

Heather E. Heying, Ph.D.

Evolutionary Biologist

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(find links to many more articles, talks, and panels, and all podcasts)

Education

Ph.D. in Biology, **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor. 2001.

Arnold Kluge, advisor. Distinguished Dissertation Award.

Dissertation title: *The Evolutionary Ecology and Sexual Selection of a Madagascan Poison Frog* (*Mantella laevis*).

BA in Anthropology. **University of California at Santa Cruz** (UCSC). 1992.

Robert Trivers and Adrienne Zihlman, advisors. College honors.

Thesis title: *Measures of Attractiveness Among Old World Monkeys: How Unrelated Females Choose Their Friends*.

Academic Positions

Founding Trustee of the University of Austin	2021 - present
Visiting Fellow, Princeton University's James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions	2019 – 2021
Co-Founder and Chief Architect, the Beringia Project (a project to reframe higher education for a rapidly changing world)	2019 – 2020
Member of the Faculty (tenured in 2007), The Evergreen State College	2002 – 2017
Curator of Vertebrates, Evergreen Natural History Museum	2006 – 2017
Department Chair in Environmental Studies at Evergreen	2013 – 2014
Director of Evergreen's Natural History Museum	2012
Faculty Legislative Liaison for Evergreen on Council of Faculty Representatives	2007

Academic Publications

Heying, H. 2022. *Covert vs. overt: Toward a more nuanced understanding of sex differences in competition*. Archives of Sexual Behavior, January 7, 2022: 1-5.

Heying, H. 2019. *On college presidents*. Academic Questions 32(1): 19-28.

Heying, H., and B. Weinstein. 2016. *Don't look it up*. Proceedings of Colorado College's First Symposium on Field Studies.

Summers, K., C.S. McKeon, **H. Heying**, J. Hall, and W. Patrick. 2007. *Social and environmental influences on egg size evolution in frogs*. Journal of Zoology 271(2): 225-232.

Summers, K., C. S. McKeon, and H. Heying. 2006. *The evolution of parental care and egg size: a comparative analysis in frogs*. *Proceedings of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences* 273(1587): 687-692.

Heying, H. 2004. *Reproductive limitation by oviposition site in a treehole breeding Madagascan poison frog (Mantella laevisgata)*. In *Ecology and evolution of phytotelm-breeding anurans*, R. M. Lehtinen, ed. *Miscellaneous Publications, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan* 193: 23-30.

Heying, H. 2001. *Social and reproductive behaviour in the Madagascan poison frog, Mantella laevisgata, with comparisons to the dendrobatids*. *Animal Behaviour* 61(3): 567-577.

Heying, H. 2001. *Mantella laevisgata (Climbing Mantella). Aborted predation*. *Herpetological Review* 32:34.

Books

A Hunter-Gatherer's Guide to the 21st Century: Evolution and the Challenges of Modern Life. An evolutionary exploration of the forces that formed us, with focus on health, food, and sleep; sex, gender, relationships and parenthood; childhood, school, and adulthood; and culture, consciousness, and society-level solutions. Co-authored with Bret Weinstein. Published by Penguin (Portfolio), September 2021.

Antipode: Seasons with the Extraordinary Wildlife and Culture of Madagascar. Literary non-fiction about life and research in remote northeastern Madagascar, published by St. Martin's Press, July 2002.

Popular Articles and Op-Eds

Natural Selections – weekly articles on a range of topics. Substack, July 2021 – present.

Me, she, he, they: Reality vs. identity in the 21st century. Invited contribution to *Iconoclasts*, an anthology of essays forthcoming from Academica Press in 2022.

Parenting isn't what it used to be. UnHerd, October 2021.

Our reductionist approach to modern medicine is harming us. Thrive Global, September 2021.

What If we're wrong? Areo, May 2021.

How woke activism took over universities and descended into street riots. Schweizer Monat, October 2020.

Sex, love, and sexual autism. Areo, September 2020.

The torment and tragedy of teenage girls: A LetterWiki conversation with Abigail Shrier. LetterWiki, August 2020.

A values proposition. Areo, May 2019.

International Women's Day, and its discontents. Areo, March 2019.

In the footsteps of those who came before. Areo, January 2019.

What the grievance studies hoax means: Exposing the madness of grievance studies. The Chronicle of Higher Education, October 2018.

Fostering free expression in higher education. Public Discourse, October 2018.

On abortion: Time, space, error & ethics. Areo, August 2018.

Toxic femininity. Quillette, July 2018.

Nature is risky. That's why students need it. The New York Times, April 2018.

Memories of a mugging. Confrontation Magazine, Spring 2018.

Bonfire of the academies: Two professors on how leftist intolerance is killing higher education. With Bret Weinstein, in The Washington Examiner, December 2017.

First, they came for the biologists. The Wall Street Journal, October 2017.

Should we "Stop equating science with truth"? A defense of the "google memo" by James Damore. Quillette, August 2017.

Jungle wet. EarthLines Magazine: The Culture of Nature, Spring 2016.

Selected Teaching at Evergreen

full-time immersive academic programs, often co-taught with faculty from other disciplines, lasting between one quarter and a full academic year.

Evolution and Ecology Across Latitudes (year-long intensive in evolutionary theory, tropical biology, paleoanthropology, and conservation biology and land use, with 11-week study abroad in Ecuador) FWS 2015 - 2016

Evolution and the Human Condition (exploration of human pre-history and adaptations to frontiers, cooperation and conflict, and exploration, with focus on the American diaspora—the peopling of the New World.) Winter – Spring 2015

Animal Behavior & Zoology (intensive empirical research program with theory, statistics, and philosophy of science, including field work in the Pacific Northwest, and study abroad in Ecuador (2014) or Panama (2009, 2011)) 2008–09, 2010-11, 2014

Genes & Evolution Fall 2013

Vertebrate Evolution (intensive upper-division science program in macroevolution, epistemology, phylogenetic systematics, -ologies (herpetology, ornithology, etc.), comparative anatomy.) Fall 2005, Spring 2008, FWS 2012-2013, Fall 2016

Nature's Prose (field-intensive program for first-year students, with focus on art and science, observation and unitasking) Spring 2012

Development & Evolution: Form & Function through Time (studies in evolutionary and developmental time: embryology, molecular biology, genetics, comparative anatomy, evolutionary biology) Winter – Spring 2010

Evolving Communication (linguistics & animal communication, through developmental, anatomical, historical, mechanistic, and adaptive lenses) FW 2007– 2008

- A Day in the Life: The Extraordinary Science of Everyday Experience* (exploration of the scientific advances that we benefit from every day, and how to be more critical thinkers through awareness of them) Winter 2007
- Masters in Environmental Studies: Population, Energy & Resources* Winter 2006

Other Teaching Experience

- Architected month-long study abroad program, *Tropical Animal Behavior*, in Panama at the Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation. Summer 2001
- Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), Dept of Biology, University of Michigan. Taught labs and discussion sections for ten semester courses, including but not limited to: Chordate Anatomy and Evolution, Evolution and Human Behavior, Introductory Biology, Phylogenetic Systematics, Practical Botany.

Selected Awards

- Distinguished Dissertation Award, University of Michigan, for “The Evolutionary Ecology and Sexual Selection of a Madagascan Poison Frog (*Mantella laevis*).” (Highest honor given to dissertations produced under the auspices of the University of Michigan, awarded “to recognize exceptional and unusually interesting work”.) 2001
- John Paul Scott Founder’s Award for best research presented in a poster at the Animal Behaviour Society meetings, Morehouse College, Atlanta. 2000
- Winner of *The Atlantic Monthly’s* student writing competition for non-fiction. 1999
- Invited Graduate Student Fellow in the Rackham Graduate School’s First Summer Interdisciplinary Institute 1998
- Honorable mention in NSF Graduate Research Fellowship competition 1993 & 1994
- College Honors, University of California at Santa Cruz 1993

Selected Grants and Fellowships

- Provost’s Grant to innovate in study abroad, The Evergreen State College 2013
- Foundation Grant for Faculty, The Evergreen State College 2008
- Sponsored Research Fellowship, The Evergreen State College 2003
- Rackham Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan 2000
- Sokol International Research Fellowship, University of Michigan 1998
- Invited Graduate Student Fellow in the Rackham Graduate School’s First *Summer Interdisciplinary Institute* 1998

Additional Selected Experience

- Co-Host of weekly “Evolutionary Lens” livestreams of the DarkHorse podcast, with Bret Weinstein 2020 – present
- Judge for the “Impossible Conversations” competition on LetterWiki 2020
- Chair, co-chair, or member of hiring committee at Evergreen for Provost, Dean of First Year Programs, and several faculty positions 2004 – 2011
- Reviewer for journals including Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, Journal of Tropical Ecology, Herpetological Review, and Animal Conservation 2000 – 2017
- Legislative Liaison for TESC on the Council of Faculty Representatives 2006 - 2007
- Steering committee member for “Curriculum for the Bioregion” Initiative 2005 – 2006
- Contributor to the “Animal Diversity Web” 2001 – 2002
- Curatorial & Research Assistant for Herpetology Division, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan. 1996, 1997
- Field research in conservation, evolution and ecology of dart-poison frogs in Sarapiquí, Costa Rica: When “eco-tourism” threatens native species. 1994 – 1995
- Review Paper: “Correlates of Androgen Levels in Female Vertebrates.” Prepared in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the University of Michigan Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology “prelim” evaluations. 1994

Selected Talks

- Sex Differences: An Evolutionary Story. -and- The Future of Higher Ed.* Invited plenaries at Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas (delivered remotely). 2020
- Culture vs. Consciousness: A Core Human Tension.* Invited talk, with Bret Weinstein, at Princeton University (delivered remotely). 2020
- The Evolution of Sex and Gender. -and- Campus and the Culture Wars.* Invited plenaries at Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas. 2019
- Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy: A Conflict at the Core of Education.* Invited talk at “Academic Freedom Under Threat: What’s To Be Done?” conference, Oxford University. 2019
- The Search for Truth and Beauty in Institutions of Higher Education.* Invited comments at the Forum on Free Speech in Higher Education, Department of Justice, Washington D.C. 2018
- Female and Male, Conflict and Cooperation: On the Evolution of Relationship.* Invited talk at the Explorations Conference, Krishnamurti Center, Ojai, CA. 2018
- Evolving across the event horizon: In search of a fair, stable, abundant future.* Joint, invited plenary, with Bret Weinstein, -and- *The role of myth in creating a stable future*, invited interview with Alex Evans for the (other) plenary, at the Agora for the Great Transition, Paris, France. 2018

- Don't Look It Up*. Joint talk with Bret Weinstein at the First Symposium of Field Studies, Colorado College, Colorado Springs. 2015
- Apprehending Homo: Culture and Consciousness in the Human Lineage*. With Bret Weinstein, invited private lecture to the Trustees of the Leakey Foundation. 2015
- Adaptive Evolution: A Crash Course*. Joint two-day (eight hour) invited presentation with Bret Weinstein to *Being Human*, San Francisco. 2014
- Evolutionary ecology of Mantella, the poison frogs of Madagascar: Effects of competitors and predators on reproductive behavior*. Invited talk for the first graduate student-invited annual lecture at Western Washington University, Dept of Biology. 2004
- Correlates of well use by Mantella laevis: Competitors, predators, architecture, and water quality*. Presented talk at the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Manaus, Brazil. 2003
- On pursuing an academic career at a liberal arts college*. Invited talk at the University of Michigan, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. 2002
- Sexual selection and social behavior in Madagascan poison frogs*. Invited talk at the annual Evolution conference, Indiana University. 2000
- Behaviour and sexual selection in Mantella, with comparisons to dendrobatids*. Abstract (from presented talk) in: Third World Congress of Herpetology. Z. Roček and S. Hart, eds. Prague, Czech Republic. 1997
- Assorted talks on rainforest conservation, tropical biology, evolution, and Madagascar, given to K-12 schools, in addition to regional chapters of the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society. 1997 - 2003
- A phylogenetic analysis of the dart-poison frogs (Dendrobatidae, Anura), with special attention to behavioral evidence*. Presented talk at the University of Michigan Systematics Symposium. 1996

Selected Debates and Panels

- Academic Freedom: Be it resolved, modern universities are a threat to democratic freedoms*. Munk Debate with Aaron Hanlon, January 2022.
- Restoring the Lost Art of Disagreement on College Campuses*. Panel with Bret Weinstein at Bucknell University, February 2021.
- The Funny Thing About Hate Speech*. Screening & panel, Portland, OR, November 2019.
- Rebel Wisdom Summit*. An all-day live event with Iain McGilchrist, Jordan Hall, and Bret Weinstein, in London, England, May 2019.
- Toxic Femininity?* Rebel Wisdom video interview, December 2018.
- Speak Freely: Lessons from Middlebury and Evergreen State*. Panel sponsored by the James Madison Program, at Princeton University, September 2018.
- How Science Separates Fact and Emotion*. Big Think video, June 2018.

Opening panel at the inaugural “Open Mind” Conference. Organized by Heterodox Academy, New York City, June 2018.

Neurodiversity: Many Mental “Deficits” are Hidden Strengths. Big Think video, May 2018.

Common Ground Debate on Identity Politics, Portland, Oregon, May 2018.

The Need for Narrative and Myth. On-stage interview with Alex Evans, part of the keynote for Agora for the Great Transition conference, Paris, France, May 2018.

Why Unintelligent Protest May Kill Democracy. Big Think video, April 2018.

Victims, Victims Everywhere: Trigger Warnings, Safe Spaces, and Academic Freedoms. Panel w/Christina Hoff Sommers, Peter Boghossian and Bret Weinstein at Portland State University, March 2018.

We Need to Talk about Diversity. Panel w/James Damore, Peter Boghossian and Helen Pluckrose at Portland State University, February 2018.

Early Media Coverage

Science News of the week: Lifestyles of the bright and toxic overlap. Article on Mantella research by Susan Milius. Published April 14, 2001, in *Science News*.

The Tapir’s Morning Bath, by Elizabeth Royte (book published by Mariner Books, 2002). Tracks biologists on the Smithsonian’s Barro Colorado Island, in the Panama Canal.