

Anne D. Yoder, Director of Duke Lemur Center and Professor of Biology and Professor of Biological Anthropology and Anatomy



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[Yoder Lab](#)

Education:

- PhD, Duke University, 1992

Research Interests: *Phylogeny and evolution of mammals, ; conservation genetics; historical biogeography and biodiversity of Madagascar*

My work integrates field inventory activities with molecular phylogenetic techniques and geospatial analysis to investigate Madagascar, an area of the world that is biologically complex, poorly understood, and urgently threatened. Madagascar has been designated as one of the most critical geographic priorities for conservation action, retaining less than 10% of the natural habitats that existed before human colonization. It is critical that information be obtained as quickly as possible to document the biota that occurs in the remaining and highly threatened forested areas of western Madagascar, to gain an understanding of the evolutionary processes and associated distributional patterns that have shaped this diversity, and to use this information to help set conservation priorities. Phylogenetic and biogeographic analysis of Malagasy vertebrates, each with unique life-history and dispersal characteristics, are conducted to identify areas of high endemism potentially associated with underlying geological features, and also to test for the role that geographic features have played in generating patterns of vertebrate diversity and distribution. My lab also has a significant focus on capacity-building through the education and training of both American and Malagasy students. Research opportunities for American graduate students are enhanced by the formation of Malagasy/American partnerships.

Recent Publications [\(More Publications\)](#)

1. Goodman, S.M., Chan, L.M., Nowak, M.D. and A.D. Yoder. "Phylogeny and biogeography of western Indian Ocean Rousettus (Chiroptera: Pteropodidae)." (Accepted, 2009).
2. Weisrock, D.W., Rasoloarison, R.M., Fiorentino, I., Ralison, J.M., Goodman, S.M., Kappeler, P.M., and A. D. Yoder. "Delimiting species without nuclear monophyly in Madagascar's mouse lemurs." *PLoS One* (Accepted, 2009).

3. Klopfer, P., Krystal, A., Williams, C. and A.D. Yoder. "Neuroethology: do hibernating primates sleep?." *Nova Acta Leopoldina* (Accepted, 2009).
4. M. J. Hickerson, B. C. Carstens, J. Cavender-Bares, K. A. Crandall, C. H. Graham, J. Johnson, L. Rissler, P. F. Victoriano, and A.D. Yoder.. "20 years after Avise et al. 1987: Comparative phylogeography fulfilling original promise by integrating with emerging fields.." *Mol. Phyl. & Evol.* (Accepted, 2009).
5. Karanth, K.P. and A.D. Yoder.. "Geographic origins of aDNA samples and prospects for aDNA studies in the tropics.." *Molecular Markers, PCR, Bioinformatics and Ancient DNA – Technology, Troubleshooting And Applications* G. Dorado,ed.Science Publishers, 2009.