

Taormina Jean Lepore

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley **Anticipated 2024**

Advisor: Dr. Leslea Hlusko

M.S. in Science Education, Montana State University, Bozeman 2019

Capstone Thesis: Field science experiences in paleontology: shaping science stewardship in high school learners

Advisors: Dr. Marcie Reuer and Dr. Dan Lawver

M.S. Museum and Field Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder 2012

Specialization in Vertebrate Paleontology Collections Management

Thesis: Tissue-bearing theropod coprolites from the Upper Cretaceous (Maastrichtian, Laramie Formation) of Colorado.

Advisor: Dr. Karen Chin

B.S. Biology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Cum Laude 2006

Thesis: New theropod and ornithischian dinosaur footprints at the Dinosaur Footprint State Reservation (Early Jurassic, Portland Formation), Holyoke, Massachusetts, USA.

Advisor: Dr. Margery Coombs

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Integrative Biology 113L – Paleobiological Perspectives on Ecology and Evolution - Spring 2021

Integrative Biology 1B – Introductory Biology II – Summer 2020

Integrative Biology 35 American Cultures – Curriculum Design – Summer 2020

Integrative Biology 1B CD – Introductory Biology II Curriculum Design – Spring 2020, Fall 2020

Integrative Biology 35 American Cultures – Human Biological Variation - Fall 2019, Fall 2020

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of California: Berkeley, CA

Graduate Student Instructor

August 2019 to present

Subjects (Labs/Discussions) taught: Human Biological Variation (2019, 2020), Introductory Biology (2020), Introductory Biology Curriculum Design (2020)

The Webb Schools: Claremont, CA

Science Laboratory Manager and Life Science Instructor

July 2016 to June 2019

Substitute Biology Instructor

April 2016 to June 2016

Subjects taught: Biology, Paleontology, Environmental Science, Integrated Physics and Chemistry

Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology: Claremont, CA

Research Associate

August 2016 to present

PaleoSolutions, Inc.: Monrovia, CA

Field Paleontologist

May 2015 to April 2016

S. P. Waltrip Senior High School: Houston, TX

Biology Instructor

Aug. 2014 to May 2015

Subjects taught: AP Biology, Biology

Harmony School of Science High School: Sugar Land, TX

Science Department Chair

Feb. 2014 to Aug. 2014

Science Instructor

Aug. 2012 to Aug. 2014

Subjects taught: Anatomy, Medical Terminology, Health Science, Biomedical Science

University of Colorado at Boulder: Boulder, CO

Graduate Collections Assistant

Aug. 2010 to May 2012

Paleontology Section, CU Museum of Natural History

Adams 12 Five Star Schools: Metro Denver, CO

Substitute Science Teacher

March 2012 to May 2012

GeoCorps America, Fossil Butte National Monument: Kemmerer, WY

Paleontology Technician

June 2011 to Aug. 2011

Ecotarium (Worcester Lyceum of Natural History): Worcester, MA

Exhibit Development and Collections Intern, Prehistoric New England

Dec. 2006 to Dec. 2007

The Mammoth Site of Hot Springs, South Dakota, Inc: Hot Springs, SD

Geosciences Education Intern, Field Team Leader

Aug. 2006 to Nov. 2006

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology E&O Funding Award 2020 - \$1250

Geological Society of America Student Travel Award 2019 - \$250

Geological Society of America E&O Travel Grant, 2017 - \$500

CU Museum of Natural History Student Research Award, 2011 - \$1200

Student Fellowship Award, Field Work - Earthwatch and Millipore, 2001 - \$1600

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Geological Society of America

Paleontological Society

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology

Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)

European Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists

National Association of Geoscience Teachers

National Association of Science Teachers

ABSTRACTS

Lepore, T., Lepore, K., Taylor, L., Scharnagl, A., Muskelly, C. 2020. Active learning and STEAM in paleontology: Case studies with neurodiverse adults and female-identifying K-12 students. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* Posters and Abstracts, Annual Meeting, Virtual.

Lepore, T., Chin, K., Robinson, P., Culver, T., and Frazier, F. 2018. Soft-tissue impressions and organic inclusions in a large theropod coprolite deposit from the Laramie Formation of Colorado. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* Posters and Abstracts, Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, USA.

- Santos, G. and Lepore, T. 2017. Utilizing augmented reality for inclusive exhibit design. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* Posters and Abstracts, Annual Meeting, Calgary, AB, Canada.
- Gay, R.; Jenkins, X.; Milner, A.; Van Vranken, N.; DeWitt, D.; Lepore, T. 2017. A new Triassic bonebed from the Bears Ears Region of Utah. *In: Bevers, Jeb; Curtis, Dirilee; Morton, Ivy; & Boyd, Beth. Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting: Program with Abstracts. PaleoBios. ucmp_paleobios_34079. Retrieved from: <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/5r04v1fn>*
- Farke, A.; Gay, R. and Lepore, T. 2014. Digital specimens in the high school classroom. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* Posters and Abstracts: 128.
- Lepore, T. 2011. A "Tuff" Situation: Preparing a Bridgerian crocodyloid skull in volcanically influenced sandstone. *Western Interior Paleontological Society, Founders Symposium.*
- Lepore, T. 2007. New theropod and ornithischian dinosaur footprints at the Dinosaur Footprint State Reservation (Early Jurassic, Portland Formation), Holyoke, Massachusetts, USA. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* (3, Supplement): 27A.

INVITED TALKS - WORKSHOPS

- Lepore, T. and Lepore, K. 2020. Neurodiverse accessibility in paleontology: Adult day programs, exhibit design, and self-advocacy. *Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs*. Vol. 52, No. 6. doi: [10.1130/abs/2020AM-356716](https://doi.org/10.1130/abs/2020AM-356716)
- Lepore, T., Lepore, K., and Santos, G. 2019. Inclusive experiences in paleontology for special needs learners. *Geological Society of America, Broadening Participation in Paleontology: Approaches for Enhancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Abstracts with Programs Vol. 51, No. 5* doi: [10.1130/abs/2019AM-339084](https://doi.org/10.1130/abs/2019AM-339084).
- Lepore, T. 2019. The role of field paleontology high school experiences in shaping science stewardship on public land. *PaleoBios. North American Paleontological Conference Meeting. Retrieved from: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6r18f8wn>*
- Cone, D.B., Kowinsky, J., McCall, L., Lepore, T. 2019. FOSSIL community connections: Strengthening professional-avocational partnerships for the future of paleontology. *PaleoBios. North American Conference of Paleontology Meeting. Retrieved from: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6r18f8wn>*
- Lepore, T., Hall, A., Morhardt, A., Stegner, A. 2017. Paleontology Education: Staying on the Cutting Edge in Research, Pedagogy, and Outreach. *Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting, Calgary, Alberta.*
- Lepore, T. 2017. Climate change inquiry: technology applications in the high school classroom. *Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs*. Vol. 49, No. 6 doi: [10.1130/abs/2017AM-300912](https://doi.org/10.1130/abs/2017AM-300912)
- Lepore, T.; Guillen, A.; Escoto, J. and Hernandez, J. 2016. Science blogging as a gateway to paleontology: Experiences from the K-12 classroom and beyond. *Geological Society of America Cordilleran Section, In the Spotlight: Paleontology and the Public.*
- Lepore, T. 2015. Educators' Workshop. *Vertebrate Paleontology in the Secondary Classroom: An Exploration into how Ancient Life and Climates Shaped the World Today. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas.*

Lepore, T. 2014. ISEA Presents: More than Outreach: Science Museums and Digital Specimens as a Classroom Tool. *Science Teachers Association of Texas Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching*, Annual Meeting.

Lepore, T. 2014. Virtual Paleontology – Bringing Museum Research into the Classroom. *Texas STEM Center Coalition, 7th Annual STEM Conference and Informal Science Education Association of Texas*, Annual Meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Paleontological Society

*Communications Officer
Social Media Manager*

August 2019 to Present
Dec. 2015 to June 2019

Paleontological Society

Education and Outreach Committee Member

June 2017 to Present

Museums of Western Colorado: Dinosaur Journey

Field Assistant

June 2016 to June 2017

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Houston Museum of Natural Science: Houston, TX

Volunteer - Paleontology Hall Gallery Guide and Vertebrate Fossil Preparation

Oct. 2012 to June 2015

CU Boulder Museum of Natural History: Boulder, CO

Museum Outreach Curriculum: Fossils in the Classroom

<https://cumuseum.colorado.edu/education-tours/classroom-fossils>

2011-2012

CU Teach – STEM Field Teaching: Broomfield, CO

Teaching experience and curriculum writing for fifth grade science classrooms

Aug. 2011 to Dec. 2011

Denver Museum of Nature and Science: Denver CO

Paleontology Certification Program: Vertebrate Fossil Preparation

Sept. 2010 to Oct. 2010

Tate Geological Museum, Casper College: Casper, WY

Field excavation and fossil prep work with the Casper College paleontological team

July 2005 to Aug. 2005

Harvard Museum of Natural History: Cambridge, MA

Volunteer – Exhibit Guide, Romer Hall of Paleontology

July 1999 to July 2002