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Brief Academic Biography



Professor Victoria Sork is a plant biologist, evolutionary geneticist, and conservation scientist who studies how long-lived trees will survive rapid climate warming, with a special focus on the evolutionary success of oaks. Author of ~150 publications, her research has integrated many approaches, including landscape genomics, population and quantitative genetics, evolutionary ecology, epigenetics, and conservation biology. She is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for Advancement of Sciences, and the California Academy of Sciences. Victoria has been a professor, chair, and Dean at UCLA since 2001, and now has the pleasure to be the Director of the UCLA Mathias Botanical Garden and Herbarium. Sork received her B.S. from University of California Irvine and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Throughout her career, Victoria has been dedicated to advancing conservation science, promoting inclusive excellence in education and research, and advocating for student and faculty diversity. She acknowledges and respects the relationship of Native Peoples with the ecosystems and plants of California that she has the honor to study.