

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR JADA BENN TORRES

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DEGREES EARNED

- 2006 Ph.D. Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Dissertation Title: *African Ancestry and Admixture Estimates Throughout the Anglophone Caribbean*. Adviser: Keith Hunley and Anne Stone
- 2001 M.S. Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1999 B.A. Pre-professional Studies/Anthropology and Computer Applications,
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2016-present Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University
(Tenured in 2021)
- 2009-2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame
- 2008-2009 Research Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of
Notre Dame
- 2006-2008 Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Medicine, Section of Genetic Medicine,
The University of Chicago, Adviser: Rick Kittles
- 2005-2006 Graduate and Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of
New Mexico
- 2003-05 Visiting Scholar, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State
University, Adviser: Anne Stone
- 2004 Visiting Scholar, Department of Molecular Virology, Immunology & Medical
Genetics, The Ohio State University, Adviser: Rick Kittles
- 2000-2003 Research Assistant, Laboratory of Molecular Anthropology, Department of
Anthropology, University of New Mexico

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (CONTINUED)

2001-2002	Graduate Assistant, Department of Biology, Molecular Facilities, University of New Mexico
1999-2000	Research Assistant, Osteology Laboratory, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology University of New Mexico
1999-2000	Gallery Docent, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology University of New Mexico
1999	Summer Laboratory technician for Dr. Stephen Hull, Department of Physiology, College of Medicine, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
1994	Summer Laboratory technician for Dr. Robert Broyles, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Editorial Board

2024-2027	Vanderbilt University Press Faculty Editorial Committee
2020-2023	Associate Editor, Yearbook of Physical Anthropology
2020-2024	Editorial Board, American Anthropologist

Advisory Board

2025-2029	Wenner-Gren Advisory Council
2023-2024	Advisor to AAA Commission on the Ethical Treatment of Human Remains
2019-2021	Fzero Genomics Scientific Advisory Board, Caribbean-based genomics company
2019-2020	Steering Committee for the Vanderbilt-Meharry-Miami Precision Medicine and Health Disparities Collaborative (PMHDC)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024	American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow, Section H
2022	Vanderbilt Anthropology Graduate Student Association, Excellence in Mentoring Award
2021	Robert W. Sussman Award for Scientific Contributions to Anthropology, Anthropology Section (Section H) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
2018	Distinguished Faculty Member/Honorary Captain, Vanderbilt Athletics and Academic Support for Student-Athletes
2017	Gabriel Ward Lasker Award, from the journal <i>Human Biology</i>
2017	Provost Research Studio Program, selected by the Provost
2005	Ford Foundation Diversity Dissertation Fellow, Honorable Mention
1999	Lambda Alpha Anthropology National Collegiate Honors Society for Anthropology, Beta chapter of Indiana

PUBLICATIONS/ RESEARCH

Books

- 2021 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colón, G., Genetic Ancestry: Our Stories, Our Pasts. Routledge Press. 134 pages.

Articles in refereed journals (*co-authored with students)

- 2025 Langer-Gould, AM, Cepon-Robins, TJ, **Benn Torres, J**, Yeh, EA, & Gildner, TE. Embodiment of structural racism and multiple sclerosis risk and outcomes in the USA. *Nature Reviews Neurology*, 1-13.
- 2025 De La Vega FM, Barnes KC, Bland H, Edwards T, Fox K, Ioannidis A, Kenny E, Mathias RA, Pasaniuc B, **Torres JB**, Velez Edwards DR. Session Introduction: Overcoming health disparities in precision medicine: Intersectional approaches in precision medicine. *Pacific Symposium of Biocomputing*. 2025;30:247-250. PMID: 39670374.
- 2024 Nieves-Colón, M. A., Ulrich, E. C., Chen, L., Torres Colón, G. A., Clemente, M. R., Copi, L. C. P. S. I., & **Benn Torres, J.** Genetic ancestry in Puerto Rican afro-descendants illustrates diverse histories of African diasporic populations. *American Journal of Biological Anthropology*, e25029. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.25029>
- 2024 Winful, T., Sorunke, M., & **Benn Torres, J.** Exploring the Relationship Between Stress, Salivary C-Reactive Protein, and Embodied Physiological Responses in a Nigerian Population. *American Journal of Human Biology*, n/a(n/a), e24158. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajhb.24158>
- 2024 Maestre, G., Hill, C., Griffin, P., Hall, S., Hu, W., Flatt, J., Babulal, G., Thorpe, R., Henderson, J. N., Buchwald, D., Manson, S., Cicero, E., Gilmore-Bykovskyi, A., Gamaldo, A., Glover, C., Barnes, L., Kind, A., James, B., Zeki Al Hazzouri, A., Wharton, W., Caramelli P., Szanton, S., Whitmer R., **Benn Torres, J.**, Deters K., Okonkwo O., Das R., Martinez-Gonzalez K, Carrillo M. Promoting diverse perspectives: Addressing health disparities related to Alzheimer's and all dementias. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 20(4), 3099–3107. <https://doi.org/10.1002/alz.13752>
- 2023 * Winful, T., McCormack, K., Mueller, E., Chen, L., orporación Piñones Se Integra (COPI), Rivera Clemente, M., & **Benn Torres, J.** Exploring the legacy of African and Indigenous Caribbean admixture in Puerto Rico. *American Journal of Biological Anthropology*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.24814>
- 2022 **Benn Torres, J.** "Racial Experience in the Age of Direct-to-Consumer Ancestry Testing." *Nordic Journal of Social Research*, 13.1:37-50.

Articles in refereed journals (*co-authored with students, continued)

- 2021 Mullings, L., **Benn Torres, J.**, Fuentes, A., Gravlee, C. C., Roberts, D., & Thayer, Z. (2021). The Biology of Racism. *American Anthropologist*, 123(3), 671–680. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13630>
- 2021 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colón, G. Racial Experience as an Alternative Operationalization of Race. *Human Biology* 92(3), 181-187, (updated reprint of 2015 article). DOI: 10.13110/humanbiology.92.3.05.
- 2020 **Benn Torres, J.** Anthropological perspectives on genomic data, genetic ancestry, and race. *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology*, 171(Suppl. 70):74–86. DOI: 10.1002/ajpa.23979.
- 2019 ***Benn Torres, J.** , Martucci, V., Aldrich, MC., Vilar MG., MacKinney, T., Gaieski, JB., Hernandez, RB, Browne, ZE., Stevenson, M., Wendell Walters, W., Tariq, M., Schurr, TG., and The Genographic Consortium. Analysis of biogeographic ancestry reveals complex genetic histories for indigenous communities of St. Vincent and Trinidad. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, 169:482–497. DOI: 10.1002/ajpa.23859.
- 2019 **Benn Torres, J.** A parrot among John Crows: diversity as risk and reward. *American Anthropologist*, 121(2):474-476. DOI:10.1111/aman.13217.
- 2019 **Benn Torres, J.** Race, rare genetic variants, and the science of human difference in the post-genomic age. *Transforming Anthropology*, 27(1), 37-49. DOI:10.1111/traa.12144.
- 2018 **Benn Torres, J.** ‘Reparational’ Genetics: Genomic data and the case for reparations in the Caribbean. *Genealogy*, 2(7), 11 pages. doi:10.3390/genealogy2010007 DOI: 10.3390/genealogy2010007.
- 2018 Fuller, H. and **Benn Torres, J.** Investigating the ‘Taíno’ Ancestry of the Jamaican Maroons: A New Genetic (DNA), Historical and Multidisciplinary Analysis and Case Study of the Accompong Town Maroons. *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*. Vol. 43(1), 47-78.
- 2017 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colon, G. ¿Afrocaribeños y originarios? Genética, memoria y presencia africana en el Caribe. *Anales del Caribe*, September 2017, 268-276.
- 2016 **Benn Torres, J.** A history of you, me, and humanity: mitochondrial DNA in anthropological research. *AIMS Genetics*, 3(2): 146-156. doi: 10.3934/genet.2016.2.146.
- 2016 **Benn Torres, J.** Genetic Anthropology and Archaeology: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Human History in the Caribbean. *PaleoAmerica*, 2(1), 1-5.

Articles in refereed journals (*co-authored with students, continued)

- 2015 **Benn Torres, J.**, Vilar, M., Torres, G. , Gaieski, J., Bharath Hernandez, H., Browne, Z., Stevenson, M., Walters, W., Schurr, TG., and The Genographic Consortium. Genetic Diversity in the Lesser Antilles and Its Implications for the Settlement of the Caribbean Basin. *PLOS ONE*, 10 (10), e0139192, 27 pages.
- 2015 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colón, G. Racial Experience as an Alternative Operationalization of Race. *Human Biology*, 87(4), 306-312.
- 2014 *Madrilejo, N., Lombard, H., and **Benn Torres, J.** Origins of Marronage: Mitochondrial Lineages of Accompong Town Maroons. *American Journal of Human Biology* 27(3):432-7.
- 2014 **Benn Torres, J.** 2014. Prospecting the past: genetic perspectives on the extinction and survival of indigenous peoples of the Caribbean. *New Genetics and Society* 33(1): 21-41.
- 2013 **Benn Torres, J.**, Stone, A., Kittles, R. 2013. An Anthropological Genetic Perspective on Creolization in the Anglophone Caribbean. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 151(1):135-43.
- 2012 **Benn Torres J.**, Doura M.B., Keita S.O.Y., and Kittles R.A. 2012. Y Chromosome Lineages in men of West African Descent. *PloS one* 7(1): e29687. 9 pages.
- 2010 Hooker S., Hernandez W., Chen H., Robbins C., **Benn Torres J.**, Ahaghotu C., Carpten J., Kittles R.A. Replication of prostate cancer risk loci on 8q24, 11q13, 17q12, 19q33, and Xp11 in African Americans. *Prostate* 70(3): 270-275.
- 2009 Kupfer S.S., **Benn Torres J.**, Hooker S., Anderson J.R., Skol A.D., Ellis N.A., Kittles R.A. Novel single nucleotide polymorphism associations with colorectal cancer on chromosome 8q24 in African and European Americans. *Carcinogenesis* 30(8): 1353-1357.
- 2009 Kupfer S., **Benn Torres J.**, Hooker S., Anderson J.R., Ellis N.A., Kittles R. 768 novel SNP associations with colorectal cancer on 8q24 and 5q in African and European Americans. *Gastroenterology* 136(5): page A-120.
- 2009 Giri V.N., Egleston B., Ruth K., Uzzo R.G., Chen D.Y.T., Buyyounouski M., Raysor S., Hooker S., **Benn Torres J.**, Ramike T., Mastalski K., Kim T.Y., Kittles R. Race, genetic west African ancestry, and prostate cancer prediction by prostate-specific antigen in prospectively screened high-risk men. *Cancer Prevention Research* 2(3): 244-250.

Articles in refereed journals (*co-authored with students, continued)

- 2008 **Benn Torres J**, Bonilla C., Robbins C.M., Waterman L., Moses T.Y., Hernandez W., Santos E.R., Bennett F., Aiken W., Tullock T., Coard K., Hennis A., Wu S., Nemesure B., Leske M.C., Freeman V., Carpten J., Kittles R.A. Admixture and population stratification in African Caribbean populations. *Annals of Human Genetics* 72(1): 90-98.
- 2007 Robbins C., **Benn Torres J**, Hooker S., Bonilla C., Hernandez W., Candreva A., Ahaghotu C., Kittles R.A., Carpten J. Confirmation study of prostate cancer risk variants at 8q24 in African Americans identifies a novel risk locus. *Genome Research*. 17(12): 1717-1722.
- 2007 **Benn Torres J**, Kittles R.A. 2007. The relationship between "race" and genetics in biomedical research. *Current Hypertension Reports* 9(3): 196-201.
- 2007 **Benn Torres J**, Kittles R.A., Stone A.C. Mitochondrial and Y chromosome diversity in the English-speaking Caribbean. *Annals Human Genetics* 71(Pt 6): 782-90.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- In press Nägele, K., Benn Torres, J., and Nieves-Colón, M. "Research ethics in Caribbean archaeogenomics" in *Ethics in Caribbean Archaeology: Past, Present, and Future*. University Press of Florida, expected publication January 2026.
- 2025 **Benn Torres, J.**, and Schroeder, Hannes. "When History Meets Genomics: Tracing the Complex Demographic Histories of African-Descendant Communities in the Caribbean." In *Bioarchaeology in the Caribbean*. Routledge.
- 2025 *McCormack, K. and **Benn Torres, J.** "Genetics as a Natural Resource: Genomics, Race, and the Persistence of Health Inequities" in *Racism by Context: The Sciences, Medicine, and Technology*, in Meena Dhanda (ed.), *Oxford Intersections: Racism by Context* (online edition), <https://doi.org/10.1093/9780198945246.003.0058>.
- 2016 Schurr TG, **Benn Torres J**, Vilar MG, Gaieski JB, Melendez, C. 2016. A History of Indigenous Caribbean Populations: Insights from Archeological, Ethnographic, Genetic and Historical Studies. In: Zuckerman M, Martin DL, editors. *New Directions in Biological Anthropology: Papers Honoring the Legacy of George Armelagos*. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, pp. 385-402.
- 2009 Kittles RA and **Benn Torres J**. Race and genetics. In: Ferdinand K, Armani A, editors. *Contemporary Cardiology: Cardiovascular Disease in Racial and Ethnic Minorities*. Humana Press. pp. 81-91.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 1994 Kyker, K.D., Likos, A.M., Blair, F.C., Kurien, B.T., Hala'sz, H., **Benn, J.**, and Broyles, R.H. Hemoglobin switching in heterokaryons; Conservation of trans-acting factors that mediate developmental gene regulation. In Molecular Biology of Hemoglobin Switching. G. Stamatoyannopoulos (Ed) Intercept Ltd., Andover, Hampshire, UK, Chap. 26, pp. 313-329.

Reviewed by Editors

- 2022 * **Benn Torres, J.**, and Winful, T. "Genetic Perspectives on the Pre- and Early Contact Histories of Jamaica." *Journal of Caribbean Archaeology* (22), 13 pages.
- 2018 **Benn Torres, J.** Effective Population Size in The International Encyclopedia of Biological Anthropology. W. Trevathan (ed). John Wiley and Sons, Inc. pp.1-2.

Invited Publications

- 2020 DM Boyer, L Jahnke, CJ Mulligan, T Turner, **2019 Workshop on Data Sharing in Biological Anthropology**. Response to Letters to the Editor concerning AJPA Commentary on "Data Sharing in Biological Anthropology: Guiding Principles and Best Practices. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. e24065. doi: 10.1002/ajpa.24065. Online ahead of print. 3 pages.
- 2014 **Benn Torres, J.** Out of many, one people: Genetic ancestry in the Caribbean. *Genewatch* 27(2):21-23.
- 2014 **Benn Torres, J.** Ensuring careful consideration of potential impacts. Commentary for Zócalo Public Square's program on Synthetic Biology. <http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/2014/09/22/with-great-scientific-power-comes-great-responsibility/ideas/up-for-discussion/#Jada+Benn+Torres> (Reprinted in Time Magazine, <http://time.com/3419445/if-synthetic-biology-lets-us-play-god-we-need-rules/>)

Other Publications (Technical reports)

- 2000 Ozlins E.G., Carson E.A.; **Benn J.**, Potter W.E. Report of Investigation: OMI #3545-7000-IRA.
- 2000 Ozlins E.G., Rhoads M.L., **Benn J.**, Potter W.E., Prilop V. Report of investigation: OMI # 476-200-13V.
- 2000 Komar D., **Benn, J.** Report of Investigation: OMI #4115-800-3.

Submitted Book Chapters

- Abel, S. and **Benn Torres, J.** "Testing the Past" edited by Sara Georgin, Oxford University Press, Handbook of Family History and Genealogy. Submitted in April 2024.

GRANTS

Extramural Research Grants and Fellowships-Awarded

- 2020-2021 National Geographic Explorer Grant, “A community-based analysis of Afro-Puerto Rican genetic ancestry and cultural identity”, Role: Principle Investigator, co-PIs: G. Torres Colón and M. Rivera, Direct cost: \$30,000, Indirect costs: not allowed.
- 2002-2005 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, \$90,000 (\$30,00/year).

Extramural Research Grants and Fellowships-Awarded

- 2000-2002 Gates Millennium Scholar, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation \$50,000 (\$25,000/year).

Intramural Research Grants

- 2023 Research IT Voucher Program from The Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Innovation to develop a community engagement digital interface (\$5000)
- 2022 Evolutionary Studies (ESI) Pilot Grant with Nicole Creanza (\$5000) to trainees and mentor
- 2020 Vanderbilt Strong Grant, ““Bridging socio-environmental factors to biology: epigenetics of inflammation in bio-banked samples” (\$2000) Role: Support training of graduate students on new protocols using previously obtained bio-banked samples in response to COVID-19 restrictions
- 2019 Partnership Development Mini-grant, “Resilience As Creative Expression Partnership”, Meharry-Vanderbilt Community Engaged Research Core (CERC) (\$2000) Role: Direct the biological aspects of projects that are developed as a result of the community partnership with the Corporacion Piñones Se Integra (COPI) in Piñones, Puerto Rico
- 2017 Seed Grant, “Race, Genetic ancestry, and Discourses of Identity (belonging) in Puerto Rico”, The Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (\$6,000) Role: Co-PI with Dr. Gabriel Torres, American Studies Program, Vanderbilt University
- 2015 Faculty Research Support Initiation Grant, “Race, Genetic ancestry, and Disease Disparity: a preliminary study of uterine fibroids among American women”, Office of Research, University of Notre Dame (\$6,400) Role: Principal Investigator
- 2014 Travel to International Conference Grant, to 1st International Garifuna Summit/2nd International Garifuna Conference (\$2000)

Intramural Research Grants (continued)

- 2014 Bi-Annual Large Social Sciences Research, “Race, Genetic Ancestry, and Disease Disparity: A Preliminary Study of Uterine Fibroids Among American women”, ISLA, University of Notre Dame, (\$9,052.00) Role: Principal Investigator.
- 2013 Bi-Annual Large Social Sciences Research, "Biogeography of Creolization: Exploring the Origins of Accompong Town Maroons", Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA), University of Notre Dame, (\$6,468.00) Role: Principal Investigator.
- 2012 Travel for International Conference Grant, to the 4th Annual International Maroon Conference (\$2000)
- 2011-12 Materials and Miscellaneous Research Needs Grants, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$2500)
- 2011 Travel for International Conference Grant, to the 3rd Annual International Maroon Conference (\$2000)
- 2010 Annual Pilot Fund for Social Science Research, “The Genetics of Colonization: Exploring the Indigenous Origins of Jamaican Maroons”, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$7,800) Role: Principal Investigator.
- 2010-11 Materials and Miscellaneous Research Needs Grants, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$2300)
- 2009-10 Materials and Miscellaneous Research Needs Grants, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$1500)
- 2008-09 Materials and Miscellaneous Research Needs Grants, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$1500)
- 2008-09 Creative Work and Research Grant “Assessing Genetic Ancestry as a Risk Factor to Uterine Fibroids”, ISLA, University of Notre Dame (\$4000) Role: Co-Principal investigator.

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES

- 2025 “Pathologizing Race: Biocultural perspectives on Women’s Health Disparities”, Journal of Anthropological Research , 56th Distinguished Lecturer, University of New Mexico. Support: travel and honorarium
- 2025 “Marketing Race: the allure, promise, and pitfalls of genetic ancestry testing”, Anthropology Seminar, University of New Mexico.
- 2025 “ ‘Well, we don’t really have racial groups-more like ethnicities’: Race, genetic ancestry, and cultural identity in Puerto Rican African descendants”, Biological Anthropology Seminar Series, University of Washington. Support: honorarium

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES (continued)

- 2024 “ ‘Just list Puerto Rican- we are all mixed here’ ”: documenting the interplay of genetic ancestry and cultural identity among Afro-Puerto Ricans”, Anthropology Colloquium Series, Cornell University. Support: travel and honorarium.
- 2024 “Spit here please: what you get (and what you don’t) when you buy a genetic ancestry test”, Anthropology Speaker Series, College of the Canyons. Support: travel and honorarium
- 2024 “Biocultural Perspectives of the genetic ancestry and cultural identities of Afro-Puerto Ricans”, Taller Entre Aguas, Mareas de Memoria: Black Puerto Rican History and Genealogy, Johns Hopkins University. Support: honorarium
- 2023 “Implicating Race in Disease: Biosocial approaches to women’s health disparities research”, College of Public Health, Florida International University. Support: travel.
- 2023 “What Genetic Ancestry Tests Mean (and What They Don’t)”, Personal Genetics Education Project & Center for Ethical, Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) Resources and Analysis, Harvard Medical School.
- 2023 “Demystifying Genetic Ancestry Testing”, Project GE:NES- Genomics Education: Nurturing, Empowering, Sustainable, Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. Support: travel and honorarium.
- 2022 “When genetics and narratives of identity collide: exploring the genetic ancestry of Afrodescendientes in Puerto Rico”, University of Oklahoma.
- 2022 Keynote and Conversation panelist, Black in Biological Anthropology (BiBA) Collective, BiBA Week 2022.
- 2022 Afro-Indigenous identities, panelist, Indigenous Scholars Organization, Vanderbilt University. Support: honorarium.
- 2022 “Race and genetic identities: the promise and pitfalls of DTC genetic ancestry testing”, NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Division of Medical Ethics In honor of Dr. Ralph Katz, NYU School of Dentistry.
- 2022 “What can genetics tell us about our race, ethnicity, and ancestry?” Project GE:NES- Genomics Education: Nurturing, Empowering, Sustainable, Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. Support: honorarium.
- 2022 Tell me about it! Text based 60-minute Q&A event on AAAS Community, American Association for the Advancement of Science.

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES (continued)

- 2022 “Finding what was forgotten: Genetic ancestry and cultural identities of Afro-Puerto Rican Communities”, Northeastern Illinois University. Support: travel and honorarium.
- 2022 “Genetics in our society: putting genetic ancestry testing in perspective”, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Event, Sarah Lawrence College. Support, travel and honorarium.
- 2022 “Pues negro porque negro soy: cultural identities and genetic ancestry of Afro-Puerto Ricans, Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers University. Support: travel and honorarium.
- 2022 “Race and genetic identities: the promise and pitfalls of DTC genetic ancestry testing”, Precision Medicine: Ethics, Politics and Culture Program, Columbia University. Support: honorarium.
- 2021 Genetic syncretism in the Caribbean: a comparative analysis of Afro-Puerto Ricans, Vincentian Garifuna, and the First Peoples of Trinidad, Department of Human Genetics, University of Chicago. Support: honorarium.
- 2021 “Social Determinants of Health”, Hawaii Island Family Medicine Residency.
- 2021 “A community engaged approach to the genetic ancestry and cultural identity of Afrodescendientes in Puerto Rico”, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. Support: honorarium.
- 2021 “Exploring the potential for Afro-Indigenous interaction in Jamaica: perspectives from anthropological genetics”, Archaeological Society of Jamaica, Webinar, Kingston, Jamaica.
- 2021 Invited panelist, The History and Future of Scientific Racism and Eugenics Panel Discussion, Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics, University of Oregon. Support: honorarium.
- 2021 “Go Back and Fetch it” Anthropological Genetic Approaches to History, Identity, and Disease”, Department of Anthropology, University of California Berkeley.
- 2021 “Genetic Ancestry: Our Stories, Our Pasts”, Evolution at Vanderbilt Seminar Series, Vanderbilt University.
- 2021 “Exploring the reality of human genetic variation: Transdisciplinary approaches to race and ancestry in genetics”, Anti-Racism in Human Genetics Vanderbilt Genetics Institute, Special Seminar Series (co-authored with Dr. Melinda Aldrich)

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES (continued)

- 2021 “Genetic Anthropological Perspectives on the Ancestry of Peoples of the Lesser Antilles”, Grenada Genealogical and Historical Society Online.
- 2020 “Community engaged genetic anthropology: a case study of Afro-Puerto Rican genetic ancestry and cultural identity”, Center for the Study of Human Origins in NYU's Department of Anthropology, Fall speaker series on “Omics at the biological-social interface”. Support: honorarium.
- 2020 “African experience in the Americas: Genetic perspectives of Afro-descendants in Puerto Rico”, Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Anthropology, Anthropology Colloquium Series. Support: honorarium.
- 2020 “Direct To Consumer Genomics: Biocultural Implications of Genetic Ancestry Testing”. Brown Beer, Biological Anthropology Colloquium Series, Yale University. Support: honorarium.
- 2020 “Race, genetic ancestry, and the DTC Market”, University of Michigan, Evolution and Human Adaptation Program Fall speaker series on Genetics, Evolution, and Human Behavior. Support: honorarium.
- 2020 “Genetic Ancestry Technologies in an era of Social Unrest” Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania’s Colloquium series on White Supremacy and the Making of the Modern World. Support: honorarium.
- 2020 Sausage of Science Episode 104, “Doing the Biocultural Work with Dr. Jada Benn Torres and Dr. Gabriel A Torres Colón”, Human Biology Association. <https://soundcloud.com/humanbiologyassociation/sos-104-doing-the-biocultural-work-with-dr-jada-benn-torres-and-dr-gabriel-a-torres-colon>.
- 2020 “Reclaiming My Time: A Goal Setting and Time Management Workshop”, STEM Sistah Network Workshop, Vanderbilt University.
- 2019 “Interpretive Limitations of Genetic Ancestry Testing and the Case for Reparations”, Civil Rights & Restorative Justice Project, Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2019 Invited participant, “Equity, Diversity, and Data Science in Genomics Workshop”, National Institutes of Health-National Human Genome Research Institute and Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2019 Invited panelist, “Working Within Our Own Communities: Perspectives From Anthropologists of Color”, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, British Columbia.

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES (continued)

- 2019 Invited panelist for *The Atlantic* Festival, Washington DC. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2019 “Racial experience in the Age of Direct-to-consumer ancestry testing”, the International Research Workshop on Critical Understanding of Racialization in the Era of global Populism, Aalborg, University Campus in Copenhagen Denmark. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2019 Featured speaker, Fisk/Meharry/TSU/ Faculty Breakfast club.
- 2019 Invited participant in NSF sponsored Data Sharing Workshop. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2019 Invited Faculty member, Association of Latin American Students (ALAS), Spring Semester Event.
- 2018 Invited panelist and discussant for the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Latino Center, Taíno: A Symposium in Conversation with the Movement, Session 2 – Genetic Science and Genealogy: Recovering Native Ancestry, New York, NY. Support: transportation, lodging, honorarium.
- 2018 Invited panelist for National Geographic’s Small workshop on Ethics around Ancient DNA, New York City, NY. Support: lodging.
- 2017 “Genetic perspectives on origins, presence, and ancestry of African-descendant communities across the Caribbean” Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2017 “Biogeographic ancestry across the Antilles: re-envisioning the impact of Africans on the Caribbean landscape”, *The Science & Engineering of Race: Living Through The Archives*, 11th Black New England Conference, University of New Hampshire. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2017 “A Genetic Analysis in Collaboration with Trinidad’s First Peoples Community: Implications for continuous Indigenous presence in the Caribbean”, Symposium- Chrysalis to Butterfly: On Becoming Visible Towards Meaningful Recognition, University of Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies.
- 2017 “Genetic Ancestry of Trinidad’s First Peoples Community”, First Peoples' Day, First Peoples' Community of Arima, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies.
- 2017 History and the African Diaspora of the Latin America, a panel discussion of current research, panelist, Berea College. Support: transportation and lodging.

INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES (continued)

- 2017 “Afro-indigenous memory, presence, and ancestry in the Caribbean”, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2016 “A Genetic History of Indigenous Caribbean Peoples”, Understanding the Function of Human Genome Variation, Uppsala Konsert & Kongress, Uppsala, Sweden. transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2016 “Reconciling temporality- a genetic consideration of African & Indigenous American Encounters in the Caribbean” Anthropology Department Seminar Series, University of Texas. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2015 “Genetic Ancestry and Race: Moving Beyond Conceptual Divides”, Brocher Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland. Support: transportation and lodging.
- 2015 “Genetic perspectives on Indigenous ancestry in the Caribbean”, Bioanth Seminar series, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK. Support: Lodging.
- 2015 “Re-envisioning the role of Africans in Caribbean colonization: a genetic perspective”, Genetics/Heritage New perspectives on the study of Atlantic slavery, International Slavery Museum, Liverpool, UK. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2014 “Vincentian Garifuna Genetic Ancestry” St. Vincent Community College, St. Vincent, West Indies.
- 2013 “Race in the Genomic Era: an anthropological genetic perspective” Departmental Colloquium series on Culture, contingency and race University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2012 “Race, Genetics, and Health: Crossroads of Anthropology and Epidemiology”, Darwin Day, Eastern Illinois University, Biological Sciences Dept., Charleston, IL. Support: transportation, lodging, and honorarium.
- 2012 “Frogs, Dogs, and Leprechauns: Finding that once in a Life time Research Opportunity”, CUSE, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, Support: honorarium.
- 2012 “Molecular Anthropology: an overview of the field”, NSF REU in Bioarcheology, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. Support: Honorarium.
- 2009 “Genetic Ancestry in African Caribbean populations”, Moving Genes discussion (via videophone), Dana Center Science Museum, London, United Kingdom.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Podium Presentations

- 2025 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colon, G. “Building Diaspora from without: biocultural community engaged research with Afrodescendants in Puerto Rico.” American Anthropological Association-Association of Black Anthropologists, Anthropology and the Black Experience, Dakar, Senegal.
- 2024 Winful, T., Sorunke, M., **Benn Torres, J.** “Unraveling Stress: Epigenetic Modulation of the promotor region of IL-6 and its Impact on salivary CRP Variability.” Southeastern Biological Anthropology Interest Group (SEBIG) conference. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2024 McCormack, Katie, **Benn Torres, J.**, Tung, T. “Microbial signatures of health and diet in a pre-Hispanic Indian community: ancient oral Microbiome is from La Real.” Southeastern Biological Anthropology Interest Group (SEBIG) conference. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2023 Winful, T., Sorunke, M., **Benn Torres, J.** “Understanding the Inflammatory Response: Stress-Induced Effects on Salivary CRP in a Nigerian Population”. Race and Research Fair. Vanderbilt University, Black Cultural Center, Nashville Tennessee.
- 2023 Invited panelist, “AABA Presidential Plenary Panel on Community Engagement”, American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual meeting, Reno, Nevada
- 2022 “Genetic Ancestry Testing and the Politics of Blackness in Afro-Caribbean Communities”, Symposium session-Disrupting Genomics: Bringing Critical and Theoretical Approaches into Practice. American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual meeting, Denver, Colorado.
- 2021 Invited panelist, “Biological Determinants of Disparities in Alzheimer’s and All Dementias”, Addressing Health Disparities, Alzheimer's Association. Online conference. (virtual session due to COVID-19 restrictions.)
- 2021 “Confronting with the past to make sense of the present: genetic anthropology as a tool for reclaiming our histories”, The Dynamic Past: How Science Helps Give Voice to Silenced Stories, American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting (virtual session due to COVID-19 restrictions).
- 2020 “The Biology of Racism,” Roundtable discussion, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Raising Our Voices (virtual session due to COVID-19 restrictions).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS-Podium Presentations (continued)

- 2020 “Navigating identity politics in genomics research: a case study of Afro-descendants in Puerto Rico” in From Ancient to Contemporary Genomes: Health and Population History,” American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, California (virtual session due to COVID-19 meeting cancellation).
- 2020 “Genomic and anthropological perspectives on the Afro-Caribbean diaspora in the Lesser Antilles”, in From Ancient to Contemporary Genomes: Health and Population History” American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, California (virtual session due to COVID-19 meeting cancellation, co-authored with M. Nieves Colón).
- 2019 “Race, Risk, and Disease: Biosocial approaches to Health Disparities Research”, in Race, Sex and Genes—shaping bodies, shifting boundaries, challenging myths American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, Washington DC.
- 2018 “Operationalizing race in with the context of paracommunicability: a case study of uterine fibroids among African descendant women”, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Jose, California (co-authored with G. Torres Colón).
- 2018 “Dándole un toque afro a la descendencia genética en Puerto Rico”, 2do Congreso de Afrodescendencia en Puerto Rico, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, Puerto Rico. (co-authored with G. Torres Colón)
- 2018 “Genetic ancestry of Afro-Puerto Ricans illustrates complex history of African descendants in the Caribbean”, 15th Congress of the Latin American Association for Biological Anthropology, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.
- 2018 “Ancestry and genetic diversity of Afro-Caribbean populations from the Lesser Antilles”, 15th Congress of the Latin American Association for Biological Anthropology, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. (co-authored with M. Nieves Colón, A. Stone)
- 2018 “Genetics, Race, and Identity in the age of DTC testing”, Vanderbilt Genetics Institute Symposium, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2017 “Marginal perspectives within hegemonic spaces: the marronage of genomic technologies” American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2017 “Migration, admixture and genetic continuity in pre and post-contact Puerto Rico. 86th American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana. (co-authored with M. Nieves Colón, W. Pestle, A. Stone)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS-Podium Presentations (continued)

- 2016 “‘Reparational’ Genetics as evidence and reconciliation”, Executive Session: Partial Evidence, Public Relations, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2016 “On the Trail of the First Caribbean Islanders: Genomic data from indigenous Trinidadians and St. Vincentians”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. (co-authored by T. Schurr and M. Vilar).
- 2016 “Migration, admixture and selection in the population history of the Caribbean. Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Satellite Meeting on the Genetics of Admixed Populations, San Antonio, Texas. (co-authored with M. Nieves Colón)
- 2015 “ ‘No Harm can come from knowledge’ Working with communities to build living memories”, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Denver, Colorado.
- 2015 “Genética, memoria, y presencia africana en pueblos originarios caribeños”, Centro de Estudios del Caribe, Casa de las Américas, La Habana, Cuba (co-authored with G. Torres Colón)
- 2015 “Genetic Perspectives on Garifuna/Kalinago Ancestry and Emergence in St. Vincent”, 2nd International Garifuna Conference, Kingstown, St. Vincent.
- 2015 “Operationalizing Race, Resisting Racism: bridging biological, political, and lived experiences”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2014 “A Genetic History of Indigenous American Mitochondrial DNA Lineages of the Caribbean”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting Calgary, Alberta Canada.
- 2013 “Genetic Modified Foods in the public sphere: an anthropological genetic critique”, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2013 “Genetic Diversity in the Lesser Antilles and Its Implications for the Settlement of the Caribbean Basin” International Association of Caribbean Archeology, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2013 “More than a footnote: Bio-anthropology of indigeneity in the Anglophone Caribbean” Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Merida, Mexico.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS-Podium Presentations (continued)

- 2012 “Maternal Ancestries of Accompong Town Maroons” 4rd International Maroon Conference, Port Antonio, Jamaica.
- 2011 “Out of the laboratory and into the field, discovering the subjectivity of buccal swabs” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Montreal, PQ, Canada.
- 2011 “Maroon Identity in the Genomic Age”. 3rd International Maroon Conference, Port Antonio, Jamaica.
- 2010 “The myth of indigenous extinction in the Caribbean: perspectives from molecular anthropology”. American Anthropological Association annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2007 “A comparative analysis of Y chromosome variability and admixture in Cape Verde, Sao Tome, and seven Anglophone Caribbean Islands”. American Association of Physical Anthropologist annual meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2005 “MtDNA Diversity in six West Indian islands throughout the Anglophone Caribbean”. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- 2001 “A comparison of population distances calculated from genetic loci and dental morphological trait frequency Data”. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Kansas City, Missouri. (co-authored presentation with W. Potter)
- 2024 Winful, T., Sorunke, M., **Benn Torres, J.** Biological mechanisms of embodiment: the impacts of stress on salivary CRP variability in a Nigerian population. Human Biology Association annual meeting, Los Angeles, California.
- 2024 Winful, T., Sorunke, M., **Benn Torres, J.** Exploring the Reliability and Validity of the General Health Questionnaire 12 in a Nigerian Context. Vanderbilt Global Health Symposium, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2024 McCormack, C., **Benn Torres, J.**, Tung, T. Ancient Oral Metagenomes from La Real: Insights into Health and Infectious Disease Across the Middle Horizon Period. Society for American Archaeology annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS- Poster Presentations (*co-authored with students)

- 2024 Dittmer BL, Locker AJ, Cleary CD, Sisneros S, Torrez MA, Ralston C, **Benn Torres J.**, Stone P, Martin DL, Smith RW. Using Uniparental DNA to Recover the Colonial Population History of Nuestra Senora de Belen, New Mexico. American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, California.
- 2022 *McCormack, K., **Benn Torres, J.** Genetic approaches to the paternal ancestry of contemporary Afro Puerto Rican communities. American Association of Biological Anthropologists annual meeting, Denver, Colorado.
- 2020 *McCormack, K., Perez, J., **Benn Torres, J.** “Genetic Perspectives on the Paternal Ancestry of Afro-Puerto Rican Communities”, 19th Annual Graduate Research Symposium at William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- 2020 *Winful,O., Delducco, C., Mueller, E., **Benn Torres, J.** “Whole mitochondrial sequences reveal substantial heterogeneity within African descendants in the Caribbean”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, California (virtual session due to COVID-19 meeting cancellation).
- 2020 *Mueller, E., Chen, L., **Benn Torres, J.** “Indigenous American and African Interaction in Puerto Rico: Ancestry in Afro- Puerto Ricans: a Comparative Analysis”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, California (virtual session due to COVID-19 meeting cancellation).
- 2019 *Winful,O., Delducco, C., Mueller, E., **Benn Torres, J.** “African Ancestry in the Americas: Perspectives on Afro-Puerto Rican Maternal Ancestry”. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 2018 ***Benn Torres, J.** Muller, E. and Fuller, H. “Linking the past to the present, anthropological genetic approach to African and Indigenous American interaction in the Caribbean”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Austin, Texas.
- 2018 Nieves-Colón MA, **Benn Torres J**, Stone AC. “Genome-wide admixture patterns in Afro-Caribbean populations from the Lesser Antilles”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Austin, Texas.
- 2017 *Martucci,V., **Benn Torres, J.**, Vilar, M., Gaieski, J., Bharath Hernandez, R., Browne, Z., Stevenson, M., Walters,W., Bradford,Y., Aldrich,M., Schurr,T. and The Genographic Consortium, “Analysis of Biogeographic Ancestry Reveals Complex Genetic Histories for Indigenous Communities of St. Vincent and Trinidad”, Vanderbilt Genetics Institute Fall 2017 Symposium, Nashville, Tennessee.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS- Poster Presentations, continued

- 2016 *Saavedra, F. and **Benn Torres, J.** “Examining Mitochondrial Haplotype Diversity in Ancient and Modern Indigenous Caribbean Populations”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2015 *Saavedra, F. and **Benn Torres, J.** “Within and Beyond Africa: Genetic Ancestry of Jamaican Maroons”, American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2015 *Kotey, A., Guobadia, P. and **Benn Torres, J.** An evaluation of the relationship between self-identified race and genetic ancestry in a clinical sample, COS-JAM, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.
- 2014 *Saavedra, F. Madrilejo, N, and **Benn Torres, J.** From Swab to Sequence: Potential Methods to overcome PCR Amplification Inhibitors in Field Samples, COS-JAM, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.
- 2013 Schurr TG, **Benn Torres J**, Vilar M, Gaieski JB, Torres G. Genetic diversity in the Lesser Antilles and its implications for the settlement of the Caribbean Basin. NHLBI Mitochondrial Biology Symposium: Mitochondrial Genetics in Health and Disease Abstracts, Bethesda, Maryland.
- 2013 *Madrilejo, N. and **Benn Torres, J.** A tale of two Sisters: Maternal ancestry of Jamaican Maroons. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2012 ***Benn Torres, J.**, Lombard, H. Genetics and identity: ethnogenesis in a Jamaican Maroon community. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Portland, Oregon.
- 2012 *Lombard, H., **Benn Torres, J.** Maternal Origins of Accompong Maroons. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Portland, Oregon.
- 2010 **Benn Torres, J.**, Stone, A., Hooker, S., Kittles, R. The genetic legacy of indigenous Caribbean peoples: evidence from autosomal and mitochondrial data. American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2010 Hernandez, W., **Benn Torres, J.**, Hooker, S., Robbins, C., Carpten, J., Kittles, R.A. Interrogating Region 4 of 8q24 for Prostate Cancer Risk in African Americans. American Association for Cancer Research annual meeting, Washington, DC.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS- Poster Presentations, continued

- 2009 Kupfer, Sonia; **Benn Torres, J.**; Hooker, S.; Anderson, J.R.; Ellis, N.A.; Kittles, R. Novel SNP Associations with Colorectal Cancer on 8q24 and 5q in African and European Americans. Digestive Disease Week, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2005 Benn Torres, J. Biogeographical Ancestries throughout the Anglophone Caribbean. Gates Millennium Scholars Alumni meeting November Los Angeles, California.
- 2004 **Benn Torres, J.**; Stone, A. Genetic Diversity in an urban population in West Africa: a preliminary analysis. American Society of Human Genetics Meetings annual meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- 2001 **Benn, J.**; Smith, J., Stone, A. Y-chromosome STR analysis in *Pan troglodytes*. American Association of Physical Anthropologists Meetings annual meeting, Kansas City, Missouri.

Session Organizer

- 2025 **Benn Torres, J.** “Let's talk about sex, gender, and the dangers of scientific authority”. Vanderbilt University
- 2024 **Benn Torres, J.** and Keith, Monica. “*The State of Human Biology Research in Anthropology*” Biological Anthropology Section, American Anthropological Association, Tampa, Florida.
- 2023 **Benn Torres, J.** and Torres Colon, G. ‘ “The only lasting truth is change”: Transdisciplinary Perspectives on Novel Approaches to Socially Embodied Difference”, Executive Session, American Anthropological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- 2021 **Benn Torres, J.** ‘Thinking beyond the lab? Anthropological geneticists’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the summer of civil unrest’, Invited Symposium, American Association of Anthropological Genetics and American Association of Physical Anthropology, Baltimore, Maryland (or Virtual conference)
- 2017 **Benn Torres, J.** and Nelson, R. ‘Anthropology Matters - Fighting essentialist ideas about poverty, race, and intelligence in the Trump era’, Roundtable Discussion. American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2013 **Benn Torres, J.** Human Experience in the Genomic/Post-Genomic Age, Podium Presentations. American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois.

MEDIA EXPOSURE

- 2019 Beyer and Robertson. "History Unshackled: Jada Benn Torres is part of a multidisciplinary effort to uncover new details about the African slave trade". [Vanderbilt Magazine](#).
- 2015 Berger, M. "Researchers mapping genetic history of the Caribbean". [Phys Org](#).

Invited Commentary

- 2023 Zimmer, Carl. "Enslaved African Americans in Maryland Linked to 42,000 Living Relatives". [NY Times](#)
- 2022 Schulson, Michael. "What's in a Genome? The Quest to Decipher Human Difference". [Undark](#).
- 2020 Lawler, Andrew. "Invaders nearly wiped out Caribbean's first people long before Spanish came, DNA reveals." [National Geographic.com](#).
- 2020 Kaur, Harmmeet. "A New DNA Study Offers Insight into the Horrific Story of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade." [CNN.com](#).
- 2020 Marcus, Amy Dockser. "Study Sheds Light on Regional Origins of Many Black Americans' Enslaved Ancestors." [Wall Street Journal](#).
- 2020 Mitra, Mallika. "From Science to Security, Here's How to Determine Which DNA Test Kit Is Best for You." [Money.com](#).
- 2020 Wade, L. "Ancient DNA reveals diverse origins of Caribbean's earliest inhabitants". [Science](#).
- 2019 Yong, E. "How Ancient DNA Can Help Recast Colonial History", [The Atlantic](#).
- 2019 Callaway, E. "Genomes trace origins of enslaved people who died on remote island". [Nature.com](#).
- 2019 Wade, L. "Genes of 'extinct' Caribbean islanders found in living people". [Science.com](#)
- 2018 Flickinger, E. "Genetic matches for the Taino found in modern Caribbeans". [The Tartan](#)

TEACHING RELATED ACTIVITES

Courses Taught

- (Graduate Seminar) Professionalization Seminar
- (Graduate Seminar) Biological Anthropology
- (Upper-level) Biocultural Perspectives of Afrofuturism

(Upper-level) Human Adaptation and Disease
 (Upper-level) Human Evolutionary Genetics
 (Upper-level) Genetics and Society
 (Upper-level) Bioethics in Anthropology
 (Upper-level course and lab) Molecular Methods in Anthropology (at Notre Dame)
 (Intro writing course) Science, Technology, and Value (VU College Core class)
 (Intro writing course) Human Variation Genetics
 (Intro Course) Introduction to Anthropology
 (Intro Course) Introduction to Biological Anthropology

Independent Study Courses Taught

2020	Elsa Mueller, BSCI 3961, co-taught with Nicole Creanza
2019	Chole Stallion and Jaime Rivera
2017	Elsa Muller, ‘Genetic Anthropological perspectives of Afro-Puerto Rican communities’
2016	Astra Sharma ‘Genetics and Anthropological perspective on Australia’
2015-2016	Fernando Saavedra, Genetic Survey of Indigenous Caribbean Lineages, University of Notre Dame
2014-2015	Amanda Kotey and Pierre Guobadia, ‘An evaluation of the relationship between self-identified race and genetic ancestry’, University of Notre Dame
2013-2015	Fernando Saavedra, Autosomal and Y chromosome markers in Accompong Maroons, University of Notre Dame
2011-2014	Nicole Madrilejo, Mitochondrial Lineages in Accompong Town Maroons, University of Notre Dame
2011-2013	Holden Lombard, Autosomal Markers in Accompong Maroons, University of Notre Dame
2012-2013	Rachel Tullio, Peopling of the Caribbean, University of Notre Dame
2012-2013	Jess Gambil, Student Designed Major, Senior Comp research, A comparison of DNA extraction methods, St. Mary’s College
2009-2010	Kasey Kendell, Caribbean Mitochondrial Haplogroups typing, University of Notre Dame

Primary Doctoral Students

2022-present Rosseirys De La Rosa, Vanderbilt University, Department of Anthropology

- 2019-present Catherine McCormack, Vanderbilt University, Department of Anthropology
- 2018-2024 Olawunmi Winful, Vanderbilt University, Department of Anthropology.
2025 Tenure track Assistant professor at University of Illinois, Urbana
Champaign

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

- 2024-present Kimberlyn Ellis, Vanderbilt University, Human Genetics Program
- 2024-present Jeewoo Kim, Vanderbilt University, Human Genetics Program
- 2023-present Audrey Arner, Vanderbilt University, Department of Biological Sciences
- 2020-2023 Keila Velazquez Arcelay, Vanderbilt University, Department of Biological
Sciences
- 2020-2023 Yakov Pichkar, Vanderbilt University, Department of Biological Sciences
- 2018- 2025 Maya Krause, Vanderbilt University, Department of Anthropology
- 2016-2022 Krystal Tsosie, Vanderbilt University, Interdisciplinary Program, Department of
Psychology
- 2015-2023 Lauren Springs, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Anthropology
- 2014-2017 Maria Nieves Colon, Arizona State University, School of Human Evolution and
Social Change

Undergraduate Student Theses

- 2015-2016 Daphne Reynolds, Departments of Anthropology and Economics,
“Past Connections Today on the Great Lakes: An Ethnohistory of the
Three Fires Confederacy among the Pokagon”, University of Notre Dame
- 2014-2016 Fernando Saaverdra, Pre-professional Studies and Department of Anthropology,
“Genetic Survey of Indigenous Caribbean Lineages”, University of Notre Dame
- 2013-2014 Nicole Madrilejo, Pre-professional Studies and Department of Anthropology,
“Genetic diversity of Marronage: mtDNA and Y-chromosome analysis of
Jamaican Maroons”, University of Notre Dame
- 2012-2013 Holden Lombard, Department of Physics and Department of Anthropology, “An
Anthropological genetic analysis of Accompong Town Maroons”, University of
Notre Dame
- 2010-2011 Elizabeth Van Dyke, Glynn Honors Program, “Evaluation of three healthcare
programs for women affected by obstetric fistulas in Ethiopia”, University of
Notre Dame

SERVICE

Service To Department

2023-; 21-22	Director of Graduate Studies
2021	Biocultural Anthropologist Search Committee Chair
2021	Andean Archeologist Search committee
2020-2021	Public Outreach and Media Chair
2020-2021	Graduate Program Committee
2018-2019	Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
2017-2021	Diversity & Inclusion Committee
2016-2018	Library Liaison
2016-2018	Speakers Committee
2015-2016	Graduate Curriculum Committee, University of Notre Dame
2013-2016	Chair of the Safety Committee, University of Notre Dame
2011	Student Awards Committee, University of Notre Dame
2008; 10	Graduate school information session, University of Notre Dame
2002	Minority Affairs Committee, University of New Mexico

Service To College

2025	Science Technology and Values Core curriculum committee
2023	Lab Study group, report to Faculty Council
2018	Research Scholar Grant review committee
2017	Judge at Vanderbilt's 5th Annual Three Minute Thesis Competition
2015-16	Nominating and Elections Committee, University of Notre Dame
2012	Proposal Faculty Review Committee for the Institute for Scholarship and Learning (ISLA), College of Arts and Letters
2011	Hosted Cénacle Poétique, Book discussion group for First-year students

Service To University

2024	Provost's Undergraduate SCOTUS Taskforce
2024-2025	Dialogue Vanderbilt, Scopes Centennial Working Group
2019-2021	Appellate Review Board, Undergraduate Honor Council Faculty Adviser
2016-2018	University Library Committee
2014	Professional Development Committee member for the Black Faculty Staff Organization, University of Notre Dame
2008	Invited speaker for Honor Student and High Achiever, "My Graduate School Experience", University of Notre Dame

Service To Profession

2024-2027	Ethics Committee, American Association of Biological Anthropology
2024-present	Executive Board member, Black in Biological Anthropology (BiBA) Collective
2023-2026	Program co-Chair, Biological Anthropology Section, American Anthropological Association
2023-present	Future of Anthropological Communication (FoACC), American Anthropological Association
2022-2023	President, American Association of Anthropological Genetics

Service To Profession (continued)

- 2020-2022 Vice President, American Association of Anthropological Genetics
2020-2023 Biological Seat, Executive Board, American Anthropological Association
2021-2023 Financial Coordinator, Black in Biological Anthropology (BiBA) Collective
2020-2023 Electorate Nominating Committee (ENC) of the Section on Anthropology (H), American Association for the Advancement of Science
2020-present Increasing Diversity in Evolutionary Anthropological Sciences (IDEAS) co-Chair, Committee on Diversity, American Association of Biological Anthropology
2018-2020 Increasing Diversity in Evolutionary Anthropological Sciences (IDEAS) Faculty, Committee on Diversity, American Association of Physical Anthropology
2017-2020 Biological Seat, American Anthropological Association, Nominations Committee
2017-2019 Executive Committee, American Association of Anthropological Genetics
2016 Session Chair, Human genetic variation, Contributed Podium Presentations, American Association of Physical Anthropology annual meeting
2010 Session Chair, Biocultural Acts, Biocultural Survival, American Anthropological Association annual meeting
2010 Invited panelist for Encuentro at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN, "Career Alternatives"
2009 Guest Lecturer, Intercultural leadership Class, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN "Biology and Race"

Peer Review Activities

Journals:

PLOS One
Evolutionary Anthropology
Human Nature
New Genetics and Society
American Journal of Human Biology
American Anthropologist

Peer Review Activities (continued)

American Journal of Biological Anthropology
Current Anthropology
Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports
Communications Biology

Book Publishers:

UNC Press

Funding Agencies:

National Science Foundation
National Geographic Society
Wenner Gren

Service To Community

2023-2024 Faculty mentor, Ida B. Wells Elementary School
2021 Invited Speaker for the Global Scholars Program, Harpeth Hall School
2019 Fisk/Meharry/TSU breakfast club speaker
2016-2020 TNAchieves, Mentor
2014 Community talk to the International Baccalaureate Program, John Addams High
2011-12;14-16 Workshop leader for Expanding Your Horizon (EYH) conference, Notre Dame
2008 Invited speaker for Science Outreach, Chicago Public Radio, Chicago, IL “My Journey into the Sciences”
2000 School Science & Mathematics Association ACT/SAT preparation course, University of New Mexico