

SARAH B. WISE

CURRICULUM VITAE

[Linked In Profile](#)

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Education

- 2007 Ph.D. Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
- 2002 M.A. School of Education, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
- 1997 Teaching Certified Secondary Biology, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
- 1996 B.A. with Distinction in Biology Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

Education Experience

Instruction

- 2025- Assistant Teaching Professor, [Learning Assistant Program](#), U. of Colorado Boulder

Supporting 75-90 new Learning Assistants per semester with a “flipped” practice-meets-theory [course](#), providing on-the-job training, mentoring by trained peers, reflective authentic assessment with frequent individual feedback, and opportunities for goal-oriented professional growth.

- 2009-2012 Instructor, Communication Strategies for Sustainability, Sustainable Practices Program, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2009 Instructor, Biology; Front Range Community College, Westminster
- 2002, 2009 Teacher, Botany, Physiology, Evolution; Shining Mountain Waldorf School, Boulder
- 2001-2002 Graduate Teaching Assistant, General Biology, Microbiology; U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2001 Teaching Assistant, Geology for Preservice Teachers, Florida State University.
- 2000 Education Intern, The Exploratorium, San Francisco
- 1998-2001 Teacher, Biology and Physics; Lick-Wilmerding High School, San Francisco
- 1997-1998 Teacher, Biology and Physics; Sacred Heart Preparatory School, Atherton, CA
- 1996-1997 Resident Tutor, A Better Chance Residential Program for Boys, Swarthmore, PA
- 1996 Teacher, Summerbridge After School Program, Germantown, PA
- 1993-1995 Writing Assistant, Swarthmore College

Professional Development, Curriculum Development, Facilitation

- 2025 Consultant, Horizons K-8 School. *Mentored parent and staff facilitators during Horizons Council meetings.*
- 2022-2024 PI and workshop leader, “Exploring Change in Two Year Colleges”.
- 2018-2022 Workshop and webinar leader, “[Facilitating Change Through the Departmental Action Team \(DAT\) Model](#)”, presented at MSU PERL, ASCN and AAPT-sponsored events.
- 2017-2020 STEM Departmental Change Agent, Academic Technology Design Team (ATDT), U. of Colorado Boulder.

Facilitated collaborative [Departmental Action Teams](#) in seven different departments, supporting each in making sustainable change in culture, climate, pedagogy, and/or curricula. Co-wrote six articles and the book “Facilitating Change in Higher Education”.

2015-2017 **Education Researcher**, Arts and Sciences Support of Education Through Technology (ASSETT), U. of Colorado Boulder

Developed and coordinated the Visualizing Instructional Practices (VIP) program, which provided pedagogical consultations based on teaching observation data, for A&S faculty.

2009-2015 **Science Teaching Fellow**, [Science Education Initiative](#), Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology; Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, U. of Colorado Boulder, CO

Supported 23 biology faculty in implementing cutting-edge pedagogical practices along with supportive curricula, in 11 courses.

2007-2009 **Science Educator**, Biological Sciences Curriculum Study, Colorado Springs

2007-2009 **Science Educator**, CIRES Education and Outreach, U. of Colorado Boulder

2005-2006 **NSF GK-12 Graduate Fellow**, U. of Colorado at Boulder, Aspen Creek K-8

2002-2006 **Workshop Presenter and Lead Graduate Teacher**, Graduate Teacher Program, U. of Colorado Boulder

Presentations

Selected Conference Talks

Wise, S. B., Ngai, C., and J. Corbo. Departmental Action Teams can catalyze sustained first- and second-order change at individual, group, and institutional levels. *AACU Transforming STEM*, November 7, 2024.

Wise, S. B., Ngai, C., and J. Corbo. Workshop: Catalyzing Department-Level Change at Your Institution. *Professional and Organizational Development*, October 20, 2021.

Wise, S. B., Furtak, E., and J. Knight. Instructional cues and modeling positively impact small group discussions. *Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research*, July 18, 2014.

Wise, S. B., Southard, K., Pritchard, B., and J. Knight. What are they actually talking about? Analyzing student discussions of clicker questions. *Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research*, July 30, 2011.

Wise, S. B. Ambivalence in Teaching Publicly Controversial Science. *Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research*, July 30, 2011, *Western Conference for Science Education*, July 7, 2011.

Wise, S. B. and S. Buhr. Teaching about Evolution and Global Warming in Colorado. *National Science Teachers' Association*, March 21, 2009.; *Colorado Science Educator's Network meeting*, February 26, 2009.

Wise, S. B. and S. Buhr. Making Climate Hot: Effectively Communicating Climate Change. *Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education meeting*, spring 2009; *American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting*, December 16, 2008.

Wise, S. B. Teaching about Climate Change: Lessons from Evolution Education. *American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting*, December 10, 2007.

Wise, S. B. The role of academia in evolution education. *Integrating Evolution, Development, and Genomics Conference*, May 31-June 2, 2006.

Wise, S. B. and D. W. Stock. Bone morphogenetic protein expression and regulation in teleost tooth development and evolution. *Developmental Basis of Evolutionary Change Conference*, October 20-23, 2005.

Selected Guest Lectures

- 2025 “Planning Program Interventions and Research” for Dr. J. Rivard’s Grant Writing for Reforming Higher Education class, U. of Southern Mississippi
- 2012-2013 Guest case study lectures, “Flu Virus and Vaccines” and “Skin Color Evolution,” for General Biology and Genetics classes, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2011 Workshop, “Reading Darwin’s Doodles,” with Dr. A. Bair, for the Secular Students and Skeptics Society, Darwin Day, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2010 Presentation, “The Unintelligent Design of Your Eye”, with Dr. M. Young, for the Rocky Mountain Optics Society of America
- 2009 Presentations, “Climate Change Education in Colorado,” for undergraduates in Dr. S. Strife’s Geoscience Education class, U. of Colorado Boulder, and the Denver Climate Change Study Group
- 2009 Lecture, “Animal Development,” for undergraduates in Dr. S. Hinnert’s General Biology class, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2009 Presentations, “Evolution Education in Colorado,” Evolution Workshop, Biological Science Initiative; Darwin Day, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2008 Presentation, “Teaching Evolution: The State of the State of Colorado,” Teaching Evolution: Narrowing Gaps in Understanding Evolution Workshops, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2006 Workshop, “Teaching Macroevolution,” Teaching Evolution: Meeting the Challenge Workshops, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2006 Panelist, “Preparing for Challenges,” Teaching Evolution: Meeting the Challenge Workshops, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2005-2007 Lecture, “Evolution and Development,” for Dr. P. Strode’s AP Biology class, Boulder High School
- 2005 Workshop, “Teaching Evolution,” for graduate students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2005 Workshop, “Teaching Evolution,” for the Colorado Science Educators Network, Denver Museum of Nature and Science
- 2005 Lecture and Discussion, “Challenges and Opportunities for Teaching Evolution,” Teaching Evolution: Meeting the Challenge Symposium, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2005-2006 Lectures, “Evolution and Development,” for undergraduates in Dr. A. Martin’s Evolution class, U. of Colorado Boulder

Selected Mentorship & Service

- 2025 Served on NSF IUUSE Proposal Panel
- 2024-2025 Mentored 8 community college faculty in co-authoring a peer-reviewed article
- 2022-2025 Mentored Kyra Gallion, Jenny Valadez Fraire, & Diana Roque in education research
- 2018-2020 Mentored Alanna Pawlak and Clara Smith as Departmental Action Team facilitators
- 2010-2018 Mentored and/or trained 13 STEM undergraduates, 9 graduate students, and 6 postdoctoral peers in educational research design, data collection and/or analysis
- 2005-2007 Founded and led “Teaching Evolution: Meeting the Challenge,” an annual K-12 teacher workshop led by EBIO graduate students, U. of Colorado at Boulder. This event was sustained for at least a decade.
- 2002-2006 Supervised research of undergraduates Jon Bachelor, David Lyons, and Mark Blaskovich, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2003-2005 Peer mentor to 13 graduate students / teaching assistants in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, U. of Colorado Boulder

Research Experience

- 2022-2025 **Senior Research Associate**. Center for STEM Learning and Ethnography & Evaluation Research, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2020-2022 **Research Associate**. Center for STEM Learning and Ethnography & Evaluation Research, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2015-2019 **Research Advisor**. Co-PI with Anne Gold and Lesley Smith for **NSF DRL-1513320** "[Lens on Climate Change](#)"
- 2015-2017 **Education Researcher**, Arts and Sciences Support of Education Through Technology (ASSETT), U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2009-2015 **Science Teaching Fellow**, Science Education Initiative, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2007-2009 **CIRES Geoscience Education Visiting Fellow**, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 2001-2007 **NSF Graduate Research Fellow and Research Assistant**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, U. of Colorado Boulder
- 1999-2001 **Master's Research**, School of Education, San Francisco State University
- 1995-1996 **Research Assistant**, Biology Department, Swarthmore College

Grants and Fellowships

- 2024-2025 **NSF DUE-2411641** Developing and Testing the Equity Departmental Action Team Model of Racial Equity Focused Departmental Change. Senior personnel, with PIs Laurel Hartley, Joel Corbo, Courtney Ngai, Amena Anderson, and Lisa Dilks and co-PIs Kasi Jackson and Christy Kunkle. Grant terminated 4/25; award to U. of Colorado **\$686,631**; the five institution collaborative award was 2M.
- 2023-2026 **NSF DUE-2315406** Characterizing the emerging field of departmental change and empowering an inclusive network of practitioners, PI with Courtney Ngai and Jaclyn Rivard, and co-PI Joel Corbo. **\$176,893**
- 2022-2025 **NSF DUE-2230271** Workshop: Exploring Academic Unit Change at Two-Year Colleges, PI with co-PIs Joel Corbo, Courtney Ngai, and Tara Jo Holmberg. **\$211,261**
- 2020-2023 **NSF DUE-2021110**, Understanding the Impacts of Departmental Action Teams on Sustainable Departmental Culture Change and on Undergraduate Student Experiences, Success, and Outcomes. co-PI with PIs Joel Corbo and Courtney Ngai. **\$299,986**
- 2015-20 **NSF DRL-1513320** "Engaging Secondary Students in Regionally Relevant Science Topics Through Videography", co-PI with Anne Gold and Lesley Smith. **\$1,094,533**
- 2013 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in STEM Education, PI with co-PIs Barbara Demmig-Adams and William Adams. Center for STEM Learning, U. of Colorado, \$10,000.
- 2012-2015 **NSF DUE-1140789**, "Investigating Instructional Influences on the Productivity of Clicker Discussions", co-PI with Jenny Knight and Erin Furtak, **\$196,422**
- 2008 Visiting Fellowship research funding for "Factors Influencing the Teaching of Publicly Controversial Science". CIRES, U. of Colorado Boulder. \$4,000
- 2006 Funding for undergraduate research with Mark Blaskovich. U. of Colorado Boulder, BURST Program, \$2,500
- 2006 Event funding for "Teaching Evolution: Meeting the Challenge Workshops". United Government of Graduate Students, U. of Colorado Boulder, \$750
- 2005 Funding for undergraduate research with David Lyons. URAP Program, U. of Colorado Boulder, \$2,500
- 2005 Conference travel award to attend and present at "The Developmental Basis of Evolutionary Change". United Government of Graduate Students, U. of Colorado Boulder, \$350

- 2004-2006 **NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant**, “Bone morphogenetic protein (Bmp) function in teleost dental evolution and development”. \$10,000
- 2004 Beverly Sears Graduate Student Research Grant. Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder. \$1,000
- 2004 Funding to support summer course participation. Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado at Boulder, \$1,500
- 2002-2005 **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship**. “Investigating genetic changes in the evolution of the teleost dentition,” \$90,000

Publications

- Archie, T., **Wise, S. B.**, Valadez Fraire, J., Laursen, S. L., and T. J. Weston. **Accepted**. The Role of Syllabi in Measuring Teaching: Comparing Planned and Enacted Behavior. 28th Conference on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education. Alexandria, VA, upcoming: Feb. 26-28, 2026.
- Wise, S. B.**, Ngai, C., and J. C. Corbo. **Accepted**. Impacts, supports and constraints on sustained departmental change catalyzed by Departmental Action Teams. *Physical Review Physics Education Research*. doi.org/10.1103/fwt3-zn1l
- Wise, S. B.**, Archie, T., Robalino, J., Holmberg, T. J., Chmiel, M., Collins, P., Wellner, K., and R. Westphal. **In review**. Implementation of evidence-based instructional practices by community college biology instructors following a peer-designed professional development workshop. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*.
- Wise, S. B.**, Wise, S. B., Christopher, A., Zimble-DeLorenzo, H., Rodriguez Rivera, M., Patrum, C., Bohn, A., Ngai, C., Corbo, J. C., and T. J. Holmberg. 2025. Collaboratively exploring STEM Departmental Change in Community Colleges. *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 50(1). doi.org/10.1080/10668926.2025.2540792
- Valadez Fraire, J., Archie, T., Laursen, S., **Wise, S.**, & Gallion, K. 2025. Implementation supports and outcomes of online professional development workshops. In Cook, S.; Katz, B. P.; & Melhuish, K. (eds.), *27th Conference on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education*, Alexandria, VA, Feb. 27-Mar. 1 (pp. 1517-1518).
- Wise, S.**, Gallion, K., & Laursen, S. 2024. Exploration of TAMI-OP as a professional development tool for mathematics instructors. In Cook S., Katz, B., & Moore-Russo, D. (Eds.). *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Conference on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education*. Omaha, NE. Feb. 22-24 (pp.572-580).
- Ngai, C., Pilgrim, M. E., Reinholz, D. L., Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., Corbo, J. C., **Wise, S. B.**, Smith, C. and Stone-Johnstone, A. 2023. Guiding principles for change in undergraduate education: An analysis of a departmental team’s change effort. *Physical Review Physics Education Research*, 19(2), 020107.
- Wise, S. B.**, Ngai, C., Corbo, J. C., Gammon, M. A., Rivard, J. K., and C. E. Smith. 2022. Toward institutionalizing successful innovations in the academy. *To Improve the Academy*. 41(1). doi.org/10.3998/tia.481
- Wise, S. B.**, Archie, T., and S. Laursen. 2022. Exploring two-year college biology instructors’ preferences around teaching strategies and professional development. *CBE—Life Sciences Education*, 21(2), ar39.
- Ngai, C., Corbo, J. C., Falkenberg, K., **Wise, S.**, Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., Pawlak, A., Pilgrim, M. E., Quan, G. M., Reinholz, D., Smith, C., and **S. B. Wise**. 2020. *Facilitating change in higher education: The Departmental Action Team model*. Glitter Cannon Press.

- Ngai, C., Corbo, J. C., Quan, G. M., Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., Pawlak, A., ... and S. B. Wise. (2020). Developing the DAT theory of change. *Transforming institutions: Accelerating systemic change in higher education*, 71-85.
- Quan, G. M., Corbo, J.C., Finkelstein, N. D., Pawlak, A., Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., Ngai, C., Smith, C., Wise, S., Pilgrim, M. E., and D. L. Reinholz. 2019. Designing for institutional transformation: Six principles for department-level interventions. *Physical Review Physics Education Research* 15, 010114.
- Littrell, M., Okochi, C., Gold, A., Tayne, K., Leckey, E., Lynds, S., Williams, V., and S. B. Wise. 2019. Exploring students' engagement with place-based environmental challenges through filmmaking: A case study from the Lens on Climate Change program. *Journal of Geoscience Education*. 68(1): [80-93](#).
- Reinholz, D. L., Pilgrim, M. E., Falkenberg, K., Ngai, C., Quan, G. M., Wise, S., Geanious, C., Corbo, J. C., and N. Finkelstein. 2018. Departmental Action Teams: A five-year update on a model for sustainable change. *Reinvention Collaborative Biennial National Conference digital volume*.
- Corbo, J. C., Quan, G. M., Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., Ngai, C., Pilgrim, M. E., Reinholz, D. L., and Wise, S. 2018. Externalizing the Core Principles of the Departmental Action Team (DAT) Model. PERC Proceedings. *Physics Education Research Conference*.
- Knight, J. K., Wise, S. B., and S. Sieke. 2016. Group Random Call Can Positively Affect Student In-Class Clicker Discussions. *CBE-Life Sciences Education*. [15:ar56, 1-11](#).
- Knight, J. K., Wise, S. B., Rentch, J., and E. M. Furtak. 2015. Cues Matter: Learning Assistants Influence Introductory Biology Interactions during Clicker-Question Discussions. *CBE-Life Sciences Education*.14: [1-14](#).
- Basey, J. M., Maines, A. P, Francis, C. D., Melbourne, B., Wise, S. B., Safran, R. J., and P. T. J. Johnson. 2014. Impact of pre-lab learning activities, a post-lab written report, and content reduction on evolution-based learning in an undergraduate plant biodiversity lab. *Evolution Education and Outreach*. 7:10.
- Knight, J. K., Wise, S. B., and K. M. Southard. 2013. Understanding Clicker Discussions: Student Reasoning and the Impact of Instructional Cues. *CBE-Life Sciences Education*. [12: 645-654](#).
- Beardsley, P. M., Bloom, M. V., and S. B. Wise. 2012. Challenges and Opportunities for Teaching and Designing Effective K-12 Evolution Curricula. In: *Evolution Challenges: Integrating research and practice in teaching and learning about evolution*. Rosengren, Brem, Evans, and Sinatra, Eds. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.
- Wise, S. B. 2010. Climate Change in the Classroom: Patterns, Motivations, and Barriers to Instruction Among Colorado Science Teachers. *Journal of Geoscience Education*. 58(4): [213-225](#).
- Wise, S. B. and D. W. Stock. 2010. *bmp2b* and *bmp4* are dispensable for zebrafish tooth development. *Developmental Dynamics*. 239(10): 2534-2546.
- Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (member of revision team). 2010. *Biology: A Human Approach*, 4th Edition. Kendall Hunt Publishing.
- Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (member of revision team). 2009. *The Biology Teacher's Handbook*, 4th Edition. NSTA Press.
- Wise, S. B. and D. W. Stock. 2006. Conservation and divergence of *Bmp2a*, *Bmp2b*, and *Bmp4* expression patterns within and between dentitions of teleost fishes. *Evolution and Development*. 8:511-523.
- Wise, S., Davis, N. T., Tyndale, E., Noveral, J., Folwell, M. G., Bedian, V., Emery, I. F., and Siwicki, K. K. 2002. Neuroanatomical studies of period gene expression in the hawkmoth, *Manduca sexta*. *Journal of Comparative Neurology*. 447:366-380.

Selected Poster Presentations

- Quan, G. M., Corbo, J. C., Wise, S., Pilgrim, M.E., Reinholz, D., Ngai, C., Falkenberg, K., Geanious, C., and G. Gorzelsky. Departmental Action Team (DAT) Model. Reinvention Collaborative, 2018.
- Littrell-Baez, M., Clark, J., Leckey, E., Gold, A., Wise, S., and S. Lynds. Case Study on Science and Storytelling through Film: American Indian Students in the Lens on Climate Change (LOCC) Summer Workshop. AISES Conference, 2017.
- Wise, S. B., Zimmermann, S., and J. Knight. Student-Student Questioning In Biology Clicker Discussions. *Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research*, July 18, 2014.
- Wise, S. B., Southard, K., Pritchard, B., and J. Knight. What are they actually talking about? Analyzing student discussions of clicker questions. *Science Education Initiative End of Year Event*, July 30, 2011.
- Wise, S. B., Hoskinson, A.-M., and A. Martin. SITAR: The Student Interaction and Teaching Activity Report. *Science Education Initiative End of Year Event*, May 4, 2010
- Wise, S. B. Climate Change: Colorado Teachers' Views and Experiences. *U. of Colorado Energy Initiative Symposium*, November 17; *American Geophysical Union Conference*, December 15-19; *U. of Colorado CIRES Rendezvous*, April 1, 2009.
- Wise, S. B. Presenting a summer symposium on teaching evolution. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Conference, January 4-8; Meeting of the National Science Foundation Board at the University of Colorado, February 10.
- Wise, S. B. and D.W. Stock. 2003. Oral expression of Bmp orthologs in dentally divergent fishes. *Society for Developmental Biology 62nd Annual Meeting*, July 30-August 3.

Honors

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| 2006 | K. Patricia Cross/AACU Future Leaders Award. <i>Recognizes graduate students who are committed to developing academic and civic responsibility in themselves and others, and who show exemplary promise as future leaders of higher education.</i> |
| 1996 | Phi Beta Kappa, Swarthmore College chapter, Swarthmore, PA |
| 1995 | HHMI Summer Research Fellow, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA |
| 1991 | NSF Young Scholars program participant, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL |