

# Randy Klabacka

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## Education

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| <b>Ph.D in Biological Science</b> | Auburn University, Auburn, AL<br>Advisors: Jamie Oaks & Tonia Schwartz                            | <b>2016 –</b>      |
| <b>B.S. in Biological Science</b> | Brigham Young University, Provo, UT<br>Advisors: Jack W. Sites Jr. & Chad R. Hancock<br>GPA: 3.74 | <b>2012 – 2016</b> |

## Research Experience

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| <b>Undergraduate Research Assistant– Phylogenetic Systematics</b><br><b>Dr. Jack Sites Jr. (BYU)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authored four manuscripts</li> <li>• Led project focused on species delimitation and biogeographic analysis</li> <li>• Actively participated in weekly discussions focused on lab projects and relevant publications</li> <li>• Regularly led discussions on relevant publications during weekly meetings</li> </ul>   | <b>2013 – 2016</b> |
| <b>Undergraduate Research Assistant– Metabolic Physiology</b><br><b>Dr. Chad Hancock (BYU)</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led project focused on the association between iron and insulin resistance</li> <li>• Contributed significantly to project on the relieving effect of exercise on oxidative stress</li> <li>• Developed lab skills including BCA Protein Assays, Western Blots, Glutathione Assays, Citrate Synthase assays, animal sacrifices (mice), respirometry, and tissue homogenization.</li> <li>• Actively participated in weekly discussions focused on lab projects and relevant publications</li> <li>• Regularly led discussions on relevant publications during weekly meetings</li> </ul> | <b>2013 – 2016</b> |

## Field Experience

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thailand:</b> Tropical lowland herpetological field research<br/>-Collected species of <i>Cnemaspis</i> and <i>Cyrtodactylus</i> at carst formations throughout peninsular Thailand for research on phylogeography and species boundaries.</li> </ul> | <b>2016</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Malaysia:</b> Tropical highland herpetological field research<br/>-Collected a wide range of herpetological species for projects focused on mountain diversification and conservation.</li> </ul>   | <b>2016</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nevada:</b> Subtropical desert herpetological field research<br/>-Collected <i>Crotalus lutosus</i> and obtained morphological measurements for research on population dynamics in Great Basin National Park.</li> </ul>                              | <b>2015</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Costa Rica:</b> Neotropical biology/geology course &amp; field research<br/>-Collected <i>Iguana iguana</i> and obtained blood samples for research on phylogeography and species barriers throughout Central/South America.</li> </ul>               | <b>2014</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Utah:</b> Collected geographical data for <i>Rana luteiventris</i> habitat restoration<br/>-Collected data for <i>Rana luteiventris</i> (egg masses and adults observed) for a habitat restoration project in Diamond Fork Canyon.</li> </ul>         | <b>2013</b> |

## Teaching Experience

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### Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

2013 – 2016

#### Dr. John “Keoni” Kauwe (BYU)

- Instructed group of 10–20 students for three-hour periods in a private setting
- Expanded on and clarified concepts taught in class
- Prepared and taught entire lectures when Dr. Kauwe was gone
- Graded all exams, essays, and assignments
- Prepared and taught multiple exam reviews for students prior to each exam

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

2013 – 2016

#### Dr. John “Keoni” Kauwe (BYU)

- Instructed group of 10–20 students for three-hour periods in a private setting
- Expanded on and clarified concepts taught in class
- Prepared and taught entire lectures when Dr. Kauwe was gone
- Graded all exams, essays, and assignments
- Prepared and taught multiple exam reviews for students prior to each exam

## Publications

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- Davis, Hayden R., Grismer, L. Lee, Klabacka, Randy L., Muin, Mohd A., Quah, Evan S., Anuar, Shahrul, Wood, Perry L. J.R., and Sites, Sites, Jack W. J.R. "The phylogenetic relationships of a new Stream Toad of the genus *Ansonia* Stoliczka, 1870 (Anura: Bufonidae) from a montane region in Peninsular Malaysia." *Zootaxa* 4103, no. 2 (2016): 137-153.
- Grismer, L. Lee, Wood, Perry L. J.R., Anuar, Shahrul, Grismer, Marta S., Quah, Evan S., Murdoch, Matthew L., Muin, Mohd A., Davis, Hayden R., Klabacka, Randy L., Aguilar, César, Cobos, Anthony J., Aowphol, Anchalee, Sites, Jack W. J.R. "Two new Bent-toed Geckos of the *Cyrtodactylus pulchellus* complex from Peninsular Malaysia and multiple instances of convergent adaptation to limestone forest ecosystems." *Zootaxa* 4105, no. 5 (2016): 401-429.
- Klabacka, R., Perry, P.L. Jr., Grismer, L. Lee, Sites, J.W. Jr. "Phylogeny and species boundaries in the 'flying dragons' of the *Draco maculatus* species complex (family Agamidae)". Planned submission: December, 2016.
- Gamble, T., Klabacka, R., Aguilar, C., Bauer, A., Catenazzi, A., Greenbaum, E., Sites., J.W. Jr., Valdez, F. "Phylogeny and biogeography of New World leaf-toed geckos, *Phyllodactylus* (Phyllodactylidae: Gekkota)". Planned submission: 2017.
- Johnson, J.M., Smith, D.H., Klabacka, R.L., Watt, R.K., Wright, D.C., Hancock, C.R. "Rosiglitazone prevents iron accumulation and increased hydroxyl radical capacity in livers from Zucker Diabetic Fat rats." Planned submission: 2017.

## Poster Presentations

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- Klabacka, R.L., Johnson, J.M., Wright, D.C., Hancock, C.R. Effect of a high-fat diet on physiological iron levels. Experimental Biology (Conference). April 6, 2016. San Diego.
- Klabacka, R., Perry, P.L. Jr., Sites, J.W. Jr. Rosiglitazone ameliorates iron dysregulation exhibited in livers from ZDF rats. Roseman University National Student Research Group (NSRG). February 20, 2016. Roseman University, South Jordan, UT.

- Klabacka, R., Perry, P.L. Jr., Sites, J.W. Jr. Phylogeny and species boundaries in the “flying dragons” of the *Draco maculatus* species complex (family Agamidae). Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research (UCUR). February 19, 2016. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Klabacka, R., Perry, P.L. Jr., Sites, J.W. Jr. Phylogeny and species boundaries in the “flying dragons” of the *Draco maculatus* species complex (family Agamidae). HBLL 2015 College of Life Sciences Undergraduate Poster Competition. November 9, 2015. Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.
- Klabacka, R., Aguilar C., A.M. Bauer, A. Catenazzi, E. Greenbaum, J.W. Sites, Jr., F. Valdez, Wood, P.L. Jr., Wilkes, R., and T. Gamble. Phylogeny and biogeography of New World leaf-toed geckos, *Phyllodactylus* (Phyllodactylidae: Gekkota). Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. August 1, 2015. University of Kansas, Lawrence, KA.

## Grants and Awards

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- **2016** Office of Research & Creative Activities (ORCA) Grant: Phylogeny and species boundaries in the “flying dragons” of the *Draco maculatus* species complex (family Agamidae) (\$1,500)
- **2016** College of Life Sciences Dean List
- **2015** 3<sup>rd</sup> Place HBLL College of Life Sciences Poster Competition: (\$100)
- **2014** NSF Research Opportunity for Undergraduate Students (REU) supplemental award recipient: Phylogeny and biogeography of New World leaf-toed geckos, *Phyllodactylus* (Co-author; \$3,000)
- **2013** Full-tuition Academic Scholarship: Brigham Young University

## Professional Memberships

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Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE)

## Additional Skills

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- Fluently speak Spanish
- Proficiently code in Python and C++ (12 credit hours)