JESSICA A. GOODHEART, PHD

American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY 10024
Assistant Curator of Malacology ⋄ Assistant Professor of the Richard Guilder Graduate School
jgoodheart@amnh.org ⋄ www.goodheartlab.com

EDUCATION

2017 **Doctor of Philosophy, Biological Sciences**
University of Maryland, College Park
Dissertation: Phylogenomics, systematics, and evolution within the nudibranch group Cladobranchia (Mollusca: Gastropoda) (Advisors – Dr. Michael Cummings and Dr. Allen Collins)

2013 **Master of Science, Biological Sciences**
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Thesis: Sea slug systematics: using molecular and morphological tools to infer species relationships in opisthobranchs (Advisor – Dr. Ángel Valdés)

2011 **Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences**, *summa cum laude*
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

APPOINTMENTS

2022 – present **Assistant Curator of Malacology**
Assistant Professor of the Richard Gilder Graduate School
Division of Invertebrate Zoology
American Museum of Natural History

2017 – present **Research Associate**
Department of Invertebrate Zoology
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 – present *Assistant Curator of Malacology & Assistant Professor of the Richard Guilder Graduate School*, Division of Invertebrate Zoology, American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY

2020 – 2022 *Scripps Postdoctoral Scholar*, University of California, San Diego, PI: Dierdre Lyons
Investigating the physical and molecular mechanisms of sequestration in the nudibranch *Berghia stephanieae*

2018 – 2019 *NSF Postdoctoral Fellow*, University of California, Santa Barbara, PI: Todd Oakley
Development and evolution of bioluminescence in cypridinid ostracods

2013 – 2017 *Graduate researcher*, University of Maryland, College Park, PI: Michael Cummings & Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, PI: Allen Collins
Phylogenomics and the evolution of nematocyst sequestration in nudibranchs

2011 – 2013 *Graduate researcher*, Cal Poly Pomona, PI: Ángel Valdés
Population genetics and systematics of Nudipleura (Mollusca: Gastropoda)

FELLOWSHIPS

2025 *Whitman Center Fellow*, Marine Biological Laboratory

2023	*Whitman Center Fellow*, Marine Biological Laboratory
2020 – 2022	*Scripps Postdoctoral Fellowship*, University of California, San Diego
2018 – 2019	Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology, National Science Foundation
2017	Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, University of Maryland
2016 – 2017	International Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Maryland
2016	Eugenie Clark Fellowship, Department of Biology, University of Maryland
2015	Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, University of Maryland
2015	The Graduate School Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland
2015 – 2017	Peter Buck Predoctoral Fellowship, Smithsonian Institution
2014	Graduate Student Fellowship, Smithsonian Institution
2014	The Graduate School Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland

PUBLICATIONS

30. Moles J., Bonomo L., Brenzinger B., Camacho-García Y.E., Carmona L.; Cervera J.L.; Donohoo S.A., Fernández-Simón J., Furfaro G., Galiá-Camps C., **Goodheart J.A.**, Jensen K., Krug P.J., Layton K.K., Malaquias M.A.; Martín-Hervás M.R., Neusser T.P. Padula., Paz Sedano S., Pola M., Trainito E., Valdés A., Wgele H., Wilson N.G., Yonow N., Gosliner T.M. 2026. Toward Systematics-Based Guidelines for Stable Taxonomy: Lessons from Heterobranch Sea Slugs. Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, 208: zlag141. DOI: 10.1093/zoolinnean/zlag141.

29. Paz-Sedano S., Valdés A, Stout C.C., Feliciano K., Muro S., Wilson N.G., Layton K.K.S., **Goodheart J.A.** 2026. Assessing the limits of exon capture efficiency for phylogenomics, using nudibranch gastropods (Mollusca: Heterobranchia) as a case study. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 108650. DOI: 10.1016/j.ympev.2026.108630

28. **Goodheart J.A.**, Mikkelsen P.M. 2025. The Mollusca collection of the American Museum of Natural History: A brief history. *Nautilus* 139(3): 161-175.

27. Bieler R., Bogan, A.E., Criales, M.M., Dietl, G.P., Duda T.F., Fuchs C.E., Giribet G.,**Goodheart J.A.**, Leal J.H., Lee T., Mikkelsen P.M., Pearce T.A., Pearson K., Petway T., Rios N., Rosenberg G., Shea E.K., Sierwald P., Slapcinsky J., Smith J.M., Vendetti J.E. 2025. Putting U.S. mollusk collections on the map: collaborative digitization and innovation. *Nautilus* 139(3): 91-103.

26. **Goodheart J.A.**, Fiorenza R.A.*, Rio R.A.*, Lopez-Anido R.N., Martin N., Herrlinger T., Tarvin R.D., and Lyons D.C. 2025. The nudibranch gastropod *Berghia stephanieae* uses phagocytosis genes to steal nematocysts from their prey. *EvoDevo* 16: 10. DOI: 10.1186/s13227-025-00241-x.

25. Weissman, J.L. , Chappell, C.R., Rodrigues de Oliveira, B.F., Evans, N., Fagre, A.C., Forsythe, D., Frese, S.A., Gregor, R., Ishaq, S.L., Johnston, J., K.R., B., Matsuda, S.B., McCarren, S., Roepke, T.A., Sinnott-Armstrong, N., Stobie, C.S., Talluto, L., Vargas-Muiz, J., **The Queer and Trans in Biology Consortium**. 2024. Running a queer- and trans-inclusive faculty hiring process. *PLOS Biology*, 22(11): e3002919. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pbio.3002919.

24. Mesrop L.Y., Minsky G., Drummond M.S., **Goodheart J.A.**, Proulx S., Oakley T.H. 2025. Ancient secretory pathways contributed to the evolutionary origin of an ecologically impactful bioluminescence system. *Molecular Biology and Ecolution*, 41: msae216. DOI: 10.1093/molbev/msae216.

23. Lopez-Anido, R.N., Batzel, G.O., Ramirez, G., **Goodheart J.A.**, Wang, Y., Neal, S., and Lyons D.C. Accepted.The adult shell matrix protein repertoire of the marine snail *Crepidula* is dominated by conserved genes that are also expressed in larvae. *BMC Ecology & Evolution*, 24: 120. DOI: 10.1186/s12862-024-02237-y.

22. Lau, E.S., Varney, R.M. and **Goodheart J.A.**. 2024. An integrative understanding of evolutionary convergence across biological scales and organisms. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, icae142. DOI: 10.1093/icb/icae142.

21. Lau, E.S., **Goodheart J.A.**, Anderson, N.T., Liu, V.L., Mukherjee, A., and Oakley, T.H. 2024. Predictable genetic recruitment for luciferin sulfation in the convergent evolution of bioluminescence. *Biology Letters*, 2: 20230585. DOI: 10.1098/rsbl.2023.0585.

20. **Goodheart J.A.**, Rio R.A., Taraporevala N.F., Fiorenza R.A., Barnes S.R., Morrill K., Jacob M.A.C., Whitesel C., Masterson P., Batzel G.O., Johnston H.T. Ramirez M.D., Katz P.S., Lyons D.C. 2024. Using a new chromosome-level genome for the nudibranch gastropod *Berghia stephanieae* to uncover clade-restricted gene expression in novel and conserved tissues. *BMC Biology*, 22:9. DOI: 10.1186/s12915-024-01814-3.

19. **Goodheart, J.A.**, Collins, A.G., Cummings, M.P., Egger B., & Rawlinson, K.A. 2023. A phylogenomic approach to resolving interrelationships of polyclad flatworms, with implications for life history evolution. *Royal Society Open Science*, 10: 220939. DOI: 10.1098/rsos.220939.

18. Ellis, E.A.[1], **Goodheart, J.A.**[1], Hensley, N.M., González, V.L., Reda, N.J., Rivers, T.J., Morin, J.G., Torres, E., Gerrish, G.A., Oakley, T.H. 2022. Transcriptome phylogenies support ancient evolutionary transitions in bioluminescence traits of cypridinid ostracods. *Systematic Biology*, syac057. DOI: 10.1093/sysbio/syac057.

17. Taraporevala, N.F.*, Lesoway, M.P. **Goodheart, J.A.**, & Lyons, D.C. 2022. Precocious sperm exchange in the simultaneous hermaphroditic nudibranch *Berghia stephanieae*. *Integrative Organismal Biology*, 4:obac030. DOI: 10.1093/iob/obac034.

16. **Goodheart, J.A.**, Barone, V. & Lyons, D.C. 2022. Movement and storage of nematocysts across development in the nudibranch *Berghia stephanieae* (Valdés, 2005). *Frontiers in Zoology*, 19:16. DOI: 10.1186/s12983-022-00460-1.

15. Karmeinski D., Meusemann K., **Goodheart J.A.**, Schroedl M., Martynov A., Korshunova T., Wägele H., Donath A. 2021. Transcriptomics sheds light on the relationships of cladobranch sea slugs (Heterobranchia, Gastropoda, Mollusca) - but fails to resolve the enigmatic genus *Embletonia*. *BMC Ecology and Evolution*, 21:226. DOI: 10.1101/2020.09.22.307728.

14. Pappalardo P., Collins A.G., Pagenkopp Lohan K.M., Hanson K.M., Truskey S.B., Jaekle W., Strong E.E., Vecchione M., Ames C.L., Harasewych M.G., Reed K., **Goodheart J.A.**, Bush S.L., Lin C., Biancani L.M., Hartil E., Whelpley J., Blumberg J., Matterson K., Redmond N.E., Becker A., Boyle M.J., Osborn K.J. 2021. The role of taxonomic expertise in interpretation of metabarcoding studies. *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 78(9):3397–3410. DOI: 10.1093/icesjms/fsab082.

13. DiRenzo G.V., Longo A.V., Muletz-Wolz C.R., Pessier A., **Goodheart J.A.**, Martel A., Passmans F. & Lips K. 2021. Plethodontid salamanders show variable disease dynamics in response to *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* chytridiomycosis. *Biological Invasions*, 23:2797–2815. DOI: 10.1007/s10530-021-02536-1.

12. Commichaux S., Shah N., Ghurye J., Stoppel A., **Goodheart J.A.**, Bagci C., Luque G., Cummings M., Pop M. 2021. A Critical Analysis of the Integrated Gene Catalog. *Bioinformatics*, 37(18):2848–2857,. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btab216.

11. **Goodheart J.A.**, Wägele H. 2020. Phylogenomic analysis and morphological data suggest left-right swimming behavior evolved prior to the origin of the pelagic Phylliroidae (Gastropoda: Nudibranchia). *Organisms, Diversity, and Evolution* 20(4):657–667. DOI: 10.1007/s13127-020-00458-9.

10. Miller S.E., Barrow L.N., Ehlman S.M., **Goodheart J.A.**, Greiman S.E., Lutz H.L., Misiewicz T.M., Smith, S.M. Tan, M. Thawley, C.J. Cook, J.A., Light J.E. 2020. Building biological collections

for the 21st century and beyond. *BioScience* 70: 674–687. DOI: 10.1093/biosci/biaa069.

9. **Goodheart J.A.**, Munoz J.D., Minsky G.*, Brynjegard-Bialik M., N., Drummond M.S.*, Fallon T.R., Schultz D.T., Weng J., Torres E., Oakley T.H. 2020. Laboratory culture of the California Sea Firefly *Vargula tsujii* (Ostracoda: Cypridinidae): Developing a model system for the evolution of marine bioluminescence. *Scientific Reports* 10: 10443. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-020-67209-w.

8. **Goodheart J.A.**, Bleidißel S., Schillo D., Ayres D.L., Preisfeld A., Strong E.E., Collins A.G., Cummings M.P. & Wägele H. 2018. Comparative morphology and evolution of the cnidosac in Cladobranchia (Gastropoda: Heterobranchia: Nudibranchia). *Frontiers in Zoology* 15:43. DOI: 10.1186/s12983-018-0289-2.

7. **Goodheart J.A.**, Bazinet A.L., Valdés A., Collins A.G. and Cummings M.P. 2017. Prey preference follows phylogeny: evolutionary dietary patterns within the marine gastropod group Cladobranchia (Gastropoda: Heterobranchia: Nudibranchia). *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 17:221. DOI: 10.1186/s12862-017-1066-0.

6. **Goodheart J.A.** 2017. Insights into the systematics, phylogeny and evolution of Cladobranchia (Gastropoda: Heterobranchia). *American Malacological Bulletin* 35:73–81. DOI: 10.4003/006.035.0111.

5. **Goodheart J.A.** and Bely, A.E. 2017. Sequestration of nematocysts by divergent cnidarian predators: mechanism, function, and evolution. *Invertebrate Biology* 136:75–91. DOI: 10.1111/ivb.12154.

4. **Goodheart J.A.**, Ellingson R.A., Vital X.G., Galvão Filho H.C., McCarthy J.B., Medrano S.M., Bhave V.J., García-Méndez K., Jiménez L.M., López G., Hoover C.A., Awbrey J.D., De Jesus J.M., Gowacki W., Krug P.J. and Valdés A. 2016. Identification guide to the heterobranch sea slugs (Mollusca: Gastropoda) from Bocas del Toro, Panama. *Marine Biodiversity Records* 9:56. DOI: 10.1186/s41200-016-0048-z.

3. **Goodheart J.A.**, Bazinet A.L., Collins A.G. and Cummings M.P. 2015. Relationships within Cladobranchia (Gastropoda: Nudibranchia) based on RNA-Seq data: An initial investigation. *Royal Society Open Science* 2:150196. DOI: 10.1098/rsos.150196.

2. **Goodheart J.**, Camacho-Garcia Y., Padula V., Schrödl, M. Cervera, J.L. Gosliner, T.M. and Valdés A. 2015. Systematics and biogeography of *Pleurobranchus* Cuvier, 1804 sea slugs (Heterobranchia: Nudipleura: Pleurobranchidae). *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* 174:322–362. DOI: 10.1111/zoj.12237.

1. **Goodheart J.** and Valdés A. 2013. Re-evaluation of the *Doriopsilla areolata* Bergh, 1880 (Mollusca: Opisthobranchia) subspecies complex in the eastern Atlantic Ocean and its relationship to South African *Doriopsilla miniata* (Alder & Hancock, 1864) based on molecular data. *Marine Biodiversity* 43:113–120. DOI: 10.1007/s12526-012-0136-1.

Manuscripts Submitted

1. Paz-Sedano S., Lopez-Anido R.N., Tait C., Katz P., **Goodheart J.A**. In Review. Autotomy as a Defense: Anatomy of the Autotomy Plane and Gene Expression in *Berghia stephanieae* (Mollusca, Nudibranchia).

Manuscripts in Preparation - *anticipated submission within 2 months*

4. Lipman Z., Valdés A., **Goodheart J.A**. In Prep. A new species of *Abronica* (Fionoidea: Abronicidae) nudibranch from Western Australia.

3. Ali J., Leshno Afriat Y., Harris B., Goodkin N., **Goodheart J.A**. In Prep. Toward using museum shell collections to reconstruct historical biomass: A case study of the Eastern oyster.

2. Lopez-Anido R.N., de Oliveira Saad L., Aoude P., Attenborough T., Rawlinson K.A., Peter Reddien, **Goodheart J.A**. In Prep. Slug Finds a Sting: Recognition of Sea Anemone Organelles by a Novel Phagocyte in the Nudibranch Berghia stephanieae (A. Valdes, 2005).

1. Raubold L.N., Layton K.K.S., **Goodheart J.A.**. In prep. Picky eaters? Trends in the study of dietary specialization in nudibranch gastropods.

Data Notes

2. Raubold, L.N., Lopez-Anido, R.N., Pirro, S., Valdés, A., **Goodheart J.A.** 2024. The Complete Genome Sequences of seven species of sea slugs (Nudibranchia, Gastropoda, Mollusca). *Biodiversity Genomes*, May. DOI: 10.56179/001c.118546.

1. **Goodheart J.A.**, Lesoway, M.P., Pirro, S. 2024. The Complete Genome Sequences of seven species of sea slugs (Nudibranchia, Gastropoda, Mollusca). *Biodiversity Genomes*, January. DOI: 10.56179/001c.92315.

Additional Publications

2. Weissman, J.L. , Chappell, C.R., Rodrigues de Oliveira, B.F., Evans, N., Fagre, A.C., Forsythe, D., Frese, S.A., Gregor, R., Ishaq, S.L., Johnston, J., K.R., B., Matsuda, S.B., McCarren, S., Roepke, T.A., Sinnott-Armstrong, N., Stobie, C.S., Talluto, L., Vargas-Muiz, J., **The Queer and Trans in Biology Consortium**. 2024. Running a queer- and trans-inclusive faculty hiring process. *EcoEvoRxiv*. DOI: 10.32942/X2J310.

1. **Goodheart J.A.**, Bazinet A.L., Collins A.G. and Cummings M.P. 2015. Phylogeny of Cladobranchia (Gastropoda: Nudibranchia): a total evidence analysis using DNA sequence data from public databases. *Digital Repository at the University of Maryland*. DOI: 10.13016/M-20K9X.

* Refers to an undergraduate mentee co-author
[1] Co-first authors on publication

GRANTS/RESOURCES

2026	NSF-EP, "Collaborative Research: Comparing the roles of conserved and novel molecular building blocks underlying kleptocnidy in nudibranch gastropods.", PI
2026	NSF-DBI, "Adding a large US collection of mollusks from the American Museum of Natural History to the Eastern Seaboard TCN.", PI
2026	Early Career Research Grant, Human Frontiers Science Program, "Probing the role of pattern recognition receptor diversity in non-immune evolutionary novelties", PI
2026	Niarchos Award for fieldwork in American Samoa (PI), American Museum of Natural History
2024	Explore21 Grant for fieldwork in American Samoa, American Museum of Natural History. Co-lead PI.
2023	Scientific Meeting Grant, Company of Biologists, co-organizer, *Integrating convergent evolution across levels of biological organization, organisms, and time* Symposium at the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology
2023	Niarchos Award for fieldwork in Madagascar (co-PI), American Museum of Natural History
2021	Transnational Collections Access grant for travel to and research at the Zoological Research Museum Koenig (ZFMK) in Germany, SYNTHESYS+
2021	Startup Allocation Request, XSEDE
2020	HPC@UC Allocation Request, San Diego Supercomputing Center

2019	Scientific Meeting Grant, Company of Biologists, co-organizer, *Integrative Molluscan Genomics* Symposium at the World Congress of Malacology
2019	General User Proposal, Advanced Light Source, micro-CT imaging resources
2019	Special Events Award, American Genetics Association, co-organizer, *Integrative Molluscan Genomics* Symposium at the World Congress of Malacology
2019	RAPIDD Request, Advanced Light Source, micro-CT imaging resources
2018	Startup Allocation Request, XSEDE
2016	Global Genome Initiative Exploratory Science Grant, Smithsonian Institution
2015	Research Grant, Conchologists of America
2015	Graduate Student Research Grant, Society of Systematic Biologists
2014	Research Opportunity Fund Grant, Smithsonian Institution
2014	Research Grant, Conchologists of America
2013	Student Research Grant, Biological Sciences Department, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

AWARDS

2017	Student Research Award, BEES Student Taskforce, University of Maryland
2015, 2016	Merit Award, Biological Sciences Graduate Program, University of Maryland
2015	Eugenie Clark Award, Department of Biology, University of Maryland
2014	Goldhaber Travel Award, Graduate School, University of Maryland
2014	Biology Department Student Travel Award, University of Maryland
2013	Vernon Gregory Memorial Scholarship, Biological Sciences Department, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
2012	Ed Roche Research Assistant Scholarship, Biological Sciences Department, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

2026	Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA
2026	2nd Molluscan Genomics Workshop, Frankfurt, Germany
2026	Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources Division, American Samoa Community College, Pago Pago, AS
2025	Department of Biology, New York University, New York, NY
2025	Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA
2025	Department of Biological Sciences, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, NJ
2024	Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley, CA
2024	Keio University, Tsuruoka, Japan
2024	International Kleptobiology Workshop, National Institute of Basic Biology, Japan
2024	Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan
2024	New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ

2024	American Malacological Society Meeting and International Heterobranch Workshop, Pasadena, CA
2024	University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
2023	City College of New York, New York, NY
2023	Bay Paul Center, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA
2023	Collaborative Specialization in Developmental Biology, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada
2023	European Venom Network (EUVEN), Virtual Talk
2023	Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA
2023	Western Australian Museum, Perth, WA, Australia
2023	Molluscan Biomineralization Forum, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA
2023	Clark University Biology Seminar Series, Worcester, MA
2022	Cornell University EEB Seminar Series, Ithaca, NY
2022	Society for Developmental Biology and Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology Joint Meeting, PASEDB Postdoc Symposium, Vancouver, BC, Canada *Awarded Second Place
2022	American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY
2021	Biologisches Kolloquium, Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig, Germany, Virtual Talk
2020	Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA
2019	Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
2019	Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC
2018	American Malacological Society Meeting, Honolulu, HI USA
2017	Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Zoology Seminar, Washington, DC
2016	American Malacological Society Meeting, Ensenada, Mexico *Constance Boone Student Presentation Award
2015	American Malacological Society Meeting, Michigan, USA

Contributed Presentations

2025	World Congress of Malacology Meeting, Sao Paulo, Brazil
2025	Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Miami, FL USA
2024	EMBO Workshop on Molluscan Genomics, Namur, Belgium
2024	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Seattle, WA, USA
2022	International Congress on Invertebrate Morphology, Vienna, Austria
2022	World Congress of Malacology Meeting, Munich, Germany
2022	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Phoenix, AZ, USA
2021	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Washington, DC, USA (virtual)
2020	American Malacological Society Meeting, Florida Keys, USA (virtual)
2019	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Tampa, FL, USA
2018	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, San Francisco, CA, USA

2017	American Malacological Society Meeting, Newark, DE, USA
2017	Mid-Atlantic Malacologists Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., USA
2017	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, New Orleans, LA, USA
2016	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Portland, OR, USA
2014	Mid-Atlantic Malacologists Annual Meeting, Newark, DE, USA
2013	Meeting of the Western Society of Malacologists, San Diego, CA, USA *Student Presentation Award
2013	Southern California Academy of Sciences Meeting
2013	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Student Research Conference
2013	Southern California Unified Malacologists Meeting
2012	Western Society of Malacologists Meeting and International Workshop on Opisthobranchs, Santa Cruz, CA, USA

Poster Presentations

2022	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Phoenix, AZ, USA
2020	Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Austin, TX, USA
2019	World Congress of Malacology, Pacific Grove, CA, USA
2019	NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology Collections Mini-Symposium, Albuquerque, NM, USA
2018	Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance Conference, Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles
2013	Smithsonian Botanical Symposium, Washington, D.C., USA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
American Malacological Society
Society of Systematic Biologists
Unitas Malacologica
Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance
American Microscopical Society
Pan-American Society for Developmental Biology

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Board

2024 – Present *Symbiosis*

Manuscript Reviewer

Biological Bulletin
Biology Letters
Bulletin of Marine Science
Canadian Journal of Zoology
Communications Biology
Deep Sea Research Part I
Diversity
Ecology
Ecology & Evolution
Frontiers in Ecology & Evolution
Frontiers in Zoology
International Journal of Molecular Sciences
J. of Conchology
J. of Crustacean Biology
J. of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology
J. of Molluscan Studies
J. of Morphology
J. of the Marine Biol. Association of the UK
Marine Biodiversity
Marine Biology Research

Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution
Organisms, Diversity & Evolution
PeerJ
PLoS One
Science Advances
Scientific Reports
Symbiosis
Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society
Zoology
Zoomorphology
Zootaxa

Proposal Reviewer

2024	National Science Foundation
2019	American Malacological Society Carriker Award
2019	National Science Foundation
2018	Conchologists of America Research Grant

Symposia Organized

2025	*Diversity and Evolution of Marine Heterobranchia*, World Congress of Malacology, Sao Paulo, Brazil
2024	*Convergent Evolution Across Levels of Biological Organization, Organisms, and Time*, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Seattle, WA
2019	*Integrative Molluscan Genomics*, World Congress of Malacology, Pacific Grove, CA
2013	*Opisthobranchs*, Meeting of the Western Society of Malacologists, San Diego, CA

Committee Member

2026 – Present	Member-at-large, American Malacological Society
2021 – 2024	Member-at-large, American Microscopical Society
2017 – 2019	Student Representative, American Malacological Society Council
2017	Merit Award Committee, Biological Sciences Graduate Program, University of Maryland
2016	Graduate Student Representative, Ecology Faculty Search, University of Maryland
2016	Nominating Committee for the Division of Phylogenetics and Comparative Biology Program Officer, The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

Additional Service

2019 – 2025	Presentation Judge, The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
2020 – 2022	Co-organizer, Spiraliabase Virtual Lab Meeting series (www.spiraliabase.org)
2020	Thesis Reviewer, Southern Cross University
2019	Organizer, Faculty panel for students and bioinformatics table at the World Congress of Malacology in Pacific Grove, CA, USA
2018 – 2019	Santa Barbara Natural History Museum, reorganize Cephalaspidea collections
2018, 19	Presentation Judge, EEMB Graduate Student Symposium, University of California, Santa Barbara
2016 – 2017	Co-President of the Behavior, Ecology, Evolution and Systematics Student Taskforce, University of Maryland
2014, 15, 16	Behavior, Ecology, Evolution and Systematics Student Taskforce Research/Lois Reed Service Award committees
2015 – 2016	Vice President for the Behavior, Ecology, Evolution and Systematics Student Taskforce, UMD BISI

TEACHING & STUDENT MENTORING

Teaching Positions

April 2025 — **Co-Instructor**, The Tree of Life and Invertebrate Zoology
Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History

2024 — **Guest Lecturer**, Comparative Genomics 1 & 2
Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History

2019 — **Co-Instructor**, Macroevolution Honors Section
Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology, UC Santa Barbara

2013 – 2015 — **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Introductory Ecology and Evolution Laboratory
Department of Biology, University of Maryland

2011 – 2013 — **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Biometrics Laboratory
Biological Sciences Department, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Postdocs Mentored

2024 – present — Yael Leshno Afriat, Richard Gilder Graduate School Postdoctoral Fellow, American Museum of Natural History

2023 – 2025 — Sofía Paz Sedano, Richard Gilder Graduate School Postdoctoral Fellow, American Museum of Natural History

PhD Students Mentored

2025 – present — Dylan Gagler, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

2024 – present — Rebecca Lopez-Anido*+, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH
Project: Molecular mechanisms of nematocyst sequestration in nudibranchs

2023 – present — Lina Marie Raubold+, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH
Project: Phylogeny and evolution of dendronotid nudibranchs

PhD Student Committees

2025 – present — Lohit Garikipati, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

2024 – present — Daniela Garcia, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

2024 – present — Amanda Markee, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

2023 – present — Emily Carr, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

Kade Fellows Mentored

Fall 2024 — Corinna Sickinger, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

Fall 2023 — Dhanya Bharath, Richard Gilder Graduate School, AMNH

Graduate Interns Mentored

2025 — Rachel Li, Malacology Intern, NYU Museum Studies Program

2025 — Garrett Cessna, Malacology Intern, NYU Museum Studies Program

2024 — Elizabeth Rodriguez, Malacology Intern, NYU Museum Studies Program

Undergraduate and High School Students Mentored

2026 – present — Maxson McKinstrie, Virginia Tech, Virginia

2026 – present — Chloe McGibbon, Wellesley College, Massachusetts

2026 – present — Christina Weber, Brookdale Community College, New Jersey

2025 – present — Jasmine Ali, Pitzer College, California

2025 – present — Gabriel Castro, City University of New York, New York

2025 – present	Zellie Lipman, Bowdoin University, Maine
2025 – present	Eva Ahn, Bowdoin University, Maine
2024 – 2025	Taylor Child, post-graduate volunteer, New York
2024	Sonia Mukherjee, high school volunteer, New York
2024	Auguste Schmidt, lab volunteer, University of Rhode Island
2024	Asha Roberson, Columbia University, New York
2024	Emily Chrustek, Mercer County Community College, New Jersey
2021 – 2022	Ana Sofia Barrera, UC San Diego
2020 – 2021	Robin A. Rio*+, UC San Diego
2018 – 2021	Michael Drummond*+, UC Santa Barbara
2018 – 2019	Geetanjali Minsky*+, UC Santa Barbara
2019	Sergio Esparza, Ivan Girling, UC Santa Barbara
2019	Crystal Barajas, UC Santa Barbara
2018 – 2019	Natalie Colburn, UC Santa Barbara
2016	Maiss Mohammed*, high school student, Virginia
2016	Emma Rebour*, high school student, Washington, D.C.

* Presented at a conference or meeting

+ Co-author on a publication

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

2026	Guadeloupe, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2026	American Samoa, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2025	Madagascar, Co-organizer, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2025	Sao Paulo, Brazil, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2025	south Florida, USA, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2024	south Florida, USA, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2024	Scotland, UK, Co-lead, *Heterobranchia sampling*
2023	Perth, Australia, Lead, *Heterobranchia and Polycladida sampling*
2019	South Water Caye, Belize, Co-lead, *Ostracoda sampling*
2019	Shimoda, Japan, *Ostracoda sampling*
2019	Catalina Island, California, USA, Lead, *Ostracoda sampling*
2019	Long Beach, California, USA, *Syllid sampling*
2018	Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, *Nudipleura, Polycladida and Ostracoda sampling*
2018	Oahu, Hawaii, USA, Lead, *Nudipleura and Ostracoda sampling*
2018	southern California, USA, Lead, *Ostracoda sampling*
2017	Florida, USA *Gulf Stream Pelagic Biodiversity Assessment*
2016	Florida and the Florida Keys, USA, Co-lead, *Polycladida (Platyhelminthes) and Nudibranchia (Mollusca) sampling*
2015	Panama City and Bocas del Toro, Panama, Lead, *Marine Heterobranchia (Mollusca) sampling*

2015	Mo'orea and Tetiaroa, French Polynesia, *Mo'orea Biocode project*
2014	Florida and the Florida Keys, USA Lead, *Nudibranchia sampling*
2014	San Diego, Santa Barbara and Morro Bay, California, USA, Lead *Nudibranchia sampling*
2012	Madang, Papua New Guinea, *Papua Niugini Biodiversity Expedition with the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris*
2011	Jamaica, Lead, *Marine Heterobranchia sampling*
2011	Maui, Hawaii, USA, Lead, *Marine Heterobranchia sampling*

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Invited Public Talks

February 2026	*Invertebrate Pirates: How do mollusks steal from their prey?*, Paleontological Research Institute, Darwin Day
May 2025	*Invertebrate Pirates: Sea Slugs and Stolen Defenses*, AMNH SciCafe
May 2025	Museum Advisory Council Meeting
April 2025	*Invertebrate Pirates: Sea Slugs and Stolen Defenses*, AMNH Science After Hours Program
December 2023	*Sea Slug Pirates: Evolution of a Stolen Defense*, AMNH Board of Directors Meeting
2021	Science & Conservation Leader Speaker at Ocean Adventures Camp, Ocean Discovery Institute, San Diego, CA
2017	*Sea Slugs*, Terrapin Discovery tour (middle school age), University of Maryland
2016	*Nudibranchs*, Scientist is In Series (public interaction), Q?rius, National Museum of Natural History
2016	*Nudibranch Defenses*, Blue Planet Scuba (public presentation), Washington, D.C.
2016	*Sea Slug Pirates*, Teen SciCafé (high school age), National Museum of Natural History
2013	*Sea Slugs*, Marine Biology Class, Claremont High School, Claremont, CA

Events

2022–2025	*Family Party*, American Museum of Natural History, shared specimens in the Malacology collection with members of the public
2018 – 2019	*Family Ultimate Science Exploration (FUSE)*, Lead short science experiments with local middle school students and their families (multiple events in Spring and Fall), Volunteer
2019	*Tech Savvy*, Led a workshop for female-identified high school students, which focused on bioluminescence and signal diversification, Co-facilitator
2019	*Nanodays*, Lead short science experiments with local elementary school students and their families, Volunteer
2018	*I HEART STEM*, Designed and led a workshop for female-identified high school students, which focused on bioluminescence and signal diversification, Co-facilitator
2014 – 2017	*Maryland Day Biology Booth*, Public event at the University of Maryland, Organizing committee member and volunteer
2016	*World Ocean Day*, Event for the public at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Volunteer

Media

2025	Interviewed by the podcase *Ologies*, Nudibranchology (GLAMOROUS SEA SLUGS) with Dr. Jessica Goodheart and Dr. Terry Gosliner, published 1 April 2026
2025	Featured in *Time for Kids Issue* "Stinging Beauty", Sept. 2025, Vol. 16, Issue 3
2024	Interviewed by *Science News* for the article "Glowing octocorals have been around for at least 540 million years"
2023	Interviewed by *Smithsonian Ocean Portal* for the article "Ghosts of the Ocean"
2023	Interviewed by *Smithsonian Magazine* for the article "Slugs in Paradise"
2023	Interviewed for the episode "Genes Jump" of the science podcast *Nice Genes!*
2023	Interviewed by the *New York Times* for the article "They Sell Seashells (With Gems) From the Seashore"
2021	Guest for the episode "Nudibranchs Do It Better" on the National Public Radio science podcast, *Short Wave*
2018	Science Advisor for KQED (public radio station) Deep Look episode *This Adorable Sea Slug Is a Sneaky Little Thief*
2017	Published "Heterobranch sea slugs of Bocas del Toro, Panama" in the magazine *American Conchologist* 45:17-19.
2015	Published "Sea slug thieves: A nudibranch defense strategy" in the magazine *American Conchologist* 43:34-36.
2013, 2015	Contributor to the National Museum of Natural History Invertebrate Zoology Department blog *No Bones*
2014	Contributor to the National Museum of Natural History blog *Ocean Portal*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2020	EPIC Bootcamp, UC San Diego
2020	Ethical Challenges of Research, UC San Diego
2018	Discipline-based Education Research In Science, UC Santa Barbara
2017	An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching, edX
2017	Bioinformatics Course, University of Tuebingen, Germany
2016	Bioinformatics Course, University of Tuebingen, Germany
2015	Taxonomy and Biology of Sea Slugs, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama
2014	Phylogenomics Course, Lund University, Sweden

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Diving Certifications

2012 – Present AAUS Scientific Diver