

JOHN STEPHEN SPARKS
ASSISTANT CURATOR AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF ICHTHYOLOGY
DIVISION OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED

Ph.D.

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Systematics, evolution, and biogeography of freshwater and nearshore marine fishes

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1995-2001

M.Sc. in Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1995-1997

B.A. in Economics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1984-1987

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN DOCTORAL EDUCATION

COURSES TAUGHT

Fish Biodiversity: Systematics and Evolution, Graduate level, Columbia University, Winter 2004

GRADUATE ADVISEES

Zachary Baldwin, Richard Gilder Graduate School at the American Museum of Natural History, 2008-present

William Leo Smith, American Museum of Natural History/Columbia University (Center for Environmental Research and Conservation), 2002-2005

Robert Schelly, American Museum of Natural History/Columbia University (Center for Environmental Research and Conservation), 2004-present

GRADUATE COMMITTEES

William Leo Smith, American Museum of Natural History/Columbia University (Center for Environmental Research and Conservation), 2005

Robert Schelly, American Museum of Natural History/Columbia University (Center for Environmental Research and Conservation), 2004-present

RESEARCH GRANT SUPPORT

National Science Foundation, Collaborative Research: The Evolution and Diversification of a Symbiotic Bioluminescence Signaling System, \$330,000, March 1, 2005-February 28, 2008.

RECENT ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS (2003-2008)

Smith, W. L., and J.S. Sparks. 2007. *Gobius lagocephalus*: Pallas 1770 (currently *Sicyopterus lagocephalus*: Teleostei, Gobiidae): Proposed suppression of the

- specific name. Case 3383. Bulletin of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature 64(2) June 2007: 1-5.
- Smith, W. L., and J.S. Sparks. 2007. *Gobius lagocephalus*: The World's most widespread *nomen dubium*. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 43: 696-698.
- Sparks, J.S., and M.L.J. Stiassny. 2007. Les poissons d'eaux douce. In S.M. Goodman and J. P. Benstead (editors), Histoire Naturelle de Madagascar: 1-28 Publications Scientifiques Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris. (will be out by June).
- Sparks, J.S. 2006. Editor and Consultant, Scientific content. Oceans: The world's last wilderness revealed, pp. 1-512 Dorling-Kindersley, London.
- Sparks, J.S. 2006. A new species of ponyfish (Teleostei: Leiognathidae: *Photoplagios*) from Madagascar, with a phylogeny for *Photoplagios* and comments on the status of *Equula lineolata* Valenciennes. American Museum Novitates 3526: 1-20.
- Sparks, J.S. 2006. *Leiognathus longispinis* (Valenciennes, in Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1835), A senior synonym of *Leiognathus smithursti* (Ramsay and Ogilby, 1886) (Teleostei: Leiognathidae). Copeia 2006(3): 539-543.
- Sparks, J.S., and W.L. Smith. 2006. *Sicyopterus lagocephalus*: Widespread species, species complex, or neither? A critique on the use of molecular data for species identification. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 40: 900-902.
- Stiassny, M.L.J., and J.S. Sparks. 2006. Phylogeny and taxonomic revision of the endemic Malagasy genus *Ptychochromis* (Teleostei: Cichlidae), with the description of five new species and a diagnosis for *Katria*, new genus. American Museum Novitates 3535: 1-55.
- Ng, H.H., and J.S. Sparks. 2005. Revision of the endemic Malagasy catfish family Anchariidae (Teleostei: Siluriformes), with descriptions of a new genus and three new species. Ichthyological Exploration of Freshwaters 16: 303-323.
- Sparks, J.S., P.V. Dunlap, and W.L. Smith. 2005. Evolution and diversification of a sexually dimorphic luminescent system in ponyfishes (Teleostei: Leiognathida), including diagnoses for two new genera. Cladistics 21: 305-327.
- Sparks, J.S., and L.M.R. Rush. 2005. A new rainbowfish (Teleostei: Melanotaenioidei: Bedotiidae) from the southeastern highlands of Madagascar, with comments on the biogeography of *Bedotia*. Zootaxa 1051: 39-54.
- Sparks, J.S., and K.J. Riseng. 2005. Water quality and chemistry, benthic macroinvertebrates, and zooplankton communities of the Consuelo and Warany Regions of the Pastaza River, Ecuador: limnological survey. In P.W. Willink, B. Chernoff, and J. McCullough (editors), A rapid biological assessment of the aquatic ecosystems of the Pastaza River Basin, Ecuador and Peru. Conservation International and the Aquatic Rapid Assessment Program (AquaRap), Washington, D.C.: Bulletin of the Biological Assessment 33: 56-62, appendixes 5-6: 140-143.
- Sparks, J. S., P. V. Dunlap, and W. L. Smith. 2005. Evolution and diversification of a sexually dimorphic luminescent system in ponyfishes (Teleostei: Leiognathidae), including diagnoses for two new genera. Cladistics, 21: 305-327.
- Sparks, J. S., and L. M. R. Rush. 2005. A new rainbowfish (Teleostei: Melanotaenioidei: Bedotiidae) from the southeastern highlands of Madagascar, with comments on the biogeography of *Bedotia*. Zootaxa, 1051: 39-54.

- Sparks, J. S., and W. L. Smith. 2005. Freshwater fishes, dispersal ability, and non-evidence: "Gondwana Life Rafts" to the rescue. *Systematic Biology*, 53: 11-19.
- Sparks, J. S., and W. L. Smith. 2004. Phylogeny and biogeography of cichlid fishes (Teleostei: Perciformes: Cichlidae). *Cladistics*, 20: 501-517.
- Sparks, J. S., and W. L. Smith. 2004. Phylogeny and biogeography of the Malagasy and Australasian rainbowfishes (Teleostei: Melanotaenioidei): Gondwanan vicariance and evolution in freshwater. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 33: 719-734.
- Sparks, J. S., and P. V. Dunlap. 2004. A clade of non-sexually dimorphic ponyfishes (Teleostei: Perciformes: Leiognathidae): phylogeny, taxonomy, and description of a new species. *American Museum Novitates*, 3459: 1-21.
- Sparks, J. S. 2004. A new and presumably extinct species of *Ptychochromoides* (Teleostei: Perciformes: Cichlidae) from central Madagascar. *Zootaxa*, 524: 1-15.
- Sparks, J. S., and D. W. Nelson. 2004. Review of the Malagasy sicydiine gobies (Teleostei: Gobiidae), with description of a new species and comments on the taxonomic status of *Gobius lagocephalus* Pallas, 1770. *American Museum Novitates*, 3440: 1-20.
- Sparks, J. S. 2004. Molecular phylogeny and biogeography of the Malagasy and South Asian cichlid fishes (Teleostei: Perciformes: Cichlidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 30: 599-614.
- Ng, Heok Hee, and J. S. Sparks. 2003. The ariid catfishes (Teleostei: Siluriformes: Ariidae) of Madagascar, with the description of two new species. *Occasional Papers of the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan* 735: 1-21.
- Benstead, J. P., P. H. de Rham, J-L Gattolliat, F-M Gibon, P. V. Loiselle, M. Sartori, J. S. Sparks, and M. L. J. Stiassny. 2003. Conserving Madagascar's freshwater biodiversity. *Bioscience* 53: 1101-1111.
- Sparks, J. S. 2003. Taxonomic status of the Malagasy cichlid *Ptychochromis grandidieri* Sauvage 1882 (Teleostei: Cichlidae), including a molecular phylogenetic analysis of the ptychochromine cichlids. *Ichthyological Exploration of Freshwaters* 14: 317-328.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION/AWARDS

- American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Honorable Mention, Stoye Award in General Ichthyology, 2001
- Dissertation Thesis Grant, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 2000
- Rackham Graduate School Discretionary Funds Award, University of Michigan, 1996, 1998, 2000
- American Museum of Natural History Collection Study Grant, In collaboration with Dr. Melanie L. J. Stiassny, Curator of Fishes and Department Chair, 1999
- Peter Olaus Okkelberg Award, University of Michigan, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- Rackham Block Grant Award, Department of Biology, University of Michigan, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Member, 1998-present
- Carl L. and Laura C. Hubbs Research Fellowship, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Division of Fishes, 1998-2000
- Hinsdale-Walker Research Award, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, 1998, 2001

Sokol International Summer Research Fellowship in the Sciences, 1997
Grants in Aid of Research, Sigma Xi, 1996
Horace H. Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant, University of Michigan, 1996
Logistical Support Grant for Survey of Masoala Peninsula, Northeastern Madagascar,
Xerces Society, 1994
Jordan Endowment Fund Award of the American Cichlid Association, 1994.
Meta Hellwig Research Fellowship, 1994