05/02/promises-pitfalls-of-preservation-on-display-in-houston-toad-recovery-work/>
- 2013 "Critically endangered Texas toad receives help" by Justin Horne, Meteorologist/Reporter for KSAT 12 news  
<http://www.ksat.com/news/critically-endangered-toad-receives-help/19960516>

## **VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

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2016-2019 President, Coastal Prairie Partnership  
2014-current Katy Prairie Conservancy Prairie Builder School program  
2014-2015 Memorial Park Conservancy EcoTech Panel member  
2014-2015 Amphibian biodiversity surveys of Houston city parks in  
conjunction with the Herman Park and Memorial Park Conservancies  
2012-2014 USFWS Clear Lake office Austin County amphibian survey volunteer

### **CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS**

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2015-current Coastal Prairie Partnership  
2015-current Houston Chapter of the Native Prairie Association of Texas  
2014-current Member; Amphibian Survival Alliance  
2014-current Member; Native Plant Society of Texas – Houston Chapter  
2010-current Member, Turtle Survival Alliance

### **CERTIFICATIONS AND PERMITS**

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2017-current Texas Parks and Wildlife Scientific Research Permit  
(SPR-1214-269) to maintain a Houston toad for education and  
outreach  
2015-current USFWS Endangered Species Recovery Permit (TE64624B-0) to  
maintain a Houston toad for education and outreach  
Dec 2010 PADI certified Open Water Diver