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, *summa cum laude*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024-Present NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Drexel University
2023-2024 Postdoctoral Researcher, Drexel University
2017-2023 Graduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University
2015-2017 Graduate Research Assistant, Saint Joseph's University
2014-2015 Americorps Member, 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.

GRANTS, HONORS, AWARDS (total: $295,800)

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 Rutgers Ecology & Evolution Departmental Conference Travel Award ($500)
2018 Ecology & Evolution Departmental Small Grant Award ($1,000)
2017 Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Excellence Fellowship
2017 Outstanding Student Presentation, NAFBA
2017 Saint Joseph's University Travel Award ($300)
2013 & 2014 Pennsylvania State University Undergraduate Research Grant ($3,000 total)
2013 & 2014 Pennsylvania State University Evan Pugh Scholar Award

PUBLICATIONS

Bold is self. *Italicized* is undergraduate mentee.

In review

11. **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. *PNAS*. Revision submitted.
10. *Marial J. Malabag*, **René D. Clark** & Malin L. Pinsky (2023) Variation in marine genetic diversity across life history traits. *Evolution*. In Revision.

Peer-reviewed publications

9. 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.

8. Kyra S. Fitz, Rene A. Abesamis, Jemelyn Grace P. Baldisimo, 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 zoseterophora*) in the Philippines. *The American Naturalist*. Accepted.
7. **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 (2025) The practice and promise of temporal genomics for measuring evolutionary responses to global change. *Molecular Ecology Resources*, 25:e13789 (doi:10.1111/1755-0998.13789)
6. **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)
5. 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)
4. 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)
3. **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)
2. **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)

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)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instruction

2025	Quantitative Methods for Ecology & Conservation, ASU Online (quarter course, co-instructor)
2023	Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant)
2023	Quantitative Methods for Ecology & Conservation, ASU 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 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

*indicates high-school student

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

WORKING GROUPS, CONFERENCES, INVITED SEMINARS

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)

Contributed talks and posters

2024 Evolution, *Anthropocene genetic diversity loss in the marine tropics*. (talk)
2021 Evolution, *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)

Invited seminars

2025 Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Temporal Genomics Seminar, *Of mice and fish: Using natural history collections to explore centennial changes in demography and adaptation.*
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 Sustainability Seminar Series, University of Pittsburgh, *Fisheries: U.S. & Abroad.*
2022 Biology Seminar Series, St. Joseph's University, *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?*

OUTREACH & SERVICE

Reviewer for NSF, The American Naturalist, Ecology & Evolution, EMBO Reports, G3 Genes|Genomes|Genetics, Gene Reports, Global Ecology and Biogeography, Journal of Animal Ecology

2025	Start Talking Science, presenter
2023-2025	Drexel Academy of Natural Sciences, Member's Night presenter
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)

Pennsylvania public schools

2019-present	High school student research mentor, North Hills High School
2015-2017	GeoKids Fellow, Saint Joseph's University (presenter to K-5th classrooms)
2014-2015	AmeriCorps Volunteer, City Year, Philadelphia School District

Rutgers University

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

MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Naturalists
Association for Women in Science
Ecological Society of America
Society for the Study of Evolution