

GEORGE AMATO
DIRECTOR AND AFFILIATED FACULTY
SACKLER INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE GENOMICS

HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED

Ph.D.

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Conservation Genetics

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ph.D., M.S., M.Phil. Yale University, New Haven, CT 1993-94
B.S. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 1978

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN DOCTORAL EDUCATION

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Adjunct Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology,
Columbia University, 1995-present

Adjunct Professor of Biology, Fordham University, 1995-present

COURSES TAUGHT

Species Concepts. Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies. 2001

Genetics and Small Populations. Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies. 2003

Conservation Genetics. Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies. 2005

Conservation Genetics. Center for Environmental Research and Conservation, Columbia University, 2002-2007

GRADUATE ADVISEES

Mary Egan, Fordham University 1999

Michael Russello, Columbia University 2003

Evon Hekkala, Columbia University 2003

Kari Schmidt, Columbia University current

GRADUATE COMMITTEES

Howard Rosenbaum, Yale University

Yael Wyner, Yale University

Phaedra Dukakis, Yale University

Eugenia Narro, Columbia University

Carl Gaines, Fordham University

Christina Castellano, Fordham University

Sergios Kolokotronis, Columbia University

Linda Gormezano, City University of New York

Christopher Nagy, City University of New York

RESEARCH GRANT SUPPORT

National Science Foundation (\$146,000), current
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation (\$410,000), current
Richard Lounsbery Foundation (\$200,000), current
Panthera Foundation (\$480,000), current

RECENT ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS (2003-2008)

- Eaton, M., A. Martin, J. Thorbjarnarson, and G. Amato. (in press). Species-level diversification of African dwarf crocodiles (Genus *Osteolaemus*): a geographic and molecular phylogenetic perspective. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*.
- Naro-Maciel, E., M. Le, N.N. FitzSimmons, and G. Amato. (2008). Evolutionary relationships of marine turtles: A molecular phylogeny based on nuclear and mitochondrial genes. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. DOI:10.1016/j.ympev.2008.08.004.
- Gatesy, J. and G. Amato. 2008. The rapid accumulation of consistent molecular support for intergeneric crocodylian relationships. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. DOI: 10.1016/j.ympev.2008.02.009.
- Deem, S.L., E. Ladwig, Cray, C., Karesh, W.B., and G. Amato. 2008. Health assessment of the ex situ population of St. Vincent parrots (*Amazona guildingii*) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. *Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery* 22(2):114-122.
- Dias, I.M.G., G. Amato, M.R.S. Carvalho, H.M. Cunha, A.P. Paglia, R. DeSalle, and C.G. Fonseca. 2007. Characterization of eight microsatellite loci in the woolly mouse opossum, *Micoureus paraguayanus*, isolated from *Micoureus demerarae*. *Molecular Ecology Notes* 2007.
- Russello, M.A. and G. Amato. 2007. On the horns of a dilemma: molecular approaches refine ex situ conservation in crisis. *Molecular Ecology* 12, 2405-2406.
- Ji, Xue-Feng, WU Xiao-Bing, YAN Peng, G. Amato. 2007. Complete sequence and gene organization of the mitochondrial genome of Siamensis crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*). *Molecular Biology Reports*. Springer 0301-4851.
- LI Y, Wu XB, Yan P, and G. Amato. 2007. The complete mitochondrial genome of the salt-water crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*) and phylogeny of crocodiles. *Journal of Genetics and Genomics*. 34(2):119-128.
- Kretzman, M., L. Mentzer, R. DiGiovanni, M. Leslie, and G. Amato. 2006. Microsatellite diversity and fitness in stranded juvenile harp seals (*Phoca groenlandica*). *Journal of Heredity* 2006:97 (6)555-560.
- Ji, Xue-Feng, WU Xiao-Bing, LI Yan, YAN Peng, G. Amato. 2006. The mitochondrial genome of *Crocodylus niloticus* with implications for phylogenetic relationships among crocodylians. *Acta Zoologica Sinica* 52(4):810-818.
- Lin, K., M.A. Russello, A. Caccone, and G. Amato. 2005. Additional microsatellite loci for the endangered St. Vincent parrot, *Amazona guildingii*. *Conservation Genetics* 6:643-645.
- Goldstein, P., Y. Wyner, P. Doukakis, M.G. Egan, G. Amato, H. Rosenbaum, and R. DeSalle. 2005. Theory and methods for diagnosing species and populations in conservation. *Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard.* 92:12-27.
- DeSalle, R. and G. Amato. 2004. The expansion of conservation genetics. *Nature*

- Reviews Genetics. (5)702-712.
- Russello, M.A. and G. Amato. 2004. Ex situ population management in the absence of pedigree information. *Molecular Ecology* 13, 2829-2840.
- Palcovacs, E.P., A. Oppenheimer, E. Gladyshev, J.E. Toepfer, G. Amato, and A. Caccone. 2004. Genetic evaluation of a proposed reintroduction: The case study of the greater prairie chicken and the extinct heath hen. *Molecular Ecology* 13, 1759-1769.
- Milinkovitch, M.C., A. Caccone, and G. Amato. 2004. Molecular phylogenetic analyses indicate extensive morphological convergence between the “yeti” and primates. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 31, 1-3.
- Russello, M.A. and G. Amato. 2004. A molecular phylogeny of Amazona: implications for Neotropical parrot biogeography, taxonomy and conservation. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 30, 421-437.
- Schmitz, A., P. Mausfeld, E. Hekkala, T. Shine, H. Nickel, G. Amato, and W. Böhme. 2003. Molecular evidence for species level divergence in African Nile crocodiles *Crocodylus niloticus* (Laurenti, 1786). *PALEVOL* 2: 703-712.
- Gatesy, John, G. Amato, M. Norell, R. DeSalle, and C. Hayashi. 2003. Combined support for wholesale taxic atavism in Gavialine Crocodylians. *Syst. Biol.* 52(3):1-21.