



## Erik C. Andersen

**Assistant Professor**  
**Northwestern University**  
Department of Molecular Biosciences

2205 Tech Drive  
Evanston, IL 60208-3500  
Office: 847-467-4382  
Lab: 847-467-4264  
Fax: 847-491-4461  
erik.andersen@northwestern.edu  
[www.andersenlab.org](http://www.andersenlab.org)

**Research Interest:** Understanding the genetic basis of complex traits using high-throughput phenotyping, molecular genetics, and computational tools

### Education:

- 2000 - 2008    Ph.D. in Biology  
                  Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA  
                  Advisor: Dr. H. Robert Horvitz  
                  Dissertation: The synthetic Multivulva genes and their suppressors regulate opposing cell fates through chromatin remodeling
- 1996 - 2000    B.S. in Biological Sciences with departmental honors  
                  Stanford University, Stanford, CA  
                  Advisor: Dr. Matthew P. Scott  
                  Dissertation: *in vivo* analysis of *Drosophila* heart-tube formation

### Academic Appointments:

- 2013 -        Assistant Professor of Molecular Biosciences, Northwestern University  
                  Full Member of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center  
                  Member of the Chemistry of Life Processes Institute  
                  Preceptor for the Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences Graduate Program  
                  Preceptor for the Northwestern Univ. Interdepartmental Neuroscience Grad. Program

### Honors and Awards:

- 2014 - 2018    Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences  
2012 - 2013    Howard Hughes Medical Institute Post-doctoral Fellow  
2011 - 2012    National Cancer Institute Post-doctoral Fellow  
2009 - 2011    Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Recipient  
2005 - 2006    Anna Fuller Cancer Research Fellowship  
2000            Firestone Medal for Excellence in Undergraduate Research  
1999            Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Fellowship  
1998            Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Fellowship  
1998            Stanford University Undergraduate research small grant recipient

**Publications:** *undergraduate co-authors in italics*, corresponding authors underlined

1. Shimko TC, Andersen EC. (2014)  
*COPASutils*: an R package for reading, processing, and visualizing data from COPAS large-particle flow cytometers. *Submitted to PLoS ONE*
2. Andersen EC, Bloom JS, Gerke JP, Kruglyak L. (2014)  
The neuropeptide receptor *npr-1* is a major determinant of *Caenorhabditis elegans* growth and physiology. *PLoS Genetics* 10(2):e1004156

3. Felix MA, Jovelin R, Ferrari C, Han S, Cho YR, **Andersen EC**, Cutter AD, Braendle C. (2013) Species richness, distribution and genetic diversity of *Caenorhabditis* nematodes in a remote tropical rainforest. *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 13(10):  
Natural variation in a chloride channel subunit confers avermectin resistance in *C. elegans*. *Science* 335(6068): 574-578.
4. Ghosh R, **Andersen EC**, Shapiro JA, Gerke JP, Kruglyak L. (2012)  
Chromosome-scale selective sweeps shape *Caenorhabditis elegans* genomic diversity *Nature Genetics* 44(3): 285-290. \*equal contribution
5. **Andersen EC**\*, Gerke JP\*, Shapiro JA\*, Crissman JR, Ghosh R, Bloom JS, Felix MA, Kruglyak L. (2012) Chromosome-scale selective sweeps shape *Caenorhabditis elegans* genomic diversity *Nature Genetics* 44(3): 285-290. \*equal contribution
6. **Andersen EC**. (2011) PCR-directed *in vivo* plasmid construction using homologous recombination in baker's yeast. *Molecular Methods for Evolutionary Genetics*, 772; 409-421. \*Invited book chapter
7. Raj A, Rifkin SA, **Andersen EC**, van Oudenaarden A. (2010)  
Variability in gene expression underlies incomplete penetrance. *Nature* 463(7283): 913-918.
8. Bessler JB, **Andersen EC**, Villeneuve AB. (2010)  
Differential localization and independent acquisition of the H3K9me2 and H3K9me3 chromatin modifications in the *Caenorhabditis elegans* adult germ line. *PLoS Genetics* 6(1): e1000830.
9. Reddy KC\*, **Andersen EC**\*, Kruglyak L, and Kim DH. (2009)  
A polymorphism in *npr-1* is a behavioral determinant of pathogen susceptibility in *C. elegans*. *Science* 323(5912): 382-384. \*equal contribution
10. **Andersen EC**, Saffer AM, and Horvitz HR. (2008)  
Multiple levels of redundant processes inhibit *Caenorhabditis elegans* vulval cell fates. *Genetics* 179(4): 2001-2012.
11. **Andersen EC** and Horvitz HR. (2007)  
Two *C. elegans* histone methyltransferases repress *lin-3* EGF transcription to inhibit vulval development. *Development* 134(16): 2991-2999.
12. Reddien PW, **Andersen EC**, Huang M, and Horvitz HR. (2007)  
DPL-1 DP, LIN-35 Rb, and EFL-1 E2F act with the MCD-1 Zinc-finger protein to promote programmed cell death in *C. elegans*. *Genetics* 175(4): 1719-1733.
13. **Andersen EC**, Lu X, and Horvitz HR. (2006)  
*C. elegans* ISWI and NURF301 antagonize an Rb-like pathway in the determination of multiple cell fates. *Development* 133(14): 2695-2704.
14. Furlong EE, **Andersen EC**, Null B, White KP, and Scott MP. (2001)  
Patterns of gene expression during *Drosophila* mesoderm development. *Science* 293(5535): 1629-1633.

**In preparation:**

1. **Andersen EC**, Shimko TC, Crissman JR, Ghosh R, Gerke JP, Seidel HS, Kruglyak L. (2014)  
A powerful new quantitative genetics platform using *C. elegans* high-throughput fitness assays combined with a large collection of recombinant strains.

**Presentations:****Invited departmental seminars and conference presentations:**

- 2014 Biology Department, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI  
Pharmacogenomics group, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2013 Quantitative genetics workshop, 19th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012 Molecular Bioscience Department, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Program in Systems Biology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA  
Biology Department, Dartmouth University, Hanover, NH  
Human Genetics Department and Life Sciences Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Genetics Department, University of Georgia, Athens, GA  
Biology Department, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH  
Biology Department and BioDesign Institute, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ  
Center for Computational and Integrated Biology, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ  
Biology Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2011 Evolution workshop, 18th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
Laboratory of Toxicology, NIEHS, Research Triangle Park, NC
- 2010 Institute for Evolutionary Biology Department, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK
- 2008 Featured talk at *C. elegans* Aging, Stress, and Pathogenesis meeting, Madison, WI
- 2000 Undergraduate research symposium, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

**Contributed presentations: (\*selected for oral presentation)**

- 2013 \*19th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
Society for Molecular Biology of Evolution, Chicago, IL
- 2012 \*Evolutionary biology of *Caenorhabditis* and other nematodes meeting, CSHL, NY
- 2011 \*18th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
18th International *C. elegans* meeting (poster), UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 \*Evolutionary biology of *Caenorhabditis* and other nematodes meeting, Hinxton, UK  
Evolutionary biology of *Caenorhabditis* and other nematodes meeting (poster), Hinxton, UK  
Cold Spring Harbor Labs Automated Imaging and High-throughput Phenotyping, CSHL, NY
- 2009 \*17th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
Gordon Research Conference on Quantitative Genetics and Genomics, Galveston, TX
- 2007 Department of Biology Annual Retreat, MIT, \*\* poster prize winner
- 2006 *C. elegans* Evolution and Development meeting, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 2005 \*15th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA  
Chromatin Structure and Function meeting, Nassau, Bahamas
- 2004 East Coast *C. elegans* meeting, Yale, New Haven, CT
- 2003 \*14th International *C. elegans* meeting, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2002 East Coast *C. elegans* meeting, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

## Grants and Fellowships:

### Pending:

2014 March of Dimes Basil O'Connor Starter Research Grant  
*Identification of hookworm anthelmintic resistance genes to ameliorate maternal and infant anemia*

### Awarded:

2014 - 2018 National Institutes of Health [1 R01 GM107227]  
*Direct determination of the distribution of fitness effects of spontaneous mutations*  
consortium PI (\$360,000) with Dr. Charlie Baer (University of Florida)

2014 - 2018 Pew Charitable Trust, Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences  
*Elucidating the genetics of anthelmintic resistance in nematode-borne neglected tropical diseases*  
PI (\$240,000)

2014 - 2016 Chicago Biomedical Consortium, Catalyst Grant  
*Uncovering "missing heritability" in an experimentally tractable model organism*  
co-PI (\$120,000) with Dr. Ilya Ruvinsky (University of Chicago)

2013 - 2014 American Cancer Society, Institutional Research Grant [93-037-18]  
*Elucidating the genetic causes of variation in chemotherapy-based toxicity*  
PI (\$30,000)

2013 - 2014 Chemistry of Life Processes, Chairman's Innovation Award  
*Using perturbations of heavy metal homeostasis to treat nematode-borne neglected tropical diseases*  
Co-PI (\$28,000) with Dr. Thomas O'Halloran (Northwestern)

## Teaching and Mentoring:

### Courses:

2015 Genetic Analysis (Prog. in Biological Sciences 394-0, Spring, 25-30 students expected)

2014 *Guest Lecture:* Eukaryotic Molecular Biology (IBiS402, 16 students) - *Quant. genetics*  
Computational Biology Bootcamp (IBiS, 16 students)  
*Guest Lecture:* IBiS BioEthics class (IBiS423, 41 students) - *Ethics of peer review*

2013 *Guest Lecture:* Eukaryotic Molecular Biology (IBiS402, 24 students) - *Quant. genetics*

### Mentoring:

#### Post-doctoral:

Mostafa Zamanian (2014 - ), Ph.D. from Iowa State University, advisor Dr. Timothy Day  
*Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation*

Bryn Gaertner (2014 - ), Ph.D. from University of Oregon, advisor Dr. Patrick Phillips

#### Graduate:

Daniel Cook (2014 - ), Ph.D. student, Driskill Graduate Program  
*Funded by a National Science Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship*

Stefan Zdravljic (2014 - ), Ph.D. student, Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences Program

Lucie Bastin-Heline (2014), Master's exchange student, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France

**Additional graduate rotation students:**

Alex Karge (Spring, 2014), IBiS  
 Saiorse McSharry (Winter, 2014), IBiS  
 Amy Nilles (Fall, 2013), IBiS  
 Ian Wolff (Summer, 2013), IBiS

**Undergraduate:**

Tyler Shimko (summers 2012, 2013, 2014, University of Utah Class of 2015), Biology Major  
*Barry Goldwater Scholarship, Myriad Academic Scholarship, Thomas Verender Hanks Scholarship*  
 Mazeed Aro-Lambo (2014 - , Class of 2017), Biological Sciences Major  
*2014 NU Bioscientist Summer Grant recipient*  
 Stevie Hippleheuser (2014 - , Class of 2017), Biological Sciences Major  
*2014 Weinberg College Summer Grant recipient*  
 Hillary Tsang (2013 - , Class of 2016), Biological Sciences Major  
*2014 Summer URO recipient*  
 Lautaro Clienti (2013 - , Class of 2017), Mechanical Engineering Major  
 Kreena Patel (2013 - , Class of 2015), Biological Sciences and Psychology Double Major  
 Zifan Xiang (2014 - , Class of 2016), Biomedical Engineering Major  
 Stephen Chan (2013 - 2014, Class of 2014), Computer Science Major  
*2013 Summer URO recipient*

**K-12 lab experiences:**

Jacob Cruger, Latin School of Chicago (summers 2013, 2014)  
 Gina Liu, Illinois Math and Science Academy (2013-2014 academic year)

**Ph.D. Thesis committee memberships:**

Arianne Rodriguez (advisor, Yun Wang), 2014 -  
 Aaron Sue (advisor, Rick Morimoto), 2014 -  
 Kristen Larrichia (advisor, Nyree Zerega (Program in Plant Biology and Conservation)), 2014 -  
 Nick Timkovich (advisor, Luis Amaral), 2014 -  
 Ritika Giri (advisor, Richard Carthew), 2013 -  
 Lilien Voong (advisor, Alec Wang), 2013 -

**Service:****Professional:**

2014 Panelist, NUIN Post-doc Association, *Interviews and Start-up packages*  
 Poster judge, Northwestern Undergraduate Research Symposium  
 Panelist, Pathways to the Professoriate, *How to prepare for a job interview?*  
 2013 Poster judge, Northwestern Undergraduate Research Symposium  
 Panelist, Bioscientist Freshman seminar; *How to find a research lab?*  
 Poster judge, 19th International *C. elegans* meeting - Evolution and Genomics section

**Departmental:**

2014 Co-chair, IBiS Retreat organizing committee  
 Qualifying examination committee (Nick Timkovich, Amaral lab)  
 Qualifying examination committee (Aaron Sue, Morimoto lab)  
 Qualifying examination committee (Arianne Rodriguez, Wang lab)  
 Qualifying examination committee (Kristen Larrichia, Zerega lab)

2013 - 2014 IBiS Graduate student admissions committee  
2013 Qualifying examination committee (Lilien Voong, Wang lab)  
Qualifying examination committee (Ritika Giri, Carthew lab)

**Reviewing activity: Academic Journals**

*Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*

*Cell*

*Development*

*EMBO*

*Genes and Development*

*Genetics*

*Genome Research*

*Heredity*

*Nature*

*Nature Scientific Reports*

*Nature Genetics*

*PLoS Genetics*

*PLoS ONE*

*PNAS*

*Science*

**Membership in Professional Societies:**

Genetics Society of America, member

Society of Molecular Biology and Evolution, member

**Synergistic Activities and Outreach:****K-12 Outreach**

2014 Co-organized with Jacob Cruger nematode collections with the Punahou School, Hawaii

2009 Organized nematode collections with Vassalboro Community School, Maine