



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Implications of Anthropogeny for Medicine and Health
Friday, October 14, 2016
carta.anthropogeny.org



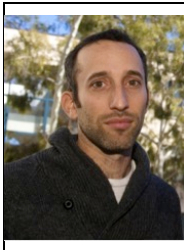
Barbara Natterson-Horowitz is Professor of Medicine in the Division of Cardiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA. She holds a professorship in the UCLA Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and is Co-Director of the Evolutionary Medicine Program at UCLA. She serves as a cardiovascular consultant to the Los Angeles Zoo as a member of its Medical Advisory Board and is Chair of the Zoobiquity Conference, a national educational program that facilitates interdisciplinary discussions between physicians, veterinarians and others in the health professions. Dr. Natterson-Horowitz co-authored the *New York Times* bestselling book, *Zoobiquity: The Astonishing Connection Between Human and Animal Health* (Vintage, 2012).



Ajit Varki is Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Cellular & Molecular Medicine at UC San Diego; Adjunct Professor, Salk Institute; Co-Director, Center for Academic Research and Training in Anthropogeny (CARTA); Co-Director, Glycobiology Research and Training Center (GRTC); Executive Editor, "Essentials of Glycobiology" (Cold Spring Harbor, 2009); Co-author of *Denial* (Hachette, 2013); and member, National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He served as President, Society for Glycobiology; Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Clinical Investigation*; and President, American Society for Clinical Investigation. His research focuses on sialic acids in biology, evolution and disease - in relation to explaining human origins.



Katie Hinde is a scientist, writer, and activist who explores the dynamic interplay between mothers and infants rooted in their particular social context and physical environment. At Arizona State University, Associate Professor Hinde is the Director of the Comparative Lactation Lab in the Center for Evolution and Medicine and the School of Human Evolution and Social Change. Author of dozens of essays and academic articles, Hinde situates her work at the intersection of the life sciences and social justice to improve human health and well-being. Hinde co-authored the book *Building Babies* (Springer, 2013) and founded the science outreach blog "Mammals Suck... Milk!"



Michael Gurven is Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His research links the evolved life history of humans with high levels of intragroup cooperation. He has conducted fieldwork for 18 years with South American indigenous populations, and has published over 140 articles that take an evolutionary perspective on behavior, health, physiology, and psychology. Since 2002, Gurven has co-directed the Tsimane' Health and Life History Project to better understand how aspects of environment and lifestyle affect health and lifespan in subsistence-level societies. His research applies an evolutionary lens to help inform our understanding of today's complex diseases.



Ruslan Medzhitov obtained his undergraduate degree from Tashkent State University in 1990 and his doctoral degree from Moscow State University in 1993. In 1999, Medzhitov became an Assistant Professor at the Yale University School of Medicine and he is currently the David W. Wallace Professor of Immunobiology at Yale University School of Medicine and an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. His research interests include the biology of inflammation, innate immunity, mechanisms of allergic reactions, cell signaling and gene regulation. Medzhitov is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Medicine, and European Molecular Biology Organization, and he is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.



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Randolph M. Nesse is Professor of Life Sciences and the Director of the Center for Evolutionary Medicine at Arizona State University. He collaborated with the evolutionary biologist George Williams on writings that established the field of evolutionary medicine. His current research is on how understanding the evolutionary origins of responses like pain, fever, anxiety, and depression can help relieve suffering. He also investigates the origins of capacities for morality. Dr. Nesse welcomes connections with all who share his mission to establish evolutionary biology as a basic science for medicine, worldwide.



David Haig received his degrees from Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. He was a Royal Society Endeavour Fellow at Oxford and then a Junior Fellow in the Harvard Society of Fellows. Haig is now the George Putnam Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology and Chair of the Australian Studies Committee at Harvard University. His main research interests are maternal-fetal relations, intragenomic conflict, and the evolution of plant life cycles. However, he still misses kookaburras.



Cynthia Beall is Distinguished Professor and the Sarah Idell Pyle Professor of Anthropology at Case Western Reserve University. In addition, she is the Co-Director of Center for Research on Tibet. Beall's research focuses on human adaptation to high-altitude hypoxia, particularly the different patterns of adaptation exhibited by Andean, Tibetan, and East African highlanders. Her current research deals with the genetics of adaptive traits and evidence for natural selection with the role of blood flow and nitric oxide in oxygen delivery at high altitude and with the human ecology of high-altitude Tibetan nomads. Beall is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Charles Nunn is Professor of Evolutionary Anthropology and Global Health at Duke University and Director of the Triangle Center for Evolutionary Medicine (TriCEM). Nunn uses evolutionary approaches to understand and improve human and animal health. His research investigates the ecology of infectious disease, the evolution of sleep, and the links between ecology, evolution, and global health. Nunn explores these topics using phylogenetic methods, mathematical modeling, and fieldwork in Madagascar, Kenya, and other locations. He is the author of *Infectious Diseases of Primates: Behavior, Ecology and Evolution* (Oxford University Press, 2006) and *The Comparative Approach in Evolutionary Anthropology and Biology* (University of Chicago Press, 2011).



Baba Brinkman is a Canadian rap artist, award-winning playwright, and former tree-planter who has personally planted more than one million trees. Best known for his "Rap Guide" series of plays and albums, Baba has toured the world and enjoyed successful runs at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and off-Broadway in New York. *The Rap Guide to Religion* was nominated for a 2015 Drama Desk Award in the category "Unique Theatrical Experience" and *The Rap Guide to Evolution* ("Astonishing and brilliant" NY Times), won a Scotsman Fringe First Award and a Drama Desk Award nomination for "Outstanding Solo Performance," and was featured on US national TV on The Rachel Maddow Show and at the Seattle Science Festival opening for Stephen Hawking.