

Evangelos Vlachos

PhD in Paleontology

Current Position: Assistant Researcher — Ερευνητής Γ'

CONICET and Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina



Personal Information

Interests: Palaeontology: Turtles & Tortoises, Diversity; Taphonomy; Nomenclature; Taxonomy; Speleology; Museology; Graphic Design

Born in Karditsa, Greece - December 6, 1985

Nationalities: Greek (*native*), Argentinean (*naturalization*)



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https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Evangelos_Vlachos



Evan Vlachos (evangelos_vlachos)



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Citations: 247
h-index: 10

Google Scholar (Sep. 2020)

Languages

Greek: native language

English: speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency

[IELTS, British Council, Academic Module, Grade 8/9, November 2013]

[First Certificate in English (2001) (Cambridge University), Grade B]

Spanish: speak fluently and read/write with good proficiency

Research Experience

Assistant Researcher (Ερευνητής Γ')

CONICET and Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina [Nov. 2019 – ongoing]

Topic: "Diversity patterns and extinction during the evolutionary history of turtles (Testudinata) and other reptile groups".

Director: Dr. Diego Pol (CONICET & MEF);

Co-director: Dr. Marcelo de la Fuente (CONICET & San Rafael Museum)

Postdoctoral Research

CONICET and Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina [Apr. 2015 – Oct. 2019]

Topic: "The phylogenetic and evolutionary history of the world's large tortoises

in the last 50 million years, with emphasis on the South American testudinids".

Director: Dr. Marcelo de la Fuente (CONICET & San Rafael Museum);

Co-director: Dr. Diego Pol (CONICET & MEF)

Education

PHD in Paleontology

School of Geology (AUTH) [Nov. 2011- Feb. 2015]

Thesis: "The fossil chelonians of Greece. Taxonomy – Stratigraphy – Palaeoecology - Evolution"

Advisor: Ass. Prof. Evangelia Tsoukala

MSc in Tectonics & Stratigraphy

School of Geology (AUTH) [Mar. 2011]

Thesis: "Contribution of the study of Gigantic Tortoises in the Stratigraphy and Palaeogeography of the Neogene of Macedonia, Greece"

Grade A (9,41 / 10); Advisor: Ass. Prof. Evangelia Tsoukala

BSc in Geology

School of Geology (AUTH) [Mar. 2008]

Thesis: "Contribution to the study of the giant tortoise from Epanomi, Thessaloniki"

Grade C (7,35 / 10) (1st Grade that year); Advisor: Ass. Prof. Evangelia Tsoukala

Positions

2019 | Member of the Executive Commission of the Paleobiology Database

2018 – present | Coordinator of the Laboratory of Preparation of the Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio

2018 – present | Member of the Art & Design Committee of the Asociación Paleontológica Argentina

Teaching Experience

2009-2015 | Teaching Assistant in the undergraduate courses of School of Geology, AUTH: Vertebrate Paleontology, Geology of Greece, Geotectonic Evolution of Greece.

2009-2015 | Teaching Assistant in the undergraduate courses of School of Geology & Sch. Of Archaeology, AUTH: Zooarchaeology

2008-2013 | Courses and Field Training in Speleology, Department of Northern Greece, Hellenic Speleological Society.

Fieldwork Experience

2015 – ongoing, excavating fossil tortoises in Chubut, Patagonia, Argentina

2008 – ongoing, excavating giant fossil tortoises in Northern Greece

2004-2014 in the following sites, with Ass. Professor Evangelia Tsoukala:

[1] Loutra Almopias Cave (N. Greece, Late Pleistocene); [2] Kalamoto, Mygdonia basin (N. Greece, Middle Pleistocene); [3] Milia, Grevena (NW. Greece, Pliocene); [4] Kryopigi, Kassandra Peninsula (N. Greece, Late Miocene); [5] Thermopigi, Serres (N. Greece, Late Miocene); [6] Platania, Drama basin (N. Greece, Late Miocene)

With Professor Georgios Theodorou (EKPA-University of Athens): Megalopolis, Pelopponessus, **2012** (S. Greece)

With Dr. Adán Pérez-García (Madrid, Spain): - Algora, **2013**, (Guadalajara, Spain, Late Cretaceous)

Courses & Seminars

2015 – Cladistic Analysis & Application in Paleontology | 6 days, 48 hours | Dr. D. Pol & Dr. J. Sterli | Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina

2011 – Introduction to Geometric Morphometrics | 3 days, 30 hours | Dr. Y. Sarris | School of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Scholarships & Awards

2014 - Research Committee, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Scholarship of Excellence (commendation)

2013 - Research Committee, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Scholarship of Excellence (50141)

2013 - Synthesys (ES-TAF-2754), Natural History Museum of Madrid, Spain

2004-2008 - Scholarship State Foundation (I.K.Y.) - Admission awards

2003- Scholarship State Foundation (I.K.Y.) - Performance award

2003 - GEOTEE, award for entering 1st in the School of Geology, AUTH

Grants & Projects

2018 – ongoing – AGENCIA MinCyT PICT 2018 1848 “Origen, Extinción y Patrones de Diversificación de los Meiolaniformes y Pan-Quélidos (Testudinata) durante el intervalo Cretácico-Paleógeno en el sur de Sudamérica”. [Member of the Research Group]

2017 – 2019 – AGENCIA MinCyT PICT 2016 B 2334 “Análisis Filogenético de las tortugas terrestres (Testudines: Testudinidae) y la Historia Evolutiva de los testudínidos de Sudamérica”. [Lead Researcher]

2017 – ongoing – Editing of the volume “The Fossil Vertebrates of Greece”, to be published by Springer Nature in 2019. This is a volume that summarizes the entire fossil record of Greek vertebrates.

2017 – Short Term Visitor Travel Grant 7252016, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA | study of fossil turtle material from the collections of USNM.

2016 – ongoing – Contributor to the PaleoBiology DataBase, focusing on the records of Testudinata (turtles).

2016 – 2018 – National Geographic Society / Waitt Grant W435-16 | "The Gulf of Titanic Turtles: excavation and preservation of new fossil tortoises from the Neogene of Northern Greece."

2014 – 2016 – IKYDA, “Phylogenetic relationships and evolutionary history of the European Giant tortoises” in cooperation with the University of Tübingen, Germany.

2011 – Zooarchaeological study of the bone assemblage of the Smari Acropolis, Crete, headed by Dr. Despoina Vallianou (study of bone material, metrical documentation, formation of a detailed database, spatial analysis).

Collections

I have visited the following paleontological collections to study material of turtles and tortoises:

2018 – Collection of the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Madrid, Spain; **2017** – National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian, Washington DC, U.S.A.; **2017** – American Museum of Natural History, New York, U.S.A.; **2015** – Museu de Zoologia de São Paulo, Brazil; **2015** – Divisão Nacional de Geologia e Mineralogia, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Price collection); **2015** – Museu Nacional Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; **2015** – Museu Naturais, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil; **2015** – Museo de Ciencias Naturales de Buenos Aires, Argentina; **2015** – Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Plata, Argentina; **2015** – Geological and Paleontological Institute of Tübingen, Germany; **2015** – Johannes Gutenberg University, Department of Geosciences, Paleontological Collection, Mainz, Germany; **2014** – Goulandris Natural History Museum, Athens, Greece; **2014** – Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina; **2013** – Institute of Geology and Paleontology of Florence, Italy; **2013** – Natural History Museum of Madrid, Spain; **2013** – Sala des Tortugas, Salamanca, Spain; **2013** – Naturalis CB, Leiden, The Netherlands; **2012** – Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Switzerland; **2012** – Natural History Museum of Zurich, Switzerland; **2012** – Natural History Museum of Herakleion, Crete, Greece; **2012** – Paleontological and Geological Museum of Munich, Germany; **2012** – Collection of the Ephorate of Archaeology, Nafplion, Greece; **2011 & 2012** – Löwentor Museum, Stuttgart, Germany; **2010 & 2014** – Museum of Paleontology, School of Geology and Geoenvironment, University of Athens, Greece; **2010 & 2011** – Institute of Paleontology, University of Vienna, Austria; **2010 & 2011** – Natural History Museum of Vienna, Austria; **2008 & 2010** – Natural History Museum of Paris, France.

Public talks

As invited speaker:

23 May 2019 – Winter is coming, but why? Circle of open talks on dissemination of science at the Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio

23 Jul 2015 – 5th Turtle Evolution Symposium, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (*ancestor talk, see below*)

25 Jan 2013 - Event "Fossilie Schildpadden", in Natural History Museum of Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2009-2013 - Caving lessons in Cave seminars of the Hellenic Speleological Society (Department of Northern Greece), Thessaloniki, Greece

Nov 2012 - Geotourism and Caves, ISCA conference, in Perama, Ioannina, Greece

Jul 2012 - Geotourism, in Kryopigi, Greece

Conferences (Organizing Committee)

2021 Turtle Evolution Symposium, Trelew, Chubut, Argentina [2021]

2nd Virtual Paleontological Congress [2020]

2nd Open Day of Post-graduate Studies, School of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece [2014]

Vth International Conference on Mammals and their Relatives, Grevena & Statista, W. Macedonia, Greece [2014]

1st Open Day of Post-graduate Studies, School of Geology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece [2013]

19th Carpatho-Balkan Geological Conference, Thessaloniki, Greece [2011]

6th International Cave Bear Symposium, Aridea, Pella Greece [2006]

Conferences (Scientific Committee)

RCAPA 2019, La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina [2019]

VII International Conference on Mammals and their Relatives, Taiwan [2017]

Selected Scientific Graphic Design Experience

Design of the new Paleontological Exhibition in Thermopigi, Serres (2020)

Design of the "Pursuit of Elephants in Grevena" book, published by the Region of Western Macedonia – Regional Unit of Grevena (2018)

Design of the new Paleontological Exhibition in Milia, Grevena (2018)

Design of the Abstract Book of the VII International Conference on Mammals and their Relatives (2014)

Design of the Volume for the History of Sindiki (2014)

Photo Exhibition for the 40 years of the School of Geology, AUTH (2013)

Design of Paleontological Exhibition of Ag. Georgios Cave, Kilkis (2012)

Layout of Study Guide of School of Geology (2008-2019)

Design of Historical Paleontological Exhibition of Statista (2011)

Poster Design and Scientific co-supervision of "Prehistoric Giants" Exhibition in Vitsa, Ioannina (August 2011)

Poster Design (12 papers) in VII Mammoth Conference, Le Puy, France (2010)

Graphic Design of exhibition of Perama Cave, Ioannina (July 2010)

Design and Scientific co-supervision of Mammoth Museum, Thessaloniki (2009)

Design in Paleontological Exhibition of Loutra Almopia Cave, Aridaia (2006)

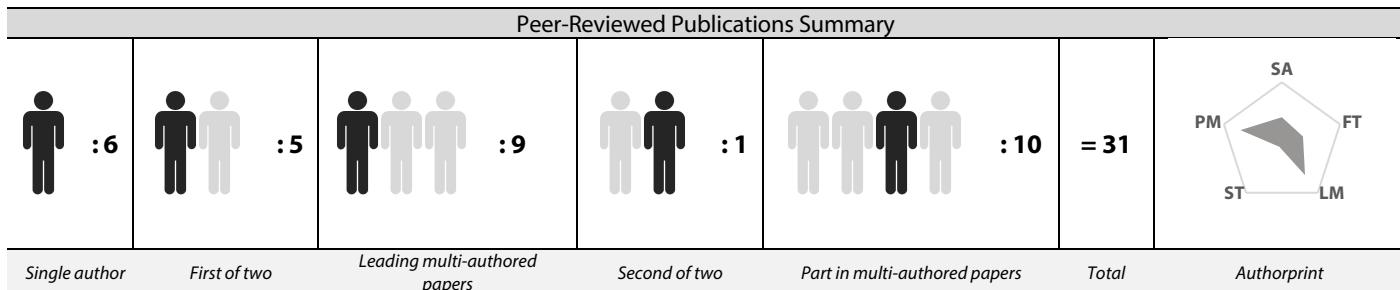
Design in Natural History Museum of Kalamata (2006)

Memberships

Argentinian Paleontological Association; The Palaeontological Association; Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists; European Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists; Willi Hennig Society; Hellenic Speleological Society; Hellenic Evolutionary Society.

Scientific Production: Publications, Papers & Editing

Peer-Reviewed Publications



Vlachos E. (2020) A response to Dubois (2020; *Zoosystema* 42 (23): 475-482). *Zoosystema* 42 (25): 515-517

Fernández, M. S., Vlachos, E., Buono, M. R., Alzugaray, L., Campos, L., Sterli, J., Herrera, Y., & Paolucci, F. (2020). Fingers zipped up or baby mittens? Two main tetrapod strategies to return to the sea. *Biology Letters*, 16(8), 20200281.

Vlachos, E. (2020) The turtles from 'Gilmore's slab': evolution and diversity of the extinct turtle *Echmatemys* (Testudines: Testudinoidea: Geoemydidae) from the central United States. *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*, DOI: 10.1080/14772019.2020.1754938

Vlachos, E., Pérez-García, Roussakis, S., Georgalis, G., Kear, B. (2020). Late Miocene tortoises from Samos island in Greece: implications for European Neogene testudinid systematics and distributions. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, e1722950. doi.org/10.1080/02724634.2020.1722950

Vlachos, E., Georgalis, G., Roussakis, S., Böhme, M., Theodorou, G. (2020). The Pikermian tortoises (Testudines, Testudinidae) from the late Miocene of South Balkans. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, e1711520. doi.org/10.1080/02724634.2019.1711520

Pérez-García, A., Vlachos, E., & Murelaga, X. (2020). A large testudinid tortoise with African affinities in the post-Messinian (Lower Pliocene) record of southeastern Spain. *Palaeontology*, doi: 10.1111/pala.12468

Vlachos, E. (2019). Introducing a new tool to navigate, understand and use International Codes of Nomenclature. *PeerJ*. doi 10.7717/peerj.8127

Vlachos, E. (2019). On the nomenclature of the largest tortoise that ever lived: *Megalochelys sivalensis* Falconer & Cautley, 1837 vs. *Colossochelys atlas* Falconer & Cautley, 1844 (Reptilia, Testudinidae). *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, 76: 162–164.

Vlachos, E., Sterli, J., Vasileiadou, K. & Syrides, G. (2019). A new species of *Mauremys* (Testudines, Geoemydidae) from the late Miocene – Pliocene of Central Macedonia (northern Greece) with exceptionally wide vertebral scutes. *Papers in Palaeontology*, 5(1): 177–195.

Vlachos, E., Bacharidis, N. (2018). A trionychid turtle from the late Aquitanian (early Miocene) of Neochori (Grevena, Western Macedonia, Greece). *Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana*, 57(3): 255–257.

Vlachos, E., Randolph, E., Sterli, J. & Leardi, J. M. (2018). Changes in the Diversity of Turtles (Testudinata) in South America from the Late Triassic to the Present. *Ameghiniana*, 55(6): 619–643.

de la Fuente, M., Zacarías, G. & Vlachos, E. (2018). A review of the fossil record of the South American turtles of the clade *Testudinoidea*. *Bulletin of the Yale Peabody Museum*, 59(2): 269–286.

Athanassiou, A., Michailidis, D., Vlachos, E., Tourloukis, V., Thompson, N., & Harvati, K. (2018). Pleistocene vertebrates from the Kyparissia lignite mine, Megalopolis Basin, S. Greece: Testudines, Aves, Suiformes. *Quaternary International*. doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2018.06.030

Vlachos, E., Tsoukala, E., Crégut-Bonhomme, E., Guérin, C., & Mol, D. (2018). The Paradise Lost of Milia (Grevena, Greece; Late Pliocene, Early Villafranchian, MN15/MN16a): Faunal Composition and Diversity. *Quaternary*, 1(2): 1–13.

Vlachos, E., Sterli, J. & de la Fuente, M. (2018). On the validity of *Testudinites sellovii* Weiss, 1830 from the Pleistocene of Paso del Catalán (Uruguay, South America). *Ameghiniana*, Paleontological Note, 55(3): 339–342.

Vlachos, E. (2018). A review of the fossil record of the North American turtles of the clade Pan-*Testudinoidea*. *Bulletin of the Yale Peabody Museum*, 59(1): 3–94.

Vlachos, E. & Rabi, M. (2018). Total evidence analysis and body size evolution of extant and extinct tortoises (Testudines: Cryptodira: Pan-Testudinidae). *Cladistics*, 34: 652–683.

Pérez-García, A., Vlachos, E. & Arribas, A. (2017). The last giant continental tortoise of Europe: a survivor in the Spanish Pleistocene site of Fonelas P-1. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 47: 30–39.

Georgalis, G., Villa, A., Vlachos, E., Delfino, M. (2016). Fossil amphibians and reptiles from Plakias, Crete: a glimpse into the earliest late Miocene herpetofaunas of southeastern Europe. *Geobios*, 49: 433–444.

Pérez-García, A., Vlachos, E. & Mocho, P. (2016). The westernmost records of large European tortoises: the presence of *Titanochelon* (Testudinidae) in the Miocene of Portugal. *Historical Biology*. 29(6): 854–861.

Vlachos, E. & Delfino, M. (2016). Food for thought: sub-fossil and fossil chelonian remains from Franchhi Cave and Megalopolis confirm a Glacial refuge for *Emys orbicularis* in Peloponnesus (S. Greece). *Quaternary Science Reviews*. 150, 158–171. 10.1016/j.quascirev.2016.08.027.

Zougrou, IM., Katsikini, M., Pinakidou, F., Brzhezinskaya, M., Papadopoulou, L., Vlachos, E., Tsoukala, E., Paloura, E. (2016). Characterization of fossil remains using XRF, XPS and XAFS spectroscopies. *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*, 712:012090, doi:10.1088/1742-6596/712/1/012090.

Vlachos, E. & Tsoukala, E. (2016). The diverse fossil chelonians from Milia (Late Pliocene, Grevena, Greece) with a new species of *Testudo* Linnaeus, 1758 (Testudines: Testudinidae). *Papers in Palaeontology*, Vol 2, Part 1: 72–86.

Vlachos, E. (2015). Forming taxon names from Greek words. *Bionomina*, 9: 1–26 pp.

Vlachos, E., Cerdá, I. & Tsoukala, E. (2015). The first record of a soft-shelled turtle (Testudines: Pan-Trionychidae) from southern Balkans (Pliocene, Gefira, N. Greece) and new information from bone histology. *The Science of Nature – Naturwissenschaften*, 102, article 45, 9 pp.

Vlachos, E., Delfino, M. & Kotsakis, T. (2015). The chelonians from the latest Miocene-earliest Pliocene locality of Allatini and Pylea (east Thessaloniki, Macedonia, Greece). *Comptes Rendus Palevol*, 14(3): 187–205.

Vlachos, E. & Tsoukala, E. (2014). *Testudo* cf. *graeca* from the new Late Miocene locality of Platania (Drama basin, N. Greece) and a reappraisal of previously published specimens. *Bulletin of the Geological Society of Greece*, XLVIII: 27–40.

Pérez-García, A. & Vlachos, E. (2014). New generic proposal for the European Neogene large testudinids (Cryptodira) and the first phylogenetic hypothesis for the medium and large representatives of the European Cenozoic record. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 172(3): 653–719.

Vlachos, E., Tsoukala, E. & Corsini, J. (2014). *Cheirogaster bacharidis* sp. nov., a new species of a giant tortoise from the Pliocene of Thessaloniki (Macedonia, Greece). *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 34(3), 560–575.

Tsoukala, E., Mol, D., Pappa, S., Vlachos, E., Logchem, W., Vaxevanopoulos, M., Reumer, J. (2011). *Elephas antiquus* in Greece: New Finds and a reappraisal of older material (Mammalia, Proboscidea, Elephantidae). *Quaternary International*, 245: 339–349.

Pennos, C., Vaxevanopoulos, M., Pechlivanidou, S., Vlachos, E., Vavliakis, E. (2006). Determination of the flow velocity in cave conduits based on the study of scallops - „Eptamiloï“ cave system, Macedonia, Greece. Proceedings of the 8th Hellenic Geographic Conference of the Hellenic Geographical Society, pp. 454 – 462.

Books & Monographs

Tsoukala, E., Lazaridis, G., Vlachos, E. & Xafis, A. (2014). The fossil findings of Sindiki: the prehistoric animals and the Paleontological Museum of Thermopigi. Special Volume of the History of Sindiki Municipality, Published by the Sindiki Municipality, 115–132. (in Greek with English summary).

Tsoukala, E., Vlachos, E., Wildschut, H., Mol, D. (2018). Pursuit of Elephants in Grevena. Grevena: Published by the Region of Western Macedonia – Regional Unit of Grevena; 88 p.; ISBN: 978-618-84092-0-0. [bilingual: Greek/English; role: author/designer]

Vlachos, E. (Editor) (in press). The Fossil Vertebrates of Greece Vol. 1 and Vol. 2. Springer-Nature, Earth Science Systems.
In this book, I wrote two chapters:

Introduction to the Fossil Vertebrates of Greece

The fossil record of turtles and tortoises (Reptilia: Testudines) in Greece

and I co-authored one chapter:

The sedimentary basins from the Miocene to the present in Greece: examples for the most studied basins from north Greece

Popular Works

Zoological Nomenclature of Ice and Fire. Vlachos, E., Journal of Geek Studies, **2018**, 5(2): 1–17.

Agios Georgios Cave, Kilkis: 50 years of history - 30,000 years of prehistory. Makridis, V., Tsoukala, E., Vlachos, E., Logchem, W. & Mol., D. Deposits Magazine, **2013**, 34: 30-36.

A new museum in Northern Greece: The Siatista Historical Palaeontological Collection. Mol, D., Tsoukala, E., Vlachos, E., Batsi, A., Wildschut, H., Labretsa, D. & Logchem, W. Deposits Magazine, **2012**, 31: 26-35.

Editing Experience

2018 – ongoing. Member of the Web Production Team of the **Publicación Electrónica de la Asociación Paleontológica Argentina.**

2017 – ongoing. Member of the Editorial Production Team of **Ameghiniana: a Gondwanan paleontological journal.**

2017 – 2020. Editor of the book “The Fossil Vertebrates of Greece. An overview of taxonomy and distribution” in Springer Earth Systems, Springer – Nature Publishing Group.

2014. Co-Editor in the Abstract Book of the VIth International Conference on Mammals and their Relatives, Grevena – Siatista, W. Macedonia, Greece. May 2014 (together with D.S. Kostopoulos & E. Tsoukala).

Reviewer

Biological Journal of the Linnean Society (**2016**); Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana (**2015**); Bulletin of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History (**2016**); Bulletin of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History (**2020**); Carnets de Géologie (**2020**); Fossil Record (**2018**); Geobios (**2015**); Geodiversitas (**2019**); Historical Biology (**2020**); Journal of Biogeography (**2016**); Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology (**2014, 2015, 2018, 2020**); Journal of Zoological Systematics and Evolutionary Research (**2019**); PLOS ONE (**2015, 2018**); Neues Jahrbuch für Geologie und Paläontologie (**2018**); PeerJ (**2018**); Palaeontology (**2019**); Revista Mexicana de Ciencias Geológicas (**2020**); Revista Peruana de Biología (**2019**); Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society (**2015, 2018**); Zootaxa (**2016, 2017**).

Thesis Reviewer Committee

2017, “Diversidad taxonómica y filogenética de tortugas de Sudamérica durante el Mesozoico y el Paleógeno”, Enrique Alberto Randolph. Presented in Department of Geological Sciences, Faculty of Natural Sciences, of the University of Buenos Aires.

