

# Kevin Surya

Honors College

Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717

[kevin.surya@msu.montana.edu](mailto:kevin.surya@msu.montana.edu) | [suryakevin.github.io](https://suryakevin.github.io) | 406.600.8544

## Curriculum Vitae

10/5/2018

### Education

- 2015– B.S. Montana State University, Directed Interdisciplinary Studies (earth sciences, biology, and statistics), GPA: 3.82
- 2012–15 SMA Kanisius (high school), Jakarta, Indonesia

### Lab Work

- 2017– Varricchio Lab (lab manager (2017–2018); PI: David J. Varricchio)
- 2016– MSU Macroevolution Lab (undergraduate research assistant; PI: Chris L. Organ)
- 2015– DinoChicken Lab (undergraduate research assistant; PI: Dana J. Rashid)

### Publications

3. **Surya, K.**, and C. L. Organ. Which phylogenetic branch length unit better fits species' phenotypic traits: Time or genetic substitution? *In preparation*.
2. **Surya, K.**, I. M. Brenes, J. D. Gardner, N. J. Rawlence, A. J. D. Tennyson, L. W. Viñola López, C. L. Organ, and D. J. Varricchio. Avian pelvic evolution: Insights from prelaying egg rotation. *In preparation*.
1. Rashid, D. J., **K. Surya**, L. M. Chiappe, N. R. Carroll, K. L. Garrett, B. Varghese, A. Bailleul, J. K. O'Connor, S. C. Chapman, and J. R. Horner. (2018). Avian tail ontogeny, pygostyle formation, and interpretation of juvenile Mesozoic specimens. *Scientific Reports* 8: 9014.

### Grants & Awards (\$18,091)

13. MSU Undergraduate Scholars Program (USP) Research Grant: Which phylogenetic branch length unit better fits species' phenotypic traits: Time or genetic substitution? Advisor: Chris L. Organ. (2018–2019). \$1,800.
12. MSU Organization of Student Engagement (OSE) Student Club Mass Funding: Dead Lizards Society (paleontology club). Advisor: David J. Varricchio. (2018–2019). \$1,726.
11. Sigma Xi Grants-In-Aid of Research Program: Which phylogeny better fits species' trait data: Time or molecular tree? Advisor: Chris L. Organ. (2017–2018). \$1,000.
10. GSA (Geological Society of America) Rocky Mountain Section Travel Grant. (2017). \$90.
9. MSU USP Research Grant: Which phylogeny better fits species' trait data: Time or molecular tree? Advisor: Chris L. Organ. (2017–2018). \$1,800.
8. MSU CLS (College of Letters and Science) Student Research Travel Grant. (2017). \$375.
7. GSA On To The Future Travel Awards. (2017). \$500.
6. MSU USP Travel Grant: Paleohistology technique for sub-fossilized bone. Mentor: Ellen-Thérèse Lamm. (2017). \$500.
5. Kenny Dye Memorial Scholarship. (2017–2018). \$1,900.
4. NHMLA (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles) Student Collections Study Award: Avian pygostyle fusion. Advisor: Dana J. Rashid. (2017). \$1,300.
3. MAS (Montana Academy of Sciences) Student Research Grant: Pygostyle fusion sheds light on ankylosing spondylitis pathology. Advisor: Dana J. Rashid. (2017–2018). \$700.
2. Montana INBRE (IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence) Undergraduate Student Research Program: Pygostyle fusion sheds light on ankylosing spondylitis pathology. Advisor: Dana J. Rashid. (2017). \$4,600.
1. MSU USP Research Grant: Pelvic sexual dimorphism in Palaeognathae (Aves: Neornithes) and its evolutionary relationship with relative egg size. Advisor: David J. Varricchio. (2016–2017). \$1,800.

## Software

1. **ANSDE** (Python) – automatic NCBI sequence downloader and editor (developer; <https://github.com/suryakevin/ANSDE>)

## Presentations

11. **Surya, K.**, D. J. Rashid, L. M. Chiappe, N. R. Carroll, K. L. Garrett, B. Varghese, A. Bailleul, J. K. O'Connor, S. C. Chapman, and J. R. Horner. (2018) Bird tail growth necessitates re-interpretation of Mesozoic bird fossils. MSU Earth Sciences Colloquium.
10. **Surya, K.**, and C. L. Organ. (2018) Which phylogeny better fits species' trait data: Time or molecular tree? MSU Student Research Celebration Topical Session: *Macroevolution: The Fellowship of the Tree*.
9. **Surya, K.**, and C. L. Organ. (2018) Which phylogeny better fits species' trait data: Time or molecular tree? National Conference of Undergraduate Research.
8. **Surya, K.**, I. M. Brenes, J. D. Gardner, L. W. Viñola López, C. L. Organ, and D. J. Varricchio (2017) Pelvic coevolution with egg size and shape: Implications for extinct dinosaurs. Geological Society of America Annual Meeting.
7. Rashid, D. J., **K. Surya**, S. C. Chapman, L. M. Chiappe, A. M. Bailleul, and J. R. Horner (2017) Pygostyle development and its implications for the Cretaceous long- to short-tailed avian transition. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting.
6. **Surya, K.**, D. J. Rashid, and S. C. Chapman (2017) Chicken pygostyle fusion sheds light on ankylosing spondylitis pathology. Montana INBRE Summer Research Poster Session.
5. **Surya, K.**, L. W. Viñola López, and E.-T. Lamm (2017) Paleohistology technique for sub-fossilized bone. International Symposium on Paleohistology.
4. **Surya, K.**, I. M. Brenes, L. W. Viñola López, J. D. Gardner, C. L. Organ, and D. J. Varricchio (2017) Pelvic sexual dimorphism in modern birds (Aves: Neornithes) and its evolutionary relationship with relative egg size. MSU Student Research Celebration.
3. **Surya, K.**, I. M. Brenes, L. W. Viñola López, J. D. Gardner, C. L. Organ, and D. J. Varricchio (2017) Pelvic sexual dimorphism in modern birds (Aves: Neornithes) and its evolutionary relationship with relative egg size. MSU Earth Sciences Colloquium.
2. **Surya, K.**, L. W. Viñola López, I. M. Brenes, J. D. Gardner, C. L. Organ, and D. J. Varricchio (2017) Pelvic sexual dimorphism in modern birds (Aves: Neornithes) and its evolutionary relationship with relative egg size. National Conference of Undergraduate Research.
1. **Surya, K.** (2016) Assessment on the origins of avian active flight. MSU Earth Sciences Colloquium

## Paleontological Field Experience

2018 Excavation, Foremost Formation, north of Rudyard, MT, USA (10 days)

2016 Excavation and prospection, Two Medicine Formation, west of Choteau, MT, USA (31 days)

## Professional Service

### Memberships

- Council on Undergraduate Research
- Sigma Xi (2017-2018)
- Society of Systematic Biologists
- Montana Academy of Sciences
- Society for the Study of Evolution
- Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
- Geological Society of America (2015-2018)
- MSU Dead Lizards Society (paleontology club; co-president 2017–2018)

### Service to Profession

- Peer reviewer (n = 2; *Biology Letters* and *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*)

## Volunteer & Public Outreach

2018 MSU Family Science Day  
2018 Morning Star Elementary School STEM Expo  
2017 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) volunteer at the GSA Annual Meeting  
2017 Museum of the Rockies (MOR) Scout's Day  
2016 MOR volunteer in *MSU Catapalooza*  
2016 MOR volunteer in *Adventures in the Lost World*  
2016–17 MOR dinosaur educational cart and fossil preparation volunteer (212.5 hours)  
2015–16 Volunteer fossil preparator for L. J. Krumenacker, Ph.D. candidate

## Conferences Attended

2017 Geological Society of America  
2017 International Symposium on Paleohistology  
2016, 17 Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting

## Skills

- Phylogenetic comparative methods (BayesTraits and R)
- Phylogenetic inference (RAxML and BEAST)
- DNA sequence retrieval and manipulation (NCBI, AliView, SeaView, MAFFT, and TrimAl)
- Programming (R and Python)
- Statistical analyses (R)
- Histochemistry (picrosirius red, alcian blue, modified tetrachrome, von Kossa, Giemsa, hematoxylin, eosin, and toluidine blue stainings)
- Immunohistochemistry (tuj1, TUNEL assay, and sambucus nigra stainings)
- Light and fluorescence microscopy
- Bone demineralization with a cation exchange resin
- Dissection (embryonic and post-hatching birds)
- Paleontology field work (excavation and prospection)
- Paleontology techniques (fossil preparation, molding, and casting)
- Paleohistology techniques

## References

### Undergraduate Advisors

1. **Chris L. Organ**  
Directed Interdisciplinary Studies, Honors College  
Department of Earth Sciences  
Department of Microbiology & Immunology  
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717  
[organ@montana.edu](mailto:organ@montana.edu) | 406 589 6462
2. **David J. Varricchio**  
Department of Earth Sciences  
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717  
[djv@montana.edu](mailto:djv@montana.edu) | 406 994 6907
3. **Dana J. Rashid**  
Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience  
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717  
[danarashid5@gmail.com](mailto:danarashid5@gmail.com) | 406 994 6525
4. **John J. Borkowski**  
Department of Mathematical Sciences  
Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717  
[john.borkowski@montana.edu](mailto:john.borkowski@montana.edu) | 406 994 4606