

Curriculum Vitae
(Updated July 2021)

Jacobo Reyes-Velasco, PhD

Entorno Biotico A.C. Real de Petén 656. Villa de Alvarez, Colima, Mexico. 28979
Cell Phone: +52 312-112-6667. E-mail: jrv305@nyu.edu, jackobz@gmail.com
www.jacoboreyesvelasco.com

Education

2010 - 2015

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). University of Texas at Arlington.
Dissertation title: *The venomous rattlesnakes & New World coralsnakes: Molecular systematics, biogeography & the evolution of venom systems.*
Advisors: Dr. Jonathan A. Campbell & Dr. Todd A. Castoe.

2004 – 2008

Bachelor's Degree (B.S.) in Biology. Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico.
Undergraduate thesis title: *New State Records for Amphibians & Reptiles from Colima, Mexico.*
Advisor: Dr. Sonia Navarro-Pérez.

Professional Experience

Present

- Postdoctoral Associate, University of Konstanz, Germany. Advisor: Axel Meyer, PhD.
- President & lead researcher at Entorno Biotico A.C. & Herp.mx A.C.

2015 - 2019

- Postdoctoral Associate, New York University Abu Dhabi. Advisor: Stephane Boissinot, PhD.

2010 – 2015

- Teaching Assistant. University of Texas at Arlington.

2010

- Fixer, translator, & animal handler for the show *Venom Power*, National Geographic Television. Chamela, Jalisco, Mexico.

2008 – 2009

- Ecotour guide. Ecotours de Mexico. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

Publications

Evolutionary Biology

16. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Adams R, Boissinot S, Parkinson CL, Campbell JA, Castoe TA, Smith EN. Genome-wide SNPs clarify lineage diversity confused by coloration in coralsnakes of the *Micrurus diastema* species complex (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics & Evolution*. 2020; 147:106770.
15. Roman I, Bourgeois Y, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Jensen OP, Waldman J, Boissinot S. Contrasted patterns of divergence & gene flow among five fish species in a Mongolian rift lake following glaciation. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*. 2018;125(1):115-25.
14. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Manthey JD, Freilich X, Boissinot S. Diversification of African tree frogs (genus *Leptopelis*) in the highlands of Ethiopia. *Molecular ecology*. 2018;27(9):2256-70.
13. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Manthey JD, Bourgeois Y, Freilich X, Boissinot S. Revisiting the phylogeography, demography & taxonomy of the frog genus *Ptychadena* in the Ethiopian highlands with the use of genome-wide SNP data. *PloS one*. 2018;13(2): e0190440.
12. Perry BW, Card DC, McGlothlin JW, Pasquesi GI, Adams RH, Schield DR, et al. Molecular adaptations for sensing & securing prey & insight into amniote genome diversity from the garter snake genome. *Genome biology & evolution*. 2018;10(8):2110-29.
11. Pasquesi GI, Adams RH, Card DC, Schield DR, Corbin AB, Perry BW, et al. Squamate reptiles challenge paradigms of genomic repeat element evolution set by birds & mammals. *Nature communications*. 2018;9(1):2774.
10. Manthey JD, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Freilich X, Boissinot S. Diversification in a biodiversity hotspot: genomic variation in the river frog *Amietia nutti* across the Ethiopian Highlands. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*. 2017;122(4):801-13.
9. Adams RH, Blackmon H, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Schield DR, Card DC, Andrew AL, et al. Microsatellite landscape evolutionary dynamics across 450 million years of vertebrate genome evolution. *Genome*. 2016;59(5):295-310.
8. Schield DR, Card DC, Adams RH, Jezkova T, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Proctor FN, et al. Incipient speciation with biased gene flow between two lineages of the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*). *Molecular Phylogenetics & Evolution*. 2015; 83:213-23.
7. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Card DC, Andrew AL, Shaney KJ, Adams RH, Schield DR, et al. Expression of venom gene homologs in diverse python tissues suggests a new model for the evolution of snake venom. *Molecular biology & evolution*. 2014;32(1):173-83.

6. Card DC, Schield DR, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Fujita MK, Andrew AL, Oyler-McCance SJ, et al. Two low coverage bird genomes & a comparison of reference-guided versus de novo genome assemblies. *PLoS One*. 2014;9(9): e106649.
5. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Meik JM, Smith EN, Castoe TA. Phylogenetic relationships of the enigmatic longtailed rattlesnakes (*Crotalus ericsmithi*, *C. lannomi*, & *C. stejnegeri*). *Molecular phylogenetics & evolution*. 2013;69(3):524-34.
4. Castoe TA, De Koning AJ, Hall KT, Card DC, Schield DR, Fujita MK, et al. The Burmese python genome reveals the molecular basis for extreme adaptation in snakes. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2013;110(51):20645-50.
3. Cox CL, Davis Rabosky AR, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Ponce-Campos P, Smith EN, Flores-Villela O, et al. Molecular systematics of the genus *Sonora* (Squamata: Colubridae) in central & western Mexico. *Systematics & Biodiversity*. 2012;10(1):93-108.
2. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Mulcahy DG. Additional taxonomic remarks on the genus *Pseudoleptodeira* (Serpentes: Colubridae) & the phylogenetic placement of *P. uribei*. *Herpetologica*. 2010;66(1):99-110.
1. Bryson Jr RW, Nieto Montes de Oca A, **Reyes-Velasco J**. Phylogenetic position of *Porthidium hespere* (Viperidae: Crotalinae) & phylogeography of arid-adapted hognosed pitvipers based on mitochondrial DNA. *Copeia*. 2008; 2008(1):172-8.

Conservation, Natural History & Taxonomy

17. **Reyes-Velasco J***, Goutte S*, Freilich X, Boissinot S. "Mitogenomics of historical type specimens clarifies the taxonomy of Ethiopian *Ptychadena* (Anura: Ptychadenidae)". *ZooKeys* (Accepted).
* Contributed equality to this work.
16. Goutte, S., **Reyes-Velasco, J.**, Freilich, X., Kassie, A., & Boissinot, S. (2021). Taxonomic revision of grass frogs (Ptychadenidae, Ptychadena) endemic to the Ethiopian highlands. *ZooKeys*, 1016, 77.
15. Grünwald, CI, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Franz-Chávez H. et al. Two New Species of the genus *Eleutherodactylus* (Anura: Eleutherodactylidae) from Southern Mexico, with comments on the taxonomy of related species & their advertisement calls. *Amphibian & Reptile Conservation*. 2021. 15(1): 1–35 (e272).
14. **Reyes-Velasco, J**, Grünwald CI, Jones JM, & Ahumada-Carrillo, IT. A revision of the herpetofauna of Colima, Mexico. *Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología*. 2020. 3, no. 2: 61-82.
13. Loc-Barragan J, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Woolrich-Piña G, Grünwald CI, Venegas de Anaya M, Rangel-Mendoza JA, & López-Luna MA. A New Species of Mud Turtle of genus *Kinosternon* (Testudines: Kinosternidae) from the Pacific Coastal Plain of Northwestern Mexico. *Zootaxa*. 2020, 4885 (4): 509-529.
12. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI, Jones JM, Ahumada-Carrillo I. A revision of the herpetofauna of Colima, Mexico. *Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología* (In Press).

11. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Ramirez-Chaparro R. Algunas sugerencias para el formato de listados herpetofaunísticos de México. *Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología*. 2019. no. 2: 103-106.
10. Goutte S., **Reyes-Velasco J**, Boissinot S. A new species of puddle frog from an unexplored mountain in southwestern Ethiopia (Anura, Phrynobatrachidae, *Phrynobatrachus*). *ZooKeys*. 2019; (824), 53.
9. Grünwald CI, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Franz-Chávez H, Morales-Flores KI, Ahumada-Carrillo IT, Jones JM, et al. Six new species of *Eleutherodactylus* (Anura: Eleutherodactylidae: subgenus *Syrrhophus*) from Mexico, with a discussion of their systematic relationships & the validity of related species. *Mesoamerican Herpetology*. 2018;5(1):7-81.
8. Cox CL, Davis Rabosky AR, Holmes IA, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Roelke CE, Smith EN, et al. Synopsis & taxonomic revision of three genera in the snake tribe Sonorini. *Journal of Natural History*. 2018;52(13-16):945-88.
7. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Ahumada-Carrillo I, Burkhardt TR, Devitt TJ. Two new species of *Eleutherodactylus* (subgenus *Syrrhophus*) from western Mexico. *Zootaxa*. 2015;3914(3):301-17.
6. Streicher JW, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Cox CL, Campbell JA, Flores-Villela O. Additional distributional records of a recently described Mexican toad species, *Incilius mccoysi* (Anura: Bufonidae). *Herpetology Notes*. 2014; 7:207-210.
5. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Iverson JB, Flores-Villela O. The conservation status of several endemic Mexican Kinosternid turtles. *Chelonian Conservation & Biology*. 2013;12(1):203-8.
4. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI, Jones JM, Price MS, Fisher JT. New distributional records for the herpetofauna of Mexico. *Herpetological Review*. 2012;43(3):353-4.
3. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI, Jones JM, Weatherman GN. Rediscovery of the rare Autlán long-tailed rattlesnake, *Crotalus lannomi*. *Herpetological Review*. 2010;41(1):19-25.
2. Jadin RC, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Smith EN. Hemipenes of the long-tailed rattlesnakes (Serpentes: Viperidae) from Mexico. *Phyllomedusa: Journal of Herpetology*. 2010;9(1):69-73.
1. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Hermosillo-Lopez IA, Grünwald CI, Avila-Lopez OA. New State Records for Amphibians & Reptiles from Colima, Mexico. *Herpetological Review*. 2009;40(1):117-20.

Natural History Notes

- * Montaña-Ruvalcaba C., Jones JM, **Reyes-Velasco J**. *Sceloporus grammicus* (Graphic Spiny Lizard). *Herpetological Review* (submitted).
20. Montaña-Ruvalcaba C, Grünwald, CI, **Reyes-Velasco J**. *Geophis pyburni* (Pyburn's Earth Snake). *Herpetological Review*, 51 (3), 545.

19. Montaña-Ruvalcaba, C., Loc-Barragan J., Grünwald IC, **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2020). *Kinosternon vogti* (Vallarta mud turtle). Reproduction. *Herpetological Review*, 51 (2), 315-316.
18. Avila-Lopez, OA., **Reyes-Velasco J**, Hermosillo-Lopez A. (2012). *Leptodactylus melanotus* (Sabinal frog). Prey. *Herpetological Review*, 43(1), 122-123.
17. Sheehy CM., Streicher JW, Cox CL, Tovar RU, **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2012). *Dipsas gaigae* (Gauge's thirst snake). Reproduction. *Herpetological Review*, 43(2), 342-343.
16. Mertz WH., **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI. (2011). *Leptodeira uribei* (Uribe's cat-eyed snake). *Herpetological Review*, 42(1).
15. Sheehy CM., Streicher JW, Cox CL, **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2011). *Tropidodipsas philippii* (Philippi's snail-eating snake). Arboreality. *Herpetological Review*, 42(3), 446-447.
14. Ahumada-Carrillo IT, Reyna-Bustos OF, **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2011). *Micrurus laticollaris* (Balsan coral snake). *Herpetological Review*, 42(2).
13. Streicher JW, Sheehy CM, Cox CL, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Weatherman GN. (2010). *Smilisca baudinii* (Mexican treefrog) & *Pachymedusa dacnicolor* (Mexican leaf frog). Reproduction. *Herpetological Review*, 41(2), 208.
12. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI & Jones JM. (2010). *Geophis tarascae* (Tarascan earth snake). *Herpetological Review*, 41(1), 109-110.
11. Mertz, William H., **Reyes-Velasco J** & Grünwald CO. (2010). *Tropidodipsas fasciata* (Banded snail sucker). *Herpetological Review*, 41(4), 520.
10. **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2009). *Porthidium hespere* (Western hognose pitviper). Diet. *Herpetological Review*, 40(1), 101.
9. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Burkhardt TR & Jones JM. (2008). *Dermophis oaxacae* (Oaxacan caecilian). *Herpetological Review*, 39(4), 480.
8. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CO, Jones JM & Weatherman GN. (2008). *Crotalus willardi meridionalis* (Southern ridge-nosed rattlesnake). *Herpetological Review*, 39(4), 485.
7. Goldberg SR., **Reyes-Velasco J**, Bursay CR & Dugan E. (2008). *Porthidium hespere* (Western hognose viper). Endoparasites. *Herpetological Review*, 39(1), 99.
6. Ingrasci MJ, Setzer K, & **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2008). *Lampropeltis alterna* (Gray-banded kingsnake). *Herpetological Review*, 39(3), 371-372.
5. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI & Jones JM. (2008). *Micrurus distans oliveri* (Western Mexican coral snake). *Herpetological Review*, 39(4), 485.
4. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI & Jones JM. (2008). *Tropidodipsas annulifera* (Western snailsucker). *Herpetological Review*, 39(4), 487.
3. **Reyes-Velasco J**, Grünwald CI & Jones JM. (2008). *Crotalus pusillus* (Tancitaran dusky rattlesnake). *Herpetological Review*, 39(2), 240.
2. **Reyes-Velasco, J**, Grünwald CI & J. M. Jones. (2008). *Dipsas gaigae* (Gauge's thirst snake). *Herpetological Review*, 39(2), 241.

1. Ahumada-Carrillo IT, Vazquez-Huizar O & **Reyes-Velasco J.** (2007). *Manolepis putnami* (Ridgehead snake). *Herpetological Review*, 38(4), 488.

Book chapters

1. Schield, DR, Card DC, **Reyes-Velasco J**, Andrew AL, Modahl CA, Mackessy SP, Pollock DD, Castoe TA. 2016. A role for genomics in rattlesnake research – current knowledge & future potential. In: *Rattlesnakes of Arizona*, G.W. Schuett, L.W. Porras, & R.S. Reiserer (Eds.), Eco Books.

Other publications

3. Walsh, Melissa, et al. 2014. Laboratory manual, Intro Biology for Majors. University of Texas at Arlington.
2. Hermosillo-Lopez, Alexander, Reyes-Velasco J. 2003. Guide for the conservation & sustainable use of the mud turtle, *Kinosternon integrum*. Privately printed. Colima, Mexico.
1. Reyes-Velasco J. Alexander Hermosillo-Lopez. 2002. The freshwater turtles of Colima, Mexico. Privately printed. Colima, Mexico.

Undergraduate Mentoring

2018 – Present

- **Marcin Falis** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Pending.
- **Imtiyaz Hariyani** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Genomic evolution of frogs in the Ethiopian highlands (genus *Ptychadena*).

2016 - 2018

- **Jigar Govind** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Impact of habitat on the gut & skin microbiome of Ethiopian frogs.
- **Sudikhya Shrestha** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Identification of Transposable Elements in *Leptopelis gramineus* - Insights into evolution of TE composition in Amphibians.
- **Mona Nehme** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Adaptations to high elevations at the mitochondrial level in Ethiopian frogs (genus *Leptopelis*).
- **Victor Okoth** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Systematics of the frog genus *Phrynobatrachus* in Ethiopia.
- **Ryan Brown** – New York University Abu Dhabi. Research topic: Amplicon sequencing of Ethiopian frogs of the genus *Leptopelis*.

2015

- **Peter Nguyen** – University of Texas at Arlington. Research topic: Evolution of color polymorphism in snakes of the genus *Micrurus*.
- **Augusto Torres** – University of Texas at Arlington. Research topic: Evolution of color polymorphism in snakes of the genus *Micrurus*.

2013

- **George Tsai** – University of Texas at Arlington. Research topic: Systematics of the long-tailed rattlesnakes.

2012

- **Reem Abuhandara** – University of Texas at Arlington. Research topic: Systematics of the long-tailed rattlesnakes.

Graduate Students Mentoring

2016 – Present

- **Joseph Jayalo** – University of Nairobi (Kenya) & New York University Abu Dhabi. Research title: Effect of environmental factors on skin & gut bacterial community in Tadpoles.

Teaching Experience

2014 – 2015

- Introduction to Biology for Majors – University of Texas at Arlington.

2013 – 2014 (summer)

- Anatomy & Physiology – University of Texas at Arlington.

2012 (summer)

- Biostatistics – University of Texas at Arlington.

2010 – 2013

- Introduction to Biology for Non-Majors – University of Texas at Arlington.

Professional Responsibilities for the Scientific community

I have served as a reviewer and/or assistant editor for the following journals:

- Molecular Phylogenetics & Evolution
- Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología
- Systematic Biology
- Zoological Journal of the Linnaean Society
- ZooKeys
- Zootaxa

Field Research Experience

2015 – 2019

- Population genomics & phylogeography of east African amphibians. Ethiopia – Dr. Stephane Boissinot, New York University Abu Dhabi.

2013

- Evolution of dwarfism & gigantism in insular speckled rattlesnakes, *Crotalus mitchelli*. Baja California, Mexico. Field assistant under Dr. Jesse Meik & Dr. Sarah Shaak, Tarleton State University & Reeds College.

2010

- Ecology of the lesser Antillean Iguana, *Iguana delicatissima*. Dominica, Western Antilles. Field Assistant under Dr. Charles Knapp, Shedd Aquarium.
- 2008**
- Herpetofauna of northern & western Mexico. Field & lab assistant under Dr. Eric N. Smith & Dr. Jonathan A. Campbell, University of Texas at Arlington.
- 2003 - Present**
- The herpetofauna of Colima & western Mexico. Entorno Biotico A.C. & Herp.mx A.C.
- 2003**
- Ecology of *Homopus signatus*, the world's smallest tortoise. South Africa. Field assistant under Dr. Victor Loehr.

Grants, Honors & Awards

2019

- Center for Genomics & Systems Biology IX. New York University Abu Dhabi. *Transcriptome Sequencing Reveals Genomic Adaptations to Life at High Elevations in Ethiopian Frogs: Part I*. Jacobo Reyes-Velasco J, Bourgeois Y & Boissinot S.
Best poster award.

2014

- Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund Grant, American Museum of Natural History. Systematics of the *Micrurus diastema* species complex of coral snakes – \$2,100 USD.

2013

- Young Explorers Grant, National Geographic Society. Natural history of the rattlesnake *Crotalus lannomi* – \$5,000 USD.

2011

- Phi Sigma Research Grant, University of Texas at Arlington. Systematics of the snake genus *Coniophanes*. – \$750 USD.
- William F. Pyburn Award for Herpetological Research. University of Texas at Arlington.

2010

- Chelonian Research Foundation - Linnaeus Fund Award. Surveys to evaluate the conservation status of several Endemic Mexican Kinosternid turtles. – \$1,000 USD.

2004

- International Environmental Science Fair Istanbul, Turkey. Third Place.
- Youth Ecology Award on Academic Merit. Colima, Mexico.
- Expo ESI-AmLat, Environmental Sciences. Fortaleza do Ceará, Brazil. First Place.
- National Youth Award. Awarded by the President of Mexico, Vicente Fox-Quezada.

2003

- Intel International Science Fair. Natural Sciences. Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Participant.
- State Ecology Award, Colima Mexico. Government of the State of Colima.
- Youth Ecology Award on Conservation. Colima, Mexico.

2002

- National Mexican Youth Contest of Projects for Rural Development. First place.
- National Mexican Youth Contest of Science & Technology. First Place, Natural Sciences Category.

Conferences, Presentations & Invited talks

2021

- California Academy of Sciences, Snake World Day invited speaker. *Drugs, Guns and Rattlesnakes: Unraveling the mystery of Mexico's long-tailed rattlesnakes.*
- Universidad de Colima, Facultad de Biología, invited speaker. *Como vivir estudiando ranas y serpientes (sin morir de hambre) – How to live studying frogs and snakes (and not starve to death).*

2019

- British Museum of Natural History, London, UK. *Evolution & Diversity in the rooftop of Africa: Studying the frogs of the Ethiopian Highlands.* Invited Research talk.
- Berlin Natural History Museum, Germany. *Evolution & Diversity in the rooftop of Africa: Studying the frogs of the Ethiopian Highlands.* Invited Research talk.
- Center for Genomics & Systems Biology IX. New York University Abu Dhabi. Best poster award. *Transcriptome Sequencing Reveals Genomic Adaptations to Life at High Elevations in Ethiopian Frogs: Part I.* (Received Best Poster award).

2018

- Evolution Conference. Society for the study of Evolution. Montpellier, France. *Transcriptome sequencing reveals adaptations to high elevations in Ethiopian frogs.* Research Poster.
- Society for Molecular Biology & Evolution. Yokohama, Japan. *Transcriptome sequencing reveals adaptations to high elevations in Ethiopian frogs.* Research Poster.

2017

- CGSB Conference VII. NYU Abu Dhabi, UAE. *Evolution & Diversity in the rooftop of Africa: Studying the frogs of the Ethiopian highlands.* Research Poster.
- New York University Abu Dhabi Biology Seminar Talk. Abu Dhabi, UAE. *Evolution & Diversity in the rooftop of Africa: Studying the frogs of the Ethiopian highlands.* Research talk.
- Society for the study of Evolution. Portland, Oregon, USA. *Evolution of a Subterranean Lifestyle in an Arboreal Frog Lineage Limits Dispersal & Enhances Genetic Diversification.* Research talk.

2016

- Society for the study of Evolution. Austin, Texas, USA. *Phylogenetic relationships of frogs of the genus *Leptopelis* in the highlands of Ethiopia.* Research Poster.
- Society for the study of Evolution. Austin, Texas, USA. *Molecular systematics of coralsnakes of the *Micrurus diastema* species group.* Research talk.

2014

- Society for the study of Evolution. Raleigh, North Carolina, USA. *Expression of venom gene homologs in diverse python tissues suggests a new model for the evolution of snake venom.* Research talk.
- Biology of the Pit Vipers 2. Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA. *The Burmese python genome provides insights into the evolution of snake venoms.* Research talk.

2013

- Society for the study of Evolution. Snowbird, Utah, USA. *Phylogenetic relationships of the enigmatic Long-Tailed Rattlesnakes.* Research talk.

2012

- National Meeting of the Mexican Society of Herpetology. Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico. The conservation status of several endemic Mexican Kinosternid turtles. Research talk.

2008

- National Meeting of the Mexican Society of Herpetology. Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico.
- Annual Meeting of the Kansas Herpetological society. Wichita, Kansas. New State Herpetofaunal Records for Colima, Mexico. Research talk.

2006

- National Meeting of the Mexican Society of Herpetology. Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.
- Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists. Colima, Colima, Mexico. The herpetofauna of the state of Colima, Mexico: New state records & range extensions. Poster.

2004

- National Meeting of the Mexican Society of Herpetology. Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico.

Community Outreach & Nonprofit Organizations

2017 – Present

- Co-founder, president and lead research scientist of Herp.mx A.C., a non-for-profit organization focused on promoting research & conservation of native amphibians & reptiles in Mexico. (www.herp.mx).

2009 – Present

- Co-founder & member of the board of Entorno Biotico A.C., a non-for-profit organization focused on promoting sustainable development in the state of Colima, Mexico.

Alongside this NGO we have obtained multiple grants to carry out the following projects, including:

1. Promoting alternative tourism in the rural community of El Terrero, Colima, Mexico (2009-2012). \$251,049 Mexican Pesos.
2. Conservation of Mexican Psittacid birds in the state of Colima, Mexico. (2010-2012). \$340,679 Mexican Pesos.
3. Cultivation of organic vegetables & installation of bio-digesters for the production of gas in rural communities. (2011-2012). \$276,918 Mexican Pesos.
4. Implementation of two sustainable, community operated farms for the production of vegetables, rabbit meat, chickens & eggs. (2013-2016). \$265,000 Mexican Pesos.

2001 – 2009

- Cofounder of Tortugas-Colima, a non-for-profit organization involved in the research & conservation of freshwater turtles in Mexico.

*With **Tortugas-Colima** we have accomplished the following projects:*

1. Published a guide for the sustainable use of the mud turtle, *Kinosternon integrum* in captivity. The goal was to produce an easy to follow guide for breeding a local

- species of turtle in rural areas, with the intension of commercializing it for the pet trade or for human consumption, which is a tradition in several regions of Mexico.
2. We created the first freshwater turtle-breeding center in the state of Colima, & one of the few of its kind in Mexico.

*Both of these projects received considerable local, national & international attention & obtained several awards, including the National Youth Award on environmental causes, presented by the then **President of Mexico, Vicente Fox Quezada.***