

## Dr. Joel Olfelt

Dept. of Biology, Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, IL 60625  
Phone: 773-442-5718 | e-mail: j-olfelt@neiu.edu

### Professional Preparation

North Park University	Chicago, IL	Chemistry	BA 1985
University of Minnesota	St. Paul, MN	Plant Biological Sciences	Ph.D. 1998
University of Minnesota	St. Paul, MN	Dept. of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior	Post Doc 1998

### Appointments and positions

2012 - present	Professor of Biology, Curator NEIU Bio Dept Greenhouse, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois, United States
2024 – 2026	Chair, NEIU Graduate College Advisory Committee, Chicago, Illinois, United States
2014 - 2018	Director, NEIU Student Center for Science Engagement, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois, United States
2012 - 2012	Acting Chair, NEIU Department of Biology, Chicago, Illinois, United States
2009 – 2009	Visiting Teaching Associate Professor, Carnegie Mellon University, Qatar Campus, Doha, Qatar
2005 - 2012	Associate Professor, Curator NEIU Bio Dept Greenhouse, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois, United States
2002 - 2005	Assistant Professor, Curator NEIU Bio Dept Greenhouse, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, Illinois, United States
1998 - 2002	Visiting Assistant Professor, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, United States
1992 - 1998	Graduate Assistant, Plant Biological Sciences Program, U of MN, St. Paul, Minnesota, United States
1989 - 1992	Sr. Lab Technician, Dept of Cell Bio and Neuroanatomy, U of MN, Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States
1985 - 1988	Secondary School Chemistry and Biology Teacher, Institut Mbenga, Karawa, Democratic Republic of Congo

### Scholarly products

#### Publications

- Geddes, P., L. Murphy, Y. Astudillo-Scalia, D. Blasini, S. Nugent, M. Jazmín Ríos, A. Schirmer, J. Olfelt. Microsatellite Markers Reveal Unprecedented High Frequencies of Hybridization among *Typha* Species in the Midwestern US. *Wetlands* 41, 24 (2021) <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13157-021-01429-2>.
- Simeon, T. Vargas, P., Olfelt, J. Rutschman, D. and Sztainberg, M. 2017. The student center for science engagement (SCSE): an urban Hispanic serving institution model of achievement for STEM undergraduate recruitment and retention. *The Chronicle of Mentoring and Coaching*. 1:569-575.
- Olfelt, J. P. and W.A. Freyman. 2014. Relationships of North American members of *Rhodiola* (Crassulaceae). *Botany* 92:901-910.

- Olfelt, J. P., D. P. Olfelt, and J. L. Ison. 2009. Revegetation of a trampled cliff edge using three-toothed cinquefoil and poverty grass: A case study at Tettegouche State Park, MN. *Ecological Restoration*, 27:200-209.
- Morrow, P. A. and Olfelt, J. P. 2003. Phoenix clones: recovery after long-term defoliation-induced dormancy. *Ecology Letters*, 6:119-125.
- Olfelt, J. P., G. R. Furnier, and J. J. Luby. What data determine whether a plant taxon is distinct enough to merit legal protection? 2001. A case study of *Sedum integrifolium*. *American Journal of Botany* 88:401-410.
- Olfelt, J. P., G. R. Furnier, and J. J. Luby. 1998. Reproduction and Development of the endangered *Sedum integrifolium* ssp. *leedyi*. *American Journal of Botany* 85:346-351.

Recent oral or poster presentations with students at regional, national or international meetings

- Sandoval, S., V. Elba, and J. Olfelt. Censusing Leedy's roseroot (*Rhodiola integrifolia* ssp. *Leedyi*) using drone based imaging. Oct 30 – Nov 2 2024 SACNAS NDiSTEM, Phoenix, AZ.
- Elba, V. Ciecierski, A., Gattis, J. Reza, S. Genetic variability in South dakota's only Leedy's roseroot population. Oct. 26 – 28, 2023 SACNAS National Conference, Portland Oregon.
- Evans, N., B. Smigla and J. Olfelt. Genetics and Demography of Leedy's roseroot. Illinois Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation. Feb. 2020. Virtual. (**Award winning Poster**)
- Olfelt, J., H. Morales, H. Colak. The Impact of the NOYCE Scholar Program on the Preparedness and Retention of STEM Teachers. 2019 Noyce Summit in Washington D.C. (July 2019).
- Cervantes, A. and J. Olfelt. Comparison of Demographics and Genetic Variability in Leedy's roseroot and its North American Relatives. Oct. 12 – 15, 2016 SACNAS National Conference, Long Beach, CA.
- Zhu, H., S. Batres, S. Roman, J. Olfelt Ph.D. and, R. Trana. A Demographic Study of Minnesota's Leedy's roseroot (*Rhodiola integrifolia* ssp. *leedyi*) populations using logistic regression analysis and projection matrices. Oct 18-22, 2017 SACNAS National meeting, Salt Lake City Utah.
- Agoglossakis, K., and J. Olfelt. Using Leaf Shape to Examine boundaries among subspecies within *Rhodiola integrifolia* (Crassulaceae). Botany 2017, Fort Worth, TX.
- Olfelt, J. P., and A. Ejupovic. Population Dynamics of *Rhodiola integrifolia* ssp. *leedyi* (Crassulaceae) Using Field Based and Microsatellite Marker Data. Botany 2013, New Orleans, LA. Oral presentation.

**Professional activities**

- Co-PI with Huseyin Colak and Matt Graham. NEIU Noyce Scholars Program (NSF 16-559). Spring 2017 – Spring 2023. \$1,450,000.
- Technical Advisor for *Rhodiola integrifolia* ssp. *leedyi* recovery for the US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. 1998 - Present.
- Reviewer for: *Wetlands Ecology and Management* 2023, *Phytotaxa* review 2019, *The Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 2018, *Natural Areas Journal* 2017.
- Served as thesis committee member for Kalli Mattingly, master's student at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (Defense May 2016).