

## Benjamin M. A. Winger

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology & Museum of Zoology  
University of Michigan

Office: 2018 Biological Sciences Building, 1105 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
e-mail: wingerb@umich.edu • website: <http://www.wingerlab.org>

---

### EDUCATION

PhD 2015 University of Chicago, Committee on Evolutionary Biology  
BA 2007 Cornell University, College Scholar Program, *summa cum laude*

---

### APPOINTMENTS & EXPERIENCE

2017– Assistant Professor, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
& Assistant Curator of Birds, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan  
2015–2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan  
2016– Research Associate, Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
2009–2015 Resident Graduate Student, Field Museum of Natural History  
2008–2009 Lab Associate, Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
2007–2009 Curatorial Assistant, Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
2007 Research Assistant, American Museum of Natural History  
2006–2007 Collections Assistant, Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates

---

### FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & GRANTS

#### FELLOWSHIPS

2015–2018 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Michigan Society of Fellows  
2015–2017 Donnelley Postdoctoral Fellowship, Yale University (declined for UM Society of Fellows)  
2015–2017 Cornell Lab of Ornithology Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined for UM Society of Fellows)  
2013–2014 Lester Armour Graduate Student Fellowship, Field Museum of Natural History  
2009–2012 Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation  
2003–2007 Rawlings Presidential Research Scholarship, Cornell University

#### HONORS & AWARDS

2019 Katma Award, American Ornithological Society  
2019 Teaching Excellence Award, EEB & Program in Biology, University of Michigan  
2017 Elective Member, American Ornithological Society  
2016 Best Dissertation Award, University of Chicago Biological Sciences Division  
2016 Honorary Visiting Professor, Universidad Nacional Toribio Rodríguez de Mendoza, Peru  
2015 Christer Hemborg Lecture, Uppsala University  
2014 Ernst Mayr Award, Society of Systematic Biologists  
2014 American Ornithologists' Union Council Award  
2007 Honors Thesis Proposal Award, Cornell University College Scholars Program

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

2019	UM Institute for Global Change Biology Action Group (co-PI)	\$162,500
2018	MCubed Grant, University of Michigan ("Migratory birds and the magnetosphere")	\$60,000
2014	Illumina MiSeq grant, Pritzker Lab, Field Museum of Natural History	\$2,850
2013	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant	\$20,061
2013	American Museum of Natural History Frank M. Chapman Memorial Grant	\$1,960
2012	University of Chicago/Field Museum Pritzker Lab student award	\$2,000

2012	University of Chicago Donald Steiner Travel Award	\$2,000
2011	American Ornithologists' Union Alexander Wetmore Award	\$2,500
2011	American Museum of Natural History Frank M. Chapman Memorial Grant	\$2,000
2011	Cooper Ornithological Society Joseph Grinnell Award	\$1,000
2010	University of Chicago Hinds Fund Award	\$1,800
2010	Society of Systematic Biologists Graduate Research Award	\$1,700
2008	Cornell Lab of Ornithology Student Research Grant	\$19,500
2008	National Geographic Society Young Explorers Grant	\$5,000
2008	Explorers Club Youth Activity Fund	\$1,500
2008	Cornell Zoology Club Student Research Grant	\$1,600
2007	Cornell Lab of Ornithology Student Research Grant	\$4,500
2005	Cornell University Morley Student Research Grant	\$1,000

---

## PUBLICATIONS

**Winger, BM** & TM Pegan. 2021. Migration distance is a fundamental axis of the slow-fast continuum of life history in boreal birds. *Ornithology* 138:1-18.

\*honored as Editor's Choice\*

Zimova, M, DE Willard, **BM Winger**<sup>‡</sup>, BC Weeks<sup>‡</sup>. 2021. Widespread shifts in bird migration phenology are decoupled from parallel shifts in morphology. *Journal of Animal Ecology*. 90:2348–2361.

‡co-senior author

Van Doren, BM, DE Willard, M Hennen, KG Horton, EF Stuber, D Sheldon, AH Sivakumar, J Wang, A Farnsworth<sup>‡</sup> & **BM Winger**<sup>‡</sup>. 2021. Drivers of fatal bird collisions in an urban center. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118: e2101666118.

‡co-senior author

Pegan, TM & **BM Winger**. 2020. The influence of seasonal migration on range size in temperate North American passerines. *Ecography* 43:1191-1202

Weeks, BC, S Naeem, **BM Winger**, JL Cracraft. 2020. The relationship between morphology and behavior in mixed-species flocks of island birds. *Ecology and Evolution* 10:10593-10606.

Starkloff, NC, JJ Kirchman, AW Jones, **BM Winger**, Y-H Huang, PC Pulgarín-R, WC Turner. 2020. Drivers of community turnover differ between avian haemoparasite genera along a North American latitudinal gradient. *Ecology and Evolution* 10:5402-5415.

Weeks, BC, DE Willard, M Zimova, AA Ellis, ML Witynski, M Hennen & **BM Winger**. 2020. Shared morphological consequences of global warming in North American migratory birds. *Ecology Letters* 23:316-325

\*highest all-time Altmetric score for journal\*

**Winger, BM**, BC Weeks, A Farnsworth, AW Jones, M Hennen & DE Willard. 2019. Nocturnal flight-calling behaviour predicts vulnerability to artificial light in migratory birds. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 286:20190364.

**Winger, BM**, GG Auteri, TM Pegan & BC Weeks. 2019. A long winter for the Red Queen: Rethinking the evolution of seasonal migration. *Biological Reviews* 94:737-753.

\*winner of AOS Katma Award\*

Chesser, RT, KJ Burns, C Cicero, JL Dunn, AW Kratter, IJ Lovette, PC Rasmussen, JV Remsen, DF Stotz, **BM Winger** & K Winker. 2018. Fifty-ninth supplement to the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* 135:798-813.

**Winger, BM**. 2017. Consequences of divergence and introgression for speciation in Andean cloud forest birds. *Evolution* 71:1815-1831.

\*Covered in Evolution "Digests"\*

Toews, DP et al. (19 co-authors). 2016. Genomic approaches to understanding population divergence and speciation in birds. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* 133:13-30.

**Winger, BM**, PA Hosner, GA Bravo, AM Cuervo, LE Cueto & JM Bates. 2015. Inferring speciation history in the Andes with reduced-representation sequence data: an example in the bay-backed antpittas (Aves; Grallariidae). *Molecular Ecology* 24: 6256-6277.

**Winger, BM** & JM Bates. 2015. The tempo of trait-divergence in geographic isolation: Avian speciation across the Marañon Valley of Peru. *Evolution* 69:772-787.

**Winger, BM**, FK Barker & RH Ree. 2014. Temperate origins of long-distance seasonal migration in New World songbirds. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 111(33):12115-12120.

Harvey, MG, GF Seeholzer, D Cáceres, **BM Winger**, G Tello, F Hernández, MA Aponte, CV Duffie, S Figueroa, RS Terrill, CE Brown, L Alza, G Bravo, M Combe, O Custodio, A Quiñones, A Urbay, WA Garcia, AS Savit, FW Pezo, WM Mauck III, and O Barden. 2014. Avian biogeography of an Amazonian headwater: the upper Ucayali River, Peru. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 126:179-191.

Seeholzer, GF, **BM Winger**, MG Harvey, D Caceres & JD Weckstein. 2012. A new species of barbet (Aves: Capitonidae) from the Cerros del Sira of Peru. *The Auk* 129:551-559.

**Winger, BM**, IJ Lovette & DW Winkler. 2012. Ancestry and evolution of seasonal migration in Parulidae. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 279:610-618.

Harvey, MG, **BM Winger**, GF Seeholzer & D Caceres. 2011. Avifauna of the Gran Pajonal and southern Cerros del Sira, Peru. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 123:289-316.

Greeney, H, ME Juiña, JB Harris, MT Wickens, **BM Winger**, RA Gelis, ET Miller, & A Solano-Ugalde. 2010. Observations on the breeding biology of birds in south-east Ecuador. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists Club* 130:61-68.

---

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

### INVITED SEMINARS

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2021 | Georgetown University, Biology of Animal Migration course                       |
| 2020 | Ornithology Department, University of New Mexico Museum of Southwestern Biology |
| 2020 | Department of Zoology & Physiology, University of Wyoming                       |
| 2019 | Department of Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina                 |
| 2018 | Department of Biology, University of Windsor                                    |
| 2018 | Integrative Research Center, Field Museum of Natural History                    |

- 2018 Biology Dept., Eastern Michigan University
- 2017 Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University
- 2017 Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan
- 2016 Plenary lecture, 10<sup>th</sup> Peruvian Ornithology Congress, Chachapoyas, Peru
- 2015 Dept. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan
- 2015 Christer Hemborg Lecture, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden
- 2013 Cornell University Graduate Seminar in Ornithology, Ithaca, NY

#### **INVITED SYMPOSIUM TALKS**

- 2019 Symposium: *"Migratory Wildlife Collisions with Manmade Structures: Monitoring, Prevention, and Patterns from Collision Data."* Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Cleveland, OH
- 2017 Symposium: *"Trait divergence and speciation: Tempo, mode, and mechanism."* American Ornithological Society meeting, East Lansing, MI
- 2014 Symposium: *"Genomic approaches to understanding avian speciation."* American Ornithologists' Union meeting, Estes Park, CO
- 2014 *SSB Ernst Mayr Award Competition*, Evolution Meetings, Raleigh, NC
- 2014 Symposium: *"Location, location, location: New advances in the science of biogeography."* 12<sup>th</sup> Smithsonian Botanical Symposium, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D. C.
- 2013 Symposium: *"Assembly of the North American Avifauna."* American Ornithologists' Union meeting, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Symposium: *"Assembling and using the nine-primaried oscine Tree of Life."* American Ornithologists' Union meeting, Laramie, WY

#### **CONTRIBUTED TALKS & POSTERS (first-authored only)**

- 2019 (talk) American Ornithological Society meeting, Anchorage, AK
- 2018 (talk) International Ornithological Society meeting, Vancouver, BC
- 2018 (talk) American Ornithological Society meeting, Tucson, AZ
- 2016 (talk) North American Ornithological Conference, Washington, DC
- 2016 (talk) American Society of Naturalists meeting, Asilomar, CA
- 2013 (talk) Evolution meetings, Snowbird, UT
- 2013 (poster) University of Michigan Early Career Scientists Symposium, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2012 (talk) North American Ornithological Conference, Vancouver, BC
- 2007 (poster) Cornell Undergraduate Research Board Annual Undergraduate Research Forum
- 2007 (poster) Cornell Presidential Research Scholars Senior Exposition
- 2006 (poster) North American Ornithological Conference, Veracruz, Mexico

---

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **INSTRUCTOR**

- 2021 Evolution (EEB390), University of Michigan
- 2020 Evolution (EEB390), University of Michigan
- 2019 Ornithology (EEB433), University of Michigan
- 2018 Ornithology (EEB433), University of Michigan
- 2018 Biology of Birds (EEB330), University of Michigan Biological Station (field-based course)
- 2016 Ornithology (EEB433), University of Michigan
- 2013 Phylogenetics course, NSF-REU, Field Museum of Natural History

#### **GUEST LECTURER**

- 2020 Environmental Journalism (ENVIRON 320), University of Michigan
- 2018 Unlocking the Museums (BIO 201), University of Michigan

2017 Animal Diversity (BIO 288), University of Michigan  
 2016 iTropBio tropical biology course, University of Michigan  
 2016 Landscape History and Diversification, University of Michigan  
 2012 Ornithology, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

#### **GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT**

2015 Biogeography, University of Chicago  
 2013 Biogeography, University of Chicago  
 2011 Environmental Ecology, University of Chicago

#### **TEACHER TRAINING**

2015 & 2017 Teaching Academy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan

### **EDITORIAL & REFEREE WORK**

#### **EDITORIAL POSITIONS**

2020– Associate Editor, *Ornithology* (formerly *The Auk*)

#### **JOURNAL AD-HOC REVIEWER**

<i>American Naturalist</i>	<i>Functional Ecology</i>	<i>PeerJ</i>
<i>The Auk</i> (now <i>Ornithology</i> )	<i>Global Ecology &amp; Biogeography</i>	<i>PLOS ONE</i>
<i>Biol Journal Linnean Society</i>	<i>Ibis</i>	<i>Proc Roy Soc B Biol Sci</i>
<i>BMC Evolutionary Biology</i>	<i>Journal of Avian Biology</i>	<i>PNAS</i>
<i>The Condor</i> (now <i>Ornithological Applications</i> )	<i>Journal of Biogeography</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Ecology</i>	<i>Journal of Heredity</i>	<i>Science Advances</i>
<i>Ecology Letters</i>	<i>Molecular Ecology</i>	<i>Systematic Biology</i>
<i>Evolution</i>	<i>Mol Phylogenetics &amp; Evolution</i>	<i>Wilson Journal of Ornithology</i>
	<i>Nature Communications</i>	<i>Zoologica Scripta</i>

#### **RESEARCH GRANT AD-HOC REVIEWER**

2020 UK National Environmental Research Council  
 2020 US National Science Foundation, DEB, Population and Community Ecology

#### **MISCELLANEOUS REVIEWER WORK**

2020 University of Michigan Press, Digital Media

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

#### **ACADEMIC SOCIETY SERVICE**

2020– Collections Committee, American Ornithological Society  
 2017–2019 Early Career Professionals Committee, American Ornithological Society  
 2017–2018 North American Classification Committee, American Ornithological Society  
 2013 Local Committee, American Ornithologists Union meeting, Chicago, IL

#### **UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

2021 UM NextProf committee  
 2021 UM Pathogens Biorepository Advisory committee  
 2019–2021 Graduate Admissions Committee, University of Michigan  
 2017–2020 NextProf Mentor, University Michigan  
 2019 Reviewer, University of Michigan Life Science Fellows

- 2017–2019 EEB Seminar Committee, University of Michigan  
 2018 Search Committee Chair, Bird Collections Manager, UMMZ  
 2018 Search Committee, Registrar, UMMZ  
 2015–2017 Reviewer, Michigan Society of Fellows  
 2016 Organizing committee, 12<sup>th</sup> University of Michigan Early Career Scientists Symposium, “Frontiers in Community Assembly”  
 2011 Organizer, Sewall Wright Lecture, University of Chicago

## MENTORSHIP

### POSTDOCS

- 2021– Dr. Abby Kimmitt  
 2019– Dr. Jacob Berv (Michigan Life Sciences Fellow, co-mentored)  
 2019–2021 Dr. Marketa Zimova (now Assistant Professor at Appalachian State University)  
 2017–2019 Dr. Brian Weeks (now Assistant Professor at University of Michigan SEAS)

### PhD ADVISEES

- 2021– Matt Hack  
 2019– Kristen Wacker  
 2018– Eric Gulson-Castillo  
 2017– Teresa Pegan  
 2017– Susanna Campbell (co-advised)

### PhD COMMITTEES (University of Michigan)

- 2018– John David Curlis (Advisor Alison Davis Rabosky)  
 2018– Rachel Wadleigh (Advisor Lacey Knowles)  
 2017– Giorgia Auteri (Advisor Lacey Knowles)

### PhD EXTERNAL EXAMINER/COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 2021 Zach Gayk, University of Windsor  
 2017 Joshua Peñalba, Australian National University

### UNDERGRADUATES

- 2018– Vera Ting (University of Michigan UROP student)  
 2018–2019 Caleb Kaczmarek (University of Michigan EEB undergraduate researcher)  
 2017–2018 Melanie Florkowski (University of Michigan EEB undergraduate researcher)  
 2017–2018 Seana Florida (University of Michigan EEB undergraduate researcher)  
 2016–2018 Jessica Yan (University of Michigan UROP student)  
 2016–2017 Bella Rios (University of Michigan UROP student)  
 2016–2017 Aspen Ellis (University of Michigan undergraduate researcher)  
 2014 Max Witynski (undergraduate student / REU Field Museum summer intern)  
 2013 Alice Henry (undergraduate student / Field Museum summer intern)

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- 2019 Benjamin Hack (research assistant)  
 2012 Griffin Harris (Field Museum summer intern)

---

**SELECT MEDIA COVERAGE**
**HIGHLIGHTS**

My research has garnered major media attention with **coverage in most major news sources** and interviews for popular science outlets including **Radiolab** and **National Geographic Magazine**. In 2019, two of my articles were highlighted in University of Michigan News' [Top 20 News Stories of the year](#). In Michigan, I give frequent interviews about ornithology and bird conservation for the state's top media outlets, including Michigan Radio, MLive, and Detroit Free Press. My research is highlighted in ornithology textbooks including a feature in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Handbook of Bird Biology.

**GENERAL INTERVIEWS (SELECT)**

2021	Smithsonian Magazine, "Climate Change is Transforming the Bodies of Amazonian Birds"
2021	Detroit Free Press, "Rare bird sighting in Saline brings bird-watchers together.."
2021	MLive, "It's still winter in Michigan so why are we seeing robins?"
2021	Smithsonian Magazine, "Earth's Harshest Ecosystems May Birth New Species Fastest"
2021	Crain's Business Detroit, "Buildings kill a billion birds a year. Detroit is among the worst..."
2021	Michigan Radio, "Migrating birds confused by lighted buildings..."
2020	Greater Bloomfield Megacast Interview on birding in Michigan
2020	MLive, "Why unusual birds are showing up around Michigan this fall"
2020	MLive, "How to level up your Michigan birdwatching this spring"
2019	Radiolab, "There and Back Again"
2019	National Wildlife Magazine, "Going the Distance"
2018	National Geographic Magazine, "The Epic Journeys of Migratory Birds"
2013	Groks Science Radio Show, "Discovering Bird Species"

**Zimova et al. 2021, Journal of Animal Ecology ("Widespread shifts of bird migration phenology...")**  
Stateside with April Bear | Michigan Radio | Wildlife Society | Nature Conservancy Cool Green Science

**Van Doren et al. 2021, PNAS ("Drivers of fatal bird collisions...")**  
Chicago Tribune front page story & editorial | The Hill | Daily Mail

**Weeks et al. 2020, Ecology Letters ("Shared morphological consequences of global warming...")**  
#1 all-time Altmetric Attention Score for *Ecology Letters* (as of December, 2019)  
Washington Post | Wall Street Journal | NBC News | CNN | BBC News | Science Magazine | National Audubon Society | Smithsonian Magazine

**Winger et al. 2019, Proc B ("Nocturnal flight calling behavior predicts vulnerability to artificial light...")**  
Science Magazine | PBS Nova | Chicago Tribune | National Audubon Society | The Guardian | The Conversation | NSF News | The Environment Report, Michigan Radio

**Winger et al. 2014, PNAS ("Temperate origins of long-distance seasonal migration...")**  
Living Bird | National Geographic: Not Exactly Rocket Science | New Scientist | UChicago ScienceLife | The Why Files | Earthweek

**Seeholzer et al. 2008, The Auk ("A new species of barbet...")**  
Living Bird | The Guardian | MSNBC | Daily Mail | Yahoo! News | Science Daily | Mongabay | National Audubon Society | Discovery News | Yale e360 | Live Science | American Birding Association

**OTHER RESEARCH FEATURES & PROFILES**

2021 [American Ornithological Society Wingbeat blog feature](#)

- 2017 *Living Bird* magazine Spring 2017 feature, "The Evolution of Bird Migration"
- 2016 Textbook box feature, Cornell Lab of Ornithology Handbook of Bird Biology 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition
- 2015 Annual Report to Donors, Field Museum of Natural History
- 2014 Featured recordist, Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds Facebook page
- 2012 Annual Report to Donors, Field Museum of Natural History
- 2012 Annual Report to Donors, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- 2012 Pritzker Laboratory for Molecular Systematics and Evolution Facebook page
- 2011-2015 Research featured in public exhibit at DNA Discovery Center, Field Museum
- 2009 Annual Report to Donors, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- 2002 Radio interview on ornithology, Jazz Tracks, WCPN Cleveland

---

### OTHER PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2021 Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland, OH
- 2020 Washtenaw Audubon Society at Research Museums Center, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2019 Science Café, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2019 Chicago Bird Collision Monitors, Chicago, IL
- 2017, 2019 Washtenaw Audubon Society, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2017 Michigan Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Society (student group), University of Michigan
- 2016 Student Birding Club, University of Michigan
- 2012 DuPage Birding Club, DuPage, IL
- 2009, 2012 Board of Trustees meetings, Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- 2008 College Club of Cleveland, Cleveland, OH
- 2003 Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival, Homer, AK

#### **SCIENTIFIC CONSULTANCIES**

- 2019 Silverback Films (for film featuring the evolution of bird migration)
- 2014 David Attenborough's *Conquest of the Skies* 3D television series
- 2007 BBC's *Life* television series (consultant and field assistant on bird migration)