

**CHARLES EDWARD UMBANHOWAR JR.**

Departments of Biology and Environmental Studies  
St. Olaf College  
Northfield, Minnesota 55057  
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**EDUCATION**

University of Wisconsin-Madison      Ph.D., Botany      1989  
minor, Entomology

Dissertation: "Aspects of patch dynamics and disturbance in a northern mixed prairie."  
Mixed prairie is subject to many patch forming events thought to be important for the reproduction of many species. This thesis provided the first comparison of different kinds of patches occurring at the same prairie site, taking both an experimental and descriptive approach to understanding patch colonization and composition. Under direction of E.W. Beals.

Carleton College, Northfield, MN      B.A., Biology      1985

**POSITIONS HELD**

Professor of Biology      St. Olaf College      2004-Present

Associate Professor of Biology      St. Olaf College      1997-2004

Assistant Professor of Biology      St. Olaf College      1991-1997

Botany Research Specialist      ND Natural Heritage Inventory      1990-1991  
Research on the Federally Threatened Western Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*). Research included landscape scale distribution patterns, pollination and disturbance ecology. Did field surveys and was responsible for data management for selected rare species in ND.

Research Associate      University of Wisconsin-Madison      1990  
Computerized and reanalyzed the data set that formed the basis for historic **Vegetation of Wisconsin**.

Teaching Assistant      University of Wisconsin-Madison      1985-1989  
Introductory Botany for majors and non-majors. Ecology for majors and non-majors and graduate course in multivariate statistics and community analysis.

**TEACHING INTERESTS AND COURSES TAUGHT**

Plant Morphology and Systematics, Ecological Principles, Environmental Studies, Introductory Biology. Remote Sensing and GIS, Environmental History and Sediment Chemistry, Organismic Biology, Plants and People, Biostats (team-taught), Winter Ecology, Biology and Politics (team-taught), Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar (team taught and individually) .

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Fire and climate interactions in Mongolia, Fire history of Big Woods and Great Plains and Manitoba, Prairie community ecology, Insect herbivory and plant-insect interactions, Multivariate statistical methods, Prairie and oak savanna restoration.

## **PUBLICATIONS** (names of undergraduate authors underlined)

- Umbanhowar, Jr., C.E. 2006. Asymmetric vegetation responses to mid-Holocene aridity at the prairie-forest ecotone in south-central Minnesota. *Quaternary Research*. 53-66.
- Umbanhowar, Jr., C. E. 2004. Interaction of fire, climate, and vegetation change at a large landscape scale in the Big Woods of Minnesota, USA. *The Holocene* 14:661-676
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. 2004. Interactions of climate and fire at two sites in the northern Great Plains, USA. *Paleogeography, Paleolimnology, Paleoecology* 208:141-152.
- Geiss, C.E., S.K. Banerjee, P. Camill, and C.E. Umbanhowar Jr. 2004. Sediment-Magnetic Signature of Land-use and Drought as Recorded in lake Sediment from South-Central Minnesota, U.S.A. *Quaternary Research* 62: 117-125.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E., D.R. Engstrom, and E.K. Bergman. 2003. Reconstructing eutrophication and phosphorus loading for Lake Volney, Minnesota: combining lake sediments and land-use history to establish 'natural' baselines for management and restoration. *Lake and Reservoir Management* 19: 364-372.
- Camill, P. C. E. Umbanhowar, Jr., R. Teed, C. E. Geiss, J. Aldinger, L. Dvorak, J. Kenning, J. Limmer, and K. Walkup. 2003. Late glacial and Holocene climatic effects on fire and vegetation dynamics at the prairie-forest ecotone in south-central Minnesota. *Journal of Ecology* 91:822-836.
- Geiss, C.E., Umbanhowar, C.E. Jr., Camill, P., and Banerjee, S.K. 2003. Sediment magnetic properties reveal Holocene climate change along the Minnesota prairie-forest ecotone. *Journal of Paleolimnology* 30:151-166.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. and M. J. McGrath. 1998. Experimental production and analysis of microscopic charcoal from wood, leaves, and grass. *The Holocene* 8:341-346.
- Estrella, D. and C. Umbanhowar Jr., C. 1997. Sexual allocation in *Carex stricta*: a monoecious, perennial, tussock-forming sedge. *Prairie Naturalist* 29:16-24.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1996. Recent fire history of the Northern Great Plains. *American Midland Naturalist* 135:115-121.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1995. Revegetation of earthen mounds along a topographic-productivity gradient in a northern mixed prairie. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 6:637 - 646.
- Preuninger, J.E. and C.E. Umbanhowar Jr. 1994. Effects of burning, cutting and spraying on reed canary grass studied. *Restoration and Management Notes* 12:207.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1993. The dynamic prairie. *North Dakota Outdoors* 56: 17-20.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1992. Abundance, vegetation and environment of four patch-types in a northern mixed prairie. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 70:277-284.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1992. Early patterns of revegetation of artificial earthen mounds in a northern mixed prairie. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 70:145-150.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1992. Reanalysis of the Wisconsin prairie continuum. *American Midland Naturalist* 127:268-275.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C. 1986. Restoration of an overgrown oak opening. *Restoration and Management Notes* 4:24.

## **INVITED PAPER**

- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1993. Reclassification of Wisconsin prairies. pp. 289-303 in J.S. Fralish, R.P. McIntosh, and O.L. Loucks (eds.) *John T. Curtis: Fifty years of Wisconsin plant ecology*. Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters. Madison.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS**

- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E., J.E. Almendinger (presenter), E.R. Johnson. 2006. Reconstruction of productivity changes in western Mongolian lakes using biogenic silica and phosphorus extracted from sediments. 10th International Paleolimnology Symposium. Duluth, MN.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. 2005. Regional lake ecosystem responses to climatic and anthropogenic change

- over the past 2000 years based on biogenic silica and phosphorus from sediments of 18 lakes in southern Minnesota. 39<sup>th</sup> North Central Geological Society of America Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. E.R. Johnson, and G. Tserenkhand. 2005. Regional reconstruction of fire regimes and climate in western Mongolia over the past 2000 Years. American Geophysical Union Meetings. San Francisco, CA.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. 2003. Responses of fire to changes in climate and vegetation at varying temporal and spatial scales in the Big Woods of Minnesota Quaternary Paleorecords (QP) seminar series
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. 2003. Paleocology and the interaction of fire, climate and vegetation along the prairie-forest border of Minnesota. University of Minnesota-Morris.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. 2002. Blue skies and green lakes: reconstructing the impacts of land-use changes on lake productivity. Minnesota Academy of Sciences, St. Peter, MN.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. and C.E. Geiss. 2002. Impacts of climate change and Euroamerican agriculture on magnetic properties of sediments from 17 lakes in southern Minnesota. American Geophysical Union Meetings, San Francisco, CA.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E., P. Camill, R. Teed, C.E. Geiss, L. Dvorak, J. Kenning, J. Limmer, and K. Walkup. 2002. Climate, fire, and vegetation change over the past 10000 years at two sites along the prairie-forest border in south central Minnesota. Ecol. Soc. Amer. Meetings. Tucson, AZ.
- Geiss, C.E., C.E. Umbanhowar Jr., P. Camill, and S. Banerjee. 2001. Multi proxy study of lake sediments reveals high resolution record of Mid-Holocene aridity. Geological Society of America Meetings. Boston, Mass.
- Umbanhowar, Jr. C.E. and B. Werner. 2001. Simulation of the impact of fire on the location and Structure of the Prairie-Forest border in Minnesota. Ecol. Soc. Amer. Meetings. Madison, WI.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E., D.R. Engstrom, and E. Bergman. 2000. Reconstruction of whole-lake phosphorus loading related to land-use history based on analysis of sediment phosphorus for Lake Volney, Le Sueur Co., Minnesota. Ecol. Soc. Amer. Meetings. Snowbird, Utah.
- Umbanhowar, Jr., C.E. 1999. Fire history of the Big Woods. Presentation Nov. 11, Grinnell College.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1999. Fire history of the Big Woods based on microscopic charcoal: A test of ideas and methods. Ecol. Soc. Amer. Meetings. Spokane, Washington.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1999. Teaching biology students about the Big Woods: how to run GIS on a MacIntosh. Presentation at LMIC EPIC Conference, Earle Brown Center Oct. 25-26.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1996. Recent Fire History of the Northern Great Plains. Presentation at Duke Department of Botany.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1994. Recent fire history of the Northern Great Plains based on charcoal inputs to five lakes. Poster at 79th Ann. Ecol. Soc. Amer. meetings at Knoxville, Tennessee.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E., C.A. Bezanson, and J.A. Zischke. 1993. Composition and richness of wetland vascular plant communities. Poster at 78th Ann. Ecol. Soc. Amer. meetings at Madison, Wisconsin.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1991. The dynamic prairie: disturbance and diversity. Presentation to Minnesota Native Plant Society. November 6.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1991. Colonization of artificial earthen mounds in a northern mixed prairie: the first four years. Poster at 76th Ann. Ecol. Soc. of Amer. meetings in San Antonio, Texas.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1990. Another look at the Vegetation of Wisconsin prairie continuum. Poster at 75th Ann. Ecol. Soc. Amer. meetings at Snowbird, Utah.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1990. Distribution of Flodman's thistle and its response to different disturbances. pp. 193-195 in T. Bragg and J. Stubbendieck (eds.) Proceedings of the Eleventh N.A. Prairie Conference.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1989. A comparison of the vegetation on four different patch-types in a northern mixed prairie. Talk at 74th Ecol. Soc. of Amer. meeting in Toronto, Canada.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1988. The response of *Cirsium flodmani* to different disturbances in northern mixed prairie. Talk at Eleventh N.A. Prairie Conf.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C. and P. Jensen. 1984. Tasting behavior of *Formica obscuripes* Forel, the western thatching ant. Presentation at the Ninth North American Prairie Conference.

## TECHNICAL REPORTS AND LETTERS

- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. and M. McKone. 2000. Report on Rice County roadside prairie remnants. Final Report to Rice County Integrated Roadside Committee
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. and M. Olsen. 1997. Soils and classification of dry prairies in SE Minnesota. Preliminary report to the MN County Biological Survey.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1993. Letter to the Editor. Bull. Ecol. Soc. of Am. 74:362-363
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E., J. Zischke, and C. Bezanson. 1993. Vascular plant and aquatic invertebrate inventory of Rice County wetlands: final report to the Cannon River Watershed Partnership.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E.. 1991. Preliminary observations on fruit set of Platanthera praeclara *Sheviak and Bowles* on the Sheyenne National Grassland, ND. Section 6 Report to USFWS.
- Umbanhowar Jr., C.E. 1990. Regional lists of prairie herbs and forest trees for highway rights-of- way restoration and management: extracted from the Wisconsin Plant Ecology Laboratory files. Final Report to Wisconsin Dept. of Trans. (Proj. No. 0072-07-10).

## AWARDS AND HONORS

Election to PKAL FACULTY 21		1993
Davis Summer Fellowship	UW Dept. of Botany	1987
NSF Graduate Fellowship - Honorable Mention		1985
B.A. magna cum laude	Carleton College	1985
Distinction on Senior Thesis	Carleton College	1985
Election to Phi Beta Kappa	Carleton College	1985
Election to Sigma XI	Carleton College	1985

## ACADEMIC, PROFESSIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Program Director and Chair of Env. Studies	St. Olaf College	2003-
Campus Sustainability Task Force	St. Olaf College	2003-2004
Summer Research Director	St. Olaf College	2000-2004
Science Symposium Planning Committee	St. Olaf College	2002-2003
Review and Planning Committee (Secretary)	St. Olaf College	2002-pres.
Chair of Green Task Force, Science Facilities	St. Olaf College	2002-pres.
Science Facilities Design Team	St. Olaf College	2002-pres.
Acting Chair, Biology Dept.	St. Olaf College	2002-pres.
Campus Environmental Concerns Committee	St. Olaf College	2001-2002
Udall Scholarship Faculty Representative	St. Olaf College	2000-pres.
FNSM Nominating Committee	St. Olaf College	2000-2001
Chair, Campus Classroom Council	St. Olaf College	1999-2001
Acting Program Director, Env. Studies	St. Olaf College	1999-2000
Science Facility Feasibility Taskforce	St. Olaf College	1998-2000
Academic Appeals Board	St. Olaf College	1995-1996
Human Subjects Committee	St. Olaf College	1994-1995
Campus Safety Committee	St. Olaf College	1994-1995
PBK Election Committee	St. Olaf College	1994-1996
Local Site Committee, F21 National Mtg of Project Kaleidoscope		1995
President and Cofounder of Owatonna Youth Curling		2002- 2003
Board Member of Owatonna Curling Club		1999-2002
Web Master for Minnesota Native Plant Society		1998-2004
President and Cofounder Friends of the Cannon River Wild. Area		1995- pres.
President of Minnesota Native Plant Society		1995-1998
Oversee Herbarium and Greenhouse	St. Olaf College	1992- pres.

## MEMBERSHIPS

American Geophysical Union	Ecological Society of America
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Ecological Society of America  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Sigma XI

Minnesota Native Plant Society  
Project Kaleidoscope Faculty 21