

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Füsün Özer**

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### EDUCATION

B.S., Biology Education, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

M.S., Biology, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Ph.D. Biology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois, USA

### BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Population genetics, conservation biology and genetics of endangered and threatened species

I received my MSc. from the Middle East Technical University working on phylogenetics of Turkish brown trout populations in Prof. Dr Inci Togan's laboratory. I completed my Ph.D in Prof. Dr. Mary Ashley's laboratory at the University of Illinois, Chicago, where I studied genetic assessment of conservation management of Anacapa deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus anacapae*) and conservation genetics of Northeastern Illinois shiners (*Notropis heterodon* and *Notropis heterolepis*). I joined Togan Lab in 2012 as a Tubitak Postdoctoral Fellow. Currently, I am utilizing molecular approaches to understand the domestication history of sheep. Recent archaeozoological studies indicated that the earliest animal domestication events started in the region called "Fertile Crescent" about 11000 years before present. The region where domestication events took place is called "the heartland of domestication". Part of the Fertile Crescent overlaps with the Southeastern Anatolia where especially sheep domestication events were believed to took place. So far only three studies used ancient sheep samples. However none of these samples were collected from the heartland of domestication center. In my study, I will use ancient sheep bone or teeth samples (belonging to different time periods) collected from archaeological excavation sites in Turkey. Then, I will sequence and analyze part of mitochondrial DNA control region to shed a light on the domestication history of sheep. Our results will also enable us to understand the evolutionary relationship between the current-day modern sheep and its domesticated ancestors.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Journal Publications

1. Schmidt JV, Schmidt CL, **Ozer F**, Ernst RE, Feldheim KA, Ashley MV, Levine M. (2009) Low genetic differentiation across three major ocean populations of the whale shark, *Rhincodon typus*. PLoS One, 4:e4988.
2. **Ozer F**, Gellerman H, Ashley MVA (2011) Genetic impacts of Anacapa deer mice reintroductions following rat eradication. Molecular Ecology, 20: 3525-3539.

3. **Ozer F**, Gellerman H, Ashley MVA (2011) Genetic evaluation of remnant and translocated shiners, *Notropis heterodon* and *Notropis heterolepis* (Accepted to Journal of Fish Biology).

#### Conference Abstracts

1. Plan E, **Gezgin F**, Togan I. (1997) Use of molecular markers in the conservation of *Salmo* populations. Ninth National Fisheries and Aquaculture Symposium, Egirdir, Turkey.
2. Plan E, **Ozer-Gezgin F**, Togan I. (1998) Protein polymorphism in south-west Anatolian brown trout (*Salmo trutta L.*) populations. First International Symposium on Fisheries and Ecology, Trabzon, Turkey.
3. Koban E, Plan E, **Ozer-Gezgin F**, Caner C, Ergüven A, Togan I. (2000) A genetic study on Anatolian brown trout (*Salmo trutta L.*) populations. XV. National Congress on Biology (with International Participation), Ankara, Turkey.
4. **Ozer F**, Plan E, Koban E, Berkman C, Emre Y, Ergüven A, Togan İ. (2002) Gene diversity of brown trout (*Salmo trutta L.*) in Anatolia. International symposium on phylogeography in southern European refugia: Evolutionary perspectives on the origins and conservation of European biodiversity, Vairão, Portugal.
5. **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2004) Conservation genetics of Northeastern Illinois shiners. American Fisheries Society 134th Annual Meeting, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
6. **Ozer F**, Gellerman H, and Ashley MV. (2008) Assessing the genetic recovery of Anacapa Island deer mice following rat eradication. Seventh California Islands Symposium, Oxnard, CA, USA.
7. **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2008) Genetic structure and variability of the Anacapa Island deer mouse populations before and after rat eradication. Society for Evolution Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, USA.
8. **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2008) Assessing the genetic recovery of Anacapa Island deer mice following rat eradication. Society for Conservation Biology Meeting, Chattanooga, TN, USA.
9. **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2009) Genetic diversity, population structure, and bottleneck analyses of Anacapa deer mice. American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Fairbanks, AL, USA.

#### Poster Presentations

10. **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2008) Conservation genetics of Anacapa Island deer mice. UIC Graduate and Professional Research Forum, Chicago, IL, USA.

11. Kuroiwa E, **Ozer F**, and Ashley MV. (2008) Conservation genetics of Northeastern Illinois blacknose shiner. UIC Undergraduate Research Forum, Chicago, IL, USA.

Thesis

12. **Gezgin Ozer F**. “Genetic differentiation and phylogenetic relationships among Turkish brown trout (*Salmo trutta L.*) populations as revealed by RFLP analysis of PCR amplified mitochondrial DNA segments”. M.S. Thesis, Department of Biology, Middle East Technical University, Ankara Turkey, July 1999.
13. **Ozer, F**. “Genetic consequences of conservation management of Anacapa Island deer mice and Illinois shiners”. Ph.D Thesis. Department of Biological Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, USA, July 2010.