

Postdoctoral Researcher
Institute of Ecology and
Evolution
University of Oregon
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Angel G. Rivera-Colón, Ph.D.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Biology

Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

December 2022

M.S. in Biology

Department of Biology
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras (UPRRP)

July 2016

B.S. in Biotechnology

Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón (UIA-Bayamón)

May 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher

Institute of Ecology and Evolution
University of Oregon (UO)
Eugene, OR, USA

August 2023 –
Present

Postdoc Research Associate

Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, IL, USA

January 2023 –
July 2023

Graduate Researcher

Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, IL, USA

August 2016 –
December 2022

Graduate Researcher

Department of Biology
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras
San Juan, PR, USA

August 2013 – July
2016

Visiting Scholar

Department of Biological Sciences
National University of Singapore
Singapore

June – July 2015

Visit funded by a the UPRRP Bridge to the Doctorate Travel Grant

Visiting Scholar

Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle
Paris, France

April – May 2014

Visit funded by a the UPRRP Bridge to the Doctorate Travel Grant

Biological Technician

US Horticultural Research Laboratory
USDA Agricultural Research Service
Ft. Pierce, FL, USA

May – July 2013

May – July 2012

Biological Field Technician

Arapaho National Forest
Sulphur Ranger District
US Forest Service
Granby, CO, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Citations Statistics

Google Scholar profile: [Angel G. Rivera-Colón](#)

- Total: 2,043 citations
- h-index: 13
- i10-index: 14

ORCID: [0000-0001-9097-3241](#)

Manuscripts in Review and Preprints

- [3] **Rivera-Colón AG**, Small ST, Jezuit E, *et al.* (2026). Large population sizes shape genome evolution in barnacles. *bioRxiv*. DOI: [10.64898/2026.04.27.721231](#). In review at *Genetics*.
- [2] Pope NS, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Kapoor A, *et al.* (2026). GPU accelerated population genetics statistics using PG_GPU. *bioRxiv*. DOI: [10.64898/2026.05.29.728868](#). In review at *Molecular Biology & Evolution*.
- [1] Cebrián-Camisón S, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Small ST, *et al.* (2026). Ecotypes, *Wolbachia*, and urbanization shape *Culex pipiens* population structure in a West Nile virus hotspot. *bioRxiv*. DOI: [10.64898/2026.05.10.722846](#). In review at *Scientific Reports*.

Peer Reviewed Articles

- [19] Vendrami D, Luro AB, **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (in press). Genomic data provide no support for indirect benefits of extra-pair paternity in American Robins. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.
- [18] **Rivera-Colón AG**, Rehmann CT, & Kern AD. (2026). MKADO: a toolkit for McDonald-Kreitman tests of natural selection. *G3: Genes | Genomes | Genetics*, *jkag142*. DOI: [10.1093/g3journal/jkag142](#)
- [17] Desvignes T, **Rivera-Colón AG**, & Postlethwait J. (2025). Hemoglobin-gene cluster deletions in Antarctic white-blooded icefishes facilitated by transposable elements. *Genome Biology & Evolution*, *17* (10). DOI: [10.1093/gbe/evaf184](#)
- [16] Zayas-Cruz O, **Rivera-Colón AG**, & Schizas NV. (2025). High genetic connectivity and moderate diversity detected in the Common Octopus (*Octopus vulgaris*) in Puerto Rico through reduced-representation DNA sequencing. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*, *105*. e51. DOI: [10.1017/S0025315425000189](#)
- [15] Rayamajhi N, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Minhas BF, *et al.* (2025). The genome of the cryopelagic Antarctic bald notothen, *Trematomus borchgrevinki*. *G3: Genes | Genomes | Genetics*, *15* (1). DOI: [10.1093/g3journal/jkae267](#)
- [14] Long KM, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Bennett KFP, *et al.* (2024). Ongoing introgression of a secondary sexual plumage trait in a stable avian hybrid zone. *Evolution*, *78* (9), 1539–1553. DOI: [10.1093/evolut/qpae076](#)
- [13] de Flamingh A, Gnoske T, **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2024). Genomic analysis supports Cape Lion population connectivity prior to colonial eradication and extinction. *Journal of Heredity*, *115* (2), 155–165. DOI: [10.1093/jhered/esad081](#) (Cover Article)

- [12] Cheng C-HC, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Minhas BF, *et al.* (2023). Chromosome-level genome assembly and circadian gene repertoire of the Patagonia blennie *Eleginops maclovinus* - the closest ancestral proxy of Antarctic cryonotothenioids. *Genes*, 14 (6). DOI: [10.3390/genes14061196](https://doi.org/10.3390/genes14061196)
- [11] Rochette NC, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Walsh J, *et al.* (2023). On the causes, consequences, and avoidance of PCR duplicates: towards a theory of library complexity. *Molecular Ecology Resources*. 23, 1299–1318. DOI: [10.1111/1755-0998.13800](https://doi.org/10.1111/1755-0998.13800)
- [10] **Rivera-Colón AG**, Rayamajhi N, Minhas BF, *et al.* (2023). Genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in the only non-Antarctic icefish. *Molecular Biology & Evolution*, 40 (3). DOI: [10.1093/molbev/msad029](https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msad029)
- [9] de Flamingh A[†], **Rivera-Colón AG**[†], Gnoske T, *et al.* (2022). NUMT PARSER: automated identification and removal of nuclear mitochondrial pseudogenes (numts) for accurate mitochondrial genome reconstruction in *Panthera*. *Journal of Heredity*, 114(2), 120–130. DOI: [10.1093/jhered/esac065](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esac065) (†Co-first authors)
- [8] Cerca J, Petersen B, [...] **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2022). The genomic basis of the plant island syndrome in Darwin’s giant daisies. *Nature Communications* 13, 3729. DOI: [10.1101/2022.01.26.477903](https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.01.26.477903)
- [7] Yarlagadda K, Zachwieja A, [...] **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2022). Geographically diverse canid sampling provides novel insights into pre-industrial microbiomes. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. 289: 20220052. DOI: [10.1098/rspb.2022.0052](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2022.0052)
- [6] Chang C-H, Catchen JM, [...] **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2021). Sequence analysis and ontogenetic expression patterns of cone opsin genes in the bluefin killifish (*Lucania goodei*). *Journal of Heredity*. 112(4), 357–366. DOI: [10.1093/jhered/esab017](https://doi.org/10.1093/jhered/esab017)
- [5] Cerca J, **Rivera-Colón AG**, Ferreira MS, *et al.* (2021). Incomplete lineage sorting and ancient admixture, and speciation without morphological change in ghost-worm cryptic species. *PeerJ* 9:e10896. DOI: [10.7717/peerj.10896](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.10896)
- [4] Cerca J, Maurstad MF, [...] **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2021). Removing the bad apples: a simple bioinformatic method to improve loci-recovery in de novo RADseq data for non-model organisms. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 12, 805–817. DOI: [10.1111/2041-210X.13562](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13562)
- [3] **Rivera-Colón AG**, Rochette NC, & Catchen JM. (2021). Simulation with RADINITIO improves RADseq experimental design and sheds light on sources of missing data. *Molecular Ecology Resources*, 21(2), 363–378. DOI: [10.1111/1755-0998.13163](https://doi.org/10.1111/1755-0998.13163) (Cover Article)
- [2] **Rivera-Colón AG**, Westerman EL, Van Belleghem SM, *et al.* (2020). Multiple loci control eyespot number variation on the hindwings of *Bicyclus anynana* butterflies. *Genetics*, 214(4), 1059–1078. DOI: [10.1534/genetics.120.303059](https://doi.org/10.1534/genetics.120.303059) (Cover Article, 2020 Spotlight Series Article)
- [1] Rochette NC, **Rivera-Colón AG**, & Catchen JM. (2019). STACKS 2: Analytical methods for paired-end sequencing improve RADseq-based population genomics. *Molecular Ecology*, 28(21), 4737–4754. DOI: [10.1111/mec.15253](https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.15253)

Protocols and Book Chapters

- [1] **Rivera-Colón AG** & Catchen JM. (2022). Population genomics analysis with RAD, reprised: STACKS 2. In: Verde, C., Giordano, D. (eds) *Marine Genomics. Methods in Molecular Biology*, vol 2498. Humana, New York, NY. DOI: [0.1007/978-1-0716-2313-8_7](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-0716-2313-8_7)

Review Articles

- [1] Schiebelhut LM, Guillaume AS, [...] **Rivera-Colón AG**, *et al.* (2023). Genomics and Conservation: Guidance from training to analyses and applications. *Molecular Ecology Resources*, 24, e13893. DOI: [10.1111/1755-0998.13893](https://doi.org/10.1111/1755-0998.13893)

Editorials and Media Articles

- [3] Rieseberg L, Sibbett B, Freeland J, **Rivera-Colón AG**. (2026). Editorial 2026. *Molecular Ecology*, 35: e70210. DOI: [10.1111/mec.70210](https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.70210)
- [2] Rieseberg L, Sibbett B, Freeland J, **Rivera-Colón AG**. (2025). Editorial 2025. *Molecular Ecology*, 34: e17633. DOI: [10.1111/mec.17633](https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.17633)
- [1] **Rivera-Colón AG**. (2024). Biological rule breakers and population genetics. *The Marathon Series*, University of Oregon's Office of the Vice President for Research.
<https://research.uoregon.edu/news/biological-rule-breakers-and-population-genetics>

FUNDING

Submitted and Under Review

Co-PI: Smithsonian Combined Call for Science and Research James Bond Fund, administered by the Office of the Under Secretary of Science and Research “ <i>Genomic signatures of isolation in an endangered Caribbean avian endemic, the Elfin-woods Warbler</i> ” – \$53,000	Submitted: August 2026
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Awarded

UIUC Odum-Kendeigh Summer Research Award – \$1,000	April 2021
American Society of Naturalists Student Research Award Grant – \$2,000	April 2020
UIUC Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Support Grant – \$1,000	April 2019
IGERT Graduate Research Grant – \$5,000	August 2018
UIUC Harley J. Van Cleave Research Support Grant – \$1,000	April 2018
UPRRP Bridge to the Doctorate Travel Grant – \$2,000	May 2015
UPRRP Bridge to the Doctorate Research Grant – \$4,000	August 2014
UPRRP Conference Travel Grant – \$250	June 2014
UPRRP Bridge to the Doctorate Travel Grant – \$1,000	April 2014
UPRRP Natural Resources Career Tracks Conference Travel Grant – \$500	November 2013
UIA-Bayamón PR-LSAMP Undergraduate Research Grant – \$200	May 2012

HONORS AND AWARDS

PacBio & University of Oregon GC3F SMRT Grant (Runner Up)	November 2024
2022 Harry Smith Prize in Molecular Ecology (Runner Up)	May 2022
UIUC Graduate College Conference Travel Award	January 2022
SSE W.D. Hamilton Award Finalist	June 2021
UIUC Francis M. and Harlie M. Clark Research Fellowship	April 2021
UIUC Odum-Kendeigh Research Award	April 2021
UIUC Thomas Frazzetta Award for Outstanding Teaching in Evolution, Ecology, and Behavioral Biology	May 2020
American Society of Naturalists Student Research Award	April 2020
NSF-IGERT Vertically Integrated Training in Genomics Fellowship	August 2016
UIUC Graduate College Fellowship	August 2016
UPRRP PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship	August 2013
Inter American University of Puerto Rico Poly-Inter Ex-Alumni Society Medal	June 2013
UIA-Bayamón Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Academic Excellence Award	June 2013
UIA-Bayamón Award for Merits and Service	June 2013
UIA-Bayamón PR-LSAMP Undergraduate Research Fellowship	May 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Workshop Instructor

<i>RADseq Filtering and Genotyping with STACKS</i> , ConGen, University of Montana	Fall 2021-2024
<i>The Practice of RADseq: Population Genomics Analysis with STACKS</i> , PRInformatics Workshop, Glasgow, UK	September 2019
<i>2018 Workshop on Genomics</i> , Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic	January 2018

Teaching Assistant

IB302 <i>Evolution</i> , School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	Spring 2022, 2020, 2019
IB204 <i>Genetics</i> , School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	Fall 2021
IB501 <i>Programming for Genomics</i> , School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	Fall 2020
IB360 <i>Evolution & Human Health</i> , School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	Fall 2019
BIOL3349 <i>Genetics</i> , Department of Biology, UPRRP	Fall 2014

Invited Lecturer

<i>Genome Evolution in Bony Fishes</i> . BI457/557 <i>Marine Biology: Biology of Fishes</i> , Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, UO.	July 2024
<i>Genome Evolution</i> . IB302 <i>Evolution</i> , School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	April 2023, 2022

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Mentoring

Alexandra Bangs, Department of Biology, Summer Program for Undergraduate Research, UO	Summer 2024
Eliana Eng, School of Integrative Biology, UIUC	Spring 2022
Shehani Gunawardena, School of Integrative Biology, Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program, UIUC	Fall 2018 – Spring 2021
Neelima Valluru, School of Integrative Biology, Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program, UIUC	Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
Manuel Menéndez, Department of Biology, Puerto Rico Alliance for Minority Participation, UPRRP	Spring 2014 – Spring 2016

Mentorship Certifications

<i>Maintaining, Engaging, and Tracking Alumni in Science and Health Research (METAS+) Program Mentor</i> , Institute of Interdisciplinary Research, University of Puerto Rico, Cayey.	March 2021 – May 2022
<i>Illinois Mentoring Excellence Program Certification</i> , UIUC Graduate College Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program, UIUC	June 2019

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Research Seminars

- The Pacific acorn barnacle genome highlights the dynamics of evolution in extremely large populations (October 2025). Oral presentation at the *OIMB Seminar*, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon. Charleston, OR, USA. Hosted by Dr. Svetlana Maslakova.
- The Pacific acorn barnacle genome highlights the dynamics of evolution in large populations (June 2025). Oral presentation at the *Center for Conservation Genomics*, Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. Washington, DC, USA. Hosted by Dr. Kira M. Long.
- Comparative and evolutionary genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in the only non-Antarctic icefish (November 2022). Oral presentation at *EcoLunch Seminar Series*, Department of Ecology and Evolution, Purdue University. West Lafayette, IN, USA. Hosted by Dr. Mark Christie.

Conference Presentations (selected)

- Spatial population structure in the hyperpolymorphic Pacific acorn barnacle (June 2026). Poster presentation at *2026 Population, Evolutionary, and Quantitative Genetics Conference*. Pacific Grove, CA, USA.
- The Pacific acorn barnacle genome highlights the dynamics of evolution in extremely large populations (June 2025). Oral presentation at *Evolution 2025*. Athens, GA, USA.

Population and comparative genomics in the Pacific acorn barnacle (April 2025). Poster presentation at *EVO-WIBO 2025*. Blaine, WA, USA.

Population genetics of the Pacific acorn barnacle and insights into evolution in large populations (July 2024). Oral presentation at *SMBE 2024: Society of Molecular Biology and Evolution Annual Meeting*. Puerto Vallarta, México.

Genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in the only non-Antarctic icefish (June 2022). Oral presentation at *Evolution 2022*. Cleveland, OH, USA.

Genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in the only non-Antarctic icefish, *Champsocephalus esox* (January 2022). Oral presentation at the *Population and Conservation Genomics Workshop, Plant and Animal Genome Conference XXIX* (virtual).

Comparative and population genomics in the only temperate icefish, *Champsocephalus esox* (August 2021). Oral presentation at the *Midwest Population Genetics 2021 Meeting*. University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA.

Genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in ecologically divergent icefish species (July 2021). Pre-recorded oral presentation at the *SMBE 2021: Society of Molecular Biology and Evolution Annual Meeting* (virtual).

Genomics of secondarily temperate adaptation in ecologically divergent icefish species (June 2021). Oral presentation at the *W.D. Hamilton Award Symposium, Evolution 2021* (virtual).

Who's thy father? Assessing paternity in a highly polygynandrous passerine using RADseq data (August 2020). Pre-recorded poster presentation at the *7th North American Ornithological Conference* (virtual)

Evolution from a cold-specialized ancestor: genome assembly of the only temperate icefish (March 2020). Oral presentation at the *2020 University of Illinois Community of Scholars Symposium*. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA.

Genomic architecture of dorsal hindwing eyespot number variation in the butterfly *Bicyclus anynana* (February 2016). Poster presentation at the *2016 Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Research Symposium*. Washington, DC, USA.

Science Communication and Outreach

Mis aventuras y odiseas en genómica comparativa y genética de poblaciones (September 2026). Oral presentation (in Spanish) for the *Consorcio de Historia Natural de Puerto Rico*. Hosted by Dr. Rafael Rivero-Vega. Recording: https://www.youtube.com/live/Ey6Sm-o1aDA?si=pe3_u62Ccxwrf3FOZ

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Service

Social Media Editor for <i>Molecular Ecology</i> and <i>Molecular Ecology Resources</i>	January 2026 – Present
Junior Editorial Board Member for <i>Molecular Ecology</i> and <i>Molecular Ecology Resources</i>	August 2022 – December 2025

Peer Reviewing Experience

Served as reviewer for the peer reviewed academic journals:

- *Molecular Ecology*
- *Molecular Ecology Resources*
- *G3: Genes | Genomes | Genetics*
- *Bioinformatics*
- *Journal of Heredity*

- *Systematic Biology*
- *BMC Genomics*
- *BMC Biology*
- *Scientific Data*
- *Animals*
- *Marine Genetics*

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Committee Chair, 2026 Harry Smith Prize	April 2026 – June 2026
Society for the Study of Evolution, Hamilton Award Prize	May 2025
Society for the Study of Evolution, 2023 Rosemary Grant Advanced Award	November 2023

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<i>Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution</i>	May 2021 – Present
<i>American Society of Naturalists</i>	April 2020 – Present
<i>Society for the Study of Evolution</i>	January 2019 – Present
<i>American Association for the Advancement of Science</i>	August 2018 – Present
<i>Graduates in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</i> at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.	September 2016 – December 2022
<i>PR-LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Program</i> , University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras	August 2013 – August 2015
<i>USDA Natural Resource Career Tracks Program</i> , University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, and Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón	January 2012 – December 2015

RELEVANT SKILLS

Languages

Fluent in English and Spanish (written and oral)

Programming

High competency in the UNIX command line, Bash, R, and Python.

- *GitHub*: <https://github.com/arcolon14>
- *Bitbucket*: <https://bitbucket.org/angelgr2/>