

Anusha Shankar

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Education

PhD, 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.

Grants and Hono(u)rs

- LEWIS AND CLARK FIELD SCHOLARSHIP GRANT, American Philosophical Society, May 2016. For field work on hummingbird physiological ecology. \$5000
- MILDRED AND HERBERT WEISINGER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP, March 2016. For dissertation research on hummingbird physiology and ecology. \$10,000
- LAWRENCE B. SLOBODKIN AWARD for Research in Ecology, February 2016. \$750
- DEPARTMENTAL UNRESTRICTED RESEARCH GRANT, Stony Brook University, March 2015. \$750
- TINKER FIELD RESEARCH GRANT, Tinker Foundation, May 2014. For research in the field in Latin America \$2300
- NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Young Explorer's Grant, March 2014. For field research on hummingbird physiology and ecology. \$4997
- DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD, Stony Brook University, March 2014. \$1000
- GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION, Stony Brook University RAP for conference attendance, to attend IBS 2013. \$350
- LAWRENCE B. SLOBODKIN AWARD for Research in Ecology, March 2013. \$900

Awards

- CEDAR BROOK AWARD for best talk at the departmental retreat, Stony Brook University, February 2016.
- NSF Young Scientist Mentoring Program (Travel and registration award for GRC 2014: "Unifying Ecology across Scales"), July 2014.

Publications and Manuscripts

- 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*. (Accepted).
- **Shankar A**, Schroeder RJ, Graham CH, Powers DR. A comparison of torpor use in tropical and temperate hummingbirds. *In prep*.
- **Shankar A**. Man-animal Conflict. *Proceedings of the National Conference on Human-Animal Conflict*. Ed. Chitrlekha Ramachandran, Stella Maris College, 2009.

Research Experience

- Dissertation Research (7 months), El Gullan field station, Ecuador** 2015
- Led a team of 8 field assistants 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 Assistant, NASA hummingbird diversity grant, Patagonia, AZ.** 2013
- Performed physiological and morphological measurements on hummingbirds
- 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
- 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

Talks and Posters

- **Invited speaker:** School of Biology, Universidad del Azuay. *Colibríes hipotérmicos y su presupuesto energético* (Spanish for: *Hypothermic hummingbirds and their energy budgets*) Cuenca, Ecuador. 2016.
- **Invited speaker:** *Hypothermic hummingbirds: an energy management story.* Ecology Students' Society, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, India. 2016.
- **Informal talk:** *Hypothermic hummingbirds: an energy management story.* National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, India. 2016.
- **Guest lecture:** Chordate Zoology lecture. *The Biology of Birds* Stony Brook University. 2015.
- **Invited speaker:** Gordon Research Seminar: Unifying ecology across scales. *Field physiology: A key component in forecasting species distributions.* University of New England, Maine. 2014.
- **Poster:** Gordon Research Conference: Unifying ecology across scales. *Field physiology: A key component in forecasting species distributions* University of New England, Maine. 2014.

- **Poster:** 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*. In conference program and abstracts. International Biogeography Society 6th Biennial Meeting, *Frontiers of biogeography* 4:1, p. 174. International Biogeography Society. 2013.
- **Oral Presentation:** Students Conference for Conservation Science (SCCS), Bangalore 2011.
- **Invited speaker:** at Bala Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School; Department of Zoology, Stella Maris College; and at Science Sense, Chennai. 2010-2012.

In the News

- Sharma, Pooja. <http://goo.gl/zyxdvG>. 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

Additional Experience

- **Volunteer**, International Biogeography Society 6th Biennial Meeting, Miami, FL, 2013.
- **Workshop** on rescue and relocation of snakes conducted by Gowri Shankar of the Agumbe Rain-forest 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

- **Pedro Jose Machado Tapia**, Field assistant, Universidad del Azuay. Jun. - Sept. 2015
- **Julisa Ricart**, Field assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Jul. 2015 - Jan. 2016
- **Gabriela Cordova**, Universidad del Azuay, Internship & Bachelor's thesis. Aug. 2015 - Oct. 2016
- **Amanda Quezada**, Universidad del Azuay, Pasantias (internship) project. Aug. - Sept. 2015
- **Joshua van Bourg**, Field assistant, University of California Berkeley. Sept. - Dec. 2015
- **Ana Morales**, Field assistant, McGill University, Canada. Oct. 2015 - Oct. 2016
- **Gabriela Urgiles**, Universidad del Azuay, Internship & Bachelor's thesis. Nov. 2015 - Oct. 2016
- **Erich Eberts**, Field assistant, Loyola Marymount Univeristy, Los Angeles. Dec. 2015 - Jan. 2016

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, French and Marathi; Also, the skill to learn new skills and languages quickly.

Professional Service

- Member - Madras Naturalists Society, American Ornithologists' Union.
- Reviewer- Ecology and Evolution, International Journal of Biometeorology
- Participant in Grads for Education and Outreach (GEO) - to teach science concepts to 5th graders 2016
- Chair of the AV committee, department retreat 2015
- 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, Stony Brook University 2014-15
- Co-administrator of Facebook group Youth Environment Options, India to mentor young environmentalists and ecologists 2013-15
- Chair of entertainment committee, department retreat 2013