

ALEX FIGUEROA

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ACADEMIC DEGREES

- 2008-2016 **University of New Orleans: PhD**
Department of Biological Sciences, New Orleans, LA
PhD: Phylogenetic relationships and evolution of snakes
Advisor: Simon P. Lailvaux
- 2003-2006 **School of Science and Technology, Loma Linda University: MS**
Department of Earth and Biological Sciences, Loma Linda, CA
M.S. Thesis: Behavioral Ecology of Neonate Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes, *Crotalus oreganus helleri*, in Southern California
Advisor: William K. Hayes
- 1997-2001 **Cook College, Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey: B.S. (Honors)**
Natural Resource Management, New Brunswick, New Jersey
B.S. Degree: Natural Resource Management in Conservation & Applied Ecology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2008-2016 **PhD, University of New Orleans**
Comparative phylogenetic examinations of species relationships, species richness, and ecomorphology in snakes. Community analyses of arboreal snakes in Singapore and Costa Rica
- 2003-2006 **M.S. Thesis, Loma Linda University**
Externally-attached radio-transmitters to neonate Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes, *Crotalus oreganus helleri*, in Southern California to investigate the behavior and ecology of this specific age-class
- 2002-2004 **Assistant Herpetologist, Herpetological Associates, Inc**
Conducted mark-recapture and presence or absence study of the Bog Turtle, *Clemmys muhlenbergii*, to determine population size, structure, and dynamics; radio-telemetry to obtain movement patterns, home range, hibernacula, and foraging habitats; monitored nests with aid of Predator Excluder Devices
- 2000-2001 **Rutgers Research Assistant, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences**
Researched the relationship between larval supply and settlement in the Atlantic Surfclam, *Spisula solidissima*, in order to monitor juvenile recruitment

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2013 **Teaching Assistant – Biodiversity Lecture, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA**
2013 **Teaching Assistant – Biodiversity Lab, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA**
2007 **Adjunct Lecturer – Principles of Ecology, Baruch College, CUNY, New York, NY**

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2014 **Biologist, Herpetological Associates, Inc. Jackson, NJ**
Performed venomous snake monitoring for timber rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) during the upgrade and expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline, and subsequent habitat restoration in New Jersey
- 2013 **Biologist, Dugan Biological Services, Upland, CA**
Performed venomous snake monitoring for timber rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) during the upgrade and expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline, and subsequent habitat restoration in New Jersey

- 2010-2013 **Biologist, Dugan Biological Services, Upland, CA**
Performed habitat assessment and presence-and-absence surveys for Barefoot Geckos (*Coleonyx switakii*), and monitored work sites for Barefoot Geckos and venomous snakes, speckled rattlesnake (*Crotalus mitchellii*) and *Crotalus ruber* for San Diego Gas & Electric Company substation and transmission line project
- 2005-2006 **Biologist, AMEC Earth & Environmental, Riverside, CA**
Served as biological monitor for Coachella Canal project; monitoring work areas for environmental impact and maintaining compliance for safety of Desert Tortoises (*Gopherus agassizii*), other wildlife species, plant communities, and non-contamination of drainage areas; also provided clearance surveys
- 2005-2006 **Innovative Enclosures, Oceanside, CA**
Performed herpetological inventory and USFWS protocol surveys for the Arroyo Toad (*Bufo californicus*)
- 2004 **Ecological Ventures California, Inc., Ramona, CA**
Performed herpetological inventory and USFWS protocol surveys for the Arroyo Toad (*Bufo californicus*)
- 2004 **Southwest Desert Environmental, Coachella Valley, CA**
Assisted in biological monitoring for the Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) for Metropolitan Water District
- 2004 **Beaman Biological Consulting, Victorville, CA**
Assisted in USFWS protocol surveys for the Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*)
- 2002-2004 **Assistant Biologist, Herpetological Associates, Inc., Jackson, NJ**
Population status and radiotracking study of Bog Turtles (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*) for The Nature Conservancy; Performed biological assessments, monitoring, and inventory surveys of various sensitive (Endangered, Threatened, Candidate) species; Habitat characterization; Wetlands delineation; Preparation of technical reports and management recommendations
- 2003-2004 **Instructor, Staten Island Zoological Society, Staten Island, NY**
Traveling and onsite instructor of ecological and conservation issues; responsible for animal husbandry of invertebrate and herpetofauna collection used for education
- 2001 **Wildlife Biologist, USDA Forest Service, Sequoia National Park, CA**
Conducted various field surveys to acquire population status and distribution of Spotted Owls, (*Strix occidentalis*) captured and banded birds for identification, pair status, nesting behavior, and site fidelity
- 2001 **Wildlife Biologist, USDA Forest Service, Kings Canyon National Park, CA**
Monitored movements and habitat associations of Mountain Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis elegans*) and Mountain Yellow-legged Frogs, (*Rana muscosa*); mark-recapture study to obtain growth rates, seasonal movement patterns, site fidelity, reproduction, population structure, and environmental effects on survival

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2012 University of New Orleans College of Sciences Graduate Student Research Grant
- 2012 Short Course on Macroevolution in R
- 2011 University of New Orleans Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2011 University of New Orleans College of Sciences Graduate Student Research Grant
- 2011 University of New Orleans College of Sciences Travel Award
- 2011 National Science Foundation East Asia & Pacific Summer Institute
- 2011 Field Museum of Natural History Visiting Scholars Grant
- 2011 American Museum of Natural History Collections Study Grant
- 2010 University of New Orleans College of Sciences Graduate Student Research Grant
- 2010 University of New Orleans College of Sciences Travel Award
- 2010 California Academy of Sciences Charles Stearns Memorial Grant-In-Aid for Herpetological Research
- 2010 University of New Orleans Department of Biological Science Dissertation Enhancement Award

2010	University of New Orleans Latin American Studies Abroad Program Award
2010	The Academy of Natural Sciences Jessup Award
2009	University of New Orleans Department of Biological Science Dissertation Enhancement Award
2008-2013	Ernest G. Chachere Doctoral Diversity Fellowship
2006	Loma Linda University Ray Ryckman Award for Excellence in Professional Publication
2005	Loma Linda University Biological Science Travel Award for Excellence in Professional Presentation
2005	Loma Linda University Earl Lathrop Award for Excellence in Scientific Presentation
2004	Loma Linda University Department of Earth and Biological Sciences Student Travel Award
2004	Loma Linda University Jaeger Book Award for Excellence in the Biological Sciences
2003-2005	Loma Linda University Research Assistantships
2001	George H. Cook Honors Program & Scholar
2001	Cook College/CAES Merit Scholarship
2001	Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences Internship
2001	Elizabeth & Arthur Reich Minority/Urban Access Scholarship
1997-1998	Local 210 Scholarship

WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS

2012	Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology. Oral Presentation. <i>Ecomorphology and Convergence in Arboreal Snakes.</i>
2010	Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology: Oral Presentation <i>Effect of Prehensile Tails on the Strike Behavior of Amazon Treeboas (Corallus hortulanus)</i>
2005	Current Research on Herpetofauna of the Sonoran Desert III: Oral Presentation <i>Movements and Foraging Behavior of Neonate Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes, Crotalus helleri, in the Coastal Hills of Southern California</i>
2005	Biology of the Rattlesnakes: Oral Presentation <i>Behavioral ecology of neonate Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes (Crotalus helleri)</i>
2005	Biology of the Rattlesnakes: Committee Member
2004	Snake Ecology Group Meetings: Attended
2003	Desert Tortoise Council Tortoise Handling Workshop: Attended
2002	Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation: Attended

PUBLICATIONS

- Figueroa A.,** McKelvy A.D., Grismer L.L., Bell C.D., Lailvaux S.P. *Accepted.* A species-level phylogeny of extant snakes with description a new colubrid subfamily and genus. *PLoS One.*
- McKelvy, A.D., A. Ozelski-McKelvy, **A. Figueroa.** 2016. A new non-coastal record for the Pine Woods littersnake *Rhadinaea flavilata* Cope, 1871 (Squamata: Colubridae) in Russell County, Alabama, USA. *Check List.*
- Siow, Holly, and **A. Figueroa.** 2016. Malayan krait *Bungarus candidus* preying on skink on Pulau Langkawi, Peninsular Malaysia. *Southeast Asia Vertebrate Records*, 2016:49–50.
- McKelvy, A.D., and **A. Figueroa.** 2014. *Pituophis melanoleucus* (Pinesnake). Geographic Distribution. *Herpetological Review*, 45(1):96.
- Figueroa, A.,** and R.J.R. McCleary. 2013. *Xenochrophis maculatus* (Spotted Keelback). Diet. *Herpetological Review.*
- Chan, H.,** and **A. Figueroa.** 2013. *Xenophrys brachykolos* (Short-legged Toad). Diet. *Herpetological Review*, 44(2):301-302.
- Lewis, T.R., R.K. Griffin, P.B.C. Grant, A. Figueroa, J.M. Ray, K.E. Graham, and G. David.** 2013. Morphology and ecology of *Sibon* snakes from two Neotropical forests in Mesoamerica. *Phyllomedusa*, 12(1):47-55.
- McKelvy, A.D., A. Figueroa, and T.R. Lewis.** 2013. First record of ophiophagy in the widely distributed snake *Leptodeira septentrionalis* (Kennicott, 1859) (Ophidia, Colubridae). *Herpetology Notes*, 6:177-178.
- Figueroa, A., T.R. Lewis, and P. Mooney.** 2013. Notes on reproduction in *Oxybelis fulgidus* from Costa Rica. *Herpetology Notes*, 6:29-31.

- Figuroa, A., and T.R. Lewis.** 2012. *Urotheca euryzona* (Halloween Snake) Reproduction. *Herpetological Review*, 43(1):154.
- Figuroa, A., and T.R. Lewis.** 2012. *Dipsas articulata* (Central American Snail-eater) Maximum Size. *Herpetological Bulletin*, 119:36.
- Figuroa, A., and E.R. Valerio.** 2011. *Oxybelis fulgidus* (Green Vine Snake) Diet. *Herpetological Bulletin*, 118:41-42.
- Lewis, T.R., P.B.C. Grant, R.W. Henderson, A. Figuroa, and M.D. Dunn.** 2011. Ecological notes on *Corallus annulatus* (Linnaeus) from a Costa Rican lowland tropical wet forest. *IRCF Reptile and Amphibians Conservation and Natural History*, 18(4):202-207.
- Figuroa, A.** 2011. Book Review. Hunters in the Trees: A Natural History of Arboreal Snakes. *Herpetological Review*, 42(3):449-450.
- Figuroa, A., and P.M. Selveindra.** 2011. A new locality for the thorny bush frog, *Theloderma horridum*, Boulenger (Amphibia: Anura: Rhacophoridae) in Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*, 4:259-262.
- Figuroa, A., E.A. Dugan, and W.K. Hayes.** 2008. Behavioral Ecology of Neonate Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes (*Crotalus oreganus helleri*) Tracked with Externally-attached Transmitters. In Hayes, W. K., K. R. Beaman, M. D. Cardwell, and S. P. Bush (Editors). *The Biology of Rattlesnakes*. Loma Linda University Press, Loma Linda, California.
- Dugan, E.A., A. Figuroa and W.K. Hayes.** 2008. Home range size, movements, and mating phenology of sympatric red diamond (*Crotalus ruber*) and southern Pacific (*Crotalus oreganus helleri*) Rattlesnakes in Southern California. In Hayes, W. K., K. R. Beaman, M. D. Cardwell, and S. P. Bush (Editors). *The Biology of Rattlesnakes*. Loma Linda University Press, Loma Linda, California.
- Dugan, E.A., and A. Figuroa.** 2008. *Masticophis mentovarius* attempted predation and diet. *Herpetological Review*, 39(4):471.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Farrell, R., R. Zappalorti, A. Figuroa, and T. Bickhart.** 2002. Progress Report on 2002 Field Season and Hatching Success of the Bog Turtle in the Cherry Valley and Aquashicola Drainage Basins, Monroe County, Pennsylvania. Submitted to: *The Nature Conservancy* 1-19.
- Farrell, R., R. Zappalorti, and A. Figuroa.** 2003. 2003 Interim Results of On-going Bog Turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*) Research in the Cherry Valley Drainage Basin, Monroe County, Pennsylvania. Submitted to: *The Nature Conservancy* 1-18.
- Farrell, R.F., R.T. Zappalorti, T.M. Bickhart, and Alex Figuroa.** 2003. Bog Turtle Studies and Radiotelemetry at the Mt. Bethel Fen Complex in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, 2001-2002. Submitted to: *The Nature Conservancy* 1-86.
- Zappalorti, R., A. Figuroa, and D. Kissling.** 2003. A Habitat Evaluation and Intensive Survey for Threatened and Endangered Plant and Wildlife Species on Lot 21, Block 36, in Howell Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey. Submitted to: *Potomac-Hudson Engineering, Inc.* 1- 17.

REFERENCES

Available upon request