

CHRISTOPHER P. DUNN, PhD

Cornell Botanic Gardens • Cornell University • Ithaca, New York

PRESENT POSITION

The Elizabeth Newman Wilds Executive Director

Cornell Botanic Gardens
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Ithaca, NY 14850
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EDUCATION

Postdoc 1985-1988 University of Georgia
PhD 1985 University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (Plant Ecology)
MA 1978 Indiana State University (Plant Ecology)
BS 1976 SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse (Botany)

CURRENT ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021 – Present: Advisory Group, Mellon Migrations Initiative, Cornell University
2019 – Present: Provost's Global Migrations Task Force, Cornell University
2019 – Present: Sustainable Cornell Council
2017 – Present: Provost's Public Engagement Council, Cornell University
2016 – 2020: Executive Committee, Shoals Marine Laboratory, Cornell University
2015 – Present: Adjunct Associate Professor, Section of Horticulture, Cornell University
2014 – Present: Faculty Fellow, Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Cornell University

PUBLIC GARDEN LEADERSHIP

2014 – Present: Executive Director, Cornell Botanic Gardens, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
2007 – 2014: Director, Lyon Arboretum, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, Hawai'i
2004 – 2007: Executive Director for Research, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, Illinois
1994 – 2004: Director of Research, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1991 – 1994: Ecologist, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois
1988 – 1991: Assistant Professor of Biology, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana
1985 – 1988: Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
1982 – 1985: Research Associate, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

HONORS & AWARDS

2017: **Excellent Scholar Award** (*International Botanical Congress*)
Award of Merit (*American Public Gardens Association*)

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Journal Articles, Commentaries, and Book Chapters

1. Rakow, D.A., and C.P. Dunn. *In press*. The professional development of botanic garden leaders. In: *Professionalizing Museum Work in Higher Education: A Global Approach*. M. Laurenço and D. Babic, eds. International Council of Museums (ICOM).
2. Fernández-Llamazares, Á., D. Lepofsky, C.G. Armstrong, et al. 2021. Scientists' warning to humanity on threats to indigenous and local knowledge systems. *Journal of Ethnobiology* 41: 144-169.
3. Dunn, C.P. 2018. Climate change and its consequences for cultural and language endangerment. Pages 720-738 in: *The Oxford Handbook of Endangered Languages*. K. Rehg and L. Campbell, eds. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
4. Dunn, C.P. 2017. Biological and cultural diversity in the context of botanic garden conservation strategies. *Plant Diversity* 39: 396-401.
5. Dunn, C.P. 2013. Biocultural conservation as a botanic garden conservation strategy. *Proceedings of the 5th Global Botanic Gardens Congress*. Botanic Gardens Conservation International. Reading, UK.
6. Dunn, C.P. 2013. Cultural diversity as a key component of botanic garden conservation strategies. *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Island Systems*. International Geophysical Union. Penghu, Taiwan.
7. Dunn, C.P. 2012. Cultural diversity and arts in the context of botanic garden conservation strategies. Pages 71-82 in: *International Symposium on the Establishment of National Saemangeum Arboretum*. Korea Forest Service, Seoul.
8. Sharrock, S.L., S. Blackmore, J. Cheney, C. Dunn, et al. 2011. The biodiversity benefits of botanic gardens. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 26: 433.
9. Dunn, C.P., and L. Heneghan. 2011. Composition and diversity of urban vegetation. Pages 103-115 in: *Urban Ecology: Patterns, Processes, and Applications*. J. Niemelä, J.H. Breuste, G. Guntenspergen, N.E. McIntyre, T. Elmqvist, and P. James, eds. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
10. Dunn, C.P. 2008. Biocultural diversity should be a priority for conservation. *Nature* 456: 315 (Correspondence). [cited as a significant contribution to better understanding 71 important conservation questions: Parsons et al., *Conservation Biology* 28, 1206–1214 (2014)]
11. Henderson, M., B. Tankersley, D. Vieglais, G. Riccardi, C.P. Dunn, D. Stark, P. Allenstein, and M. O'Neill. 2008. PlantCollections - an efficient distributed database system for plant collections. Pages 273-276 in: *International Multi-Conference on Engineering and Technological Innovation*. HW Chu, M. Savoie, J. Ferrer, P. Franco, and M. Estrems, eds. Orlando, USA.
12. Tankersley, B.E.T, M.C. Henderson, D. Vieglais, G. Riccardi, C.P. Dunn, D. Stark, and P. Allenstein. 2008. PlantCollections™: a community solution to accessing scientific information. *First Monday* 13(8): 4 August 2008. (peer-reviewed online journal; www.firstmonday.org)
13. Dunn, C. P., B. Tankersley, and P. Allenstein. 2007. PlantCollections™: linking national and international living plant databases. Pages 1-4 in: *Building a sustainable future: the role of botanic gardens*. Proceedings of the 3rd Global Botanic Gardens Congress. E. Leadlay, ed. Wuhan, China.
14. Dunn, C.P. 2005. Sustainability: A Useless Concept? Pages 52-55 in: *Proceedings of the 2005 Conference of the Association of Zoological Horticulture*. Chicago, USA.
15. Bowles, M., M. Jones, J. McBride, T. Bell, and C. Dunn. 2005. Temporal instability in Chicago's upland old growth forest. *Chicago Wilderness Journal* 3(2): 5-16.
16. Bowles, M., M. Jones, C. Dunn, J. McBride, C. Bushey, and R. Moran. 2003. Twenty-year woody vegetation changes in northern flatwoods and mesic forest at Ryerson Conservation Area, Lake County, Illinois. *Erigenia* 19: 31-51.

17. Dunn, C.P. 2003. Keeping taxonomy based in morphology. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 18: 270-271.
18. Dunn, C.P. 2002. Innovative conservation partnerships among botanical gardens. Pages 134-137 in: *Restoration of Disturbed Natural Ecosystems*. Proceedings of the First International Conference. A.Z Gluchov, et al., eds. Donetsk, Ukraine.
19. Schaub, M., and C.P. Dunn. 2002. vPlants: a virtual herbarium of the Chicago region. *First Monday* 7(5): May 2002. (peer-reviewed online journal; www.firstmonday.org)
20. Dunn, C. 2000. Innovative partnerships for advancing plant conservation. Pages 35-38 in: *International Ecological Congress: Advances in Ecology and Environmental Safety*. St. Petersburg, Russia.
21. Bowles, M., M. Jones, J. McBride, T. Bell, and C. Dunn. 2000. Structural composition and species richness indices for upland forests of the Chicago Region. *Erigenia* 18: 30-57.
22. Guntenspergen, G.R., and C.P. Dunn. 1998. Introduction: long-term ecological sustainability of wetlands in urbanizing landscapes. *Urban Ecosystems* 2: 187-188.
23. Brand, R.H., and C.P. Dunn. 1998. Diversity and abundance of springtails (Insecta: Collembola) in native and restored tallgrass prairies. *American Midland Naturalist* 139: 235-242.
24. Dunn, C.P., M.L. Bowles, G.B. Rabb, and K.S. Jarantoski. 1997. Endangered species "hot spots." *Science* 276: 513-515.
25. Dunn, C.P. 1996. Corridors for wildlife. *Science* 271: 132-133.
26. Krummel, J.R., C.P. Dunn, T. Eckert, and A. Ayres. 1996. A technology to analyze spatio-temporal landscape dynamics: application to Cadiz Township. Pages 169-174 in: *GIS and Environmental Modeling: Progress and Research Issues*. M.F. Goodchild, et al., eds. GIS World Books, Fort Collins, Colorado.
27. Dunn, C.P. 1994. Gaps in GAP. *Plant Science Bulletin* 40: 119, 121.
28. Dunn, C.P. 1994. Landscape ecology as a restoration tool. Pages 199-202 in: *Symposium on Ecological Restoration*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water. EPA 841-B-94-003. Washington, DC.
29. Dunn, C.P., and F. Stearns. 1993. Landscape ecology in Wisconsin: 1830-1990. Pages 197-216 in: *John T. Curtis: Fifty Years of Wisconsin Plant Ecology*. J.S. Fralish, R.P. McIntosh, and O.L. Loucks, eds. Wisconsin Academy Press, Madison.
30. Dunn, C.P., F. Stearns, G.R. Guntenspergen, and D.M. Sharpe. 1993. Ecological benefits of the Conservation Reserve Program. *Conservation Biology* 7: 132-139.
31. Leitner, L.A., C.P. Dunn, G.R. Guntenspergen, F. Stearns, and D.M. Sharpe. 1991. Effects of site, landscape features, and fire regime on vegetation patterns in presettlement southern Wisconsin. *Landscape Ecology* 5: 203-217.
32. Dunn, C.P., D.M. Sharpe, G.R. Guntenspergen, F. Stearns, and Z. Yang. 1991. Methods for analyzing temporal changes in landscape pattern. Pages 173-198 in: *Quantitative Methods in Landscape Ecology*. M.G. Turner, and R.H. Gardner, eds. Springer-Verlag, New York.
33. Dunn, C.P., and R.R. Sharitz. 1991. Population structure, biomass allocation, and phenotypic plasticity in *Murdannia keisak* (Commelinaceae). *American Journal of Botany* 78: 1712-1723.
34. Dunn, C.P., and R.R. Sharitz. 1990. The relationship of light and plant geometry to self-thinning of an aquatic annual herb, *Murdannia keisak* (Commelinaceae). *New Phytologist* 115: 559-565.
35. Dunn, C.P., and R.R. Sharitz. 1990. The history of *Murdannia keisak* (Commelinaceae) in the southeastern United States. *Castanea* 55: 122-129.
36. Dunn, C.P., and C. Loehle. 1988. Species-area parameter estimation: testing the null model of lack of relationship. *Journal of Biogeography* 15: 721-728. [named as one of 24 most important papers on species-area relationships: Whittaker and Triantis. *Journal of Biogeography* 39, 623-626 (2012)]

37. Sharpe, D.M., G.R. Guntenspergen, C.P. Dunn, L.A. Leitner, and F. Stearns. 1987. Vegetation dynamics in a southern Wisconsin agricultural landscape. Pages 137-155 in: *Landscape Heterogeneity and Disturbance*. M.G. Turner, ed. Springer-Verlag, Berlin.
38. Dunn, C.P., and R.R. Sharitz. 1987. Revegetation of a Taxodium-Nyssa forested wetland following complete vegetation destruction. *Vegetatio* 72: 151-157.
39. Dunn, C.P., and M.L. Scott. 1987. Response of wetland herbaceous communities to gradients of light and substrate following disturbance by thermal pollution. *Vegetatio* 70: 119-124.
40. Dunn, C.P., and F. Stearns. 1987. A comparison of floodplain and basin forested wetlands and soils of southeastern Wisconsin. *American Midland Naturalist* 118: 375-384.
41. Dunn, C.P., and F. Stearns. 1987. Relationship of vegetation layers to soils in southeastern Wisconsin forested wetlands. *American Midland Naturalist* 118: 366-374.
42. Dunn, C.P. 1987. Post-settlement changes in tree composition of southeastern Wisconsin forested wetlands. *Michigan Botanist* 26: 43-51.
43. Dunn, C.P. 1986. Shrub layer response to death of *Ulmus americana* in southeastern Wisconsin lowland forests. *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* 113: 142-148.
44. Dunn, C.P., G.R. Guntenspergen, and J.R. Dorney. 1983. Catastrophic wind disturbance in an old-growth hemlock-hardwood forest, Wisconsin. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 61: 211-217.
45. Guntenspergen, G.R., C. Dunn, and J.R. Dorney. 1980. Flambeau Forest blowdown. *University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee Field Station Bulletin* 13: 4-7.
46. Dunn, C.P., and M.T. Jackson. 1978. Phytosociological and ordination analyses of the tree stratum of the beech-maple forest type. Pages 2-21 in: *Proceedings of the Second Central Hardwood Forest Conference*. P.E. Pope, ed. Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

Books

- Dunn, C.P. (ed.) 2000. *The Elms: Breeding, Conservation, and Disease Management*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Norwell, MA, USA. 361pp. (paperback Springer edition © 2012)

Editorial Consultant and Content Contributor

- Kershaw, L. 2007. *Trees of Illinois*. Lone Pine Publishing International, Auburn, Washington.
Los Angeles County Museum of Art. 2002. *Floral Sketches*. Chronicle Books, San Francisco.
Plotnik, A. 2000. *The Urban Tree Book: An Uncommon Field Guide for City and Town*. Three Rivers Press, New York.

Graduate Students Advised (member of thesis committee)

- Jean Martin, PhD, 1996; University of Montreal
Sonali Saha, PhD, 2002; University of Illinois-Chicago
Kathleen Craft, PhD, 2005; University of Illinois-Chicago
Lauren Umek, MS, 2007; Northwestern University
Joseph Gawronski-Salerno, MS, 2008; Northwestern University
Diane McCarthy, PhD, 2012; University of Illinois-Chicago
Michael Roberts, MS, 2017; Cornell University
Talia Chorover, MS, 2019; Cornell University
Leo Louis, MS, in progress; Cornell University

PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Cornell Botanic Gardens (2014 – present):

Elizabeth Weaver estate. \$4.5 million
Anonymous. \$4.5 million
Anonymous. \$1 million (estate gift)

PRIVATE FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Lyon Arboretum:

Anonymous, 2013. \$1.2 million. Support for plant conservation program.
Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation, 2011. \$600,000. Construction of new conservation laboratory.
Chamberlin Family Foundation, 2012. \$100,000. Support for new conservation laboratory.
Chamberlin Family Foundation, 2010. \$200,000. Contribution to endowment fund.
Hawaiian Electric Company, 2010. \$16,000. Plant conservation support.
Hawai'i Community Foundation, 2008-2011. \$105,000. Germplasm Conservation of Culturally Significant Hawaiian Plants.
US Fish & Wildlife Service, 2013-2015. \$160,000 per annum. Support for seed bank/conservation.
State of Hawai'i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, 2008-2009. \$150,000 per annum. Conservation of Rare Native Hawaiian Plants.

Chicago Botanic Garden:

The Henry Luce Foundation, 2006-2008. \$300,000. Support for Seeds of Success (seed banking).
PotashCorp, 2006-2008. \$200,000. Support for Soil Science Postdoctoral Fellow.
Fidelity Foundation, 2007-2009. \$500,000. International Expansion of PlantCollections™.

The Morton Arboretum:

Daniel F. & Ada L. Rice Foundation, 2006. \$80,000. Support for plant breeding program.
Daniel F. & Ada L. Rice Foundation, 2003. \$224,000. Support for Tree Breeding Nursery.
Daniel F. & Ada L. Rice Foundation, 2000. \$45,000. Support for 1st International Elm Conference.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Cornell University:

Institute for Museum and Library Services, 2018-2019. \$191,896. *Digitizing Data & Integrating Platforms of Plant Collections Information at Cornell Botanic Gardens*. C. Dunn, PI.
Belmont Fund/National Science Foundation, 2016. €1.4M. *Ecological Calendars and Climate Adaptation in the Pamirs*. C. Dunn, Senior Personnel.
Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, 2015. \$100,000. *Ecological Calendars to Anticipate Climate Change*. C. Dunn, co-PI.

Lyon Arboretum:

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), 2011 - 2013. \$113,000. *Development of new Urban Garden at Lyon Arboretum*. C. Dunn, co-PI.
IMLS, 2009 - 2011. \$249,000. *Rescue, Recovery, and Storage of Hawaii's Most Critically Endangered Plants*. C. Dunn, co-PI.

Chicago Botanic Garden:

IMLS, 2005 - 2007. *PlantCollections*. \$666,000. C. Dunn, co-PI. [A distributed information retrieval system for plant records of botanic gardens and arboreta.]

The Morton Arboretum:

IMLS, 2003 - 2006. *vPlants II*. \$470,000. C. Dunn, co-PI. [A second round of funding for *vPlants*.]

IMLS, 2000 - 2003. \$420,000. *Development of vPlants, a virtual/digital herbarium*. C. Dunn, PI.

National Science Foundation, 2002 - 2003. \$192,000. *Renovation of The Morton Arboretum Herbarium*. C. Dunn, PI. [Installation of a new compactor system.]

American Association of Museums, 2002- 2003. \$8,000. *Grassland restoration in the mid-continent US and Ukraine*. C. Dunn, PI. [A comparative research program to examine restoration and management of grasslands in North American prairie and Ukrainian steppe.]

BOARD & PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

American Public Gardens Association

Past President (2009-2011)

President (2007-2009)

Vice President (2005-2007)

Director-at-Large (2002-2005)

Center for Plant Conservation

Board of Trustees (2016-present)

EarthX

Advisory Board (2021-)

Eco Forum Global

International Advisory Council (2020-present)

International Association of Botanic Gardens

Councillor for North America (2017-present)

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Board of Directors, IUCN-US (2014-present)

Chair, National Committee of the USA for IUCN (2017-present)

Terralingua

Vice Chair, Board of Governors (2013-2015)

Secretary, Board of Governors (2015-present)

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

National Host Committee for 2016 World Conservation Congress (hosted by USA in Hawai'i)

WCC Program Committee Co-Chair for 2106

IUCN Programme 2017-2020 Committee

US National Committee for IUCN, Chair

Global Tropical Rainforest Alliance Initiative

Hainan Gibbon conservation programme, Hainan, China (2019-2020)

UNESCO/IUCN/Yellow Sea Wetland Institute

Inscription of UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, Yancheng, China (2019)

National Saemangeum Arboretum, Seoul, Korea

International botanic garden consultant for proposed new biocultural arboretum

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Science Advisory Committee for Science Congress (Delft, 2008)

North American Botanic Garden Strategy for Plant Conservation

Prepared MOU with APGA, CPC, BGCI, CBCN to develop North American Strategy

First International Elm Conference

Developed concept, prepared program, acquired sponsorships, edited proceedings.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Midland Naturalist

Associate Editor (1992-1998)

Botanical Society of America

Chair, Conservation Committee (1993-1995)

Secretary and Program Chair, Ecological Section (1989-1992)

Chicago Region Biodiversity Council ("Chicago Wilderness")

Steering Committee (1999-2007)

Science Team Co-Chair (1999-2003)

Journal of Marine & Island Cultures

Editorial Board (2013-present)

National Science Foundation

NEON Workshop, Invited participant (June 2002)

Workshop on Urban Interactions, Invited participant (July 1997)

US NAS/Russian Academy of Sciences

Biodiversity Fellow (US-Russia exchange; 1992-1993)

Urban Ecosystems

Associate Editor (2005-2013)

Manuscript, Book, and Proposal Reviews

American Journal of Botany, BioScience, Ecological Applications, Ecology, Journal of Biogeography, Oikos, Quarterly Review of Biology, Wetlands, National Science Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Alliance of Museums

American Association for the Advancement of Science

American Public Gardens Association

Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation

Botanic Gardens of Australia and New Zealand

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Climate Change Alliance of Botanic Gardens

George Wright Society

International Association of Botanic Gardens

International Council of Museums

International Union for the Conservation of Nature