

# Nikolai G. Vetr

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Education

Postdoc, Montgomery Lab, Stanford University  
Pathology + Genetics + Biomedical Data Science

Current

PhD, University of California, Davis

2020

Dissertation: *Exploring and Extending Multivariate Brownian Diffusion Models of Phenotypic Evolution for Bayesian Phylogenetic Inference*

Anthropology + Population Biology + Data Science & Informatics

BA, Vanderbilt University

2013

Earth & Environmental Sciences + Ecology, Evolution & Organismal Biology

Departmental Honors, *summa cum laude*

Recent Work

Vetr, N.\*, Abell, N., Montgomery, S., et al. 2025. *A Survey of High Depth Allele-Specific Expression Across Normal Tissues and Ovarian Cancers*. In Prep, Presented at ASHG 2024.

Vetr, N., Gay, N., and Montgomery, S. 2024. *The impact of exercise on gene regulation in association with complex trait genetics*. Nature Communications 15(3346): 1-14. DOI: [10.1038/s41467-024-45966-w](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-45966-w).

MoTrPAC Study Group<sup>†</sup>. 2024. *Temporal dynamics of the multi-omic response to endurance exercise training across tissues*. Nature 629(8010): 174-183. DOI: [10.1038/s41586-023-06877-w](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06877-w).

\*dual first authorship, <sup>†</sup> Author Group: 2 (of 8)

Leadership

President, Board of Directors, *Rethink Priorities* 2023 - Present

President, Board of Directors, *Wild Animal Initiative* 2020 - Present

Founder, Applied Bayesian Statistics Research Cluster, *UC-Davis* 2019 - 2020

Languages

Programming: R, Stan, BASH, Python, C++, CSS, HTML, JS

Natural: Russian, English, Spanish

Teaching

Associate Instructor, University of California, Davis 2015 - 2020

Human Evolution + Primate Evolution + Human Evolutionary Biology

Carpentries Instructor, Data & Software Carpentries 2019

Course Coordinator, Workshop in Applied Phylogenetics 2019

Selected Grants & Awards

NIH T15 2021

Excellence in Data Science Community Training and Outreach 2019, 2020

Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award Nominee 2016, 2019, 2020

1st Place Picnic Day Exhibit Award in “Secrets of Nature” Category 2017

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship 2015

Service

Journal Review: *Evolution* (2017), *Science Communications* (2018), *Cell Reports* (2021), *Human Genetics and Genomics Advances* (2022)

Grant Review: *WAI Grants* (2021, 2022, 2023)

Skills & Interests

– Probability Models – Optimization Methods – Multiomic Data Integration

– Bayesian Methods – Computer Vision – Population Genetics

– Monte Carlo Methods – Nat. Lang. Processing – Digital Oncology

– Time Series Methods – Science Communication – Evolutionary Biology

– Causal Inference – Data Visualization – Exercise Biology