

**Tauana J. Cunha, Ph.D.**  
Field Museum of Natural History  
1400 S Lake Shore Dr, Chicago IL 60605, USA  
[tcunha@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:tcunha@fieldmuseum.org) | <https://tauanacunha.com>

## EDUCATION

---

- 2019** Ph.D. in **Organismic & Evolutionary Biology**, Harvard University  
**2012** Teacher Licensure in **Biological Sciences**, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil  
**2011** B.Sc. in **Biological Sciences**, University of Sao Paulo

## APPOINTMENTS

---

- 2022-** **Women's Board Postdoctoral Scientist**, Field Museum of Natural History  
**2020-22** **Smithsonian Institution Postdoctoral Fellow**, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute  
**2020-** **Associate of the Dept. Organismic & Evolutionary Biology**, Harvard University  
**2019** **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Harvard University

## PUBLICATIONS

---

- Cunha TJ**, Fernández-Simón J, Petrula M, Giribet G, Moles J 2023. Photographic Checklist, DNA Barcoding, and New Species of Sea Slugs and Snails from the Faafu Atoll, Maldives (Gastropoda: Heterobranchia and Vetigastropoda). *Diversity* 15: 219. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d15020219>
- Sato S, **Cunha TJ**, de Medeiros BAS, Khost DE, Sackton TB, Giribet G. 2023. Sizing up the onychophoran genome: repeats, introns, and gene family expansion contribute to genome gigantism in *Epiperipatus broadwayi*. *Genome Biology and Evolution*, 15: evad021. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evad021>
- Cunha TJ**, Reimer JD, Giribet G. 2022. Investigating sources of conflict in deep phylogenomics of vetigastropod snails. *Systematic Biology*: syab071. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sysbio/syab071>
- Ballesteros JA, Santibáñez-López CE, Baker CM, Benavides LR, **Cunha TJ**, Gainett G, Ontano AZ, Setton EVW, Arango CP, Gavish-Regev E, Harvey MS, Wheeler WC, Hormiga G, Giribet G, Sharma PP. 2022. Comprehensive species sampling and sophisticated algorithmic approaches refute the monophyly of Arachnida. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 39(2): msac021. <https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msac021>
- Moles J, **Cunha TJ**, Lemer S, Combosch D, Giribet G. 2021. Tightening the girdle: Phylotranscriptomics of Polyplacophora. *Journal of Molluscan Studies* 87(2): eyab019. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mollus/eyab019>
- Cunha TJ**, Giribet G. 2019. A congruent topology for deep gastropod relationships. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 20182776. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2018.2776>
- Cunha TJ**, Lemer S, Bouchet P, Kano Y, Giribet G. 2019. Putting keyhole limpets on the map: phylogeny and biogeography of the globally distributed marine family Fissurellidae (Vetigastropoda, Mollusca). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 135: 249-269. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2019.02.008>
- Cunha TJ**, Güth AZ, Bromberg S, Sumida PYG. 2013. Macrofauna associated with the brown algae *Dictyota* spp. (Phaeophyceae, Dictyotaceae) in the Sebastião Gomes Reef and Abrolhos Archipelago, Bahia, Brazil. *Continental Shelf Research* 70: 140-149. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.csr.2013.09.001>

## FUNDING AND AWARDS

---

### Fellowships

- 2022** Women's Board Postdoctoral Fellowship, Field Museum (3 years)  
**2019** Smithsonian Institution Postdoctoral Fellowship, STRI (2 and a half years)  
**2019** Postdoctoral position on speciation genomics of *Littorina* snails with the University of Gothenburg and The University of Sheffield (2 years, declined)  
**2018** Faculty for the Future Fellowship, Schlumberger Foundation (1 year)  
**2017** Merit Fellowship, Graduate Society Research Fellowships, Harvard GSAS (1 semester)  
**2013** Science without Borders Fellowship, CAPES/CNPq, Brazil (full doctorate, declined)  
**2012 & 2010** Undergraduate Fellowship, FAPESP, Brazil (1 year each)

### Research Grants

- 2023** Grainger Bioinformatics Center Grant, Field Museum (\$ 10,000)  
**2022** Negaunee Integrative Research Center internal funds, Field Museum (\$ 35,000)  
**2020** Global Genome Initiative Rolling Grant, Smithsonian Institution (\$ 10,000)  
**2017** Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation (\$ 21,970)  
**2016** Putnam Expedition Grant, Museum of Comparative Zoology (\$ 8,475)  
**2015** Graduate Student Research Award, Society of Systematic Biologists (\$ 1,500)

### Other Awards

- 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> place, STRI photo contest, category 'Fellows doing science'. <https://stri.si.edu/story/photo-contest>  
**2017, 2016 & 2015** Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center, Harvard

## PRESENTATIONS

---

### Invited Talks

- 2022** **World Congress of Malacology (WCM)**, Munich, Germany  
Plenary talk: The contributions of genomics for understanding the phylogeny, ecology and evolution of molluscs  
**2020** **XI Congreso Latinoamericano de Malacología (CLAMA)**  
Symposium talk: Genomic data for resolving the phylogeny of gastropods (in Spanish)  
**2020** **Systematics, Biogeography and Evolution meeting (SBE)**  
Symposium talk: Congruence and conflict in phylogenomics <https://youtu.be/B7AUrtVMjpw?t=3097>

### Selected Conferences

- 2021** **Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology meeting (SICB)**  
Population connectivity of a threatened gastropod across the Mediterranean (talk)  
**2019** **World Congress of Malacology (WCM)**, Pacific Grove, CA  
A congruent topology for deep gastropod relationships (talk)  
**2019** **Evolution meeting**, Providence, RI  
Shells of vetigastropod snails became shorter and wider in the late Mesozoic era (poster)  
**2018** **Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance (GIGA III)**, Curaçao  
Resolving deep nodes in the gastropod phylogeny (talk)  
**2016** **World Congress of Malacology (WCM)**, Penang, Malaysia  
Systematics of the diverse and global gastropod family Fissurellidae (talk)  
**2015** **Evolution meeting**, Guarujá, SP, Brazil  
Systematics of a diverse and global clade of vetigastropods, the keyhole and slit limpets (Fissurellidae, Gastropoda, Mollusca) (poster)

## Invited Departmental Seminars

- 2020** **STRI Science Talks**, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute  
Gastropod phylogenomics and biogeography across 400 million years  
<https://youtu.be/Hs9izA3q5Cw>
- 2019** **EcoEncontros**, University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, SP, Brazil  
Biogeography and evolution of the shell in marine snails
- 2019** **Biofórum**, State University of Campinas, Campinas, SP, Brazil  
Biogeography and evolution of the shell in marine snails

## FIELDWORK AND COLLECTIONS (<https://bionomia.net/0000-0002-8493-2117>)

---

### Fieldwork

- 2020-22** **Panama**: sampling of intertidal gastropods throughout the Pacific Coast
- 2019** **Maldives**, Faafu Atoll: sampling of slugs and snails (snorkeling and scuba diving)
- 2016** **Japan**, Okinawa: sampling of gastropods around the island (intertidal and scuba diving)
- 2015,16** **Panama**, Bocas del Toro: sampling of marine invertebrates
- 2014** **Dominican Republic**: sampling of intertidal fissurellid limpets
- 2011** **Brazil**, Paraíba: sampling of intertidal polychaetes

### Collections Visited

- 2022-** Field Museum of Natural History (FMNH), Invertebrates
- 2013-19** Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ), Malacology & Invertebrate Paleontology
- 2018** Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Invertebrate Paleontology
- 2018** The Natural History Museum (NHM), Invertebrate Paleontology
- 2018** Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH), Invertebrate Paleontology
- 2015** Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Malacology
- 2014** Museum of Zoology of the University of Sao Paulo (MZSP), Malacology

## TEACHING AND MENTORING

---

### Mentoring

- 2021-** Intern (María Sánchez), STRI-SENACYT, Panama
- 2019-21** Undergraduate student (Brunno Alves), Federal Institute of PiauÍ, Brazil
- 2019** NSF REU program (Macy Petruła), California State University, Sacramento
- 2017** High school student (Jesse Leon Guerrero), Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

### Instructor

- 2021** Data analyses and visualization in R (live-coding workshop), XXVII Brazilian Malacology Meeting (EBRAM). 18 students. <https://tauanacunha.com/2021-10-04-EBRAM-R>
- 2021** Data Carpentry Workshop, Smithsonian Institution. 25 students.  
<https://smithsonianworkshops.github.io/2021-08-24-smithsonian>
- 2020** Introduction to R, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 50 students.  
[https://tauanacunha.com/courses/2020\\_stri\\_intror](https://tauanacunha.com/courses/2020_stri_intror)

### Invited Lectures

- 2021** Carpentries-style class on Data Organization in Spreadsheets for Panamanian undergraduate students. Gigante Field Course: Introducción a las Ciencias Biológicas de Campo, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (delivered in Spanish)
- 2016** Lecture on Mollusca and Nemertea. Course: Biology & Evolution of Invertebrate Animals, Harvard University

### Teaching Assistant (\*Teaching award received)

- 2018** Invertebrate Zoology, Harvard Extension School (hybrid in person and online)
- 2017\*** Phylogenetics and Phylogeography in the Era of Genomics, Harvard University
- 2016\*** Biology & Evolution of Invertebrate Animals, Harvard University, Lab Instructor
- 2015\*** Biology & Evolution of Invertebrate Animals, Harvard University, Lab Instructor
- 2013** R Software in the Analysis of Ecological Data, University of Sao Paulo
- 2010** Invertebrates, University of Sao Paulo
- 2008** Biological Diversity and Phylogeny, University of Sao Paulo

### Pedagogical Training

- 2021** Certified Instructor by The Carpentries (<https://carpentries.org>)
- 2016** Mentoring Workshop, Life Sciences Education Office, Harvard University

### OUTREACH

---

- 2023** Tour of the Field Museum Invertebrate Collection to students from Wheaton College, IL
- 2022** Panelist for the Field Museum Women in Science school visit to Orr Academy (Chicago Public Schools), IL
- 2021** Skype a Scientist-style chat with high school Colégio Santa Maria Minas, BH, Brazil
- 2020-** Contributor to the PhyloPic database of organisms silhouettes (<http://phylopic.org/>)
- 2020** Featured in the Harvard Museums of Science and Culture *Connects! Families* newsletter
- 2019** Invited talk for the Boston Malacological Club: Evolution of gastropods in space and time
- 2016** Blog writer for Science in the News. The animal tree of life <http://tinyurl.com/AnimalTree>
- 2016** Boston Malacological Club member (2016-19); Social Media committee (2017-19)
- 2016** Science tour to 9<sup>th</sup> grade girls from Winsor, an all-girls school in Boston, MA
- 2014** Blog writer for EvoBites. Untangling the spider's web <http://tinyurl.com/EvoSpiderWeb>
- 2014** Blog writer for Science in the News. Origins of Eukaryotes <http://tinyurl.com/EvoEukaryotes>
- 2009** Snorkeling guide at the Ilha Anchieta State Park, NGO Ecosteiros, Brazil

### SERVICE

---

#### Society Service

- 2019-25 Council member, Unitas Malacologica
- 2022-24 Councilor-at-Large, American Malacological Society

#### Reviewer (<http://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/M-8638-2019>)

PNAS, Nature Ecology and Evolution, Systematic Biology, Genome Biology and Evolution, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, Marine Biology, Marine Biodiversity, Diversity, Organisms Diversity and Evolution

#### Member of Theses Committees

- 2021** **Thesis defense:** Master student (Giovanna Omura), Federal University of Paraná, Brazil

#### Others

- 2022 Evaluation committee for the STRI Short-Term Fellowships, Nov2021 cycle
- 2022 Reviewer of STRI postdoctoral application, 2021-22 cycle
- 2021 Panelist, STRI workshop for Latin-American students about grad school applications abroad
- 2021 Coordinator for the V Latin American Symposium of Young Taxonomists, XXVII Brazilian Malacology Meeting (EBRAM)