

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**CRISTINA MERCEDES GOMES PARISCA**

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology  
Department of Primatology  
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**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Primate behavioural ecology
- Human origins and evolution
- Animal cognition and social interactions

**EDUCATION**

- |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2003 – 2008 | Ph.D. in Anthropology. Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (MPI-EVA), Leipzig, Germany. Thesis: The dynamics of social exchanges in wild West African chimpanzees, <i>Pan troglodytes verus</i> . Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Christophe Boesch.                                             |
| 1997 – 2002 | Degree in Biology, specialization in Zoology (equivalent to Masters degree). Central University of Venezuela (UCV), Science faculty, School of biology. First in class. Thesis: “Interspecific interactions in termites of the genus <i>Nasutitermes</i> (Isoptera: Termitidae): Proximate analysis.” |

**TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Current Position | Postdoctoral fellow. Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (MPI-EVA), Leipzig, Germany. Research topic: Social interactions in wild West African chimpanzees ( <i>Pan troglodytes verus</i> ): The dynamics and hormonal basis of exchanges. |
| 2007 - present   | Ad-hoc reviewer for the journals Animal Behaviour and Biology Letters.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2007             | Supervision and training of assistants for the Tai Chimpanzee Project, Côte d’Ivoire.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2007             | Coordination of the ‘Club P.A.N.’ workshop on conservation and education, and training of ‘Club P.A.N.’ assistants, Côte d’Ivoire.                                                                                                                        |
| 2006 - present   | Co-founder, organization and administration of the ‘Club P.A.N.’ education and conservation project.                                                                                                                                                      |

2006 - present	Co-founder of the conservation group of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology.
2005	Direction and administration of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation, Taï sector, Côte d'Ivoire.
2002	Taught course on the "The Observer", a software for the analyses of behavioural interactions. Institute for Experimental Biology, Caracas, Venezuela.
2001	Internship in the 'Behaviour Laboratory', Simon Bolivar University (USB). Supervisor: Dr. Solange Issa.
1999	Internship in the 'Animal Behaviour Laboratory', UCV. Supervisor: Dr. Luis Levín (UCV).
1998 - 2001	Teachers assistant of the 'Animal Biology Laboratory', School of biology, Science Faculty, UCV.
1995	Veterinary assistant in the 'Dr. Abraham Heller Veterinary Clinique', Caracas, Venezuela.

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

2008	Field study of the reproductive behaviour of a population of corals in 'Los Roques' Archipelago, Venezuela.
2003 - 2006	Ph.D. field work on the social interactions of wild West African chimpanzees, including urine and faecal sampling, Taï Forest, Côte d'Ivoire.
2002	Field study of the biodiversity of flora and fauna in a Leipzig Forest (LAK-Leipziger Auwaldkran), Leipzig, Germany. Collaborators: Dr. Klaus Jaffé (USB, Venezuela) & Dr. Peter Horschler (UL, Germany).
2000 - 2001	Bioassays and masters data collection on interspecific interactions in termites, Caracas, Venezuela.
2000	Field study of the fauna and flora of a community of arthropods in halophyte savannas, Aragua, Venezuela.
2002	Field study of interspecific interactions among bird species living in Caracas, Venezuela. Institute for Experimental Biology, Caracas, Venezuela.

- Software and languages: The Observer, R, Map Source-Garmin GPS.
- Knowledge and proficiency in maximum likelihood models and multivariate analyses in R.

#### PUBLICATIONS

- **Gomes, C. M., Boesch, C. & Mundry, R. 2009. Long-term reciprocation of grooming in wild West African chimpanzees. The Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B. 276, 699-706.**

- **Gomes, C. M.** & Boesch, C. 2009. Wild chimpanzees exchange meat for sex. PLOS One. 4(4): e5116.
- **Gomes, C. M.** & Boesch, C. Grooming interactions in male and female wild West African chimpanzees: The effect of individual and dyadic characteristics on grooming and reciprocity. In prep.
- **Gomes, C. M.** & Boesch, C. Interchange of grooming, support, meat and sex in wild chimpanzees. In prep.
- **Gomes, C. M.** & Boesch, C. Hunting and meat-sharing in wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*). In prep.
- **Gomes, C. M.**, Issa, S. & Tarano, Z. 2002. Interspecific interactions in termites of the gender *Nasutitermes* (Isóptera: Termitidae): Proximate analysis. Masters thesis. UCV, Science Faculty, School of biology.
- Jaffe, K., Horchler, P., Verhaagh, M., **Gomes, C. M.**, Sievert, R., Jaffe, R. & Morawetz, W. 2007. Comparing the ant fauna in a tropical and temperate forest canopy. Ecotropicos. 20(2): 74-81.
- Schenk, C., Boesch, C., **Gomes, C. M.** & Leendertz, F. In press. Clinical pathology and response to a pathogen in respiratory disease outbreaks in wild chimpanzees. Biomed Central Biology.
- Boesch, C., Bolé, C., Nohon, G., Kpazahi H. & **Gomes, C. M.** In revision. The role of sex, rivals and land in intergroup conflicts in wild chimpanzees.
  
- Media interest in publications: Interviews by the journals: Nature, Science, New Scientist, Discovery, National Geographic, Science News, Cosmos.  
Interviews by the news agencies BBC, CBC, Radio France International, MDR, BBC Radio Scotland, The Independent

## CONFERENCES

- **Gomes, C. M.**, Boesch, C. & Mundry, R. Reciprocity in grooming and the time between giving and receiving in wild chimpanzees. International Primatological Society Meeting; Edinburgh, Scotland, August, 2008.
- **Gomes, C. M.**, Boesch, C. & Mundry, R. Reciprocity in grooming and the time between giving and receiving in wild chimpanzees. UCV Science Conference; Caracas, Venezuela, May, 2008.
- **Gomes, C. M.** et al. The “Wild Chimpanzee Foundation” and the “Club PAN”: Conservation projects for the protection of wild chimpanzees. UCV Science Conference; Caracas, Venezuela, May, 2008.
- **Gomes, C. M.**, Wittig, R. & Boesch, C. Grooming reciprocity and the effect of markets in wild West African chimpanzees. Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, New Castle, England, September, 2007.
- **Gomes, C. M.** & Boesch, C. Grooming reciprocity in wild West African chimpanzees. Ape economics conference; Leipzig, Germany, July, 2007.
- **Gomes, C. M.**, Martinez, H., Ballestrini, C. & Añanguren, Y. Characterization of the flora and fauna of a community of arthropods in halophyte savannas of *Sporobolus virginicus* in ‘La Ciénaga’, Aragua, Venezuela. IV Venezuelan Congress of Ecology; Merida, Venezuela, October, 2001.

- Añanguren, Y., H. Martinez, C. Ballestrini & C. M. Gomes. Insect diversity present in halophyte pastures of *Sporobolus virginicus*: Comparison with other Venezuelan savannas. IV Venezuelan Congress of Ecology; Merida, Venezuela, October, 2001.

#### FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

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|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 2009        | Max Planck Society: Postdoctoral Fellow.               |
| 2006 - 2008 | Max Planck Society: Ph.D. program.                     |
| 2003 - 2006 | Wenner-Gren Foundation: Dissertation fieldwork grants. |

#### FINANCIAL SUPPORT RECEIVED FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS

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|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2009 | Colombus Zoo, Education-conservation small grants. Awarded to the "MPI-EVA Conservation Group" for the "Club PAN" education-conservation project. |
| 2009 | Oregon Zoo. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                                                                    |
| 2008 | Amersfoort Zoo, Jellow Wildlife Fund. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                                          |
| 2008 | Leipzig Zoo. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                                                                   |
| 2008 | Brevard Zoo, Education-conservation small grants. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                              |
| 2008 | Minnesota Zoo, Ulysses S. Seal Conservation Grant Program. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                     |
| 2007 | Cleveland Zoo, Small grants program. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                                           |
| 2007 | Colombus Zoo, Education-conservation small grants. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                             |
| 2007 | WWF, Special grants. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                                                           |
| 2007 | Rufford Small Grant for Nature and conservation. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                               |
| 2007 | Brevard Zoo, Education-conservation small grants. For the "Club PAN" education-conservation project.                                              |

#### AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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| July, 2002  | Diploma in recognition of outstanding performance during the study of Biology. School of Biology, Science Faculty. 2002. |
| March, 1995 | Finalist in the XXI Mathematic Olympics (CENAMEC).                                                                       |

## LANGUAGES

- English and Spanish: Fluent.
- French: Advanced.
- German: Intermediate.