

Curriculum Vitae  
**JUSTIN M. BERNSTEIN, PHD**

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**EDUCATION**

- Rutgers University-Newark** 2017–2022  
*PhD in Biological Sciences (Track: Ecology & Evolution)* GPA: 4.0  
Newark, NJ
- Villanova University** 2014–2016  
*Master of Science in Biology* GPA: 3.84  
Villanova, PA
- State University of New York: College of Environmental Science and Forestry** 2008–2012  
*Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology, Cum Laude* GPA: 3.13  
Syracuse, NY

**POSITIONS HELD**

- 2023 –Present: **National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology**  
Sponsor Institution: University of Texas at Arlington, Texas, United States
- 2022 –2023: **Postdoctoral Fellow** University of Kansas: Center for Genomics, Kansas, United States
- 2021: **Teaching Assistant** Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States  
*General Biology II*
- 2020: **Teaching Assistant** Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States  
*Tropical Field Biology: Guyana*
- 2019: **Course Instructor** Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States  
*Genetics*
- 2019: **Teaching Assistant** Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States  
*Tropical Field Biology: Baja California Sur, Mexico*
- 2017–2020: **Teaching Assistant** Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States  
*General Biology; Foundations of Ecology and Evolution, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy*
- 2015–2016: **Teaching Assistant** Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania, United States  
*General Biology I*
- 2013–2015: **Green Schools Alliance** New York, New York, United States  
*Content Editor and Analyst*
- 2004–2015: **West Orange Animal Hospital** West Orange, New Jersey, United States  
*Veterinary/Technician Assistant*
- 2012–2014: **St. Barnabas Medical Center** Livingston, New Jersey, United States  
*Phlebotomist Dispatch Technician*
- 2012: **College Level Teaching Assistant and Tutor** Syracuse, New York, United States  
*Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy*
- 2010–2011: **Animal Emergency Referral and Associates** Fairfield, New Jersey, United States  
*Animal ICU Technician/Veterinary Assistant Summer*

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Published/In Press**

1. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Voris, H. K., Stuart, B. L., Karns, D. R., McGuire, J. A., Iskandar, D. T., Riyanto, A., Calderón-Acevedo, C. A., Brown, R. M., Gehara, M., Soto-Centeno, J. A., and Ruane, S. 2024. Integrative Methods Reveal Multiple Drivers of Diversification in Rice Paddy Snakes. *Scientific Reports* **14**: 4727.
2. **Bernstein, J. M.**, and Murphy, J. C. 2024. Homalopsid Snakes. In: Aquatic Snakes: Diversity and Natural History. JCM Natural History with Herpetological Conservation International. *In Press. Herpetological Conservation International*.
3. **Bernstein, J. M.** 2023. Book Review: Snakes of the World. A Guide to Every Family. *Herpetological Review* **54**(4): 514–515.
4. Liu, X., Huang, J., Wu, D., He, **Bernstein, J. M.**, Y., Ai, R., Che, J., Yuan, Z. 2023. Taxonomic revision of the genus *Rohanixalus* (Anura: Rhacophoridae) from China with the description of two new species. *Zoological Research* **2**: 1–6.
5. **Bernstein, J. M.**, de Souza, H. F., Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., Myers, E. A., Harrington, S., Shanker, K., and Ruane, S. 2023. Phylogenomics of Fresh and Formalin Specimens Resolves the Systematics of Old World Mud Snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae) and Expands Biogeographic Inference. *Bulletin of the Society of Systematic Biologists* **2**(1): 1–24.
6. Huang, J., Liu, X. L., Du L., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Liu, S., Yang Y., Yu, G., and Wu, Z. 2023. A new species of Bush frog (Anura, Rhacophoridae, *Raorchestes*) from southeastern Yunnan, China. *Zookeys* **1151**: 47–65.
7. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Voris, H. K., Stuart, B. L., Phimmachak, S., Seateun, S., Sivongxay, N., Neang, T., Karns, D. R., Andrews, H. L., Osterhage, J., Phipps, E. A., Ruane, S. 2022. Undescribed diversity in a widespread, common group of Asian mud snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae: *Hypsicopus*). *Ichthyology and Herpetology* **110**(3): 561–574.
8. Díaz-Lameiro, A. M., Villamil, C. I., Gamble, T., Pinto, B. J., Herrera-Martínez, A., Thomas, R., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Titus-McQuillan, J., Nielsen, S. V., Agosto-Torres, E., Puente-Roblón, A. R., Bird-Picó F. J., Oleksyk, T. K., Martínez-Cruzado, J. C., and Daza, J. D. A New *Sphaerodactylus* Species (Gekkota: Sphaerodactylidae) from the Northwest Limestone Region of Puerto Rico. *Ichthyology and Herpetology* **110**(3): 449–465.
9. **Bernstein, J. M.**, and Ruane, S. 2022. Maximizing Molecular Data From Low-Quality Fluid-Preserved Specimens in Natural History Collections. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* **10**: 893088. *Invited Paper: Research Topic: Recent Advances in Museomics: Revolutionizing Biodiversity Research*.
10. Brown, R. M., **Bernstein, J.**, Fernandez, J. B., Sanguila, M. B., Meneses, C. G., Siler, C. D., Chin, K., Welton, L. J., and Gaulk, M. 2022. Juvenile colouration, ontogenetic colour shifts, defensive behaviour, and frontal “hooding” threat display in Philippine False Coral Snakes (Squamata: Elapidae: *Hemibungarus*). *Herpetology Notes* **15**: 183–192.
11. Burbrink, F. T., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Kuhn, A., Gehara, M., and Ruane, S. 2022. Ecological divergence and the history of gene flow in the Nearctic milksnakes (*Lampropeltis triangulum* complex). *Systematic Biology* **71**(4): 839–858.
12. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bautista, J., Diesmos, A. C., Clores, M. A., Cuesta, M., Sanguila, M. B., and Brown, R. M. 2021. Multivariate characterization of phenotypic variation from throughout the geographic ranges of Philippine false coral snakes: two species or four? *Ichthyology and Herpetology* **109**(4): 1036–1046.
13. Zhang, Y., Liu, X., **Bernstein, J.**, Wang, J., and Yuan, Z. 2021. A new species of *Cyrtodactylus* (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from the karst forests of Daweishan National Nature Reserve, Yunnan, China. *Asian Herpetological Research* **12**(3): 261–270.
14. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R. and Wang, Y. 2021. A Novel Dataset to Identify the Endemic Herpetofauna of the New Caledonia Biodiversity Hotspot with DNA Barcodes. *Pacific Conservation Biology* [Published Online]. <https://doi.org/10.1071/PC20055>.
15. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., Ruane, S. 2021. Phylogenetics of Mud Snakes (Squamata: Serpentes: Homalopsidae): A Paradox of Both Undescribed Diversity and Taxonomic Inflation. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* **160**: 107109.

16. Ceriaco, L. M. P.\*, **Bernstein, J. M.\***, Marques, M., Norder, S., and Bauer, A. M. 2020. Sea level driven changes in palaeo-geography and diversification of reptiles in the Gulf of Guinea. *African Journal of Herpetology* **69**(2): 200–216.  
\*Authors contributed equally to this work.
17. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., McGuire, J. A., Arida, E., Kaiser, H., Kieckbusch, M., and Mecke, S. 2020. Molecular phylogeny of the pipesnake genus *Cylindrophis* Wagler, 1828 (Serpentes: Cylindrophiidae) and description of a new species from Myanmar. *Zootaxa* 4851(3): 535–558.
18. **Bernstein, J.**, and J. Bautista. 2020. Geographic distribution: Philippines, Camarines Sur: *Acrochordus granulatus*. *Herpetological Review* **51**(2): 272–273.
19. **Bernstein, J. M.**, Griffing, A. H., Daza, J. D., Gamble, T. and Bauer, A. M. 2016. Using alien resources: Caribbean dwarf geckos utilizing invasive flora. *IRCF Reptiles & Amphibians* **23**(1): 40–43.

### Published Abstracts

**Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R., and Wang, Y. 2015. Phylogenetic analysis, species identification and delimitation of New Caledonian geckos and skinks using DNA barcoding. *Genome* **58**(5): p. 195.

### Preprints

McLaughlin, J. F., Anguilar, C., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Navia-Gine, W. G., Cueto-Aparicio, L. E., Alarcon, A. C., Alarcon, B. D., Collier, R., Takyar, A., Vong, S. J., Ch O. L., Driver, R., Loaiza, J. R., De Leon, L., Saltonstall, K., Lipshutz, S., Arcila, D., Brock, K. M., and Miller, M. J. Comparative Phylogeography Reveals Widespread Cryptic Diversity Driven by Ecology in Panamanian Birds.  
[https://doi.org/ 10.1101/2023.03.15.530646](https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.03.15.530646).

### INVITED TALKS

2024: Evolution in a Geologically Unstable Region: Using Integrative Datasets to Identify Biodiversity and Diversification Drivers.

*Tangled Bank Seminars*

*Natural History Museum of Oslo (Norway)*

2023: The Lake Buhi Bockadam Project – Investigating the Genomic Diversity of Mud Snakes in Southeast Asia (Homalopsidae: *Cerberus schneiderii*)

*International Herpetological Symposium*

*Herpetological Conservational International: Schaumburg, Illinois, United States*

2023: Serpents in Ecotourism: Diversity, Research, and Considerations

*Tourism and Hospitality Management International Conference [Plenary Speaker]: Partido State University–Caramoan, Camarines Sur, Philippines*

2022: Systematics and Evolution: Role in Biodiversity Conservation

*Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology — University Training Department: Environmental Education and Management towards Biological Conservation Seminar*

2022: Land and Lakes: Assessing Terrestrial and Aquatic Snake Diversity using Molecular and Morphological Data

*Partido State University – Biodiversity Conservation: Balongibog Talks 2022: Caramoan, Philippines*

2022: Investigating the Evolution and Diversity of Old World Mud Snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae) using Integrative Approaches

*Sam Houston State University: Huntsville, Texas, United States*

2021: Systematic Investigation of the Diversity of Homalopsid Snakes

*Field Museum of Natural History: Chicago, Illinois, United States*

2021: Collecting Techniques for Snakes

*Monmouth University: Special Topics in Biology (Dr. Sean C. Sterrett): Monmouth, New Jersey, United States*

- 2021: Serpents, Sequences, and Statistics: Using DNA and Morphology to Study the Biodiversity and Evolution of Philippine Snakes  
*Biodiversity Seminar Series [Virtual]: University of the Philippines Los Baños Museum of Natural History: Los Baños, Philippines*
- 2021: The Importance of Scientific Research and Publication  
*Go Virtual and International: BISCASST Journal taking a Quantum Leap towards Research Publication. [virtual launch of the Southeast Asian Journal of Applied Sciences and Technology]: Philippines*
- 2021: Muddy Evolution: A preliminary investigation into the systematics and biogeography of mud snakes (Homalopsidae).  
*Herpetology Seminar [virtual seminar series]*
- 2021: Evolution [graduate level class]: Introduction to Phylogenetics  
*Rutgers University-Newark: Newark, New Jersey, United States*
- 2020: Geospatial Analysis: QGIS Tutorial for Mapping Biodiversity Data  
*Father Saturnino Urios University, Mindanao, Butuan, Philippines*
- 2020: Murky Evolution: How historical geological processes have shaped aquatic mud snakes  
*Rutgers University-Newark Colloquium Series: Newark, New Jersey, United States*
- 2020: Reptiles at Difference Scales: Reptilian Diversity and Why We Study It  
*State 4-H Small Animal Symposium: Clayton, New Jersey, United States*
- 2019: Scales of Diversity: Studying Herpetology from Molecules to Morphology  
*Cornell University: Ithaca, New York, United States*
- 2018: Snake scale keels: a three-dimensional investigation of function.  
*Rutgers University-New Brunswick: New Brunswick, New Jersey, United States*
- 2018: Evolution Seminar: Variation Among Individuals.  
*Rutgers University-Newark: Newark, New Jersey, United States*

## **CONFERENCES/PRESENTATIONS**

- 2023: (Oral Presentation) Clores, M. A.\*, Cuesta, M. A., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bautista, J. B., Fernandez, J. B., Querubin, S. M. M., Verdadero, F. X. D., Bare, A. B., and Brown, R. M. Reptiles and Amphibians of Caramoan Peninsula, South Luzon Philippines.  
*16th International Kuroshio Science Symposium: Partido State University, Camarines Sur, Philippines*  
*\*Presenter*
- 2023: (Oral Presentation) Frederick, J. H.\*, Austin, C. C., Richards, S. J., Hutter, C. R., **Bernstein, J. M.**, Roberts, J. R., and Ruane, S. Molecular Disambiguation of Cryptic Speciation Versus Deep Population Structure in Papuan *Stegonotus* (Squamata: Colubridae).  
*Camp 2023: American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York, United States*  
*\*Presenter*
- 2023: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, de Souza, H. F., Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., Myers, E. A., Harrington, S., Shanker, K., and Ruane, S. Phylogenomics of fresh and formalin specimens resolves the systematics of Old World Mud Snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae) and expands biogeographic inference.  
*Camp 2023: American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York, United States*
- 2023: (Oral Presentation) Soto-Centeno, J. A.\*, **Bernstein, J. M.**, Calderón-Acevedo, C. A. Species limits and taxonomic evaluation of Caribbean Minor Red Bats (*Lasiurus minor*).  
*North American Society for Bat Research: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*  
*\*Presenter*
- 2023: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Voris, H. K., Stuart, B. L., Karns, D. R., McGuire, J. A., Brown, R. M., Calderón-Acevedo, C. A., Gehara, M., Soto-Centeno, A., Ruane, S. A phylogenomic investigation of the evolution and biogeography of a widespread Southeast Asian Snake (Homalopsidae: *Hypsiglossus*)  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: Norfolk, Virginia, United States*

- 2023: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Voris, H. K., Stuart, B. L., Karns, D. R., McGuire, J. A., Brown, R. M., Calderón-Acevedo, C. A., Gehara, M., Soto-Centeno, A., and Ruane, S. Using coalescent demographic models to elucidate the evolution and biogeography of snakes in Southeast Asia.  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Center for Genomics Research Symposium: University of Kansas, Center for Genomics, Lawrence, Kansas, United States*
- 2022: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bautista, J., Diesmos, A. C., Clores, M. A., Cuesta, M. A., Sanguila, M. B., and Brown, R. M. Multivariate characterization of phenotypic variation from throughout the geographic ranges of Philippine false coral snakes: two species or four?  
*4<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Gateway to Evolution (SAGE) meetings: Manila, Philippines*
- 2022: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., Myers, E. A., Harrington, S., de Souza, H. F., Shanker, K., and Ruane, S. Phylogenomics of fresh and formalin specimens resolves the systematics of Old World Mud Snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae) and expands biogeographic inference.  
*4<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Gateway to Evolution (SAGE) meetings: Manila, Philippines*
- 2022: (Oral Presentation) Clores, M. A.\*, Cuesta, Bautista, J., Fernandez, J. B., M. A., Sanguila, M. B., **Bernstein, J. M.**, and Brown, R. M. Caramoan Ridge-to-reef Biodiversity Megatranssect: A System for the Long-Term Study of Terrestrial Biodiversity, International Collaboration, and Community Engagement in the Management of Tropical Forest Resources in the Philippines.  
*Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines 2022: Father Saturnino Urios University–Agusan del Norte, Philippines*  
*\*Presenter*
- 2022: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bautista, J., Clores, M. A., Cuesta, M., Sanguila, M. B., Brown, R. M., and Ruane, S. Sinking in the Mud: A Molecular Systematic Assessment of Mud Snakes (Serpentes: *Cerberus*), with a Particular Focus on the Philippines  
*Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines 2022: Father Saturnino Urios University–Agusan del Norte, Philippines*
- 2022: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, and Ruane, S. Maximizing Molecular Data for Systematics from “Low-Quality” Fluid-Preserved Specimens in Natural History Collections.  
*Evolution 2022: Cleveland, Ohio, United States*
- 2021: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., and Ruane, S. Evolution in the mud: molecular systematics and biogeography of mud snakes (Homalopsidae).  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: Phoenix, Arizona, United States*
- 2021: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., and Ruane, S. Evolution in the mud: molecular systematics and biogeography of mud snakes (Homalopsidae).  
*Evolution 2021: [Virtual]*
- 2020: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Murphy, J. C., Voris, H. K., Brown, R. M., and Ruane, S. Murky Evolution: Investigating the Systematics and Biogeography of the Enigmatic Mud Snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae).  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: Norfolk, Virginia, United States*  
*\*Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19\**
- 2019: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bautista, J., Brown, R. M., and Ruane S. The Snake of the Lake: In Search of an Elusive Aquatic Species.  
*Rutgers University-Newark Research Day: Rutgers University–Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States*
- 2019: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Wainwright, D., Crawford, C., Flammang, B., and Ruane, S. Snake scale keels: a three-dimensional investigation of function.  
*Conference for The Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology: Tampa, Florida, United States*
- 2018: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R. and Wang Y. A Novel Dataset to Identify the Endemic Herpetofauna of the New Caledonia Biodiversity Hotspot with DNA Barcodes.  
*Student Conference on Conservation Science-New York: American Museum of Natural History, New York, United States*
- 2018: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.** Studying Biodiversity: Evolution at Different Scales

- Rutgers University-Newark Research Day: Rutgers University–Newark, Newark, New Jersey, United States*
- 2018: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Crawford, C., Flammang, B., and Ruane, S. Assessing the functionality of scale keels in reptiles.  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: Rochester, New York, United States*
- 2017: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Kaiser, H. and Mecke, S. Complex and Cryptic: A multilocus phylogeny of Asian Pipe Snakes (Serpentes: *Cylindrophis*) and the taxonomy of *Cylindrophis ruffus*.  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: Austin, Texas, United States*
- 2016: (Oral Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R. and Wang Y. Phylogenetic analysis, species identification and delimitation of New Caledonian geckos and skinks using DNA barcoding.  
*Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists: New Orleans, Louisiana, United States*
- 2015: (Poster Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R. and Wang Y. Phylogenetic analysis, species identification and delimitation of New Caledonian geckos and skinks using DNA barcoding.  
*6th International Barcode of Life Conference: University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada*
- 2015: (Poster Presentation) **Bernstein, J. M.**, Bauer, A. M., Jackman, T. R. and Wang Y. Phylogenetic analysis, species identification and delimitation of New Caledonian geckos and skinks using DNA barcoding.  
*Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles: University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, United States*

## **FIELD WORK, AND COLLECTIONS TRIPS**

- 2023: Philippines (Camarines Sur [Municipalities of Baao, Bato, Buhi, Calabanga, Iriga, Magarao, Milaor, Minalabac, Naga, Pasacao], Masbate [Municipalities of San Pascual, Claveria])  
*Collections/survey trip*
- 2022: Philippines (Camarines Sur [Municipality of Caramoan, Caramoan National Park] – three trips; eight weeks)  
*Collections/survey trip*
- 2020: Guyana (CEIBA Biological Center)  
*Field course teaching assistant*
- 2019: Mexico (Baja California Sur)  
*Field course teaching assistant*
- 2019: Philippines (Manila, Camarines Sur [Caramoan, Magarao, Buhi, Caramoan Peninsula])  
*Collections/survey trip*
- 2016, 2017: New Jersey (South Jersey Pine Barrens)  
*Collections trip*
- 2015, 2016, 2017: Puerto Rico (Entire mainland, Vieques)  
*Collections trip*

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & SERVICE**

- 2023–Present: **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** *Regional Chair of East and Southeast Asia [Snake Specialist Group]*
- 2023–Present: **Bulletin of the Society of Systematic Biologists:** *Associate Editor*
- 2023–Present: **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** *Snake Specialist Group*
- 2023–Present: **Kansas Postdoctoral Outreach Project (KPOP!):** *Co-Creator*
- 2023: **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Center for Genomics Research Symposium:** *Symposium Organizer*
- 2022–Present: **Reptiles & Amphibians** [peer-reviewed journal]: *Editor-in-Chief*
- 2021–Present: **Southeast Asian Journal of Applied Sciences and Technology** [peer-reviewed journal]:  
*Member of the Board of Editorial Consultants*
- 2020–Present: **Zoosystematics and Evolution** [peer-reviewed journal]: *Subject Editor*

2020–Present: **Herpetology Notes** [peer-reviewed journal]: *Associate Editor*  
2020–Present: **Save the Snakes** [NPO]: *Reviewer for Save the Snakes Support Grants*  
2020–Present: **Save the Snakes** [NPO]: *Advisory Committee Member*

Reviewer for the following journals:

*American Naturalist*  
*Bulletin for the Society of Systematic Biologists*  
*Checklist*  
*Herpetology Notes*  
*Herpetological Review*  
*Ichthyology and Herpetology*  
*Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*  
*Nature Scientific Reports*  
*Neotropical Biology and Conservation*  
*Philippine Journal of Systematic Biology*  
*Phyllomedusa*  
*Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*  
*Reptiles & Amphibians*  
*Systematics and Biodiversity*  
*Zoological Research*  
*Zoological Scripta*  
*Zoosystematics and Evolution*  
*Zootaxa*

## **SOCIETY/ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

2020–Present: **Save the Snakes**  
2020–Present: **Herpetologists' League**  
2020–Present: **Society of Systematic Biologists**  
2020–Present: **American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists**  
2020–Present: **Society for the Study of Evolution**  
2020–Present: **International Biogeography Society**  
2018–Present: **The Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology**  
2015–Present: **Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles**  
2017–2020: **Rutgers University-Newark Biology Student Leadership**  
*Colloquium/Seminar Committee: 2018–2020*  
*Rutgers Union Department Representative: 2017–2018*

## **AWARDS/GRANTS**

2023: **Best Paper in Herpetology** *American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*  
*Paper: Bernstein, J. M., Voris, H. K., Stuart, B. L., Phimmachak, S., Seateun, S., Sivongxay, N., Neang, T., Karns, D. R., Andrews, H. L., Osterhage, J., Phipps, E. A., Ruane, S. 2022. Undescribed diversity in a widespread, common group of Asian mud snakes (Serpentes: Homalopsidae: *Hypsicopus*). *Ichthyology and Herpetology* 110(3): 561–574.*

2023: **University Research Council (URC) Funding** *Ateneo de Naga University*  
*Project: Herpetofauna of Lake and Riverine Ecosystems in the Middle and Lower Bicol River Basin, Bicol Peninsula, South Luzon Island, Philippines: Exploring Species Diversity and Associated Local Knowledge.*  
*Role: Visiting Researcher on Grant*

2023: **Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology** *National Science Foundation*

- Awarded in 2022; start date August 1<sup>st</sup> 2023*
- 2022: **Harold K. Voris Aquatic Snakes Conservation and Research Grant** *Herpetological Conservation International*  
*Project: Riverscape Genomics in the Philippines: Identifying River Contributions to Genomic Diversity of an Endangered Aquatic Snake*
- 2022: **Center for Genomics Postdoctoral Fellowship** *University of Kansas*
- 2021: **Henri Seibert Award** [Session: Evolution/Systematics]: *Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles*  
*Best oral presentation at Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology 2021*
- 2021–2022: **Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship** *Rutgers University-Newark*
- 2019: **Sydney S. Greenfield Fellowship** *Rutgers University-Newark*
- 2018: **Summer Travel Grant** *Rutgers University-Newark*
- 2018: **Gans Collections and Charitable Fund**
- 2018: **Professional Development TA Fund** *Rutgers University*
- 2016: **Summer Fellowship** *Villanova University*
- 2016: **Graduate Studies Travel Award** *Villanova University*
- 2015: **Genome Prize for Research Excellence**  
*6th International Barcode of Life/Genome – NRC Research Press*
- 2015: **Graduate Studies Travel Award** *Villanova University*
- 2015: **Travel Award for Research Excellence** *6th International Barcode of Life Conference*
- 2015: **Department of Biology Summer Research Fellowship** *Villanova University*
- 2015: **Graduate Student Semester Research Fellowship** *Villanova University*
- 2015: **Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship** *Villanova University*
- 2015: **Graduate Research Assistantship** *Villanova University*
- 2012: **Tutor of the Semester Award for Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy**  
*SUNY: College of Environmental Science and Forestry*

### **SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES**

- 2024: Herpetology 101: Local Diversity and Careers  
*Somerset County 4-H Program; Sidewinders Club*
- 2023: Biodiversity Day! – Searching for Serpents: Snake Outreach and Q&A  
*University of Kansas Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute*
- 2023: Pop Up Science – DNA Day!  
*University of Kansas Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute*
- 2021: Steam Urban: Keep Art Alive Summer Program  
*Greater Newark Conservancy – Newark, NJ*
- 2021: Steam Urban: S.T.E.A.M. Fair (Steam Urban and I Have A Dream Foundation)  
*13<sup>th</sup> Avenue School/Dr. MLK, Jr. School – Newark, NJ*
- 2020: Herpetology Judge for 2020 New Jersey State 4-H Virtual Presentations
- 2019: Herpetology Judge for 2019 New Jersey State 4-H Rabbit, Small Animal, Cavy, Herpetology & Poultry Show  
*Somerset County 4-H Program; Somerset County 4-H Center – Somerset, NJ*
- 2019: Biology Colloquium and Seminar Committee (Elected)



*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2019: Biology Student Leadership (Elected)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2019: Annual Rutgers-Newark Bio-Blitz (Volunteer)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2019: Annual Halsey Street Festival

*Urban Biodiversity Booth (Volunteer) – Newark, NJ*

2019: Annual Career Day

*13<sup>th</sup> Avenue School/Dr. MLK, Jr. School – Newark, NJ*

2018: Annual Career Day

*13<sup>th</sup> Avenue School/Dr. MLK, Jr. School – Newark, NJ*

2018: Biology Colloquium and Seminar Committee (Elected)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2018: Annual Rutgers-Newark Bio-Blitz (Volunteer)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2018: Biology Student Leadership (Elected)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2018: Annual Halsey Street Festival

*Urban Biodiversity Booth (Volunteer) – Newark, NJ*

2017: Biology Student Leadership (Elected)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2017: Annual Rutgers-Newark Bio-Blitz (Volunteer)

*Rutgers University-Newark – Newark, NJ*

2017: Annual Halsey Street Festival

*Urban Biodiversity Booth (Volunteer) – Newark, NJ*

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2011–2012: **Safe Options Society** Syracuse, NY

*Co-founder and Administrator of Alternative Options Society*

2008: **Page Wildlife Center** Manlius, NY

*Volunteer and Member of the Central New York Society for Conservation Biology*