

# STEVEN M. WHITFIELD

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Florida International University  
Department of Biological Sciences  
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### EDUCATION

- 2005 – present **Ph.D., Biology (expected 2010).** Florida International University. Miami, Florida. GPA: 3.952.  
Dissertation Title: *Enigmatic faunal declines at La Selva, Costa Rica: Pattern and process in a collapsing tropical herpetofauna.* Dissertation advisor: Dr. Maureen A. Donnelly
- 2002 - 2005 **M.S., Biology.** Florida International University. Miami, Florida. GPA: 3.959. Thesis Title:  
*Trophic ecology and seasonality of a neotropical leaf-litter herpetofauna.* Thesis advisor: Dr. Maureen A. Donnelly.
- 2003 **Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach.** Organization for Tropical Studies.
- 1996 - 2000 **B.A., B.S. Biology.** The Evergreen State College. Olympia, Washington. GPA.: N/A.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### REFEREED ARTICLES

- 2007 **Whitfield, S. M.,** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, F. Bolaños, G. Chaves, J. M. Savage, and M. A. Donnelly. 2007. Amphibian and reptile declines over 35 years at La Selva, Costa Rica. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* **104(20)**:8352-8356.
- 2006 **Whitfield, S. M.** and M. A. Donnelly. 2006. Ontogenetic and seasonal variation in the diets of a Costa Rican leaf-litter herpetofauna. *Journal of Tropical Ecology*. **22(4)**: 409-417.
- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.** and M. S. F. Pierce. 2005. Tree buttress microhabitat use by a neotropical leaf-litter herpetofauna. *Journal of Herpetology* **39(2)**: 192-198.
- In review **Whitfield, S. M.** and M. A. Donnelly. Trophic and temporal niche relationships of a Costa Rican leaf-litter herpetofauna. (in review at *Copeia*)

#### THESES AND TECHNICAL REPORTS

- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.** 2005. Trophic ecology and seasonality of a neotropical leaf-litter herpetofauna. M. S. Thesis. Florida International University, Miami, Florida.
- 2002 Thurgate, N. Y., J. H. K. Pechmann, and **S. M. Whitfield.** 2002. Demography and movements of Gopher Frogs in Mississippi. Unpublished Report to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### NATURAL HISTORY NOTES (short, editor-reviewed communications)

- 2006 **Whitfield, S. M.** 2006. *Eleutherodactylus diastema.* (Common Tink Frog). Reproduction. *Herpetological Review* **37(3)**: 336-337.
- 2006 **Whitfield, S. M.** 2006. *Norops humilis.* (Ground Anole). Kleptoparasitism. *Herpetological Review* **37(2)**: 225.
- 2003 **Whitfield, S. M.** and M. S. F. Pierce. 2003. *Eleutherodactylus noblei* (NCN). Reproduction and Parental Care. *Herpetological Review* **34(4)**: 357-358.
- In press **Whitfield, S. M.,** S. Greenspan, S. Miller. (in press) *Craugastor talamancae* (NCN). Reproduction and Nest Attendance. *Herpetological Review.*

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2005 – 2008 **Presidential Fellowship.** Florida International University.  
2007 **Student Travel Award.** Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.  
2006 **Conference Travel Award.** FIU Graduate Student Association.  
2005 **Student Travel Award.** American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists.  
2005 **Conference Travel Award.** FIU Graduate Student Association.  
2004 **Conference Travel Award.** FIU Graduate Student Association.  
2003 **Website Design Competition.** First Place, FIU Graduate Student Association.

### RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2006 **Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research.** American Philosophical Society. \$4000.  
2006 **Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Grant.** American Museum of Natural History. \$1500.  
2006 **Graduate Student Research Grant.** Florida International University Graduate Student Association. \$500.  
2006 **Tinker Field Grant.** Tinker Foundation. \$2400.  
2005 **Graduate Student Research Grant.** Florida International University Graduate Student Association. \$500.  
2005 **OTS Research Fellowship.** Organization for Tropical Studies. \$3000.  
2004 **Grants-in-Herpetology: Field Research.** Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. \$500.  
2003 **Grants-in-Aid of Research.** Sigma Xi. \$750.  
2003 **Post-Course Research Award.** Organization for Tropical Studies \$480.  
2003 **Gaige Fund Award.** American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. \$500.  
2003 **Graduate Student Research Grant.** Florida International University Graduate Student Association. \$500.

### RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (\* indicates presenter)

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2007 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, F. Bolaños, G. Chaves, J. M. Savage, and M. A. Donnelly. 2007. Amphibian and reptile declines over 35 years at La Selva: Patterns and Potential Processes. *Tropical Forests in Transition: La Selva as a Case Study. Organization for Tropical Studies.*  
2006 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, F. Bolaños, G. Chaves, J. M. Savage, and M. A. Donnelly. 2006. Faunal declines over 35 years at La Selva, Costa Rica: More trouble in paradise? *Joint Meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Special Symposium of RANA: Research and Analysis Network for Neotropical Amphibians*

#### ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2007 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** and M. A. Donnelly. 2007. Amphibian and reptile declines at La Selva, Costa Rica: Patterns and processes in a collapsing tropical herpetofauna. *Joint Meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists.*  
2006 **Whitfield, S. M.,** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, F. Bolaños, G. Chaves, J. M. Savage, and M. A. Donnelly\*. Amphibian and reptile declines over 35 years at La Selva, Costa Rica: More trouble in paradise? *Coalition for Excellence in Tropical Biology Symposium.*  
2006 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, F. Bolaños, G. Chaves, J. M. Savage, and M. A. Donnelly. Amphibian and reptile declines over 35 years at La Selva, Costa Rica. *Ecological Society of America.*  
2006 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** Faunal declines over 35 years at La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica: Is there trouble in paradise? *FIU Graduate Students Association Scholarly Forum.*

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS, CONTINUED

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### ORAL PRESENTATIONS, CONTINUED

- 2006 **Whitfield, S. M.,\*** K. E. Bell, T. Philippi, M. Sasa, and M. A. Donnelly. Faunal declines over 35 years at La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica: Is there trouble in paradise? *FIU Biology Symposium*.
- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. A. Donnelly. Community structure of a Costa Rican leaf-litter herpetofauna: prey use and seasonal activity. *Joint Meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*.
- 2005 Bell, K. E., **S. M. Whitfield**, M. Sasa, and M. A. Donnelly.\* Population variability of a leaf-litter herpetofauna at La Selva, Costa Rica: seasonal and long-term trends. *Joint Meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*.
- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** Community structure of a Costa Rican leaf-litter herpetofauna: trophic and seasonal niche dimensions. *FIU Graduate Students Association Scholarly Forum*.
- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. A. Donnelly. Trophic Ecology of a Neotropical Leaf-Litter Herpetofauna. *FIU Biology Symposium*.
- 2004 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. S. F. Pierce. Tree Buttress Microhabitat Utilization by a Neotropical Leaf-Litter Herpetofauna. *FIU Graduate Students Association Scholarly Forum*.

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2005 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. S. F. Pierce. 2005. Tree Buttress Microhabitat Utilization by a Neotropical Leaf-Litter Herpetofauna. *FIU Graduate Students Association Scholarly Forum*.
- 2004 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. S. F. Pierce. 2004. Tree Buttress Microhabitat Utilization by a Neotropical Leaf-Litter Herpetofauna. *Joint Meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*.
- 2004 **Whitfield, S. M.\*** and M. S. F. Pierce. 2004. Tree Buttress Microhabitat Utilization by a Neotropical Leaf-Litter Herpetofauna. *FIU Biology Symposium*.

## RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT

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- 2002 **Temporary Research Associate.** University of New Orleans. New Orleans, Louisiana. Population monitoring of the critically endangered Dusky Gopher Frog, *Rana sevosa*.
- 2001 **Field Research Assistant.** University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Champaign, Illinois. Movement patterns, mating systems and reproductive ecology of Bartlett's Tinamous in Manu National Park, southeastern Peru.
- 2001 **Field Botany Intern.** University of Puerto Rico. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Vegetation censuses on a study of long-term forest dynamics in the Luquillo National Forest of Puerto Rico.
- 2000 **Wildlife Technician.** Clemson University. Clemson, South Carolina. Assessment of impact of introduced fire ants on coastal plain amphibian, reptile, and small mammal communities.

## MEDIA ATTENTION

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- 2007 "La Selva se está quedando sin anfibios." *La Nación*. 15 May 2007.
- 2007 "Lizards join frogs in rapid decline." *Environmental Science and Technology News*. 2 May 2007.
- 2007 "No Refuge for Dwindling Amphibian Populations." *Scientific American.com*. 16 April 2007.
- 2007 "Litter critters hit." *Conservation Magazine*. 16 April 2007.
- 2007 "Warming Kicks Frogs While They're Down." *LiveScience.com*. 16 April 2007. (reprinted on MSNBC.com, and Yahoo!News.com)
- 2007 "Fewer leaves' behind frog demise." *BBC News*. 17 April 2007.
- 2007 "Reptiles join amphibians in mysterious decline." *NewScientist.com*. 16 April 2007.
- 2007 "Death in the rainforest: fragile creatures give the world a new climate warming." *Guardian Unlimited*. 17 April 2007. (reprinted at Hindu.com).
- 2007 "Frog, Lizard Extinctions Caused by Climate, Not Fungus, Study Suggests." *National Geographic News*. 17 April 2007.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### LABORATORY COURSES TAUGHT (\* indicates courses containing graduate students)

2006	<b>Introduction to Ecology Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2005	<b>General Biology I Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2005	<b>Tropical Plant Taxonomy Laboratory.*</b> Florida International University.
2004	<b>Introduction to Ecology Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2004	<b>General Biology II Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2004	<b>Introduction to Ecology Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2003	<b>Introduction to Ecology Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2003	<b>Introduction to Marine Biology Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2003	<b>General Biology II Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.
2002	<b>General Biology I Laboratory.</b> Florida International University.

### UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING EXPERIENCE

2007	<b>Mentor.</b> Research Experience for Undergraduates Program. National Science Foundation and La Selva Biological Station.
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## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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1999 – 2007	Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles
2002 – 2007	American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
2002 – 2004	Animal Behaviour Society
2003	Herpetologists' League
2006 – 2007	Ecological Society of America
2007	Society for Conservation Biology

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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2007	<b>Solicited Reviewer.</b> <i>Herpetologica</i> .
2006	<b>Solicited Reviewer.</b> <i>Conservation Biology</i> .
2005	<b>Solicited Reviewer.</b> <i>Journal of Zoology</i> .
2005	<b>Solicited Reviewer.</b> <i>Herpetological Review</i> .

\*\*\*REFERENCES, ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS, AND REPRINTS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST\*\*\*