

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

- 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.

Peer-reviewed publications

8. 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.
7. 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 zosterophora*) in the Philippines. *The American Naturalist*. Accepted.
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. **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. Baldesimo, 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*. 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)

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, <i>Speciation</i> .
2024	Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, <i>Speciation</i> .
2023	Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, <i>Biodiversity & Biomes</i> .
2023	Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, <i>Mimicry</i> .

2023	Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, <i>Human Cultures & Ideas</i> .
2022	Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, <i>Introduction to HPCs</i> .
2022	Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, <i>Introduction to Git & GitHub</i> .
2021	Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, <i>Human Culture & Ideas</i> .
2020	Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, <i>Invasive Species</i> .
2019	Molecular Ecology, Rutgers University, <i>Selection & Adaptation</i> .

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 <i>Amphiprion clarkii</i>
2022-2023	Emma Patsilevas* - Genetic connectivity of <i>Amphiprion clarkii</i> 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 <i>Amphiprion clarkii</i> 1 st 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 <i>Leiognathus equulus</i>
2016-2017	Marissa DiPiero - An analysis of reproductive behavior in <i>Drosophila suzukii</i>

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

Invited seminars

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

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

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