

Marcela Eugenia Benítez

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EDUCATION

2016 Joint Ph.D., Biological Anthropology & Biopsychology,
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Dissertation advisors: Drs. Jacinta Beehner & Thore Bergman.
 2012 M.A. Biological Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
 2007 B.S. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2016 – *present* **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Department of Psychology,
 Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA (Supervisors: Drs. Sarah Brosnan &
 Margaret Crofoot)

2014 – 2016 Co-Director, Biological Anthropology Graduate Student Group
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2013 – 2015 Ph.D. Laboratory Research, Core Assay Facility
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (Supervisor: Dr. Jacinta Beehner)

2010 – 2013 Ph.D. Research, Departments of Anthropology and Psychology, University of
 Michigan & Simien Mountains National Park, Ethiopia (Supervisors: Drs. Jacinta
 Beehner & Thore Bergman)

2007 – 2009 Laboratory Manager, Department of Psychology
 Yale University, New Haven, CT (Supervisor: Dr. Laurie Santos)

2007 – 2009 Laboratory Research, Department of Anthropology
 Yale University, New Haven, CT (Supervisors: Drs. Stephanie Anestis & Richard
 Bribiescas)

2009-2010 Research Assistant, University of Pennsylvania & Estancia Guaycolec, Argentina
 (Supervisor: Dr. Eduardo Fernandez-Duque)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social cognition, decision-making, signaling, evolution of social behavior, sexual selection, behavioral
 endocrinology, primatology, communication

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

EXTERNAL FUNDING

Pending	L'Oreal Women in Science Postdoctoral Fellowship. Hormonal correlates of cooperation.
Pending	National Science Foundation (SMA- 1714923) Postdoctoral Fellowship. Hormones, social dynamics, and variation in responses to inequity (\$138,000).
2016 – 2021	National Science Foundation (SMA- 1620391, Role: Co-PI) Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Science Research (IBSS) Competition: Inequity Aversion, Individual Decision-making and the Emergence of Collective Behavior (\$999,997).
2012 – 2015	National Science Foundation (BCS-1340911, Role: Co-PI) Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant: Are gelada loud calls sexually selected signals? (\$19,890).
2012 – 2015	The Leakey Foundation (Role: PI) Are gelada loud calls sexually selected signals? (\$13,440).
2010 – 2014	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (tuition & stipend)
2012	Institute for International Education (IIE) Fulbright Student Fellowship, Simien Mountain National Park, Ethiopia (<i>Award declined</i>).
2006	National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Research Fellowship, Cape Coast, Ghana.

INTERNAL FUNDING

2016 – 2017	Georgia State University- Brains & Behavior Seed Grant (Role: Co-PI) Understanding how social factors and hormonal signatures relate to variation in response to violated expectations in social groups (\$28,498)
2009 – 2015	University of Michigan - Rackham Merit Fellowship (tuition & stipend).
2013	University of Michigan - Rackham Research Grant (\$3,000).
2011	University of Michigan - Rackham Research Grant (\$1,500).
2011	University of Michigan - African Studies Center Research Grant (\$1,500).
2011	University of Michigan - International Institute Individual Grant (\$1,400).
2010	University of Michigan - African Initiative Research Grant (\$4,400).
2010	University of Michigan - Dept. of Anthropology Travel Grant (\$2,000).

AWARDS

2016	University of Michigan – Milford H. Wolpoff Graduate Student Writing Award
2014	University of Michigan - Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Understanding the Social Mind: Primate Cognitive Evolution (Role: Instructor)
2014	University of Michigan - Pat Gurin Distinguished Lecture Award
2013	University of Michigan - Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Role: TA)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Benítez ME, Lu A, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC. The effects of testosterone and body size on the acoustic features of gelada loud calls. *International Journal of Primatology* (*in prep*).

Benítez ME, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC. The function and costs of gelada male vocal displays. *Hormones & Behavior* (*in prep*).

Benítez ME, Pappano DJ, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC. Evidence of mutual assessment in a wild primate. *Scientific Reports* (*in press*).

Benítez ME, Le Roux A, Fischer J, Beehner JC, Bergman TJ (2016). Acoustic properties of gelada loud calls advertise male quality. *International Journal of Primatology*, 37, 568-585.

BOOK CHAPTERS & OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Benítez ME, Brosnan SF. The evolutionary roots of social comparisons. In J Suls, CL Collins, L Wheeler (eds.): *Social Comparison in Judgment and Behavior*. Oxford University Press (*Submitted*)

Benítez ME (2016). Sizing-up strangers: Sexual selection and vocal signals in gelada males (Doctoral Dissertation). Retrieved from Deep Blue database. (Accession No. 0000-0001-7425-9507).

PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 American Association of Physical Anthropologist, Signals in Evolutionary and Ecological Context Invited Symposium
- 2017 Georgia State University, *Primate Evolution & Behavior* (Psych 8541)
- 2016 Georgia State University, *Hard Data Café Seminar Series*.
- 2014 University of Michigan, *Sex Differences in Brain, Behavior, and Disease* (Psych 437).
- 2014 University of Michigan, *Pat Gurin Distinguished Lecture Series*.
- 2013 University of Michigan, *Sexual Selection in Primates* (Anthrbio 297).
- 2012 Yale University, *Comparative Cognition Seminar Series*.

CONFERENCE TALKS & PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Benítez ME, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC (*forthcoming*). Evidence for mutual assessment in a wild primate. Animal Behavior Society Meetings. Toronto, June 2017

Benítez ME, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC (2017). Sizing up strangers: sexual selection and vocal signals in males geladas (*Theropithecus gelada*). American Association of Physical Anthropology Annual Meetings. New Orleans, April 2017.

Benítez ME, Beehner JC, Bergman TJ (2016). Multimodal signaling in geladas (*Theropithecus gelada*): chest redness reflects frequency of vocal displays in harem-holding gelada males. International Primatological Society Annual Meeting. Chicago, Illinois.

- Benítez ME, Le Roux A, Beehner JC, Bergman TJ (2012).** Acoustic properties of gelada loud calls may advertise male quality. International Primatological Society Annual Meeting. Cancun, Mexico.
- Benítez ME, Bergman TJ, Beehner JC (2015).** Testosterone Mediates Loud Call Production in Gelada Males. American Association of Physical Anthropology Annual Meetings 156 (S83):60-61.
- Benítez ME, Beehner JC, Bergman TJ (2014).** Gelada Males Attend to Acoustic Differences in Loud Calls. Animal Behavior Society Meetings. Princeton, New Jersey.
- Benítez ME, Le Roux A, Beehner JC, Bergman TJ (2012).** Acoustic properties of gelada loud calls may advertise male quality. International Primatological Society Annual Meeting. Cancun, Mexico.
- Leimgruber KL, Ward AF, **Benítez ME**, Widness J, Norton MI, Olson KR, Gray K, Santos LR (2012). Do capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*) pay it forward: the role of social context in prosocial behavior. International Primatological Society Annual Meeting. Cancun, Mexico.
- Benítez ME, Anestis SF, Santos LR, Bribiescas RG, Beehner JC (2011).** A non-invasive method for collecting salivary testosterone in socially house captive monkeys. American Journal of Physical Anthropology. S52: 87-88.
- Lu A, **Benítez ME**, Beehner JC (2011). Quantifying urinary C-peptides in wild geladas (*Theropithecus gelada*). American Journal of Physical Anthropology. S52:20.
- Benítez ME, Anestis, SF, Santos LR, Bribiescas RG (2009).** Non-invasive salivary collection techniques in captive brown capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*). International Primatological Society Annual Meeting. Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Benítez ME, Anestis SF, Santos, LR, Bribiescas, RG (2008).** Methods for collecting salivary cortisol from unrestrained, adult, captive brown capuchin monkeys. American Journal of Physical Anthropology 135(S46):67.

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2016 Hard Data Café Seminar Series, Department of Psychology, GSU.
- 2016 Integrative Behavioral Ecology Talks, Department of Psychology, U of M.
- 2014 Four Field Graduate Student Talks, Department of Anthropology, U of M.
- 2012 Four Field Graduate Student Talks, Department of Anthropology, U of M.

OUTREACH AND PUBLIC TALKS

- 2016- present Science Communication Fellowship Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016 Natural History Museum Scientist Spotlight, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016 Natural History Museum Fun Friday Nights, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016 Flame Challenge: What is sound, gelada monkey rap video for kids
- 2014 Kamp Kurat Science Education Workshop, Kamp Kurat Celebrates Ethiopia Camp, Michigan.
- 2012 Ethiopian Wildlife Exhibition Festivals, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

TEACHING & MENTORING

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

2014 Understanding the Social Mind: Primate Cognitive Evolution. Anthrbio 297, University of Michigan, Spring 2014

GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR (TA)

2016 Introduction to Biological Anthropology. Anthrbio 201, University of Michigan, Winter 2016 (Instructor: Dr. John Mitani)

2012 Introduction to Biological Anthropology. Anthrbio 161, University of Michigan, Fall 2012 (Instructor: Dr. Laura MacLatchy)

2011 Evolution and Nutrition. Anthrbio 364, University of Michigan, Winter 2011, (Instructor: Dr. Roberto Frisancho)

2010 Introduction to Biological Anthropology. Anthrbio 161, University of Michigan, Fall 2010 (Instructor: Dr. Laura MacLatchy)

MENTORING & ADVISING

2015 – 2016 Elaine Kim, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan

2014 – 2015 Younjin Kang, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, *Multimodal Signaling in Gelada Males*, University of Michigan

2014 – 2015 Sara Shamaskin, Undergraduate Research Volunteer, Acoustic analysis of gelada loud calls, University of Michigan

2014 – 2015 Kara Kingma, Honors Thesis, *Gelada Males Attend to Acoustic Differences in Loud Calls*, University of Michigan

2014 – 2015 Nathan Chesterman, Undergraduate Research Volunteer, Acoustic analysis of gelada loud calls, University of Michigan

2012 – 2014 Megan Gomery, Field Assistant, Data collection and vocalization recordings on gelada males in the Simien Mountains National Park, Ethiopia

2008 – 2009 Tenley Mochizuki, Honors Thesis, *Salivary Testosterone and Dominance in Capuchins*, Yale University

SELECTED SERVICE

2016 Reviewer for journal *Zoo Biology*

2014 – 2016 Co-Director, Biological Anthropology Graduate Student group, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

2012 – 2016 Board of Directors, Save the Simiens, Simien Mountains National Park, Ethiopia.

2015	Panel, Graduate Student Recruitment Panel, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
2015	Gelada Lab Representative, Lab Introductions and Recruitment Talks, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2014	Reviewer for the journal <i>Primates</i>
2013	Recommender, Tenure Committee for Dr. Sari van Anders, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2013	Recommender, Tenure Committee for Dr. Thore Bergman, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2010 – 2011	Faculty Meeting Representative, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Student Association, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
2010 – 2011	Biological Anthropology Representative, Michigan Anthropology Graduate Student Association, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
2010 – 2011	Member, Michigan Anthropology Diversity Initiative, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

NPR All Things Considered, [“What a Chatty Monkey May Tell Us About Learning to Talk”](#)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2014 – present	The Animal Behavior Society
2009 – present	The International Primate Society
2008 – present	The American Association of Physical Anthropologists

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (native), Italian (proficient)

REFERENCES

Dr. Sarah Brosnan
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Dr. Thore Bergman
 Departments of Psychology and Ecology &
 Evolutionary Biology,
 University of Michigan
 530 Church St.,
 Ann Arbor, MI 48109
 Email: thore@umich.edu

Dr. Jacinta Beehner
 Departments of Anthropology and Psychology,
 University of Michigan
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 Ann Arbor, MI 48109
 Email: jbeehner@umich.edu