

Tara Kathleen Herring

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EDUCATION

- 2003-2007 **Ph.D.** in Biology, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO.
G.P.A. 4.0
- 2000-2003 **M.S.** in Biology, St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO.
G.P.A. 4.0
- 1991-2000 **B.A.** in Biology and Environmental Studies (dual major with honors), and
Chemistry and Global Studies (dual minor), Drury University, Springfield, MO.
G.P.A. 4.0
- 1996 **College preparatory diploma**, Marshfield High School, Marshfield, MO.
G.P.A. 4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present **Laboratory supervisor and instructor**, Missouri State University. Biological Science for Educators (lab and lecture), Biology in Your World (online and seated lab), General Biology I (online and seated lecture), Principles of Genetics (lab), and Plant Taxonomy (assistance with lab and lecture) classes.
- 2014-2017 **Instructor**, Missouri State University STEEL (Science and Technology for Elementary Educators: A Literacy, Engineering, and Environmental Approach) summer in-service training workshop, funded by the Missouri Department of Higher Education (PI: Dr. J. Black, Co-PI: Dr. D. Goodwin).
- 2010-present **Instructor**, Drury University's Pre-college Programs Summer Pals (summer enrichment) camp. Grossology and Bodyworks (introductory biology) classes for children.
- 2008-2017 **Adjunct instructor**, Drury University. Introduction to Biological Concepts (lab and online and seated lecture), Plant Form and Function (lab and lecture), Introduction to Ethical Environmental Issues (blended and seated lecture), Biodiversity (lecture), Evolution (lecture), and Ecology (lecture) classes.
- 2007-2008 **Adjunct instructor**, Missouri State University. Plant Ecology (lecture and lab) and Principles of Genetics (lab) classes.
- Spring 2006 **Graduate research assistant**, Saint Louis University.
- Fall 2005 **Graduate teaching assistant**, Saint Louis University. General Biology lab classes.
- 2004-2005 **Graduate teaching assistant**, Saint Louis University. General Biology lab classes.
- Spring 2004 **Graduate teaching assistant**, Saint Louis University. Science for Education Majors lab class.
- Fall 2002 **Graduate teaching assistant**, Saint Louis University. Advanced Ecology lab class.
- 2001-2002 **Graduate research assistant**, Saint Louis University.
- 2000-2001 **Graduate teaching assistant**, Saint Louis University. General Biology and Science for Education Majors lab classes.
- 1998-2000 **Biology laboratory assistant**, Drury University. General Biology, Zoology, and Botany classes.
- 1997-1999 **Chemistry laboratory assistant**, Drury University. General and Environmental Chemistry classes.

RESEARCH AND FIELD EXPERIENCE

- 2004-2007 Conducted dissertation research on pollination ecology and reproductive biology of selected North American and Chinese *Cypripedium* orchids (under P. Bernhardt, Ph.D.).

Spring 2006	Developed photographic database for online key of newly-described parasitic wasp species at Saint Louis University (under J. Fortier, Ph.D.).
2003-2006	Compiled supplementary data on pollination ecology of local populations of <i>Nuphar ozarkana</i> .
2001-2002	Conducted thesis research at Saint Louis University on the pollination ecology of local populations of <i>Nuphar ozarkana</i> (under P. Bernhardt, Ph.D.).
2001-2002	Conducted research at Saint Louis University on public information use among foraging starlings (under T. Valone, Ph.D.).
Fall 1999	Completed botanical field identification and survey projects during Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Earth Semester, with emphasis on desert grassland vegetation guilds.
Summer 1999	Completed water quality analyses for Drury University White River Project at Springfield Wastewater Treatment Plant (under S. Jones, Ph.D.).
1997-1998	Surveyed benthic macroinvertebrate populations for the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks through Drury University (under S. Jones, Ph.D.).
Winter 1996	Served as an intern in the office of Dr. D. Robinson, M.D., in Marshfield, Missouri.

OCCUPATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2007-Sept. 2007	Textbook department assistant , Saint Louis University Bookstore, Barnes and Noble #657.
Oct. 2003-Sept. 2007	Library assistant and clerk , Saint Louis County Library, Mid-County Branch.
June 2003-Aug. 2004	Textbook department assistant , Saint Louis University Bookstore, Barnes and Noble #657.
Jan.-June 2003	Floor associate and cashier , Goodwill Industries of Saint Louis, Morganford Store.
Oct.-Dec. 2000	Seasonal floor associate and cashier , Famous-Barr Company, Crestwood Mall Store.
Jun.-July 2000	Residential assistant , Drury University, Summerscape enrichment camp for children.
Jun.-July 1999	Residential assistant , Drury University, Summerscape enrichment camp for children.
1998-1999	Residential assistant , Drury University, Wallace Hall female dormitory.
Jun.-July 1998	Residential assistant , Drury University, Summerscape enrichment camp for children.
1996-1997	Server and cashier , Drury University, Collegiate Food Services and Catering.
May-Aug. 1996	Childcare provider , Marshfield, MO, Noel and Rhonda Day family.

PRESENTATIONS, MEETINGS ATTENDED, AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025	Committee member , Missouri State University Department of Biology Instructor Mentoring Plan Committee.
2021	Committee member , Missouri State University College of Natural and Applied Sciences Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award Committee.
2020-2025	Committee member , Missouri State University College of Natural and Applied Sciences DEI Committee.
2020	Event coordinator , Springfield Public Schools. Disney Elementary STEAM Night activity (co-presented with Gina Buelow).
2020	Event coordinator , Missouri State University. Springfield Public Schools Elementary Science Olympiad activity (co-presented with Gina Buelow).
2017-present	Course coordinator , Missouri State University Council on General Education and Intercollegiate Programs (Biological Science for Educators course).
2015	Oral presentation , Expanding Your Horizons event parent seminar (co-presented with Tina Hopper).
2013-present	Oral and visual presentation , Missouri State University Graduate College New TA Training workshop session.
2009	Oral and visual presentation , Missouri State University Department of Biology seminar.
2009-present	Volunteer , Missouri State University Academic Connection Fair (Department of Biology table).
2008- present	Event coordinator , Missouri State University Department of Biology TA Orientation (co-coordinated with Tina Hopper).

2008-2020 **Assistant and judge**, Marshfield R-I School District Science Fair.
 2008-2020 **Event coordinator**, Missouri State University Region VII Science Olympiad.
 2006 **Oral and visual presentation**, Saint Louis University Biology Department seminar.
 2006 **Oral and visual presentation**, Missouri Native Plant Society meeting.
 2006 **Poster presentation** (author), Saint Louis University Graduate Research Symposium.
 2006 **Participant**, Annual Systematics Symposium, Missouri Botanical Garden.
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 2003 **Participant**, Annual Systematics Symposium, Missouri Botanical Garden.
 2002 **Participant**, Annual Systematics Symposium, Missouri Botanical Garden.
 2002 **Poster presentation** (coauthor), Saint Louis University Graduate Research Symposium.
 2002 **Poster presentation**, Animal Behavior course, Saint Louis University.
 2001 **Oral and visual presentation**, Pollination and Co-evolutionary Biology of Flowering Plants course, Saint Louis University.
 2001 **Oral and visual presentation**, Advanced Ecology course, Saint Louis University.
 2000 **Oral presentation**, Conservation Biology course, Saint Louis University.
 2000 **Participant**, Annual Systematics Symposium, Missouri Botanical Garden.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

2023 Missouri State University College of Natural and Applied Sciences Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award
 2023 Inclusive Excellence 101 Workshop training
 2018 College Autism Network “Serving Students with Autism” training
 2017 Missouri State University Office of Multicultural Programs Safe Zone Program training
 2015 Missouri State University College of Natural and Applied Sciences Staff Excellence Award
 2008 Master Advisor Certification from the Missouri State University Academic Advisement Center
 2007 St. Louis University Reinert Center for Teaching Excellence Program Certificate of Participation
 Spring 2006 St. Louis University Biology Department research assistantship
 Fall 2005 St. Louis University Biology Department teaching assistantship
 Spring 2005 H. Stanton Hudson Memorial Fund Grant from the Missouri Native Plant Society
 2004-2005 St. Louis University Biology Department teaching assistantship
 Fall 2002 St. Louis University Biology Department teaching assistantship
 2001-2002 St. Louis University Biology Department research assistantship
 2000-2001 St. Louis University Biology Department teaching assistantship
 2000 Highest-ranked student of Drury University graduating class
 2000 Drury University Global Studies Writing Award
 2000 Drury University Sigma Alpha Iota Academic Achievement Award
 2000 Drury University Lora Bond Outstanding Senior in Biology Award
 1999 Columbia University Biosphere 2 Earth Semester Academic Award
 1997 Drury University Judge Warren White Academic Award
 1997 Drury University Omicron Delta Kappa Academic Award
 1997 Drury University Outstanding Freshman in Chemistry Award
 1996 Highest-ranked student of Marshfield High School graduating class

HANDBOOK PUBLICATIONS

Dewey, S., Saunders, G., Hopper, T., and T. Herring. 2014. Doing biology. Fountainhead Press, Southlake, Texas, U.S.A. (3 editions)

Saunders, G., Herring, T., Hopper, T., and S. Dewey. 2017. Biological investigations for teaching. Fountainhead Press, Southlake, Texas, U.S.A. (3 editions)

