

René D. Clark

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EDUCATION

- 2017-2023 *Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolution*, Rutgers University. Advisor: Dr. Malin Pinsky
Dissertation: Spatial and temporal patterns of adaptation and adaptive potential in a changing ocean.
- 2015-2017 *M.S. in Biology*, Saint Joseph's University. Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Fingerut
Dissertation: The effect of microtopography on blackfly larval settlement & an analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii*
- 2010-2014 *B.S. in Biology – Ecology Option*, Pennsylvania State University, graduated with *Highest Honors* (top 10 students in the program).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024-Present NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Phifer-Rixey Lab, Drexel University
- 2023-2024 Postdoctoral Researcher, Phifer-Rixey Lab, Drexel University
- 2017-2023 Graduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University
- 2015-2017 Graduate Research Assistant, Saint Joseph's University
- 2014-2015 Americorps Volunteer, City Year, Philadelphia School District
- 2012-2014 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Pennsylvania State University
- 2012 Animal Husbandry Intern, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
- 2011 Laboratory Technician, Telecardia Inc.

PUBLICATIONS

Bold is self. *Italicized* is undergraduate mentee.

Peer-reviewed publications

- Ivan Paz-Vinas, Amy G. Vandergast, Chloé Schmidt, Deborah M. Leigh, Simon Blanchet, **René D. Clark**, Eric D. Crandall, Hanne De Kort, Jeff Falgout, Colin J. Garroway, Eleana Karachaliou, Francine Kershaw, David O'Brien, Malin L. Pinsky, Gernot Segelbacher & Magaret E. Hunter (2025) Uneven genetic data limits biodiversity assessments in protected areas globally. *Frontiers in Ecology & the Environment*. (doi:10.32942/X2ZC84) Accepted.
- Kyra S. Fitz, Rene A. Abesamis, Jemelyn Grace P. Baldesimo, Abner A. Bucol, **René D. Clark**, Eric Garcia, Ivan R. Lopez, Sharon F. Magnuson, Marial J. Malabag, Richard N. Muallil, Lynne R. Parenti, Brendan R. Reid, Mudjekeewis D. Santos, Christopher E. Bird, Kent E. Carpenter, Malin L. Pinsky (2025) Preservation of genetic diversity and selection over a century in a coral reef fish (*Taeniamia zosterophora*) in the Philippines. *The American Naturalist*. Accepted.
- René D. Clark** & Malin L. Pinsky (2024) Global patterns of nuclear and mitochondrial genetic diversity in marine fishes. *Ecology and Evolution*, 14:e11365. (doi:10.1002/ece3.11365)
- Malin L. Pinsky, **René D. Clark**, Jaelyn T. Bos (2023) Coral reef population genomics in an age of global change. *Annual Review of Genetics*, 57:87-115. (doi:10.1146/annurev-genet-022123-102748)
- René D. Clark**, Katrina A. Catalano, Kyra S. Fitz, Eric Garcia, Kyle E. Jaynes, Brendan N. Reid, Allyson Sawkins, Anthony A. Snead, John C. Whalen & Malin L. Pinsky (2023) The practice

- and promise of temporal genomics for measuring evolutionary responses to global change. *Molecular Ecology Resources*. (doi:10.22541/au.167102106.66610942/v1) In Press.
3. Anthony Snead & **René D. Clark**. (2022) The biological hierarchy, time, and temporal 'omics in evolutionary biology: A perspective. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, 62:1872-1886. (doi:10.1093/icb/icac138)
 2. **René D. Clark**, Matthew L. Aardema, Peter Andolfatto, Paul H. Barber, Akihisa Hattori, Jennifer A. Hoey, Humberto R. Montes Jr. & Malin L. Pinsky. (2021) Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection at clownfish range margins. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 288:20210407. (doi:10.1098/rspb.2021.0407)
 1. **René D. Clark**, Marissa DiPiero, Jonathan T. Fingerut, & Scott P. McRobert. (2020) An analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii* and *Drosophila biarmipes*. *Journal of Insect Behavior*, 33:193-200. (doi:10.1007/s10905-020-09761-x)

In review

2. **René D. Clark**, Brendan N. Reid, Eric Garcia, Marial Malabag, Robin S. Waples, Rene A. Abesamis, Jemelyn Grace P. Baldisimo, Abner A. Bucol, Kyra S. Fitz, Sharon F. Magnuson, Richard N. Muallil, Cleto L. Nanola Jr., Roy Roberts, John C. Whalen, Christopher E. Bird, Kent E. Carpenter, Malin L. Pinsky (2025) Anthropocene genetic diversity loss in the marine tropics. *Nature*. Submitted.
1. Marial J. Malabag, **René D. Clark** & Malin L. Pinsky (2023) Variation in marine genetic diversity across life history traits. *Evolution*. In Revision.

Other

1. Zoë J. Kitchel, R. M. W. J. Bandara, Jaelyn T. Bos, **René D. Clark**, Daniel L. Forrest, Malin L. Pinsky. (2021) Book Review: Ocean Recovery: A Sustainable Future for Global Fisheries? *Fisheries*, 46:201. (doi:10.1002/fsh.10580)

GRANTS, HONORS, & AWARDS

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| 2024 | NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology: Award #2410397 (\$240,000) |
| 2023 | NSF Discover ACCESS Grant, co-PI |
| 2021 | CRRSAA/HEERF Doctoral Advancement Award (\$35,000) |
| 2020 | RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas Working Group Grant (\$16,000) |
| 2019 | Ecology & Evolution Departmental Conference Travel Award (\$500) |
| 2018 | Ecology & Evolution Departmental Small Grant Award (\$1,000) |
| 2017 | School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers |
| 2017 | Outstanding Student Presentation, NAFBA |
| 2017 | Saint Joseph's University Travel Award (\$300) |
| 2013 & 2014 | Undergraduate Research Grant, Pennsylvania State University (\$3,000 total) |
| 2013 & 2014 | Evan Pugh Scholar Award, Pennsylvania State University |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instruction

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| 2025 | Quantitative Methods for Ecology and Conservation, Arizona State University Online (quarter course, co-instructor) |
| 2023 | Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant) |
| 2023 | Quantitative Methods for Ecology and Conservation, Arizona State University Online (quarter course, teaching assistant) |
| 2020-2023 | Conservation Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant) |
| 2021 | General Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant) |

2020 Principles of Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, head teaching assistant)
2013 Evolution, Pennsylvania State University (semester course, teaching assistant)

Workshop instruction

2022 Bioinformatics & Genomics Workshop, Silliman University, Philippines (instructor)
2018 & 2019 Bioinformatics & Genomics Workshop, Silliman University, Philippines (instructor)

Guest lectures

2025 Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, *Speciation*.
2024 Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, *Speciation*.
2023 Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, *Biodiversity & Biomes*.
2023 Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, *Mimicry*.
2023 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Human Cultures & Ideas*.
2022 Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, *Introduction to HPCs*.
2022 Sustainability Seminar Series, University of Pittsburgh, *Fisheries: U.S. & Abroad*.
2022 Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, *Introduction to Git & GitHub*.
2021 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Human Culture & Ideas*.
2020 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Invasive Species*.
2019 Molecular Ecology, Rutgers University, *Selection & Adaptation*.

MENTORING

2025 Lily Tran, Drexel University. *Tajima's D in urban mice populations*.
2024-2025 Eli Parker, North Hills High School. *Genetic diversity of tuna populations*.
2024-2025 Arif Yildirim, North Hills High School. *Genetic diversity in the flora & fauna of Greece & Turkey*.
2022-2023 Alyssa McCoy, North Hills High School. *Genetic diversity of Amphiprion clarkii*.
2022-2023 Emma Patsilevas, North Hills High School. *Genetic connectivity of Amphiprion clarkii populations*.
2020-2023 Marial Malabag, Rutgers University. *The effect of reproductive traits on the maintenance of genetic diversity in marine species*.
2020 Daniel Ross-Miller, North Hills High School. *Genetic diversity between populations of Amphiprion clarkii*. 1st place in regional Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition; special award in state PJAS competition.
2019-2020 Adriana Chumacero, Rutgers University. *Reproductive biology of the yellow-tail barracuda in the Philippines*.
2018-2020 Marhuma Zaman, Rutgers University. *An analysis of gut and gill microbial diversity in Leiognathus equulus*.
2016-2017 Marissa DiPiero, St. Joseph's University. *An analysis of reproductive behavior in Drosophila suzukii*.

WORKING GROUPS & PRESENTATIONS

Working groups

2023-2024 Standardizing, Aggregating, Analyzing, and Disseminating Global Wildlife Genetic and Genomic Data for Improved Management and Advancement of Community Best Practices Working Group, John Wesley Powell Center for Analysis and Synthesis
2020-2023 Temporal Genomics Working Group, RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas (lead)

Invited seminars & talks

- 2025 Conference of the American Society of Naturalists, *Of mice and fish: Using natural history collections to explore centennial changes in demography and adaptation.*
- 2022 RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas Training & Integration Workshop, *Temporal Genomics.*
- 2022 St. Joseph's University Biology Seminar Series, *Large-scale patterns of adaptation and adaptive potential in a changing ocean.*
- 2016 Science on the Hill, Saint Joseph's University, *Small but powerful: what can we learn from flies, worms, and yeast?*

Contributed talks

- 2024 Evolution, *Anthropocene genetic diversity loss in the marine tropics.* (talk)
- 2021 Evolution, *Virtual, Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection at clownfish range margins.* (talk)
- 2019 Ecological Society of America, *Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection in Amphiprion clarkii populations across a thermal gradient.* (poster)
- 2017 North American Black Fly Association, *The effect of micro-topography on Simulium tribulatum larval settlement and recruitment.* (talk)

ACADEMIC & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Rutgers University

- 2018-2021 Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association (Outreach Chair 2020-21, Secretary 2020-21, Treasurer 2018-20)
- 2018-2022 Shorebowl volunteer
- 2019 Geology museum open house presenter

Pennsylvania public schools

- 2015-2017 GeoKids Fellow, Saint Joseph's University (presenter to K-5th classrooms in PA)
- 2014-2015 AmeriCorps Volunteer, City Year, Philadelphia School District
- 2014-2015 Science Camp Teacher, Ross Township Summer Program

Other

- 2018-2023 Ecology Teacher, Little Owls Enrichment (afterschool ecology to 1st-5th grade)
- 2014-2017 Science Camp Teacher, Ross Township Summer Program
- 2016-2017 St. Joseph's Biology Graduate Student Council (Vice President)
- 2014 Pennsylvania State's IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (Rules & Regulations Captain 2014, Rules & Regulations Committee Member 2011-13)

MEMBERSHIPS & PEER-REVIEW

Memberships

American Society of Naturalists, Society for the Study of Evolution, Ecological Society of America

Peer-reviewer

The American Naturalist
Ecology & Evolution
EMBO Reports

G3 Genes | Genomes | Genetics
Gene Reports
Global Ecology and Biogeography
Journal of Animal Ecology