

Curriculum Vitae

August 04, 2018

1. Name Kari Tapani Saikkonen (male)
2. Date and place of birth December 13, 1961, Tampere, Finland
Citizenship Finnish
Marital status married, three children
Address Biodiversity Unit
FIN-20014 University of Turku
Finland
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3. Education and degrees awarded
 - Title of Docent, 'Ecology', University of Turku, 1999
 - Post-doctoral 1995-1997, Arizona State University, USA (Advisor Prof. Stan Faeth)
 - Ph.D., University of Turku, Finland, 1994
 - M.Sc., University of Turku, Finland, 1990
 - B.Sc., University of Turku, Finland, 1988
4. Other education
 - Teacher's pedagogical qualification, HAMK University of Applied Sciences, Vocational Teacher Education Unit, 2006
 - Speech communication for university teachers, 2002; University of Turku
 - Debate as educational method 2002; University of Turku
5. Languages
 - Finnish, mother tongue; English, excellent; Swedish good; Spanish, basics
6. Current position
 - Professor, Biodiversity Unit, University of Turku, 06/2018 =>
7. Previous work experience
 - Research professor, Natural Resources Institute, Finland 04/2009 – 05/2018
 - Station Manager, Kevo Subarctic Research Institute, University of Turku, 06/2007 –03/2009
 - Research professor, MTT Agrifood Research Finland, 06/2005-05/2007
 - Academy Research Fellow Post, Academy of Finland, 08/2000-05/2005
 - Senior Researcher, University of Turku (funded by Academy of Finland) 04/1997–07/2000
 - Visiting Scientist, Department of Zoology, Arizona State University, USA (funded by Maytag Foundation and Academy of Finland), 10/1995-03/1997
 - Senior Researcher, University of Turku (funded by Academy of Finland) 08/1995–09/1995
 - Researcher, Maj and Tor Nessling foundation, 01/1991-07/1995
8. Research funding, leadership and supervision
 - Principal Investigator (PI) of the Research Projects:
 - Horizon 2020, 2018 – 2023, "The role of endophytes in modulating plant-microbe-insect interactions" (Task 5.3., WP5 of the EU Horizon 2020 project "Stacking of ecosystem services: mechanisms and interactions for optimal crop protection, pollination enhancement, and productivity")
 - Finnish Cultural Foundation, 2018 – 2020, "Microbe-promoted grass production in sustainable agriculture"
 - Academy of Finland, 2016 – 2020, "Heritability of adaptive fescue traits in changing climate"

- Academy of Finland, 2014 – 2016, “Manipulating Grass-Fungal Endophyte Symbioses to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Increase Soil Carbon Sequestration in Grasslands of Finland, Spain, and the United States”
- Academy of Finland, 2011-2014, “Fine fescue speciation and their coevolution with systemic fungal endophytes”
- Academy of Finland, 2006-2009, “Fungal endophytes in ecological plant production”
- Academy of Finland, 2003-2005, “Fungal endophytes in grass populations: from mathematical models to empirical testing”
- Academy of Finland, 2000-2002, “Natural grass populations and fungal endophytes”
- Academy of Finland, 1997-1999, “Diversity of endophytic fungi in natural and man-made habitats”
- Academy of Finland, 1996-1997, “Plant-herbivore interactions mediated by fungal endophytes (post-doc in Arizona State University, USA)”
- Maytag Postdoctoral Fellow, 1995 - 1996, “Plant-herbivore interactions mediated by fungal endophytes” (Arizona State University, Tempe, USA)
- Jenny and Antti Wihuri foundation, 1994, Personal grant for research
- Maj and Tor Nessling foundation, 1991-1993, Personal grant for research
- Other grants:
 - Grant for visiting in Prof. Jack C. Schultz's laboratory; Department of Entomology, The Penn State University, USA; 3 months in winter 1992-1993. (Academy of Finland)
 - Grant for meetings with Prof. P. Delatour and Dr. S. Bony (INRA, Ecole Veterinaire de Lyon, France), Prof. J.J. Guillaumin and Dr. C. Ravel (INRA, Station d'Amelioration des Plantes, Clermont-Ferrand, France), and Prof. B. Garcia-Criado and Dr. I Zabalgozcoa (Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiologia, Salamanca, Spain); May 1999 (Academy of Finland)
 - OECD Fellowship to University of Kentucky, USA, 2014, fall 2014
 - INTERACT Transnational Access to Faroe Island Nature Investigation (FINI), Kevo Subarctic Research Institute (KEVO), Bioforsk Svanhovd and Arctic Station (ARCST) for summer 2012 field season.
- Supervision of post-docs (8)
 - Päivi Leinonen (2016-), (2) Maria von Cräutlein (2013-2014, 2017-), (3) Serdar Dirihan (2016, 2017), (4) Salla-Riikka Vesterlund (2014, 2015), (5) Pedro Gundel (2011-2013), (6) Cyd Hamilton (2011-2012), (7) Piippa Wäli (2007; 2008) and (8) Shengqiang Liu 2003-2004
- Presently 2 doctoral thesis under supervision
 - (1) Miika Laihonon (University of Turku) and (2) Pauliina Wäli (University of Oulu)
- Doctoral theses supervised (10)
 - (1) Julia fält-Nardmann (2018), (2) Miia Kauppinen (2017), (3) Serdar Dirihan (2016), (4) Irina Ovcarenko (2014), (5) Sanna Haviola (2013), (6) Tea Ammunét (2011), (7) Susanna Saari (2010), (8) Päivi Lehtonen (2006), (9) Piippa Wäli (2006) and (10) Jouni Ahlholm (2003)
- Master's theses supervised (7)
 - (1) Hillamari Lehikoinen (2015), (2) Sini Isola (2008), (3) Piia Vaininen (2003), (4) Päivi Lehtonen (2002), (5) Silja Lehtimäki (2000), (6) Sari Koivunen (1997) and (7) Minna Tuominen (1997)
- 9. Merits in teaching and pedagogical competence
 - ‘Agroecology and –evolution’, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, together with teachers from University of Turku, (5-10 study points)
 - ‘Ecological interactions’, together with teachers from University of Turku, 2001, 2002, 2005

- Presently 2 doctoral thesis under supervision
- 9 doctoral theses supervised
- 7 Master's theses supervised

10. Other scientific merits

- Pre-examiner of PhD-Thesis
 - Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Helsinki, 2015
 - Faculty of Biosciences, University of Joensuu, Finland, 2009
 - Institute of Environmental Sciences, University of Zürich, Switzerland, 2007
 - Faculty of Forestry, University of Joensuu, Finland, 2003
- Evaluation of academic/scientific competence
 - Acting as a scientific expert for the proposal to confer the title of reader/chair; Royal Holloway, University of London (2007)
 - Evaluation of applicants for docentship (University of Turku, 2011, 2012)
- Member of international peer evaluation committees of funding applications
 - Academy of Finland, Finland
 - Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
 - European Research Council (ERC)
 - Marsden Fund, Royal Society of New Zealand
 - National Science Foundation (NSF), USA
 - Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), UK
 - New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment (MBIE)
 - Swiss National Science Foundation (FNSNF), Switzerland
 - Other national and international foundations
- Referee in International Journals:
 Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment, American Journal of Botany, Annales Zoologici Fennici, Annals of the Entomological Society of America, Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden, Australian Journal of Botany, Basic and Applied Ecology, BioControl, Biologia, BMC Plant Biology, Botany, Chemosphere, Ecography, Ecological Entomology, Ecology, Ecology Letters, Environmental and Experimental Botany, Environmental Pollution, FEMS Microbiology Ecology, Functional Ecology, Fungal Diversity, Grass and Forage Science, Journal of Agronomy and Crop Science, Journal of Applied Ecology, Journal of Basic Microbiology, Journal of Chemical Ecology, Journal of Ecology, Journal of Experimental Botany, Journal of Vegetation Science, Microbial Ecology, Microbiological Research, Molecular Ecology, New Phytologist, Oecologia, Oikos, Plant and Soil, Plant Ecology, Plant Biology, Plant Science, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Symbiosis, Trends in Microbiology and World Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology.
- Book Reviews:
 Ecology and Evolution of the Grass-Endophyte Symbiosis; Cheplick & Faeth; Oxford University Press, NY (2007).
- Invited keynote/plenary lectures abroad:
 - SUSTAIN Endophytes for a growing world, Dublin, 2017
 - The 9th International Symposium on Fungal Endophytes of Grasses (ISFEG) & 1st ISPM, Melbourne, Australia, 2015
 - Plant Protection and Plant Health in Europe. Berlin, Germany, 2013

- 8th International Symposium on Fungal Endophytes of Grasses (ISFEG), Lanzhou, China, 2012
 - Invited speaker, international meetings
 - The 10th International Mycological Congress, Bangkok, Thailand, 3-8 August 2014.
 - Gordon Research Conference – Plant-Herbivore Interactions. Ventura, CA, USA, February 24 - March 1, 2013
 - The International Symposium on Fungal Endophytes of Grasses. Lexington, Kentucky, USA, June 28 – July 1, 2010
 - 4th Conference of Polish Society of Experimental Plant Biology, Kraków, Poland, 21-25 September 2009
 - XVII International Botanical Congress, Vienna, Austria, 17 - 23 July 2005
 - 1st International Conference on Plant-Microbe Interactions: Endophytes and Biocontrol Agents, Saariselkä, Finland, 2005, April 18 – 22
 - The Seventh International Mycological Congress. Oslo, Norway, August 11- 17th, 2002
 - Conference of the European Science Foundation / Theoretical Biology Adaptation (ESF/TBA Conference). Tihany, Hungary. 5-11 September, 2001
 - XXI International Congress of Entomology, Brazil, August 20-26, 2000
 - The Spring Hexapodium meeting; the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Superior, Arizona, USA; March 30, 1996
 - Shortlisted for lectureships
 - Ecology; Institute of Ecosystem Science, School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, University of Durham
 - Shortlisted for professorships
 - Ecology, Ecological Sustainability; Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA; 2005
 - Fungal Biology; Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; 2004
 - Animal Ecology; Department of Biology, University of Joensuu, Finland; 2004.
 - Agroecology; Department of Applied Biology, University of Helsinki; 2002.
11. Societal impact of research
 ~ 90 publications in refereed scientific journals, incl. Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics (1), Ecology Letters (4), Nature Climate Change (1), Nature Plants (1), PLoS ONE (6), Science (1), and Trends in Plant Science (5). Several other peer-reviewed articles (book chapters or monographs), and >50 proceedings, reports, conference or seminar abstracts. The following citation metrics were compiled from Thompson Reuters Web of Knowledge and Google Scholar (August 4, 2018), and Journal Citation Reports (2016):
- Total citations: 2913/2417 in Web of Knowledge (all/without self-citations) and 4786 in Google Scholar
 - h-index: 28 and 33 according to Web of Science and Google Scholar, respectively
 - 16 published papers in journals with Impact Factor higher than 10: Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics (1)(IF = 10.160), Fungal diversity (7)(IF = 14.078), Nature Climate Change (1)(IF = 19.181), Nature Plants (1)(IF = 11.471), Science (1)(IF = 41.058), Trends in Plant Science (5)(IF = 12.149).
12. Positions of trust in society and other societal merits
- Review Editor, Frontiers in Plant-Microbe Interactions
 - MC Member of COST Actions FA1103 and FA1405 (ongoing)
 - Member of the FACCE-JPI Scientific Advisory Board (ongoing)