



The Fairmont State Experience

By Dr. Donald E. Trisel



(The Other) FSU in Fairmont, WV



FAIRMONT, W. Va.

Home of the Pepperoni Roll



Don's Bio

- Professor of Biology at FSU
- Ph.D. in Botany from Miami University.
 - Ecological impact of *Lonicera maackii*
- 100% teaching contract, research on side.

Current story on FSU web pages

Students | Alumni | Faculty & Staff | Parents & Families

APPLY VISIT GIVE


FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

SEARCH

QUICKLINKS

Admissions Academics Campus Life Athletics About Contact

Personalize Your Educational Experience



The image shows a male professor with a beard, wearing a blue button-down shirt, holding a large, dried leaf specimen. He is looking at the leaf with a focused expression. A female student with long brown hair, wearing a black cardigan over a light-colored top, is pointing at the leaf with her right hand. They are sitting at a table in a laboratory or classroom setting. On the table in front of them are several other dried leaf specimens mounted on white paper. There are also some fresh leaves, a scale, and other lab equipment visible on the table. The background shows a well-lit laboratory with various pieces of equipment, including a hot plate, a scale, and other lab supplies. The overall atmosphere is one of a hands-on learning experience.

Quick Stats about FWVA

- Estimated 10,000 specimens
 - Mostly WV vascular.
 - 1,000 added in past 2 yrs
- Oldest specimen (so far) from “1898”
- 1800 specimens w/ label data in Excel
- 2200 specimens imaged

- Specify on Network soon?!

FSU Main Campus

FWVA Herbarium in 402 Hunt-Haught Hall, Botany Lab



Digitization

- Most efforts framed around undergraduate research experiences

Courses that utilize FWVA

- Bio 2202 Principles of Botany
- Bio 3312 Advanced Botany
 - Collection assignment
- [Bio 3370 Plant Physiology]

Research

- Bio 4485 Senior Seminar
- Bio 4495 Independent Studies
- Bio 4998 Honors

<http://www.wikiplantatlas.org/>

- Chris Hardy at Millersville University

THE FAIRMONT STATE FLORA PROJECT ON WIKIPLANTATLAS

[Sightings](#) | [About](#) | [User Manual \(in new tab\)](#) | [WikiPlantAtlas Home](#) | [BoNAP.org \(in new tab\)](#) | [Biology @ Fairmont \(in new tab\)](#)

Record Plant Sightings
[Printable Field Map](#) for recording new occurrences in the field.

Search & Retrieve Records
by species: [About this list](#)

by state:
West Virginia

by locale keyword:

by contributor:

by voucher collector:

by wild or cultivated:

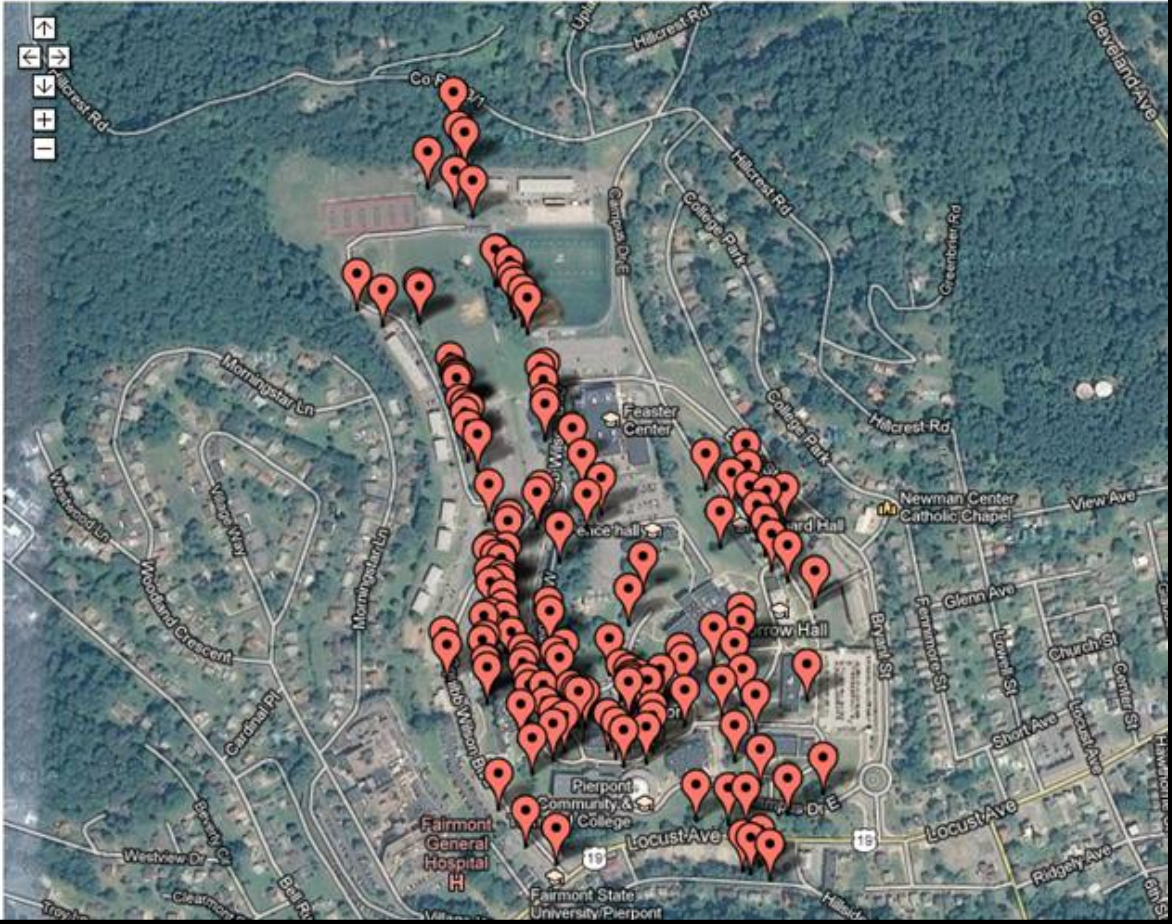
by date contributed (dd/mm/yyyy):
2012

by date observed (dd/mm/yyyy):

by herbarium (e.g., FWA or Fairmont):

Download Retrieved Records

Quick Zoom To
Morris Park, Fairmont, WV



Student experience = all aspects of herbarium curation:



- ID
- Collecting, pressing, drying, mounting, freezing, labeling
- Digitizing labels, photography
- Repair
- Reorganizing
- Science!

Recent Presentations

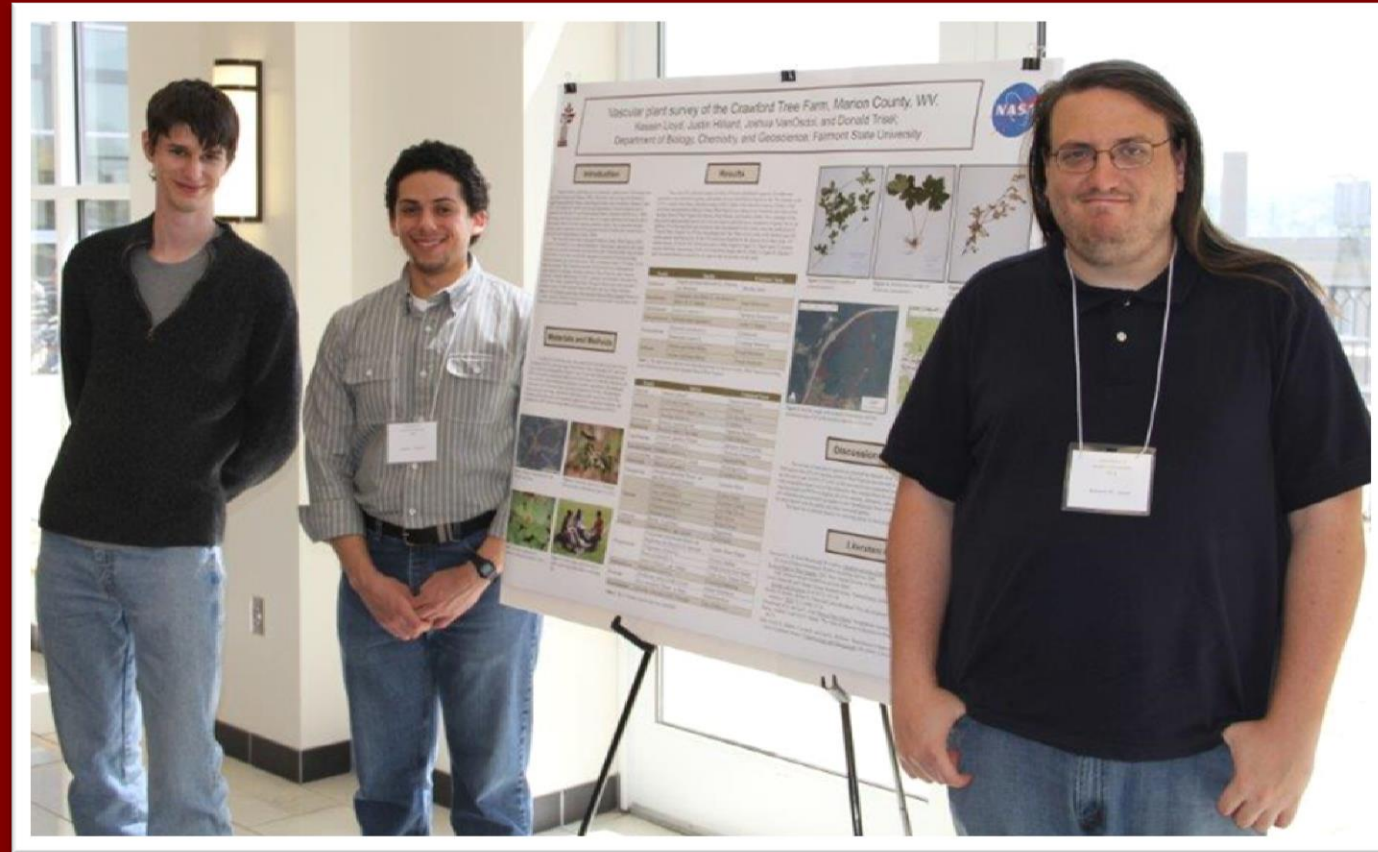
- *WVAS*
- ASB (Charleston, WV in 2013)
- Celebration of Student Scholarship at FSU

Recent Presentations



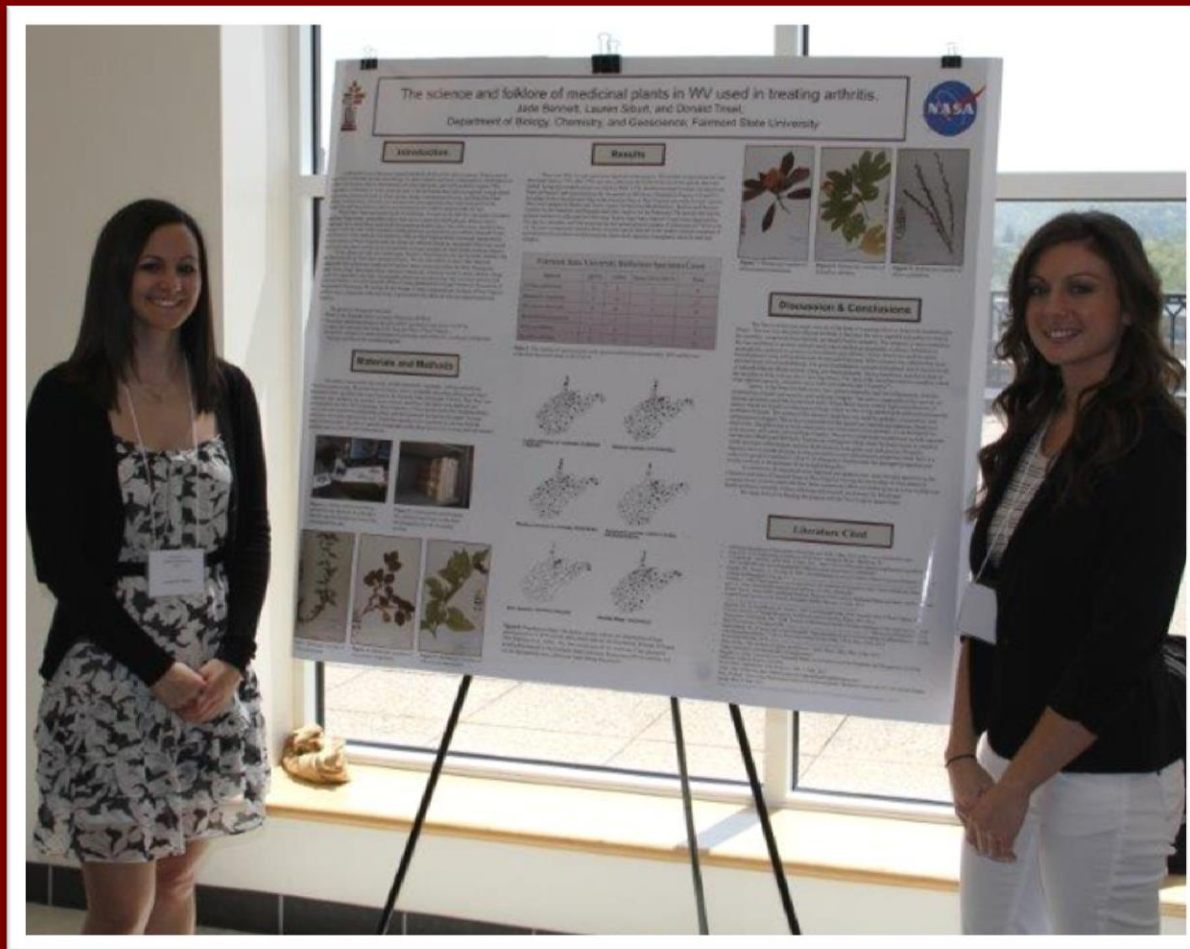
- Stephanie Baker and Eva Mullins
- Topic: Medical and Dental Health

Recent Presentations



- Joshua VanOsdol, Justin Hilliard, Kass Lloyd
- Topic: Crawford Tree Farm Survey

Recent Presentations



- Lauren Siburt and Jade Bennett
- Topic: Arthritis and Joint Health

Funding

- No annual budget
- No staff
- Grants (all internal)
 - President/Provost
 - Undergraduate Research Advisory Council
 - College of Science and Technology
 - NASA
 - Indirects

2 Drying Cabinets

10 Storage

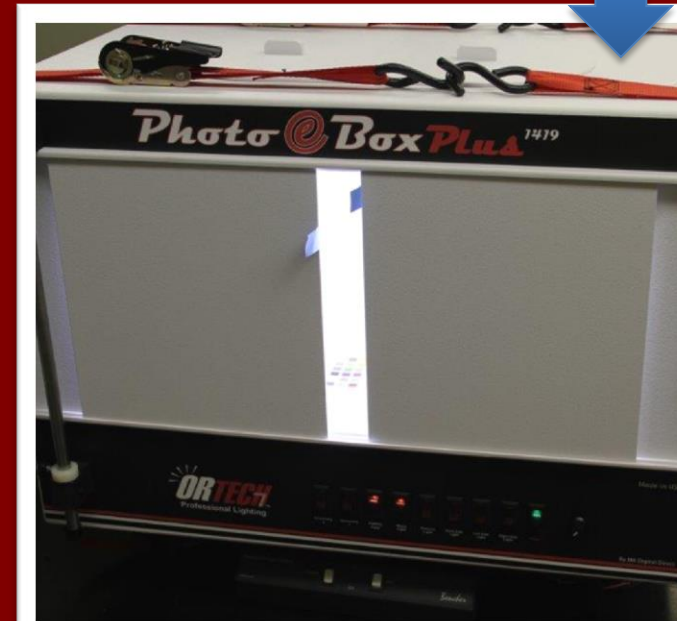


Imaging equipment



2010.

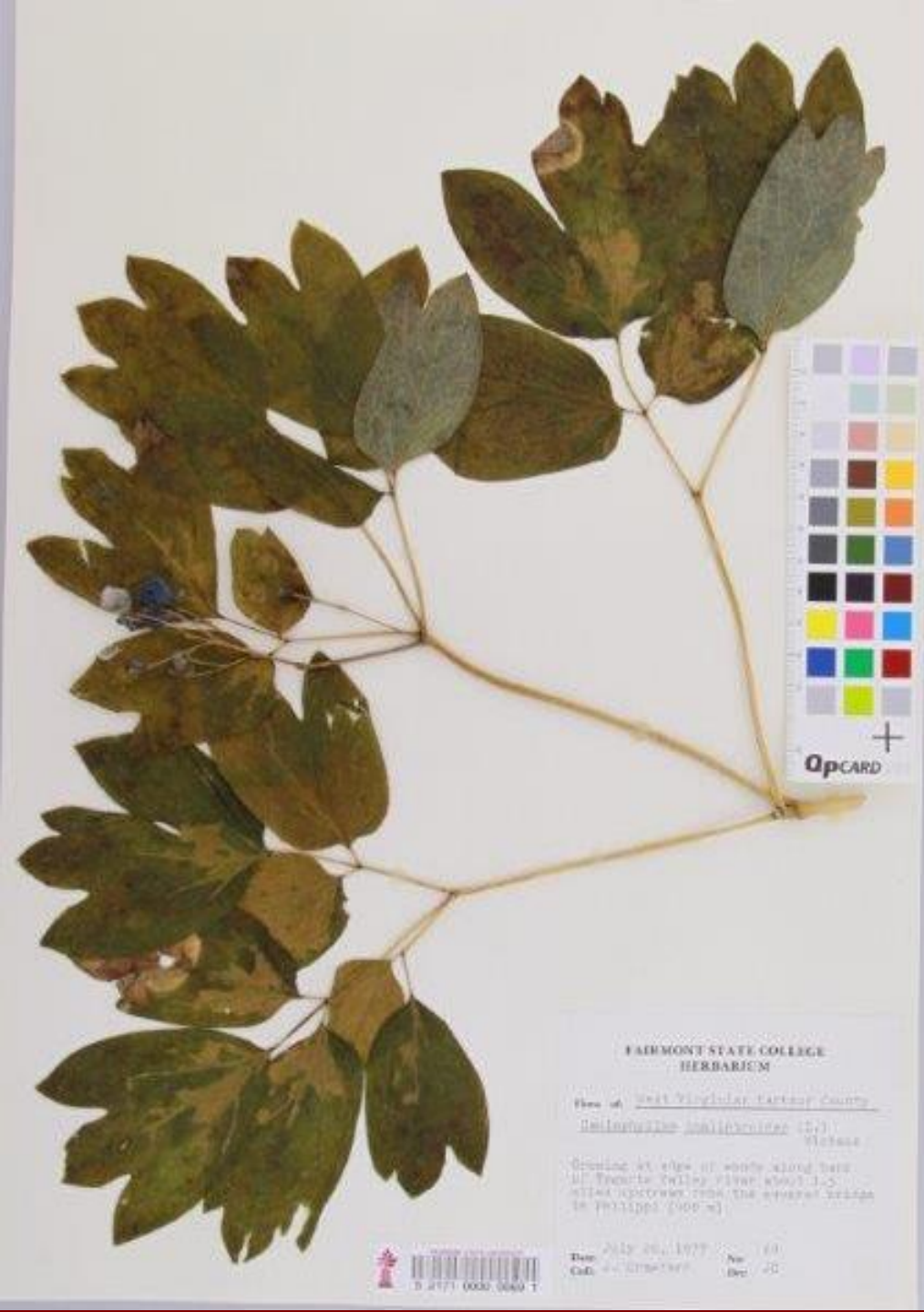
Spring 2013.





Future Plans

- Databasing from images
 - Citizen Scientists?
- Mobile Imaging?
- WV Chapter of the SHC?



Tips?

- Recruit good students.
- Justify existence, become visible.
 - Ask for funding.
- Research projects.
- Plan and Start.
 - Refine the process.

Questions? Comments?

- Quote from Stephanie Rae Baker @ WVSOM:
 - “When I interviewed for acceptance into medical school, my medicinal plant research was a very strong conversation piece, about which they were very interested in hearing. I cannot stress enough to students planning to go on to professional school how important it is to get involved in undergraduate research!”