

Katherine Ryan Amato
1810 Hinman Ave • Evanston, IL 60208 • 847-467-5890
katherine.amato@northwestern.edu • www.kramato.com

1. Academic Degrees

Doctor of Philosophy, Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology August 2013
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
GPA: 4.0/4.0

Bachelor of Arts *summa cum laude*, General Biology with high honors June 2007
Dartmouth College
GPA: 3.9/4.0

2. Relevant Research Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology September 2015 - present
Northwestern University Evanston, IL

Studying the gut microbiota in the broad context of host ecology and evolution. Focuses on how changes in the gut microbiota impact human nutrition and health in populations around the world, especially those with limited access to nutritional resources. Uses non-human primates as models for studying host-gut microbe interactions in selective environments and to determine whether the human gut microbiota has characteristics that are unique among primates.

Postdoctoral Research Associate September 2013 - 2015
University of Colorado Boulder Boulder, CO

Investigating the primate gut microbiota and its relationship to diet in the context of primate ecology and evolution. Main project explores differences in the composition of the gut microbial community across taxa of leaf-eating primates to understand if diet leads to a convergence of gut microbial community composition and function. This information will enrich our understanding of host-gut microbe interactions in the context of host nutrition, health, and, ultimately, evolution. Related work addresses comparisons between humans and non-human primates in the context of physiology, diet and evolution. Co-advisors: Steve Leigh & Rob Knight

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow September 2010-2013
Illinois Distinguished Fellowship August 2008-2010
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Urbana-Champaign, IL

Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology. Investigating the relationship between primate foraging behavior, life history processes, and gut microbial communities in the black howler monkey population (*Alouatta pigra*) at Palenque National Park, Chiapas, Mexico. Advisor: Paul Garber.

Ph.D Thesis (2013): *Black howler monkey (Alouatta pigra) nutrition: Integrating the study of behavior, feeding ecology, and the gut microbial community.*

Fulbright Fellow/Young Explorer September 2007-May 2008
Institute for International Education/National Geographic Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz, Mexico

Conducted research out of the Los Tuxtlas Biological Station in close cooperation with Dr. Alejandro Estrada, at both Los Tuxtlas Biological Station and Palenque National Park in Mexico. The study compared mantled howler monkey foraging behavior across sites to describe the impacts of primates on seed dispersal and the consequences for tropical forest dynamics.

Behavioral Research Intern 2004-2006
Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes Chicago, IL
Regenstein Center for African Apes
Lincoln Park Zoo

Observed and recorded behavioral data from two groups of chimpanzees and two groups of gorillas in order to monitor social interactions and habitat use. Trained in focal individual observation and ethogram use. Created and maintained Excel database containing behavioral data from entire center.

Honors Student 2006-2007
Presidential Scholar 2005-2006
Crute Fellow 2004-2005
Women in Science Program Intern 2003-2004
Professor C. Robertson McClung, Genetic Analysis of Circadian Rhythms in Plants Hanover, NH

Sequenced genes in *Arabidopsis thaliana* using both leaf and bacterial plasmid DNA extraction, polymerase chain reaction, and BigDye DNA sequencing. Aligned sequences with computer software and compared them across accessions to detect mutations indicating selective pressure on genes controlling circadian clockwork, specifically *PRR7* and *TOC1*. Transformed gene alleles into mutant plants to investigate effects on circadian rhythms.

Honors Thesis (2007): *Natural variation and selective pressure in the A. thaliana PRR7 gene.*

3. Relevant Teaching Experience

Instructor, The Human Microbiome and Health March – April 2016
Northwestern University Evanston, IL

Served as sole instructor for special topics undergraduate course on microbiome research and implications for human health. Course included a one exam, weekly discussion of primary literature, and a final paper. Students developed an understanding of how the microbes of the skin, airway, mouth, urogenital tract, and gut interact with humans. Final paper encourages students to integrate their understanding of human biology and health with new microbial perspectives and to reflect on the role of anthropology in exploring effects on global health.

Instructor, Primate Behavior and Ecology January – March 2016
Northwestern University Evanston, IL

Served as sole instructor for special topics undergraduate course in primate behavior. Course included a written projects, two exams, and weekly discussion of primary literature. Students developed an understanding of primate biodiversity and were exposed to theories behind primate feeding ecology, social organization and cognition, among other topics.

Co-Instructor, Gut Check: Exploring Your Microbiome October 2014, April 2015
University of Colorado Boulder Boulder, CO

Developed a massive, open, online course designed to introduce students to the human gut microbiome. Course included an introduction to microbes and the evolving technologies we use to study them as well as an overview of current knowledge and advancements in gut microbiome research in the areas of nutrition, disease, health and behavior. Target audience was the general public, although high school level biology was assumed.

Instructor, Primate Behavior January 2014-May 2014
University of Colorado Boulder Boulder, CO

Served as sole instructor for an upper-level undergraduate course in primate behavior. Course included two written projects and three exams. Students developed an understanding of primate biodiversity and were exposed to theories behind primate feeding ecology, social organization and cognition, among other topics.

Instructor, Primate Behavior and Ecology
Maderas Rainforest Conservancy

December 2013-January 2014
Ometepe Island, Nicaragua

Developed a field primatology course that includes lectures, discussions, field exercises, and independent student projects. Course stresses hands-on, inquiry-based learning and scientific communication. Students are required to design and execute field projects in small groups, write and revise project proposals and final reports, and present their findings orally.

Certificate in Foundations in Teaching

2012

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Center for Teaching Excellence

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Attended ten hours of teaching workshops, reviewed teaching literature, reviewed professor performance in an undergraduate lecture, and gave a guest lecture that was critiqued by the class professor.

Teaching Assistant, Behavioral Ecology

August-December 2011

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Gave class lectures, led class discussions and provided feedback on research proposals written by both undergraduate and graduate students in the class.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Honors Cell Biology, Physiological Ecology
Dartmouth College

2004-2007

Hanover, NH

Acted as a resource for freshman in specific biology classes. Assisted graduate teaching assistant with laboratory preparation and clean-up and assisted freshmen with techniques during laboratory portion of class.

4. Additional Training

IGB-BGI Genomics Workshop

January 2013

Institute for Genomic Biology (UIUC)/Beijing Genomics Institute

Shenzhen, China

Selected to attend a five-day workshop covering a variety of genome-analysis techniques. Topics included next generation sequencing, transcriptome analysis, epigenomics, de novo assembly, and database management.

Dartmouth Studies in Tropical Ecology (Biology Foreign Study Program)
Dartmouth College

January-March 2006

Costa Rica, Jamaica

Selected to take intensive biology courses in Costa Rica and Jamaica for nine weeks for class credit. Spent six weeks in the field in Costa Rica doing fieldwork at sites including: Palo Verde, Santa Rosa, Monteverde, Cuerici (Cerro de la Muerte), Corcovado, Las Cruces, and La Selva. Designed and completed independent studies at each site in small groups and participated in extensive revisions of each manuscript. Spent three weeks at Discovery Bay Marine Lab, Jamaica doing fieldwork using snorkel and SCUBA. Designed and completed two independent studies and participated in extensive revisions of manuscripts. All work published in a course journal upon return.

Shedd Aquarium High School Marine Biology Program Participant
John G. Shedd Aquarium

June-August 2001

Chicago, IL; Bimini, Bahamas

Selected to take intensive biology classes eight hours a day for two weeks. Participated in research trip aboard Shedd Research Vessel (R.V. Coral Reef II) Bimini, Bahamas. Completed independent research project in the field. Summarized results in a research paper and presented to over 200 people at Shedd Aquarium.

Spanish Language Study Abroad Program
Dartmouth College

January-March 2005

Puebla, Mexico

Selected to take intensive Spanish courses for ten weeks for class credit. Lived with a family in Puebla, Mexico and attended classes at the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP) with a group of Dartmouth students. Traveled outside of class to expand knowledge of Spanish language and regional Mexican culture.

5. Research Grants

Nacy Maggioncalda Foundation	2015
University of Illinois Isabel Norton Award	2012
National Geographic Waitt Grant	2010-2011
University of IL Dissertation Travel Grant	2011
University of IL PEEC Summer Research Grant	2009
University of IL Tinker Summer Research Grant	2009
University of IL Beckman Institute Grant	2009
National Geographic Young Explorers Grant (Conservation Trust)	2007-2008
Fulbright Garcia-Robles Fellowship	2007-2008
Dartmouth College Reynolds Fellowship	2007-2008

6. Additional Honors and Awards

Azrieli Global Scholar (Humans and the Microbiome), Canadian Institute for Advanced Research	2016-2018
Invited Speaker, Early Career Scientists Symposium, University of Michigan	March 2015
TEDxJackson Hole Presenter	October 2014
First Place, Student Paper Competition, Congress of the International Primatological Society	2012
Best Student Presentation, American Society of Primatologists Annual Meeting	2011
Best Talk by Pre-Prelim Ph.D. Student, Grad. Students in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, UIUC	2010
Member, Phi Kappa Phi	2010-2013
Ray W. Smith Award, Dartmouth College	2007
Christopher G. Reed Biologist Award, Dartmouth College	2007
Florence Fletcher Charles Botany Prize, Dartmouth College	2007
Member, Phi Beta Kappa	2007-present
Associate Member, Sigma Xi	2007-present
2 nd Place, Christopher Reed Science Competition, Dartmouth College	May 2007
Richter Memorial Grant, Dartmouth College	2006-2007
Honors Second Group, Dartmouth College	2004-2007
Member, National Society of Collegiate Scholars	2004

7. Additional Activities

Associate Editor, <i>Microbiome</i> (Impact Factor: 9.000)	2016-present
Symposium Coordinator, Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UIUC	2011-2012
Outreach Coordinator, Graduate Students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UIUC	2009-2010
Dartmouth Class of 2007 Newsletter Editor	2007-present

8. Additional Skills

Fluent in Spanish	
Certified SCUBA Open Water Diver, PADI	September 2005
Wilderness Risk Management Training, Dartmouth College	April 2004
Group Dynamics Training, Dartmouth College	April 2004

9. Memberships

American Society of Primatologists
 American Association of Physical Anthropologists
 International Primatological Society
 International Society for Microbial Ecology

10. Peer Review Roles

Journals: American Journal of Physical Anthropology, American Journal of Primatology, Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Biological Conservation, Ecology and the Natural Environment, Environmental Microbiology and Environmental Microbiology Reports, Frontiers in Microbiology, International Journal of

Primateology, ISME J, Mammal Review, Microbiology, Microbiome, Nutrition and Metabolism, Oecologia, PLoS One, PNAS, Primates, Science Advances, Scientific Reports

Organizations: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Israel Science Foundation, National Science Foundation, University of Nebraska Food for Health Collaboration Initiative

11. Undergraduate and Graduate Students Trained

Laura Diakw, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, September 2014
Avery Lane, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, September 2014
Aura Raulo, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, September 2014
Gabriela Sheets, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2014
Genevieve Bennett, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, July 2014
Matthew Malone, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, July 2014
Santiago Cassalet, Bioinformatics/data analysis, University of Colorado Boulder, April 2014
Vanessa Hale, Bioinformatics, University of Colorado Boulder, April 2014
Andrew Schuh: fecal sample DNA extraction, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Oct. 2011-Dec. 2011
Gillian Britton: fecal sample DNA extraction, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Aug. 2011
Brianna Wilkinson: field primatology, Palenque National Park, Mexico, Nov. 2010-June 2011
Sarah Wengert: field primatology, Palenque National Park, Mexico, Oct.-Dec. 2010

12. Publications

- Estrada, A., P.A. Garber, A.B. Rylands, C. Roos, E. Fernandez-Duque, A. Di Fiore, K.A. Isola Nekaris, V. Nijman, E.W. Heymann, J.E. Lambert, F. Rovero, C. Barelli, J.M. Setchell, T.R. Gillespie, R.A. Mittermeier, L.V. Arregoitia, M. de Guinea, S. Gouveia, R. Dobrovolski, S. Shanee, N. Shanee, S.A. Boyle, A. Fuentes, K.C. MacKinnon, **K.R. Amato**, A.L.S. Meyer, S. Wich, R.W. Sussman, R. Pan, I. Kone, B. Li. (in review). Impending extinction crisis of the world's primates: why primates matter. *Science Advances*.
- Amato** **K.R.**, S. Van Belle, A. Di Fiore, A. Estrada, R.M. Stumpf, B. White, K.E. Nelson, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh (in press). Kinship and social contact determine gut microbiota similarity among black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*) within social groups. *Microbial Ecology*.
- Amato**, **K.R.** (in press) Diets and Nutrition. In *International Encyclopedia of Primatology*. A. Fuentes, ed. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Amato**, **K.R.** (in press). An Introduction to Microbiome Analysis for Human Biology Applications. *American Journal of Human Biology*. Doi: 10.1002/ajhb.22931
- Amato**, **K.R.**, A. Ulanov, K.S. Ju, P.A. Garber. (in press) Metabolomic data suggest regulation of black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) diet composition at the molecular level. *American Journal of Primatology*
- Hale, V.L., C.L. Tan, K. Niu, Y. Yan, D. Cui, H. Zhao, R. Knight, and **K.R. Amato**. (2016) Effects of field conditions on fecal microbiota. *Journal of Microbiological Methods*.
- Amato**, **K.R.**, J.L. Metcalf, S.J. Song, V.L. Hale, J. Clayton, G. Ackermann, G. Humphrey, K. Niu, D. Cui, H. Zhao, M.D. Schrenzel, C. Tan, R. Knight, J. Braun. (2016). Using the gut microbiota as a novel tool for examining colobine primate GI health. *Global Ecology and Conservation*. 7: 225-237.
- Stumpf, R.M., A. Gomez, **K.R. Amato**, C.J. Yeoman, J.D. Polk, B.A. Wilson, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, S.R. Leigh. (2016) Microbiomes, metagenomics, and primate conservation: New strategies, tools, and applications. *Biological Conservation*. 199:56-66.
- Bennett G., M. Malone, M.L. Sautther, F.P. Cuzzo, B. White, K.E. Nelson, R.M. Stumpf, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh, **K.R. Amato**. (2016) Host age, social group and habitat type influence the gut microbiota of wild, ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*). *American Journal of Primatology*. 78(8): 883-892. Doi: 10.1002/ajp.22555

- Song, S.J. A. Amir, J.L. Metcalf, **K.R. Amato**, Z.Z. Xu, G. Humphrey, R. Knight. (2016) Preservation methods differ in fecal microbiome stability, affecting suitability for field studies. *mSystems*. 1(3) doi: 10.1128/mSystems.00021-16
- Gomez, A., Petrzelkova, K.J., Burns, M.B., Yeoman, C.J., **Amato, K.R.**, Vlckova, K., Modry, D., Todd, A., Jost Robinson, C.A., Remins, M.J., Torralba, M.G., Morton, E., Umama, J.D., Carbonero, F., Gaskins, H.R., Nelson, K.E., Wilson, B.A., Stumpf, R.M., White, B.A., Leigh, S.R., Blekman, R. (2016) Gut microbiome of coexisting BaAka pygmies and Bantu reflects gradients of traditional subsistence patterns. *Cell*. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2016.02.013>
- Amato, K.R.** (2016) Incorporating the gut microbiota into models of human and non-human primate ecology and evolution. *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology*. 159: 196-215. DOI: 10.1002/ajpa.22908
- Amato, K.R.**, R. Martinez-Mota, N. Righini, M. Raguet-Schofield, F.P. Corcione, E. Marini, G. Humphrey, G. Gogul, J. Gaffney⁷, E. Lovelace, L. Williams, A. Luong, M.G. Dominguez-Bello, R.M. Stumpf, B. White, K. Nelson, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh (2016). Phylogenetic and ecological factors impact the gut microbiota of two Neotropical primate species. *Oecologia*. 180(3): 717-733. doi: 10.1007/s00442-015-3507-z
- Amato, K.R.**, C. J. Yeoman, C. Schmitt, G. Cerda, J.D. Cramer, M.E. Berg Miller, A. Gomez, T. Turner, B.A. Wilson, R. M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh. (2015). Variable responses of human and non-human primate gut microbiota to a Western diet. *Microbiome*. 3(53).
- Hale, V., C.L. Tan, R. Knight, **K.R. Amato**. (2015). Effect of preservation method on spider monkey (*Ateles geoffroyi*) fecal microbiota over 8 weeks. *Journal of Microbiological Methods*. 113: 16-26. doi:10.1016/j.mimet.2015.03.021
- Amato, K.R.**, S.R. Leigh, A.D. Kent, R. Mackie, C.J. Yeoman, R.M. Stumpf, B. A. Wilson, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, P.A. Garber. (2015). The gut microbiota appears to compensate for seasonal diet variation in the wild black howler monkey. (*Alouatta pigra*). *Microbial Ecology*. 69(2): 434-443.
- Amato, K.R.** and N. Righini. (2015). The howler monkey as a model for exploring host-gut microbiota interactions in primates. In: M. Kowalewski, P.A. Garber, L. Cortés-Ortiz, B. Urbani, and D. Youlatos, eds. *Howler Monkeys: Adaptive radiation, systematics and morphology*. Springer, New York. 229-258.
- Amato, K.R.**, S.R. Leigh, A.D. Kent, R. Mackie, C.J. Yeoman, R.M. Stumpf, B.A. Wilson, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, P.A. Garber. (2014). The role of gut microbes in satisfying the demands of adult and juvenile wild, black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 155(4): 652-664. DOI: 10.1002/ajpa.22621
- Amato, K.R.** and P.A. Garber. (2014). Nutrition and foraging strategies of the black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) in Palenque National Park, Mexico. *American Journal of Primatology*. 76(8): 774-787. doi: 10.1002/ajp.22268
- Amato, K.R.** (2013). Co-evolution in context: The importance of studying gut microbiomes in wild animals. *Microbiome Science and Medicine*. 1:10-29. doi: 10.2478/micsm-2013-0002.
- Amato, K.R.**, S. Van Belle, B. Wilkinson. (2013). A comparison of scan and focal sampling for the description of wild primate activity, diet, and intragroup spatial relationships. *Folia Primatologica*. 84: 87-101.
- Amato, K.R.**, C.J. Yeoman, A. Kent, N. Righini, F. Carbonero, A. Estrada, H.R. Gaskins, R. Stumpf, S. Yildirim, M. Torralba, M. Gillis, B. Wilson, K. Nelson, B. White, S.R. Leigh. (2013). Habitat degradation impacts black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) gastrointestinal microbes. *The ISME Journal*. 7: 1344-1353. doi:10.1038/ismej.2013.16.
- Amato, K.R.**, B. Martin, A. Pope, C. Theiling, K. Landwehr, J. Petersen, B. Ickes, J. Houser, Y. Yin, B. Hannon, R. Sparks. (2012). Spatially explicit modeling of productivity in Pool 5 of the Mississippi River. In: J.

Westervelt and G. Cohen, editors. Ecologist-Developed Spatially-Explicit Dynamic Landscape Models. Springer, New York: 151-170.

Nakamura, N., **Amato, K.R.**, Estrada, A.E., Garber, P.A., Mackie, R.I., and Gaskins, H.R. (2011). Analysis of the hydrogenotrophic microbiota of wild and captive howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). *American Journal of Primatology*. 73: 909-919.

Amato, K.R. and A.E. Estrada. (2010). Seed dispersal patterns in two closely related howler monkey species (*Alouatta palliata* and *A. pigra*): A preliminary report of differences in fruit consumption, traveling behavior, and associated dung beetle assemblages. *Neotropical Primates*. 17(2): 59-66.

Amato, K.R., S.L. Emel, C.A. Lindgren, K.M. Sullan, P.R. Wright and J.J. Gilbert. (2008). Covering behavior of two co-occurring sea urchins in Discovery Bay, Jamaica: Differences in amount of covering and selection of covering material. *Bulletin of Marine Science*. 82(2): 255-261.

Amato, K.R., D.D. Onen, S.L. Emel, and C.H. May. (2006). Comparison of foraging behavior between howler monkeys, spider monkeys, and squirrel monkeys. *Dartmouth Undergraduate Journal of Science*. 9:1, 28-31.

13. Conference Presentations

Amato, K.R. (2016) Intraspecific variation in the primate gut microbiota. Invited symposium presentation at the joint meeting of the International Primatological Society and the American Society of Primatologists. Chicago, IL, USA.

Amato, K.R. (2016) Using the gut microbiota to understand primate ecology and evolution. Invited presentation at the 2nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for Evolution, Medicine, and Public Health. Durham, NC, USA.

Amato, K.R., S. Van Belle, A. Di Fiore, A. Estrada, R. Stumpf, B. White, K.E. Nelson, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh. (2016) The impact of kinship and social contact on the gut microbiota of wild, black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). Poster at the 85th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Atlanta, GA, USA.

K.R. Amato, M. Raguette-Schofield, N. Righini, R. Martinez-Mota, R. Knight, R. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, S.R. Leigh. (2015). Determinants of the gut microbiota of Mesoamerican howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra* and *A. palliata*). Poster at the 84th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. St. Louis, MO, USA.

Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, G. Cerda, C. Schmitt, J.D. Cramer, M.E. Berg-Miller, A. Gomez, T. Turner, B.A. Wilson, R. M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh. (2015). The human and non-human primate gut microbiota react differently to a Western diet. Poster at the Keystone Symposium on Molecular and Cellular Biology: Gut microbiota modulation of host physiology: The search for mechanism. Keystone, CO.

Amato, K.R., K.S. Ju, A. Ulanov, P.A. Garber. (2014). Black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*) at Palenque National Park, Mexico target lipid metabolites when foraging. Invited symposium presentation at the 37th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Primatologists. Decatur, GA.

Amato, K.R., M. Kowalewski, A. Di Fiore, A. Link, S. Cassalet, R.M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, R. Knight, S.R. Leigh. (2014). Diet or phylogeny?: The gut microbiota of leaf-eating primates. Poster at the 15th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology. Seoul, Korea.

Hale, V.L., C.L. Tan, K. Niu, Y. Yang, Q. Zhang, R. Knight, K.R. Amato. (2014). Monkeying with microbes: Gut flora in closely-related colobine species. Poster at the 15th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology. Seoul, Korea.

- Amato, K.R., S.R. Leigh, M. Kowalewski, R.M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, R. Knight .(2014). The gut microbiota of leaf-eating primates: Implications for ecology and evolution. Presentation at the 25th Congress of the International Primatological Society. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Hale, V.L., C.L. Tan, K. Niu, Y. Yan, Q. Zhang, R. Knight, K.R. Amato. (2014). Secrets from the gut: Gut microbes in wild and captive Guizhou snub-nosed monkeys, *Rhinopithecus brelichi*. Presentation at the 25th Congress of the International Primatological Society. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Stumpf, R.M., K.R. Amato, C. Yeoman, B.A. Wilson, J.D. Polk, B. White, S.R. Leigh. (2014). The importance of microbial ecology for primate conservation in Western Africa. Presentation at the 25th Congress of the International Primatological Society. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Amato, K.R. and P.A. Garber. (2014). An ateline foraging strategy: Nutritional intake of the black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) in Palenque National Park, Mexico. Presentation at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- Leigh, S.R., K.R. Amato, A.D. Kent, C.J. Yeoman, M. Torralba, M. Gillis, B.A. Wilson, K.E. Nelson, A. Gomez, B.A. White, R.M. Stumpf. (2014). Comparative perspectives on primate microbiomes. Presentation at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, G. Cerda, A. Jasinska, J.D. Cramer, M.E. Berg-Miller, A. Gomez, M. Torralba, M. Gillis, T. Turner, B.A. Wilson, R. M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, B.A. White, S.R. Leigh. (2014). Host phylogeny and diet impact human and non-human primate gut microbiota. Poster at the Keystone Symposium on Molecular and Cellular Biology: Exploiting and Understanding Chemical Biotransformations in the Human Microbiome. Big Sky, MT.
- Amato, K.R., S.R. Leigh, A. Kent, C.J. Yeoman, A. Estrada, R.M. Stumpf, M. Torralba, M. Gillus, B.A. Wilson, K.E. Nelson, B. White, P.A. Garber. (2013). Age and sex differences in the behavior, diet, and gut microbial communities of wild black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). Presentation at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Knoxville, TN.
- Amato, K.R. and P.A. Garber. (2012). Behavioral strategies for meeting nutritional demands across seasons and life history stages in the Mexican black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*). Presentation at the Midwest Primate Interest Group Meeting. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL.
- Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, N. Righini, A. Kent, F. Carbonero, A. Estrada, H.R. Gaskins, R.M. Stumpf, S. Yildirim, K.E. Nelson, M. Torralba, M. Gillus, S.R. Leigh. (2012). Spatial and temporal patterns in Mexican black howler (*Alouatta pigra*) gut microbial community composition. Presentation at the 24th Congress of the International Primatological Society. Cancun, Mexico.
- Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, N. Righini, A. Kent, F. Carbonero, A. Estrada, H.R. Gaskins, R.M. Stumpf, S. Yildirim, K.E. Nelson, M. Torralba, M. Gillus, S.R. Leigh. (2012). Spatial and temporal variation in the gut microbiome of wild, black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). Presentation at the 97th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Portland, OR.
- Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, N. Righini, A. Kent, A. Estrada, R.M. Stumpf, K.E. Nelson, M. Torralba, M. Gillus, S.R. Leigh. (2011). The influence of habitat on Mexican black howler (*Alouatta pigra*) gut microbial community composition. Presentation at the 34th Meeting of the American Society of Primatologists. Austin, TX.
- Amato, K.R., C.J. Yeoman, N. Righini, A. Kent, A. Estrada, D. Munoz, R.M. Stumpf, B. White, K.E. Nelson, M. Torralba, M. Gillus, S.R. Leigh. (2011). Gastrointestinal microbial community composition and habitat structure in howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*). Presentation at the 80th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Primatologists. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Amato, K.R., A.D. Kent, R.I. Mackie, A. Estrada, P.A. Garber. (2010). The gut microbes and foraging behavior of wild, black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*) in Palenque National Park, Mexico. Poster at 13th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology, Seattle, Washington.

Amato, K., B. Martin, A. Pope, B. Hannon, C. Theiling, B. Ickes, J. Houser, R. Sparks (2009). Spatially Explicit carbon Cycling in the Mississippi River. Poster at ERDC Conference, Memphis, Tennessee.

Amato, K.R. (2009). Age and sex-based differences in the foraging behavior of black howler monkeys (*Alouatta pigra*) in Palenque National Park, Mexico. Presentation at the Midwest Primate Interest Group Meeting. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

Amato, K.R., Estrada, A.E. (2009). A preliminary comparison of seed dispersal in two howler monkey species (*Alouatta palliata* and *Alouatta pigra*). Poster at Planet U Conference, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL.

Amato, K.R., Estrada, A.E. (2008). A preliminary comparison of seed dispersal in two howler monkey species (*Alouatta palliata* and *Alouatta pigra*). Poster at the Midwest Primate Interest Group Meeting, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.

14. Invited Presentations and Seminars

K.R. Amato (2016) Microbial pieces of a macro puzzle: Using the gut microbiota to examine questions regarding human ecology, evolution, and health. Invited seminar for the Office of Research Development, Northwestern University.

K.R. Amato (2016) Microbial variation and host plasticity: New perspectives on health and evolution in humans and NHP. Invited seminar at University of New Mexico.

K.R. Amato (2016) Gut Check: What's all the hype about the human microbiome? Community presentation at the Skokie Public Library. Skokie, IL, USA.

K.R. Amato (2016) Variation and its consequences: Exploring host-gut microbe dynamics in humans and non-human primates. Invited seminar at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

K.R. Amato (2016) Monkeys, microbes, and the many paths to becoming a scientist. Presentation at AT&T High Technology Day. Co-sponsored by National Geographic. Chicago, IL, USA.

K.R. Amato (2015) Into the Wild: Exploring the role of gut microbes in a selective environment. Invited presentation at Early Career Scientists Symposium, University of Michigan. Anne Arbor, MI, USA.

K.R. Amato (2015) Using the gut microbiome to build our understanding of primate behavior. Invited seminar at Indiana University.

K.R. Amato (2014) Protecting the rainforest within: Lessons from studying primate gut microbes. Presentation at TEDx Jackson Hole.

Amato, K.R. La ecologia y la nutricion del mono aullador negro en el Parque Nacional Palenque. (2011). Presentation to the Comision Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas. Palenque National Park, Chiapas, Mexico.

Amato, K.R. (2009). A preliminary comparison of seed dispersal in two howler monkey species (*Alouatta palliata* and *Alouatta pigra*). Presentation for National Geographic Live! Washington, D.C.

Amato, K.R. (2009). The role of primates in Mexican tropical forest dynamics. Presentation at National Geographic Young Explorers Workshop, National Geographic Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

Amato, K.R. (2009). The role of primates in Mexican tropical forest dynamics. Presentation at National Geographic Young Explorers Workshop, Harvard University, Boston, MA.

Amato, K.R. (2008). The role of primates in Mexican tropical forest dynamics. Presentation at National Geographic Young Explorers Workshop, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.