

RAVINDER N. M. SEHGAL

Institutional Address:

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CITIZENSHIP: Sweden, USA, Lithuania, India (OCI)

EDUCATION/ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2007-present Assistant Professor
 Dept. of Biology
 San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA.
- 2003-2007 Adjunct Professor
 Dept. of Biology,
 San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA.
- 2001-2004 Postdoctoral Fellow
 Research Advisors: Professor Thomas B. Smith, Ph.D. and Professor Lisa A. Tell, D.V.M.
 University of California, Davis, Davis, CA.
- 1999-2001 Postdoctoral Fellow
 Research Advisor: Professor Thomas B. Smith, Ph.D.
 Center for Tropical Research, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA.
- 1998-1999 Cell Biology Specialist
 Guava Technologies, Alameda, CA.
- 1998 Advances in Conservation Genetics Course
 Smithsonian Institution, Front Royal, VA.
- 1988-1997 Ph.D. in Cell Biology
 Thesis Advisor: Professor Louis F. Reichardt, Ph.D.
 Dept. of Biochemistry and Biophysics
 University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.
- 1992-1994 Graduate Research Project
 Advisor: Professor Håkan Persson, Ph.D.
 Karolinska Institute, Lab of Molecular Neurobiology, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1984-1988 B.A. in Biology and B. Music
 Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

1. Current Position: Assistant Professor at San Francisco State University

Current Projects:

- *Research on the effects of deforestation on the prevalence and host specificity of blood-borne pathogens in African rainforest birds. We are completing a multi-year study, in collaboration with the Center for Tropical Research at UCLA, studying how the host specificity and prevalence of avian malaria are affected by deforestation*
- *Research on the ecology and evolution of host specificity of avian blood parasites. I have recently been awarded a grant from the NIH to study the molecular basis of host specificity of avian malaria. We will study the homologues of the protein EBA-175 using a comparative genomics approach. The information will be pertinent to understanding the molecular basis of emerging diseases.*
- *Research on the pathogens of Socorro Island, Mexico. In collaboration with Endemicos Insulares, and Dr. Juan Martinez at the University of Veracruz, Mexico, we are working on reintroducing the Socorro Island dove to its native habitat. We are examining the avian pathogens of native birds. This will be the first reintroduction of a locally extinct species to its native island habitat.*
- *Research on the effects of pathogens on the migration of California raptors. In collaboration with Buzz Hull at the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, we have been monitoring the effects of avian malaria on the migration of Red-tailed Hawks.*

2. Adjunct Professor at San Francisco State University

Research on the blood parasites of African rainforest birds.

3. Postdoctoral Research: Center for Tropical Research, SFSU, and UC Davis

Research on the host specificity and ecology of Trypanosoma, hemosporidia, microfilariae, and West Nile Virus in birds of Africa and California with a conservation perspective.

Advisors: Thomas B. Smith, Ph.D., Lisa A. Tell, D.V.M

4. Ph.D. Research: UCSF and Karolinska Institute

Thesis: Roles of α -catenin in the early development of *Xenopus laevis*.

Developed dominant negative mutations of α -catenin to elucidate roles of α -catenin in early gastrulation and the Wnt signaling pathway in Xenopus laevis. Cloned chicken BDNF, and trkC and developed polyclonal antibodies to study the role of neurotrophins in chick neurogenesis.

Advisors: Louis F. Reichardt, Ph.D., UCSF, Håkan Persson, Ph.D., Karolinska Institute, Carlos Ibáñez, Ph.D., Karolinska Institute, Barry Gumbiner, Ph.D., Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

5. Biotechnology Research: Guava Technologies

Aided in the development and characterization of a novel portable flow cytometer.

Advisor: Phillipe Goix, Ph.D., Founder of Guava Technologies, Hayward, CA.

GRANTS:

I have written 20 extramural grants for research funding during my affiliation with SFSU. Listed are the ones that were funded. In total, I have brought over \$1,250,625 in extramural funds to SFSU during my affiliation with the university.

Since the Fall of 2007

1. **NIH SC2** “Malaria erythrocyte binding-like genes & host specificity in a natural population” Principal Investigator: Ravinder Sehgal. \$460,500 total, \$300,000 in direct costs. Oct. 2009-August 2012.
2. **SFSU mini-grant, 2008.** “Avian malaria in migrating California hawks” \$5000.

I HAVE RECENTLY SUBMITTED THIS PROPOSAL TO THE NSF.

"Career: Molecular Ecology of host specificity in avian malaria" Submitted July 25, 2011. \$849,000 requested for SFSU.

Prior to my appointment as an Assistant Professor at SFSU

3. **NIH-NSF Ecology of Infectious Diseases Program.** “Effects of deforestation on the prevalence of blood-borne pathogens in African rainforest birds.”
Principal Investigators: Thomas B. Smith and Ravinder Sehgal. Funded \$1,741,000. SFSU portion: \$768,125 total, \$345,646 in direct costs. Sept. 2004-Aug. 2009. *This funding continued through my first two years as an Assistant Professor at SFSU.*
4. **NATO Cooperative Linkage Grant** “Epizootiology of avian hematozoa; linking genetic and traditional parasitology data”.
Principal Investigators: Ravinder Sehgal and Gediminas Valkiūnas.
Funded \$22,000. 2002-2004.
5. **Professors of the Future Postdoctoral Career Development Program Recipient.**
“Using habitat structure and stability to predict the incidence of infectious diseases in African rainforest birds”. 2001-2004.
6. **Research in Minority Institutions (RIMI) Postdoctoral Award Recipient.** 1999-2001.

TEACHING:

- BIOL 453 “General Parasitology” F09, S08, S09, F10 and F11 at SFSU
- BIOL 454 “Parasitology Laboratory” F09, S09, F10 and F11 at SFSU
- BIOL 871 “Colloquium in Microbiology and Molecular Biology” S09 at SFSU
- BIOL 425 “Emerging Infectious Diseases” F08, S10 and S11 at SFSU
- BIOL 864 “Recent Developments in Microbiology” F07 at SFSU
- BIOL 318 “Our Endangered Planet” F07 at SFSU
- BIOL 478 “Ornithology” S06 at SFSU
- BIOL 380 “Comparative Embryology” S02 and S03 at SFSU
- Substitute High School Teacher, Stockholm, Sweden, 1997-1998. Subjects: English, German, and Music.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant at UCSF for Pharmacy Students, 1989.

RESEARCH STUDENTS while at SFSU:

I currently have 4 Master's students working in my laboratory. I also mentor one Postdoctoral Fellow, and 2 undergraduate students. Since my appointment as an Assistant Professor at SFSU, I have graduated 4 Master's students.

Claire Loiseau, PhD	08-now	Postdoctoral Fellow studying ecology of avian disease.
Tija Altergott	10-now	Master's Student on phylogeny of African malaria
Criseyda Martinez	09-now	Master's Student on host specificity in malaria.
Molly Dodge	09-now	Master's Student on parasites of African birds.
Jenny Carlson	08-10	Master's Student on parasites of Socorro Island at SFSU
Holly Archer	08-now	Master's Student on Costa Rican avian diseases at SFSU
Mark Jasper	07-09	Master's Student on California Raptors at SFSU
Dennis Anye Ndeh	08	Visiting Master's student from Cameroon
Tony Chasar	06-09	Master's Student on African bird diseases at SFSU
Heather Lannie	05-07	Master's Student on California Raptors at SFSU
Alexandra Hilliard	summer 10	Undergraduate REU student
Tim Marzec	10-now	Undergraduate-SFSU Kingfisher parasites
Liezl Madrona	10-now	Undergraduate-SFSU California birds
Edward Evans	10-now	Undergraduate-SFSU Papua New Guinea birds
Ashley Green	09-10	Undergraduate-SFSU California hummingbirds
Joy Dionisio	09-10	Undergraduate-SFSU Birds of Costa Rica
Trevor C. Rodriguez	09-10	Undergraduate-SFSU African blood parasites
Steve Lee	08-09	Undergraduate -SFSU Parasites in SF Zoo penguins
Anna Hutchinson	06-08	Undergraduate -SFSU Parasites in California owls
Charlene Pinto	07-09	Undergraduate -SFSU Parasites in African Chickens
Maria Svensson	05-07	Undergraduate-UC Berkeley Parasites of Swainson's Thrush
Shiho Kawamura	04-06	Undergraduate -SFSU <i>Leucocytozoon</i> in Raptors
Dawn LoBaugh	04-05	Undergraduate -SFSU Technical support
Forest Soriano	03-04	Undergraduate -SFSU <i>Haemoproteus</i> in African birds
Allison Lee	04-04	Undergraduate -SFSU <i>Haemoproteus</i> in Raptors
Molly Sternberg	02-03	Undergraduate -SFSU <i>Plasmodium</i> in genus <i>Nectarinia</i>
Jacklyn Taal	02-03	Undergraduate -SFSU Technical support
F. Alex Richard	00-02	Undergraduate -SFSU PCR methodologies

Thesis Committees since 2007

- Tina Cheng, SFSU
- David Lake, SFSU
- Shiho Kawamura, SFSU
- Damien Whitfield, SFSU
- Tina Cheng, SFSU
- Tricia Goulding, SFSU
- Ami Antani, SFSU
- Diego Santiago Alarcon, PhD Committee, University of Missouri, St. Louis
- Maria Svensson, PhD Committee, University of Missouri, St. Louis
- Asta Krizanauskienė, PhD Committee, University of Vilnius, Lithuania

PUBLICATIONS:

- * denotes Master's student under my direct supervision.
- denotes undergraduate student under my direct supervision.
- ° denotes postdoctoral fellow under my direct supervision.

1. G. Valkiūnas, T.A. Iezhova, J. S. Carlson* and **R. Sehgal**. 2011. Two new *Trypanosoma* species from African birds, with notes on taxonomy of avian trypanosomes. Journal of Parasitology.
2. S. Yanga, J. Martinez-Gomez, **R. Sehgal**, P. Escalante-Pliego, F. C. Camacho, D. A. Bell. A preliminary survey for avian pathogens of Columbiformes on Socorro Island, Mexico. Pacific Conservation Biology. 17: 11-21
3. A. Marzal, R. E. Ricklefs, G. Valkiūnas, T. Albayrak, E. Arriero, C. Bonneaud, G. A. CPzirjāk, J. Ewen, O. Hellgren, D. Hořáková, T. A. Iezhova, H. Jensen, A. Križanauskienė, M. R. Lima, F. de Lope, E. Magnussen, L. B. Martin, A. P.. Møller, V. Palinauskas, P. L. Pap, J. Pérez-Tris, **R. Sehgal**, M. Soler, E. Szöllösi, H. Westerdahl, P. Zetindjiev, S. Bensch. 2011. Diversity, loss and gain of malaria parasites in a globally invasive bird. Plos One. 6(7): e21905.
4. T. B Smith, H. A. Thomassen, A. H. Freedman, **R. Sehgal**, W. Buermann, S. Saatchi, J. Pollinger, B. Milá, D. Pires, G. Valkiūnas and R. K. Wayne. 2011. Patterns of divergence in the olive sunbird (*Cyanomitra olivacea*) across the African rainforest-savanna ecotone. Biological Journal of the Linnean Society. 103: 825-835.
5. J. S. Carlson*, J. E. Martinez-Gomez, A. Cornel, C. Loiseau° and **R. Sehgal**. 2011. Implications of *Plasmodium* parasite infected mosquitoes on an insular avifauna: the case of Socorro Island, Mexico. Journal of Vector Ecology. 36: 213-220.
6. T. A. Iezhova, M. Dodge*, **R. Sehgal**, T. B. Smith and G. Valkiūnas. 2011. New avian *Haemoproteus* species (Haemosporida: Haemoproteidae) from African birds, with a critique of the use of host taxonomic information in hemoproteid classification. Journal of Parasitology.
7. K. Y. Njabo, A. J. Cornel, C. Bonneaud, E. Toffelmier, **R. Sehgal**, G. Valkiūnas, A. F. Russell and T. B. Smith. 2011. Nonspecific patterns of vector, host and avian malaria parasite associations in a central African rainforest. Molecular Ecology. 20: 1049-1061.
8. **R. Sehgal**, W. Buermann, R. Harrigan, C. Bonneaud, C. Loiseau°, A. Chasar*, G. Valkiūnas, T. Iezhova, I Sepil, S. Saatchi, and T. B. Smith. 2011. Spatially explicit predictions of blood parasites in a widely distributed African rainforest bird. Proceedings of the Royal Society of London Series B. 278: 1025-1033.
9. H. D. Ishak*, C. Loiseau°, A. C. Hull, and **R. Sehgal**. 2010. Prevalence of blood parasites in migrating California hawks. Journal of Raptor Research. 44: 215-223.
10. **R. Sehgal**. 2010. Deforestation and avian infectious diseases. Journal of Experimental Biology. 213: 955-960.
11. C. Loiseau°, T. Iezhova, G. Valkiūnas, A. Chasar*, A. Hutchinson•, W. Buermann, T. B. Smith and **R. Sehgal**. 2010. Spatial variation of haemosporidian parasite infection in African rainforest bird species. Journal of Parasitology. 96: 21-29.

12. G. Valkiūnas, **R. Sehgal**, T. A. Iezhova, and A. C. Hull. 2010. Identification of *Leucocytozoon toddi* group (Haemosporida, Leucocytozoidae), with remarks on the species taxonomy of leucocytozoids. Journal of Parasitology. 96:170-177.
13. T. A. Iezhova, G. Valkiūnas, C. Loiseau*, T. B. Smith, **R. Sehgal**. 2010. *Haemoproteus cyanomitrae* sp. Nov. (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) from a widespread African songbird, the Olive Sunbird (*Cyanomitra olivacea*). Journal of Parasitology. 96: 137-143.
14. A. Chasar*, C. Loiseau°, G. Valkiūnas, T. Iezhova, T. B. Smith, **R. Sehgal**. 2009. Prevalence and diversity patterns of African avian blood parasites in degraded habitats. Molecular Ecology. 18: 4121-4133.
15. K. Y. Njabo, A. J. Cornel, **R. Sehgal**, C. Loiseau°, W. Buermann, R. Harrigan, J. Pollinger, G. Valkiūnas and T.B. Smith. 2009. Distribution and diversity of avian malaria parasites in *Coquillettidia* mosquitoes in rainforests of Cameroon, with remarks on the vectors' feeding patterns. Malaria Journal. 8: 193.
16. G. Valkiūnas, T. A. Iezhova, C. Loiseau° and **R. Sehgal**. 2009. Nested Cytochrome *b* Polymerase Chain Reaction Diagnostics Detect Sporozoites of Hemosporidian Parasites in Peripheral Blood of Naturally Infected Birds. Journal of Parasitology. 95: 1512-1515.
17. Bonneaud, C., I. Sepil, B. Milá, W. Buermann, J. Pollinger, **R. Sehgal**, G. Valkiūnas, T. Iezhova, S. Saatchi and T. B. Smith. 2009. The prevalence of avian *Plasmodium* is higher in undisturbed tropical forests of Cameroon. Journal of Tropical Ecology. 25: 439-447.
18. G. Valkiūnas, T. A. Iezhova, C. Loiseau°, T. B. Smith and **R. Sehgal**. 2009. New malaria parasites of the subgenus *Novyella* in African rainforest birds, with remarks on their high prevalence classification and diagnostics. Parasitology Research. 104:1061-1077.
19. G. Valkiūnas, T. A. Iezhova, C. Loiseau°, A. Chasar*, T. B. Smith and **R. Sehgal**. 2008. New species of haemosporidian parasites (Haemosporida) from African rainforest birds, with remarks on their classification. Parasitology Research. 103(5): 1213-28.
20. G. Valkiūnas, T. A. Iezhova, A. Krizanauskiene, V. Palinauskas, **R. Sehgal**, S. Bensch. 2008. A comparative analysis of microscopy and PCR-based detection methods for blood parasites. Journal of Parasitology. 94: 1395-1401.
21. H. D. Ishak*, J. P. Dumbacher, N. L. Anderson, J. J. Keane, G. Valkiūnas, S. M. Haig, L. A. Tell and **R. Sehgal**. 2008. Blood parasites in owls with conservation implications for the Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*). PLoS One. 3(5): e2304.
22. G. Valkiūnas, C. T. Atkinson, S. Bensch, **R. Sehgal** and R. E. Ricklefs. 2008. Parasite misidentifications in GenBank: how to minimize their number? Trends in Parasitology. 24(6): 247-248.
23. L. M. E. Svensson•, K. C. Ruegg, C. H. Sekercioglu, and **R. Sehgal**. 2007. Widespread and structured distributions of blood parasite haplotypes across a migratory divide of the Swainson's thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*). Journal of Parasitology. 93(6): 1488-1495.
24. **R. Sehgal**, G. Valkiūnas, T. A. Iezhova and T. B. Smith. 2006. Blood parasites of chickens in Uganda and Cameroon with molecular descriptions of *Leucocytozoon schoutedeni* and *Trypanosoma gallinarum*. Journal of Parasitology. 92(6): 1336-1343.
25. J. Masello, R. Gustavo Choconi, **R. Sehgal**, L. A. Tell and P Quillfeldt. 2006. Blood and intestinal parasites in wild Psittaciformes: A case study of Burrowing parrots (*Cyanoliseus patagonus*). Ornología Neotropical. 17: 515-529.

26. **R. Sehgal**, A. C. Hull, N. Anderson, G. Valkiūnas, M. J. Markovets, S. Kawamura• and L. A. Tell. 2006. Evidence for cryptic speciation of *Leucocytozoon* spp. (Haemosporida, Leucocytozoidae) in diurnal raptors. Journal of Parasitology. 92(2): 375-379.
27. **R. Sehgal**, H. I. Jones, and T. B. Smith. 2005. Molecular evidence for host-specificity of parasitic nematode microfilariae in some African rainforest birds. Molecular Ecology. 14: 3977-3988.
28. G. Valkiūnas, **R. Sehgal**, T. A. Iezhova, and T. B. Smith. 2005. Further observations on the blood parasites of birds in Uganda. Journal of Wildlife Diseases. 41(3): 580-587.
29. **R. Sehgal**, H. I. Jones, and T. B. Smith. 2005. Blood parasites of some West African birds. Journal of Veterinary Medical Sciences. 67(3): 295-301.
30. H. I. Jones, **R. Sehgal** and T. B. Smith. 2005. Leucocytozoon (Apicomplexa: Leucocytozoidae) from West African birds, with descriptions of two species. Journal of Parasitology. 91(2): 397-401.
31. **R. Sehgal** and I. J. Lovette. 2003. Molecular evolution of three avian neurotrophin genes: implications for proregion functional constraints. Journal of Molecular Evolution. 57: 335-342.
32. F. A. Richard•, **R. Sehgal**, H. I. Jones, and T. B. Smith. 2002. A comparative analysis of PCR-based detection methods for avian malaria. Journal of Parasitology. 88(4): 819-822.
33. **R. Sehgal**, H. I. Jones, and T. B. Smith. 2001. Host Specificity and incidence of *Trypanosoma* in some African rainforest birds: a molecular approach. Molecular Ecology. 10(9): 2319-2328.
34. **R. Sehgal**, B. Gumbiner, and L. F. Reichardt. 1997. Antagonism of cell adhesion by a mutant of alpha-catenin, and antagonism of the Wnt-Signaling Pathway by alpha-catenin in *Xenopus* embryos. Journal of Cell Biology. 139(4): 1033-1046.
35. T. Svensson, M. Rydén, F. H. Schilling, C. Dominici, **R. Sehgal**, C. F. Ibáñez, and P. Kogner. 1997. Coexpression of mRNA for the full-length neurotrophin receptor trk-C and trk-A in favourable neuroblastoma. European Journal of Cancer. 33(12): 2058-2063.
36. M. Rydén, **R. Sehgal**, C. Dominici, F. H. Schilling, C. F. Ibáñez, and P. Kogner. 1996. Expression of mRNA for the neurotrophin receptor trk-C in neuroblastomas with favourable tumour stage and good prognosis. British Journal of Cancer. 74(5): 773-779.
37. Y. Choi, **R. Sehgal**, P. McCrea, and B. Gumbiner. 1990. A cadherin-like protein in eggs and cleaving embryos of *Xenopus laevis* is expressed in oocytes in response to progesterone. Journal of Cell Biology. 110: 1575-1582.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW:

1. M. A. Jasper*, A. C. Hull, J. M. Hull and **R. Sehgal**. Identification of migratory Red-tailed hawk populations using genetic, stable isotope and haemoparasite data. Condor
2. C. Loiseau°, R. J. Harrigan, A. Robert, R. C. K. Bowie, A. Thomassen, T. B. Smith and **R. Sehgal**. Host and habitat specialization of avian malaria in Africa. Molecular Ecology

Several manuscripts are in preparation.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS SINCE 2001:

Invited presentations

- California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA, Jan. 2010
- Invited delegate to *Survival in a Changing World* Symposium, Awaji Island, Japan, Aug. 2009.
- Plenary Speaker at World Avian Malaria Meeting, Badajoz Spain, Nov. 2008.
- Vilnius University's Institute of Ecology, Vilnius, Lithuania, Oct. 2007
- Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. Feb. 2007.
- Golden Gate Audubon Society, Berkeley, CA. Feb. 2006.
- University of Missouri, St. Louis, Dept. of Ecology and Evolution, St. Louis, MO. March. 2005
- Stanford University, Dept. of Biology, Ecology and Evolution, Stanford, CA. Feb. 2005
- UC Davis, Dept. of Nematology, Davis, CA, Jan. 2005
- San Francisco State University, Dept. of Biology, San Francisco, CA, Jan. 2005
- Vilnius University, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius, Lithuania, June, 2004
- Cornell University, Lab of Ornithology, April 2004
- UC Berkeley, Museum of Vertebrate Evolution, Berkeley, CA, Oct. 2003
- Vilnius University, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius, Lithuania, May 2003
- Lund University, Dept. of Ecology, Lund, Sweden, May 2003

Presentations at meetings

- Meeting on malaria and related haemosporidians in wildlife, WV, Aug. 2011.
- San Francisco State University Biology Dept. Retreat, Tiburon, Aug. 2010.
- Golden Gate Raptor Observatory 25th Anniversary Meeting, SF, CA, Oct. 2009.
- American Society of Parasitologists annual meeting, Arlington, TX, June 2008.
- Avian Diseases and Conservation Conference, Pomona, CA, May 2008.
- Northern California Parasitologists meeting, Marshall, CA. March 2008.
- Bay Area Conservation Biology Meeting, Davis, CA, February, 2008.
- Ecology of Infectious Diseases-PI Network Meeting, Albuquerque, Dec. 2007
- Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases, Ithaca, NY, May 2007
- Northern California Parasitologists meeting, Marshall, CA, March 2007
- Ecology of Infectious Diseases-PI Network Meeting, Atlanta, Nov. 2006
- North American Ornithological Conference, Veracruz, Mexico, Oct. 2006
- Society for Conservation Biology, San Jose, CA, June 2006
- Bay Area Conservation Biology Meeting, San Francisco, February, 2006
- Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology Symposium, Vilnius, Lithuania, May 2005
- Raptor Research Foundation annual meeting, Bakersfield, CA, Nov. 2004
- Cooper Ornithological Society annual meeting, La Crosse, WI, May 2004
- Conservation Genetics meeting, American Genetics Association, Front Royal, VA, Sept. 2003
- Bay Area Conservation Biology meetings, 2002, 2003
- Society for Conservation Biology annual meeting, Canterbury, England, July, 2002
- Ecosystem Health, Washington DC, June 2002
- Society for Conservation Biology annual meeting, Hilo, HI, July 2001

PROFESSIONAL and CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

- 2010-present Core Member: Research Coordination Network: For Haemosporida of Terrestrial Vertebrates: a model parasite-host system. Funded by the NSF 2010-2014.
- This is a RCN grant that allows for annual meetings, student training and research.
 - I will help organize the 2011 meeting at the National Conservation Training Center in Sheperdstown, WV.
 - I will be the principal decision maker for grants for student training.
- 2008-present President: Northern California Parasitologists.
- Organized the Winter meeting 2008 and 2009 at SFSU
 - Organized the Winter meeting 2009 at UC Berkeley
 - Organized the Spring meetings in 2008, 2009 and 2010 at the Marconi Conference Center in Marshall, California.
- 2007-present Member of the Scientific Board: Island Endemics Foundation.
- Involves several meetings each semester
 - Attended the Islands of Mexico meeting in Ensenada, Mexico, July, 2009.
- 2005-present Member of the Editorial Board of the journal Ekologija.
- 2007-2009 Member of the Editorial Board of The Open Ecology Journal.

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

- Chair, Development Committee, Dept. of Biology, SFSU 2010-present
- Faculty Advisor, SFSU Pre-Veterinary Society, 2009-present
- Faculty Advisor, SFSU Student Researchers in Biosciences, 2009-present
- Advisor for General Biology
- Member of Dept. of Biology Curriculum Committee 2008-present
- Judge for COSE annual student presentation showcase 2007, 2009
- Judge for Nelson and Beckman Fellowships, 2009
- SFSU library liaison working with Pam Howard. Compiled list of required and unnecessary journals and acquired new journals. 2007-2008
- Judge for the 22nd annual California State University Research Competition. 2008
- Judge for Biology Department Nelson Fellowships and Hensill and Kuby Scholarships. 2008
- Search Committee for Genetics Faculty Candidate. Fall 2008.
- I have written letters of recommendation for 74 SFSU students since 2007.

HONORS/AWARDS:

- 2009-present Research Associate, California Academy of Sciences.
- 2009 Outstanding Teacher Award, Dept. of Biology, SFSU.
- 2001-2004 Professors of the Future Training Program Awardee (<http://prof.ucdavis.edu/>)
- 1999-2001 Research in Minority Institutions, NIH Postdoctoral Training Program Awardee
- 1998 Full Scholarship to attend NOAHS course: Advances in Conservation Genetics
- 1988 Graduated Pi Kappa Lamda, Oberlin Conservatory

LANGUAGES:

Fluent in Swedish, German and Lithuanian; Reading ability in French and Spanish

OTHER INTERESTS:

- Tenured Bassoonist with the Berkeley Symphony, under the direction of Joana Carneiro
- Pianist with several chamber music groups in San Francisco