

Anusha Shankar

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Education

- PhD candidate, Ecology and Evolution (Advisor: Dr. Catherine Graham)** 2012–Present
Preliminary title: "Field-based physiological ecology: A key component in forecasting species distributions". Stony Brook University, New York.
- M.Sc. Ecology and Environmental Sciences (Advisor: Dr. Priya Davidar)** 2009–11
"Malabar Pied Hornbill (*Anthracoceros coronatus*) nest site parameters in the highly fragmented Northern Western Ghats, India". Pondicherry University, Puducherry, India.
- B.Sc. Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology** 2006–09
Stella Maris College, Chennai, India.

Publications and Manuscripts

- Shankar A***, Schroeder RJ*, Wethington SM, Graham CH, Powers DR. Torpid hummingbirds: energy savings in temperate and tropical sites. (In revision, * Equal first authors)
- Graham CH, Supp SR, Powers DR, Beck PA, Lim MCW, **Shankar A**, Cormier, T, Goetz S, and Wethington S. Winter conditions influence biological responses of migrating hummingbirds. *Ecosphere*. 7(10): e01470. 10.1002/ecs2.1470
- Aguilar JMA, **Shankar A**, Nieto, AV, Tinoco BA. Year-round occurrences of birds in the Southwestern high Andes of Ecuador. *Cotinga*. (In Review).
- Shankar A**, Graham CH, Canepa JR, Wethington SM, Powers DR. Activity has largest effect on daily energy expenditure in a sub-tropical hummingbird. *In advanced prep*

Grants and Hono(u)rs

- David F. Ludwig travel scholarship**, AEHS, Aug 2017. \$1000
For fieldwork on shallow torpor in hummingbirds in Arizona.
- Distinguished Travel Award**, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University, Aug 2017. To attend International Union of Physiological Sciences Meeting. \$1500
- SICB broadening participation travel award**, Jan 2017. To attend Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Annual Meeting. \$489
- Experiment crowd-funded grant**, Experiment.com, Dec 2016. \$5000
(Together with Erich Eberts*, Dr. Peter Auger, Maria Curley, and Dr. Glenn Tattersall)
To study nesting female hummingbirds' torpor use with thermal cameras. *Mentored student
- Lewis and Clark field scholarship grant**, American Philosophical Society, May 2016. For field work on hummingbird physiological ecology. \$5000
- Midred and Herbert Weisinger dissertation fellowship**, Stony Brook University, Mar 2016. For dissertation research on hummingbird physiology and ecology. \$10,000
- Lawrence B. Slobodkin award** for Research in Ecology, Feb 2016. \$750
- Departmental unrestricted research grant**, Stony Brook University, Mar 2015. \$750
- Tinker field research grant**, Tinker Foundation, May 2014. For research in the field in Latin America. \$2300
- National Geographic Society young explorer's grant**, Mar 2014. For field research on hummingbird physiology and ecology. \$4997
- Departmental research excellence award**, Stony Brook University, Mar 2014. \$1000
- Resource access project award (RAP)**, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University, Jan 2013. To attend International Biogeography Society conference. \$350
- Lawrence B. Slobodkin award** for Research in Ecology, March 2013. \$900

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Awards

- National Geographic Leadership and Development Program** for Young Explorers. Jul 2017
1 of 15 international grantees selected for this year-long program.
- Charlotte Magnum student support award** for housing costs at the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Meeting. Jan 2017
- Cedar Brook award** for best talk at the Ecology and Evolution departmental retreat, Stony Brook University. Feb 2016
- National Science Foundation mentoring program** for Young Scientists (Travel and registration award for GRC 2014: "Unifying Ecology across Scales"). Jul 2014

Research Experience

- Field Dissertation Research (12 months), Ecuador** 2015
Led a team of 11 field assistants for 12 months over 4 years to study hummingbird physiology and ecology.
- Research Assistant, NASA hummingbird diversity grant, Stony Brook University, NY.** 2013
Compiled data and performed preliminary data analyses (in R), generated maps for publication, suggested improvements to methods of data collection and storage.
- Field Technician, Shola evolution project, NCBS Bangalore.** 2012
Mist-netted, collected blood samples, made morphological measurements, extracted DNA and carried out PCR for high elevation bird species.
- Summer Research Fellow, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore.** 2010
Carried out preliminary observational studies on the vertebrate visitors to *Ficus benghalensis* (Banyan), and Lepidopteran visitors of the invasive *Lantana camara*.
- Volunteer, King Cobra Telemetry Project, Agumbe Rainforest Research Station, Karnataka.** 2010
Streamlined data entry, tracked king cobras, set up pitfall traps, did some organic farming.
- Volunteer, Wildlife Trust of India at Kaziranga, Assam, India.** 2008
Tracked and studied the behavior of a Hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*) being rehabilitated into the wild.

Teaching

- Teaching Assistant, **Conservation Biology** (BIO 336), SBU. Fall 2016, 2017
- Head Teaching Assistant, **Chordate Zoology** (BIO 344), SBU. Spring 2015, 2016
- Teaching Assistant, **Ecology Lab** (BIO 352), SBU. Fall 2014
- Teaching Assistant, **Chordate Zoology Lab** (BIO 344), SBU. Spring 2013, 2014, 2016
- Teaching Assistant, **Fundamentals of Scientific Inquiry in the Biological Sciences I** (BIO 204), SBU. Fall 2012

In the News/Media

- SHANKAR A. *Hummingbirds Are the World's Hungriest Birds.* October 22, 2016
National Geographic "Today I Learned" series. [YouTube](#).
- Sharma, Pooja. [Dainik Bhaskar](#) (in Hindi) December 6, 2014
- Parthasarathy, Anusha. *On the Wild Side.* The Hindu Education Plus October 6, 2014
- SHANKAR Anusha. *Youth for Tigers.* The Hindu NxG January 5, 2011

Talks and Posters

- Oral presentation:** SBU Natural History Club - I Know What You Did Last Summer 2017
Stony Brook, NY. *The secret nightlife of hummingbirds*
- Poster:** International Union for Physiological Sciences. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 2017
Activity has largest effect on daily energy expenditure in a sub-tropical hummingbird.
- Invited virtual speaker:** Comparative animal physiology class, Pontificia Universidad 2017
Javeriana, Cali, Colombia. *Hummingbird energy management, and a career in Ecology.*
- Chief Guest, Valedictory speech:** Stella Maris College, Zoology Culturals 'Synapse', 2017
Chennai, India. *Turning failures into successes in a Zoology career.*
- Oral presentation:** Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, New Orleans, LA. 2017
Energy budgeting in a temperate hummingbird.
- Oral presentation:** National Geographic, Washington D.C. 2016
Hummingbird energy management!
- Oral presentation:** North American Ornithological Conference, Washington D.C. 2016
Hypothermic hummingbirds - an energy management story.
- Poster:** Reunión Ecuatoriana de Ornithología, Zamora, Ecuador. 2016
Córdova G*, Urgilés G*, Tinoco BA, **Shankar A.** *Ahorro energético nocturno en cuatro especies de colibríes en los Andes del austro Ecuatoriano.* (Spanish for: *Nocturnal energy savings in four hummingbird species of the southern Ecaudorian Andes*)
- Poster:** Reunión Ecuatoriana de Ornithología, Zamora, Ecuador. 2016
Morales AC *, **Shankar A**, Graham CH, Powers DR. *Costos de termorregulación de Heliangelus viola en los Andes sur del Ecuador* (Spanish for: *Thermoregulatory costs of Heliangelus viola in the Andes in the south of Ecuador*)
- Invited speaker:** School of Biology, Universidad del Azuay, Cuenca, Ecuador. 2016
Colibríes hipotérmicos y su presupuesto energético (Spanish for: *Hypothermic hummingbirds and their energy budgets*)
- Invited speaker:** Ecology Students' Society, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, India. 2016
Hypothermic hummingbirds: an energy management story.
- Informal talk:** National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, India. 2016
Hypothermic hummingbirds: an energy management story.
- Guest lecture:** Chordate Zoology lecture, Stony Brook University. *The Biology of Birds.* 2015
- Invited speaker:** Gordon Research Seminar: Unifying ecology across scales, University 2014
of New England, Maine. *Field physiology: A key component in forecasting species distributions.*
- Poster:** Gordon Research Conference: Unifying ecology across scales. University 2014
of New England, Maine. *Field physiology: A key component in forecasting species distributions*
- Poster:** International Biogeography Society. International Biogeography Society 2013
6th Biennial Meeting, *Frontiers of biogeography* 4:1, p. 174. A. Shankar, A.L. Rosenthal, J-P Puyravaud, J. Sarnaik, A. Godbole, & P. Davidar. *The Malabar Pied Hornbill (Anthracoceros coronatus) nests near human habitations in highly fragmented landscapes in the Northern Western Ghats, India.*
- Oral Presentation:** Students Conference for Conservation Science (SCCS), Bangalore. 2011
- Invited speaker:** at Bala Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School; 2010-12
Department of Zoology, Stella Maris College; and at Science Sense, Chennai.

* Mentored students, Poster presenters

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Additional Experience

Workshop , Functional Ecology Genomics, Lacawac Sanctuary, Philadelphia.	2017
Volunteer , International Biogeography Society 6th Biennial Meeting, Miami, FL.	2013
Workshop on rescue and relocation of snakes conducted by Gowri Shankar of the Agumbe Rainforest Research Station and Snake Shyam, Mysore, India.	2012
Workshop on basic remote sensing and GIS with a focus on conservation planning, conducted by FERAL, supported by an ATREE-CEPF small grant.	2012
Workshop on wetland bird survey and mark-recapture, by Bombay Natural History Society at Point Calimere, India.	2011
India's Youth Tiger Ambassador , one of two selected by WWF-India to represent the country at the Youth Tiger Summit held in Vladivostok, Russia.	2010
Volunteer at the Students Conference on Conservation Science, Bangalore.	2010
Volunteer for one year at the Madras Crocodile Bank, Chennai, India. Young reptiles center, public education and outreach.	2008-2009

Students mentored

Isabelle Cisneros , undergraduate student, George Fox University.	Jun - Aug 2017
Ana Morales , Head field assistant, McGill University, Canada.	Oct 2015 - Oct 2016
Gabriela Cordova , Universidad del Azuay, Internship & Bachelor's thesis.	Aug 2015 - Oct 2016
Gabriela Urgiles , Universidad del Azuay, Internship & Bachelor's thesis.	Nov 2015 - Oct 2016
Rosalee Elting , Field assistant, George Fox University.	Sept - Oct 2016
Julisa Ricart , Field assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison.	Jul 2015 - Jan 2016
Amanda Quezada , Universidad del Azuay, Pasantias (internship) project.	Aug - Sept 2015
Joshua van Bourg , Field assistant, University of California Berkeley.	Sept - Dec 2015
Erich Eberts , Field assistant, Loyola Marymount University.	Dec 2015 - Jan 2016
Pedro Jose Machado Tapia , Field assistant, Universidad del Azuay.	Jun - Sept 2015
Rebecca Schroeder , Field assistant, George Fox University.	Jun 2015 - Aug 2014
Joseph Canepa , Field assistant, George Fox University.	Jun 2015 - Aug 2014

Skills

Coding in R; LaTeX, GPS, ArcGIS, qGIS, GitHub /nushiamme, Mist-netting, bird morphology measurements, DNA extraction, PCR, doubly-labeled water (DLW) method, open-flow respirometry, stable isotope micro-distillation, Radio-telemetry of snakes, photography; handling people, birds, arachnids and reptiles.

Languages: English, Tamil, conversational Spanish, some Malayalam, Hindi, and basic French and Marathi; Also, the skill to learn new skills and languages quickly.

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Professional Service

Member - Madras Naturalists Society, American Ornithologists' Union, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, American Association for University Women, American Physiological Society.

Reviewer- Ecology and Evolution, International Journal of Biometeorology; [Publons profile](#)

Co-founder and contributor: 'BrainChem & Ecology' - a Facebook page in collaboration with a Chemical Neurobiologist, where we publish scientific concepts in simple graphics and videos for the public 2017-current

Mentor, The New York Academy of Sciences' (NYAS) Next Scholar Program 2017

Vice President, Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (GWISE), Stony Brook University 2017-18

Eboard member, Event manager and Newsletter writer, GWISE, Stony Brook University 2016-17

Student representative to the Faculty, Ecology & Evolution, Stony Brook University 2016-17

Participant in Grads for Education and Outreach (GEO) - to teach science concepts to 5th graders 2016

Treasurer of the Ecology Club, Stony Brook University 2013-14

RA Union departmental representative Stony Brook University 2013-14

Senator, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University 2013-15

Executive Officer, Freewheel Collective (helping students learn how to repair their own bicycles), Stony Brook University 2014-18

Co-administrator of Facebook group Youth Environment Options, India to mentor young environmentalists and ecologists 2013-15