

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## ANGELO P. PERNETTA



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### Profile

I am a vertebrate biologist with particular research interests in the population genetics, ethology, ecology and conservation biology of reptiles and amphibians. My current PhD research has focused on understanding the ecological and genetic consequences of lowland heathland fragmentation for British smooth snake populations. I am also interested in the autecology of island vertebrates and the global wildlife trade, particularly with respect to the exotic pet trade.

### Education

2005-Present: PhD, Centre for Ecology & Hydrology and the University of Southampton.

Thesis - "Population ecology and conservation genetics of the smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) in a fragmented heath landscape." - NERC Funded Studentship.  
Supervisors: Dr C.J. Reading (CEH) & Prof. J.A. Allen (Univ. Southampton)

2003-2004: MSc Applied Ecology and Conservation (Pass), University of East Anglia.

Thesis: - "Microhabitat and dietary preferences of Telfair's skink (*Leiolopisma telfairii*) on Round Island, Mauritius: implications for their translocation."  
Supervisors: Dr D.J. Bell (UEA) & Dr C.G. Jones MBE (Mauritian Wildlife Foundation)

1999-2003: BSc Hons. Zoology (2.1), University of Aberdeen.

Thesis - "Is the feeding rate of Daubenton's bats (*Myotis daubentonii*, Kuhl 1819) related to insect density?"  
Supervisor: Prof. P.A. Racey

1991-1998: Springwood High School, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

A-Levels: Biology (B), Mathematics (D) Chemistry (E) AS-Level: Photography (B)  
GCSEs: 1xA\*, 3xA, 5xB

### Teaching experience

2005-2008: MSc Applied Ecology & Conservation, University of East Anglia.

Annual 3 hr seminar describing reptile and amphibian survey techniques for the Ecological Census Techniques module.

2004-2008: MSc Applied Ecology & Conservation, University of East Anglia.

Annual 3 hr seminar detailing issues in the conservation of reptiles and amphibians for the Issues in Conservation module.

2004: University of East Anglia, Norwich.

Demonstrator for 1st year vertebrate zoology practical classes.

### Professional Responsibilities, Awards & Memberships

Editorial responsibilities:

2006-Present: Co-Editor - *North-Western Journal of Zoology*  
University of Oradea, Romania (ISI Listed from 2007).

2008-Present: Editorial board - *Herpetology Notes*  
*Societas Europea Herpetologica*.

Peer-reviewer for:

*Amphibia-Reptilia*, *Global Change Biology*, *Herpetology Notes*, *Journal of Zoology*, *North-Western Journal of Zoology*.

### Awards

2008: Wessex Medical Research Oral Presentation Prize (Best presentation in Biological sciences) - Faculty of Medicine, Health & Life Sciences Postgraduate Conference, University of Southampton

2007: Centre for Ecology & Hydrology PhD studentship top-up award (£4,660)

2005: Competitively awarded NERC PhD studentship (Approximate value £46,000)

2004: UEA International conservation and field ecology travel award (£600)  
 1997: 2nd place Norwich Science Olympiad

### Professional memberships

2005-2008: CEH PhD training committee  
 2003-Present: British Herpetological Society  
 2006-Present: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles  
 2006-Present: Society for Conservation Biology  
 2007-Present: American Association for the Advancement of Science  
 2008-Present: British Ecological Society

### Publications and Presentations

#### Peer-reviewed

1. Pernetta, A.P., Reading, C.J. & Allen, J.A. (In Revision). Ecological and genetic consequences of habitat fragmentation for reptiles. *Journal for Nature Conservation*.
2. Pernetta, A.P. (In Press) What about reducing the risks for the traded wildlife? *Science*
3. Pernetta, A.P. (In Press). Monitoring the trade: using the CITES trade database to examine the dynamics of the trade in live monitor lizards (*Varanus* spp.). *Biawak - Quarterly Journal of Varanid Biology and Husbandry*.
4. Pernetta, A.P. (In Press). Observations of two melanistic smooth snakes (*Coronella austriaca*) from Dorset, United Kingdom. *Acta Herpetologica*.
5. Pernetta, A.P. & Reading, C.J. (2009). *Coronella austriaca* (smooth snake) Paraphimosis. *Herpetological Review* 40: 95.
6. Pernetta, A.P., Reading, C.J. & Allen, J.A. (2009). Chemoreception and kin discrimination by neonate smooth snakes (*Coronella austriaca*). *Animal Behaviour* 77: 363-368.
7. Pernetta, A.P. (2008). Just give them fellowships. *Science* 321:1776-1777.
8. Ross, T.N., Pernetta, A.P., Bell, D.J. & Jones, C.G. (2008). Sexual size dimorphism and microhabitat use of the orange-tailed skink (*Gongylomorphus* sp.) on Flat Island, Mauritius. *Amphibia-Reptilia* 29: 349-359.
9. Hartel, T., Sas, I., Pernetta, A.P. & Geltsch, I.C. (2007). The reproductive dynamics of temperate amphibians: a review. *North-Western Journal of Zoology* 3: 127-145.
10. Pernetta, A.P. (2007). Mentors could support a student reviewer database. *Nature* 448: 129.
11. Pernetta, A.P., Bell, D.J. & Jones, C.G. (2005). Macro- and microhabitat use of Telfair's skinks (*Leiopisma telfairii*) on Round Island, Mauritius: Implications for their translocation, *Acta Oecologica* 28: 313-323.
12. Pernetta, A.P., Ross, T.N. & Jones, C.G. (2005). *Leiopisma telfairii* (Telfair's skink): Caudal Luring, *Herpetological Review* 36(3): 320-321.
13. Pernetta, A.P. (2005). *Gongylomorphus bojerii bojerii* (Bojer's skink): arboreality, *Herpetological Bulletin* 91: 31-32.
14. Pernetta, A.P. (2004). Book Review: A photographic guide to snakes and other reptiles of Thailand and South-East Asia, *Herpetological Bulletin* 90: 32.
15. Pernetta, A.P. (2004). Book review: Expedition Field Techniques: Reptiles and Amphibians, *Herpetological Bulletin* 87: 32.
16. Pernetta, A.P. (2004). 'Non-destructive' aquarium trade fishery – a misnomer, *Oryx* 38: 3-4.

#### Semi-popular natural history articles

1. Pernetta, A.P. (2007). Snakes in the grass. *Reptile Care* 4(4): 53-55.
2. Pernetta, A.P. (2007). In adoration of the adder. *Reptile Care* 4(3): 28-31.
3. Pernetta, A.P. (2007). The secret life of the smooth snake. *Reptile Care* 4(2): 16-19.
4. Pernetta, A.P. (2005). Round Island's Reptilian Rarities, *Reptile Care* 13: 17-20.

#### Conference presentations

1. 2008: Pernetta, A.P. Smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) dispersal within a lowland heathland/conifer forest mosaic determined using microsatellite analysis. Faculty of Medicine, Health & Life Sciences Postgraduate Conference, University of Southampton (Oral; see awards).
2. 2006: Pernetta, A.P. Reading, C.J. & Allen, J.A. A fragment of its former self: the ecology of the smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) in a fragmented heath landscape. 1st European Congress of Conservation Biology, Eger, Hungary (Poster).
3. 2006: Pernetta, A.P. Fragments of a fragmentation PhD: the end of the 1st year. CEH Wallingford (18/10/2006). (Oral presentation)
4. 2005: Pernetta, A.P. Macro- and microhabitat use of Telfair's skink on Round Island, Mauritius. CEH Dorset.

### **Relevant Professional Experience**

**2004: Round island restoration project, Mauritius.**

3 months intensive data collection for my MSc thesis on the autecology of Telfair's skinks, fieldwork included trapping and handling live skinks as well as habitat and vegetation surveys. Other experiences gained included nocturnal reptile surveys, bird monitoring/ringing and plant restoration programs.

**2002: Aberdeenshire bat surveys**

Night-time acoustic field surveys of Daubenton's bats on isolated stretches of rivers in Northeast Scotland. Experience gained included the use of bat detectors and photographic techniques for establishing insect densities above rivers.

**1999: Centre for marine and coastal studies, University Sains Malaysia**

Voluntary research assistant to Prof. J.E. Ong and Dr W.K. Gong studying the nutrient cycling properties of mangrove forests in the Sungai Merbok estuary complex.

**1998: Bolinao marine research station, University of the Philippines**

Voluntary research assistant, under the direction of Associate Professor L. Talaue-McManus, to projects including; giant clam breeding projects, sea-grass surveys and the Bolinao community-based coastal resource management project. Transferable Skills

### **I.T. Skills**

Highly experienced with both Windows and Mac OSX operating systems and both iWork and MS Office packages. I am also competent in the use of; Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Dreamweaver, SPSS, Minitab, ArcGIS 9 and FRAGSTATS. In addition I have experience of a number of statistical packages for genetic analyses such as; GENEPOP, GENALEX, STRUCTURE, GERUD, CERVUS and FSTAT and R.

### **Other skills**

- PIT Tagging and blood sampling - I have extensive experience in the use of Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT tags) in mark-recapture studies of snakes, as well as extraction of blood samples for genetic analysis
- I am experienced in the use of radio-nucleotides, PCR techniques, gel electrophoresis and the subsequent statistical analysis of data for microsatellite markers.
- Home Office License - I currently hold a Personal License from the Home Office under the Animals and Scientific Procedures Act (1981) allowing me to take blood samples from Grass snakes (*Natrix natrix*) and smooth snakes (*Coronella austriaca*)
- Driving Licence - I have held a full, clean driving license for the past eleven years
- PADI - I am a qualified open-water diver with experience on both the South Pacific and South-East Asia
- Photography – Both digital and film mediums. I also have experience in black & white dark-room techniques. Honourable mention- 2005 Nactus herpetological photography awards.

### **References**

References are available upon request