

GABRIELA MONTEJO-KOVACEVICH

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Research Gate: [Gabriela Montejo-Kovacevich](#)

Date of Birth: 06/01/1994

Education

- 2016-2020 **PhD in Zoology - University of Cambridge, UK**
Thesis title: "Thermal adaptation in the neotropical *Heliconius* butterflies".
Supervisors: Prof Chris Jiggins and Dr Nicola Nadeau
Funded by NERC Earth Sciences DTP (Cambridge).
- 2015-2016 **Master in Research (Distinction), Ecology and Environment- University of Sheffield, UK**
Thesis title: Managing Amazonian logging to minimize biodiversity loss through the study of butterflies.
Supervisor: Dr David Edwards. See funding below.
- 2012-2015 **BSc (First Class) Biology with Conservation and Biodiversity- University of Sheffield, UK**
Research Project Title: Eco-evolutionary dynamics and food webs: multi-trophic ecological effects of maladaptation in *Timema cristinae*.
- 2010-2012 **Jesus-Maria School Spanish Bacalaureate- Madrid.**
Biosciences branch with an average grade of 9.4/10 (equivalent to A*). Including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math, Philosophy, English, Spanish and Environmental Sciences.

Research Experience

Masters in Research – D. Edwards Lab, University of Sheffield

- Duration:** June 2015 – September 2016, full-time. Field season in Brazil, June-September 2015
- Summary:** Land-sharing vs. land-sparing logging on butterfly communities in the Jamari Concession at Rondonia, Brazil. Project supervisor Dr David Edwards
- Duties:** Butterfly bait trap setting • Photographed 5157 butterflies • Independent experimental design • Develop hypothesis • ID of more than 150 species • Funding applications (see Grants section) • Data analysis and modeling in R • Poster presentations

Research assistant - P. Nosil Lab, University of Sheffield

- Duration:** October 2013 - March 2015, part-time
- Summary:** Part-time volunteer/worker as an assistant of Dr Timothy Farkas who studies eco-evolutionary feedbacks using the Californian stick insect *Timema cristinae*
- Duties:** Curation of arthropod collection, 2400 individuals, photographed, dry pinned collection, ID & measured • DNA extraction of 240 plant samples • Funded fieldwork in Santa Barbara (USA), density-dependent selection field experiment, joint paper in Biology Letters (2014)

Independent researcher on Lepidoptera – Natural History Museum, London

- Duration:** July 2014-present, part-time
- Summary:** Taxonomic revision of the genus *Mesenopsis* (Family: Riodinidae) funded by the Alumni Prize, £1000 (University of Sheffield). Joint manuscript with Dr Blanca Huertas in prep.
- Duties:** Macrophotography • Genitalia dissections of highly valuable specimens • Mapping species distribution • Fluorescence microscopy and SEM to study androconial scales • Manuscript creation • Databasing

Curator and Research assistant at Lepidoptera – Natural History Museum, London

Duration: September 2011 (2 weeks), July 2013 (3 weeks)

Summary: Working as a curator assistant of Dr. Blanca Huertas, various projects

Duties: Curation of Neotropical groups • Macrophotography of body parts, overlapping images with Helicon Focus Pro 5.3 • Collaboration with Dr Dayana Bonfanti taxonomy of tribe *Preponini* (Order: Nymphalidae) • Natural history research on nomenclature and authorship of *Penetes pamphanis* • digitalise collections with SATscan • labelling, databasing and collection maintenance.

Lab assistant at Dr Karl Evans Lab - Animal and Plant Sciences, University of Sheffield

Duration: May 2013- October 2013

Summary: Part-time remunerated laboratory assistant in Dr. Karl Evans' research group on the impacts of climate change on insect's and bird's phenology

Duties: ID and measure British insects from sticky traps • Caterpillar frass weighing

Grants & Prizes

2015 **Learned Societies Fund, University of Sheffield (£400)**- BES conference attendance and poster

2015-16 **Managing Amazonian logging to minimize biodiversity loss through the study of Lepidoptera**

1. The Explorers Club Youth Activity Fund (\$2000)
2. The Righ Fellowship, University of Sheffield (£2000)
3. The Laverick-Webster-Hewitt Travelling Fellowship (£450)
4. Professor Hering Memorial Fund, British Entomological and Natural History Soc. (£680)
5. Scurfield Memorial Bursary, University of Sheffield (£600)

2014 **Level 1 Alumni Prize, University of Sheffield, APS department (£ 1000)**- Taxonomic revision of the genus *Mesenopsis* (Lepidoptera) at the Natural History Museum of London

Publications

Farkas TE & **Montejo-Kovacevich G** (2014) Density-dependent selection closes an eco-evolutionary feedback loop in the stick insect *Timema cristinae*. *Biology Letters* 10: 20140896

Montejo-Kovacevich G (2015) Butterflies and logging: an unexplored relationship. *British Entomological and Natural History Journal* (accepted, December 2015)

Montejo-Kovacevich G & Huertas B (2016) Concealed Androconial Scales in Metalmark butterflies (Lepidoptera: Riodinidae): new insights from confocal laser scanning microscopy (submitted)

Conferences and Memberships

2015 **Athena SWAN Action Committee Member (APS, Sheffield)** • Masters representative • Regular meetings to work towards the Gold equality award for APS

2015 **British Ecological Society Annual Meeting** • Edinburgh, December • Poster abstract accepted titled "Land-sharing vs land-sparing logging from a butterfly's perspective" • Club member

2015 **British Entomological and Natural History Society Exhibition** • London, 14th November • Presented poster titled "Butterflies and logging: an unexplored relationship" • Club member

2015 **Methods in Ecology and Evolution symposium** • London, 22nd April • Attendee

2015 **Verrall Association of Entomologists Dinner** • London, March • Club member

2014 **British Ecological Society Annual Meeting** • Lille (France), December. Funded attendance (by the Nosil Lab) • Presented a poster titled "Multitrophic effects of stick insect camouflage maladaptation" • Student member of BES

Short courses, Interests & Teaching

2016	Coding for girls: HTML & CSS short course, University of Sheffield
2015	Demonstrator at field trip to Tropical Butterfly House (Sheffield) as part of the module Ecology of Tropical Forests for Level 2 zoology undergraduates.
2015	Mentoring four Level 3 undergraduates on data handling and basics of R.
2013-present	Animal and Plant Sciences Student Ambassador, work on departmental open days, gave talks about my research to more than 150 prospective students/parents.
2013-2015	Sheffield University Canoe Club, canoe polo captain and social secretary.
2013	Zooarchaeology and Marine Resources 5-day short course, University of Sheffield.
2011	International Summer School: Introductory Biology, University of Sussex (9 ECTS).
2010-2013	Summer camp leader for adults with learning disabilities, Campo de Mirra, Alicante.
2011-2012	Terminally ill orphan children carer, Casa Belen, Madrid.

Skills & Languages

Technical Skills DNA extraction, RFLP, chromatography, spectrophotometry, microscopy, Sat Scan (imaging natural history collections), Helicon Focus Pro 5.3, GPS pathfinder Trimble, DIVA-GIS. Lepidoptera genitalia dissections, curation and databasing of entomology collections. Advanced user of Macintosh Excel, R statistics and competent at Linux/Shell Terminal. Website hosting and development.

Languages Spanish: mother tongue
English: proficiency level (IELTS 8.5)
French: intermediate (DELFB1 89/100)
Portuguese: intermediate

References available on request from:

- Dr David Edwards – University of Sheffield, Masters in Research supervisor.
- Dr Timothy Farkas – now University of Connecticut, mentor and former PhD student at the Nosil Lab
- Dr Blanca Huertas – Natural History Museum, supervisor and mentor at the Lepidoptera collections