

# **Diego A. Cueva C., M.Sc.**

Ph.D. candidate – Museum of Natural Science and Department of Biological Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA  
dcueva4@lsu.edu • diegoacuevac@gmail.com • [2024]

## **Education**

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**Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA** 2021-present

**Ph.D. student at Systematics, Ecology, & Evolution program**

Advisor: Dr. Robb T. Brumfield

**Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil** 2015-18

**M.Sc. Systematics, taxonomy, and animal biodiversity**

Thesis: Molecular phylogeny of *Thraupis* Boie, 1826 (Aves: Passeriformes) and taxonomic review of the *Thraupis episcopus* (Linnaeus, 1766) - *Thraupis sayaca* (Linnaeus, 1766) species complex

Advisors: Dr. Luís Fábio Silveira and Dr. Gustavo A. Bravo

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia** 2008-14

**B.S. Biology**

Thesis: Molt patterns and demographic criteria of *Zonotrichia capensis* (Aves, Passeriformes) in two locations of Bogotá city

Advisor: Dr. F. Gary Stiles

Honors: Best Thesis Award (3rd place)

## **Research Experience**

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**Leader Field Expedition** July 2022 and August 2023

Led two field expeditions, each lasting one month, traversing all the departments of the Pacific region of Colombia. Activities included planning, resource management, workshops with local communities, specimen collection, and preservation of high-quality DNA.

**Research Assistant** Mar-Sep 2019

Instituto Alexander von Humboldt - Ornithology collection

Support with the Institute's collecting trips and research activities. Focused on the diversity of birds of the Amazonian foothill in Putumayo, Colombia.

**Research Intern** Jun-Jul 2017

Harvard University - Museum of Comparative Zoology

Perform phylogenetic analysis of Sanger samples and laboratory protocol for RADseq libraries.

<b>Field Ornithologist</b> LSUMNS-MZUSP expedition in Mato Grosso, Brazil. Bird sampling by observation and collection with mist nets and shotguns.	<b>Jul 2016</b>
<b>Field Ornithologist</b> Fundación Reserva Natural La Palmita Bird sampling by point counts, transects, MacKinnon lists, and mist-netting.	<b>Aug 2015, Aug-Dec 2018</b>
<b>Bird-banding Station Leader</b> Fundación Selva Conduct transects to estimate abundances of migratory birds and lead a banding station in coffee plantations and high Andean Forest.	<b>Nov 2014 - Mar 2015</b>
<b>Bird-banding Internship</b> Bandelier National Monument Park Flight Program Bird banding and data collection at MAPS stations and during fall migration at Bandelier National Monument, NM, and Mesa Verde, CO. Migratory bird outreach at local schools.	<b>May-Oct 2012</b>

## **Curatorial Experience**

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<b>Collection assistance</b> Louisiana State University - Tissue Collection Cutting subsamples of requested tissues stored in nitrogen tanks and super cool freezers. Labeling and organization of new incomes.	<b>Fall 2022- present</b>
<b>Collection assistance</b> Louisiana State University - Ornithology collection Curatorial of bones and skins collection. Taxidermy, identification, numbering, organization and attending request from external researchers	<b>Spring 2021</b>
<b>Collection assistant</b> Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo - Ornithology collection Taxidermy and bird identification	<b>2016-17</b>

**Collection assistant** **2013-14**  
Instituto de Ciencias Naturales - Ornithology collection  
Taxidermy of birds and room maintenance of Dermestidae beetles.

**Research Assistant** **Aug-Oct 2013**  
Instituto Alexander von Humboldt - Ornithology collection  
Develop a morphometric database of the high mountain birds of Colombia.

## **Other Professional Experience**

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**Birdwatching Field Guide** **Dec 2018-Feb 2019**  
Manakin Nature Tours  
Led birdwatching tours for nature enthusiasts, fostering a deep appreciation for local bird species and their habitats. **Jan-Mar 2020**

## **Publications**

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**Cueva, D.**, Bravo, G. A., Silveira L. F. (2022). Systematics of Thraupis (Aves, Passeriformes) reveals an extensive hybrid zone between *T. episcopus* (Blue-gray Tanager) and *T. sayaca* (Sayaca Tanager). *Plos one*. 17(10), e0270892.  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0270892>

Acevedo-Charry, O., Bonilla-S, N., Cano, N., Camargo, P. A., Carantón-Ayala, D., Carrillo, R., Chadid, M. A., Cortés, O., **Cueva, D.**, Díaz-Rodríguez, G. J., Marín-Gómez, O. H., López-O, J. P., Peralta-Zapata, N. A., Pérez-Amaya, N., Pinto-Gómez, A., Ramírez, W., & Stiles, F. G. (2021). Inventario, adiciones y análisis biogeográfico de las aves de San José del Guaviare, Guaviare, Colombia. *Ornitología Colombiana*, 19, 1–40.

Ocampo, D., Borja-Acosta, K. G., Lozano-Flórez, J., Cifuentes-Acevedo, S., Arbeláez-Cortés, E., Bayly, N. J., Caguazango, Á., Coral-Jaramillo, B., **Cueva, D.**, Forero, F., Gómez, J. P., Gómez, C., Loaiza-Muñoz, M. A., Londoño, G. A., Losada-Prado, S., Pérez-Peña, S., Ramírez-Chaves, H. E., Rodríguez-Posada, M. E., Sanabria-Mejía, J., ... Acevedo-Charry, O. (2021). Body mass data set for 1,317 bird and 270 mammal species from Colombia. *Ecology*, 102(3). <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.3273>

**Cueva, D.** (2018). Molt strategy and aging of Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*) in Bogotá, Colombia. *Caldasia*, 40(1), 18–26. <https://doi.org/10.15446/caldasia.v40n1.63337>

Montoya, P., Gonzalez, M. A., Tenorio, E. A., López-Ordóñez, J. P., Pinto Gómez, A., **Cueva, D.**, Acevedo Rincón, A. A., Angarita Yanes, C., Arango Martínez, H. M., Armesto, O., Betancur, J. S., Caguazango Castro, A., Calderon Leyton, J. J., Calpa-Anagiano, E. V., Cárdenas-

Posada, G., Castaño Díaz, M., Chaparro-Herrera, S., Diago-Muñoz, N., Franco Espinosa, L., ... Salgado-Negret, B. (2018). A morphological database for 606 Colombian bird species. *Ecology*, 99(7), 1693–1693. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.2368>

## Teaching experience

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<b>Teaching assistant for Biology 1209</b> Louisiana State University - Biological Sciences department Conduct laboratory practices on ecology and evolution for undergraduate students.	<b>2021</b>
<b>Teaching assistant in-Field Practices of Animal Taxonomy class (ornithology)</b> Universidad Nacional de Colombia - Biology department Guidance of undergraduate students on tools and methods for bird sampling and collecting.	<b>2011, 2013-14</b>

## Conferences, meetings, and workshops

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<b>COMPARATIVE GENOMICS</b> (Workshop) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fritz J. Sedlazeck, Ph.D. and Ingo Ebersberger, Ph.D.</li><li>• Organized by Physalia Courses</li></ul>	<b>February 2024</b>
<b>VII Colombian Congress of Ornithology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poster</li></ul>	<b>August 2022</b>
<b>140th Annual Meeting of the AOS and the 23rd International Conference of BirdsCaribbean</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poster</li></ul>	<b>June 2022</b>
<b>Evolution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral presentation</li></ul>	<b>June 2021</b>
<b>North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) 2020</b>	<b>August 2020</b>
<b>Phylogenomics Applied to Evolution and Ecology Studies</b> (Workshop) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fernando Alda Pons, Ph.D.</li><li>• Organized by Instituto Humboldt, Colciencias and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana</li></ul>	<b>June 2019</b>
<b>Scientific Writing in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</b> (Workshop) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Liliana M. Davalos, Ph.D. and Paola Pulido-Santacruz, Ph.D.</li><li>• Organized by Instituto Humboldt, Colciencias and Universidad Nacional de</li></ul>	<b>March 2019</b>

Colombia

**Use of Genomic Tools in Ornithology and Their Bioinformatic Analysis  
(Workshop)** August 2017

- Scott Edwards, Ph.D., Timothy Sackton, Ph.D., Allison Shultz, Ph.D., Gustavo Bravo, Ph.D. and Cecilia Kopuchian
- Ornithological Congress of the Americas

**Ornithological Congress of the Americas** August 2017

- Oral presentation

**IV Colombian Congress of Zoology** December 2014

- Oral presentation

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## Funding

**Dr. Earl H. Weidner Award** 2024

LSU Museum of Natural Science

**Research Internship Abroad** 2017

Fundaçao de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo - FAPESP

**Frank Chapman Memorial Fund Study Grant** 2016

American Museum of Natural History

**Master Scholarship** 2016

Fundaçao de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo - FAPESP

**Equipment and Supplies Grant** 2016

Idea Wild

**Equipment and Supplies Grant** 2013

Idea Wild

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## Professional references

**Dr. Robb T. Brumfield - [robb@lsu.edu](mailto:robb@lsu.edu)**

Associate Dean, College of Science

Curator of Genetic Resources, Museum of Natural Science

Louisiana State University

**Dr. Gustavo A. Bravo - [gbravo@humboldt.org.co](mailto:gbravo@humboldt.org.co)**

Curator of Ornithology

Instituto Alexander von Humboldt

**Dr. Luís Fábio Silveira - lfs@usp.br**

Professor and curator of ornithology

Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo