

MAIRIN FRANCESCA ARAGONES BALISI

Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology at The Webb Schools
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2022–present **Augustyn Family Curator of Paleontology**
Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology, Claremont, California
- 2022–present Research Associate
La Brea Tar Pits & Museum, Natural History Museum of L.A. County
- 2021–2022 **Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow**
University of California, Merced
Sponsors: Sora Kim & Jessica Blois
- 2019–2022 Research Affiliate
University of Southern California; Natural History Museum of L.A. County
- 2018–2022 **National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
La Brea Tar Pits & Museum; University of California, Merced
Sponsors: Emily Lindsey & Jessica Blois
- 2014–2018 Graduate Student in Residence, Vertebrate Paleontology
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Sponsor: Xiaoming Wang

EDUCATION

- 2018 **Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**
University of California, Los Angeles
Dissertation: “Carnivory in the Oligo-Miocene: Resource specialization, competition, and coexistence among North American fossil canids”
Advisor: Blaire Van Valkenburgh
- 2011 **M.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Thesis: “Dietary behavior and resource partitioning among the carnivorans of Late Pleistocene Rancho La Brea”
Advisor: Catherine Badgley
- 2008 **B.A., Integrative Biology**
B.A., Comparative Literature (Japanese and Russian)
University of California, Berkeley

PUBLICATIONS [‡]*equal contribution* **undergraduate co-author*

- 2023 Schmökel H, A Farrell, and **MA Balisi**. Subchondral defects resembling osteochondrosis dissecans in joint surfaces of the extinct saber-toothed cat

- Smilodon fatalis* and dire wolf *Aenocyon dirus*. *PLoS ONE*. (doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0287656)
- 2022 Mychajliw AM, ER Ellwood, PS Alagona, RS Anderson, **MA Balisi**, E Biber, JL Brown, J George, P Gonzalez, AJW Hendy, LM Higgins, A Leger, M Ordeñana, GB Pauly, BJ Putman, JM Randall, SPD Riley, AJ Shultz, MA Stegner, TA Wake, and EL Lindsey. Lessons for conservation from beneath the pavement. *Conservation Biology*. (doi:10.1111/cobi.13983)
- 2022 Lundgren EJ, D Ramp, O Middleton, **MA Balisi**, WJ Ripple, C Hasselerharm, E Wooster, M Mills, J Sanchez, and AD Wallach. A novel trophic cascade between cougars and feral donkeys shapes desert wetlands. *Journal of Animal Ecology*. (doi:10.1111/1365-2656.13766)
- 2021 **Balisi MA**[‡], AK Sharma[‡], CM Howard, CA Shaw, R Klapper, and EL Lindsey. Computed tomography reveals hip dysplasia in the extinct Pleistocene saber-tooth cat *Smilodon*. *Scientific Reports* 11:21271. (doi:10.1038/s41598-021-99853-1)
- 2020 **Balisi MA** and B Van Valkenburgh. Iterative evolution of large-bodied hypercarnivory in canids benefits species but not clades. *Communications Biology* 3:461. (doi:10.1038/s42003-020-01193-9)
- 2020 Dávalos, LM[‡], RM Austin[‡], **MA Balisi**[‡], RL Begay[‡], CA Hofman[‡], ME Kemp[‡], JR Lund[‡], C Monroe[‡], AM Mychajliw[‡], EA Nelson[‡], MA Nieves-Colón[‡], SA Redondo[‡], S Sabin[‡], KS Tsosie[‡], and JM Yracheta[‡]. Pandemics' historical role in creating inequality. *Science* 368(6497):1322-1323. (doi:10.1126/science.abc8953)
- 2020 Tong, HW, X Chen, B Zhang, B Rothschild, SC White, **MA Balisi**, and X Wang. Hypercarnivorous teeth and healed injuries in *Canis chihliensis* from the early Pleistocene Nihewan beds, China, support social hunting for ancestral wolves. *PeerJ* 8:e9858. (doi:10.7717/peerj.9858)
- 2018 **Balisi MA**, C Casey*, and B Van Valkenburgh. Dietary specialization is linked to reduced species durations in North American fossil canids. *Royal Society Open Science* 5:1-15. (doi:10.1098/rsos.171861)
- 2018 **Balisi MA**, X Wang, J Sankey, J Biewer, and D Garber. Fossil canids from the Mehrten Formation, late Cenozoic of northern California. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology* 37(6). (doi:10.1080/02724634.2017.1405009)
- 2018 Wang, X, SC White, **MA Balisi**, J Biewer, J Sankey, D Garber, and ZJ Tseng. First bone-cracking dog coprolites provide new insight into bone consumption in *Borophagus* and their unique ecological niche. *eLife* 7:e34773. (doi:10.7554/eLife.34773)
- 2017 Brown C, **MA Balisi**, CA Shaw, and B Van Valkenburgh. Skeletal trauma reflects hunting behaviour in extinct sabre-tooth cats and dire wolves. *Nature Ecology and Evolution* 1(0131):1-7. (doi:10.1038/s41559-017-0131)
- In prep **Balisi MA** and B Van Valkenburgh. Functional divergence within North American fossil canid communities over 40 million years.
- In prep **Balisi MA**, J Flake*, and B Van Valkenburgh. Body-size change across a rodent community since the Ice Age extinctions.
- In prep **Balisi MA**, JH Feingold*, DM Godoy*, G Gomez*, L Jardon*, and L Tome*. Survivors of the Ice Age: Ecomorphological shifts in Rancho La Brea

mesocarnivores from the Pleistocene to the Anthropocene.

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Major research funding

- 2022–present *Collaborative Research: Wolf RACE (Resource Availability and Competition in Ecosystems)–Insights from the McKittrick and Rancho La Brea Lagerstätte*. National Science Foundation grant EAR-2138163. Role: senior personnel; \$17,500 sub-award to Alf Museum. PI Robin Trayler; co-PI Sora Kim.
- 2021–2022 *The isotopic signature of humans on carnivores over a century of urbanization*. **Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship**, University of California, Merced.
- 2018–2022 *Becoming Los Angeles: mesocarnivore response to Late Pleistocene disturbances*. **National Science Foundation, Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology** (DBI-1812301). \$276,000.
- 2015–2016 *Dissertation Research: Carnivory in the Oligo-Miocene: Dietary community ecology and diversity dynamics of large mammalian predators*. **National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant** (DEB-1501931). \$20,020.

Additional grants and honors

- 2023 Outreach and Education Grant, Paleontological Society (\$2,500; PI Bailey Jorgensen). “Paleo-robotics: A Student-Driven Experiment in Underwater Paleontology.”
- 2021 Outreach and Education Grant, Paleontological Society (\$2,343; PI Sandra Schachat). “An accessible, modular paleo-art learning experience for children of all ages.”
- 2017 Josephine Reich Research Grant, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA (\$1,200)
- 2016 Special Faculty Award, Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA (\$100)
- 2013 Theodore Roosevelt Grant, American Museum of Natural History (\$2,000)
- 2010 Research Grant, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan (\$825)

Graduate and undergraduate fellowships

- 2017 Josephine Reich Summer Fellowship, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA (\$3,000)
- 2016–2017 Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Division, UCLA (\$20,000)
- 2014 Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellowship, US Department of Education (\$22,138 + \$2,000 research / travel allowance)
- 2012–2014 University Fellowship, UCLA (\$5,000 per year)
- 2011, 2015 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, UCLA (\$21,000 per year)
- 2011 National Science Foundation Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Competitive Edge Fellowship, UCLA (\$6,000)

2009–2011 Frontiers Master’s Summer Fellowship, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan

2004–2008 Regents’ and Chancellor’s Scholarship, UC Berkeley

Travel grants

2022 American Society of Mammalogists, Early Career Travel Award (\$700)

2019 eLife Travel Grant (\$1,000)

2014 Jackson School of Geosciences Travel Grant, Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (\$600)

2012–2016 Research and Conference Travel Award, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA (\$500, \$500, \$1500, \$1000, \$1500)

INVITED TALKS AND PANELS

2024 Creswell Crags, UK. [Title TBD]

2024 Department of Biology, Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA. [Title TBD]

2023 Dept of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of California—Santa Cruz. “Insights into extinct ecosystems through California’s asphalt seeps.”

2023 Interpretive Training, La Brea Tar Pits & Museum. “Paleopathology: Another window into the behavior of extinct predators at Rancho La Brea.”

2023 Nights with the Museum, Museum of Riverside, CA. “California Carnivores Through the Ages.”

2023 Beringia Centre Science Talks, Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre. “A Tale of Three Cats.”

2023 National Science Foundation panel, South by Southwest (SXSW), Austin, TX. “The Science and Ethics of De-Extinction.”

2023 Department of Geology & Geological Engineering, South Dakota School of Mines. “North American fossil carnivores: macroecology to microevolution.”

2023 Southern California Paleontological Society. “Feline Good: A Fossil History of California’s Cats.”

2022 The Science and Entertainment Exchange, National Academy of Sciences, Los Angeles, CA. “Dog and Pony Show: The Science.”

2022 Undergraduate Anthropology Society, Stony Brook University, NY. “Live Long and Pawsper: A sampling of the fossil record of North American carnivores.”

2022 Future Forums panel, Museums Victoria, Melbourne, Australia. “Reversing Extinction”.

2021 Next Generation Faculty Symposium, Stanford University / University of California, Berkeley / University of California, San Francisco. “Macroecological patterns and microevolutionary processes in North American carnivore communities.”

2021 Dept of Integrative Biology, University of Colorado—Denver. “North America’s lost dogs: Recent ecological selectivity in the fossil record of carnivores.”

2021 Paleosciences Research Consortium, University of Southern California.

- “Macroecological patterns and microevolutionary processes in North American carnivore communities.”
- 2021 Earth Science Department, University of Oregon. “Community paleoecology, with focus on the middle (size) class (of mammalian carnivores).”
- 2021 Mining, Engineering, and Geology Association, Adamson University, Philippines. “Dog dynasties and carnivore communities: time travel through North America’s deep past.”
- 2020 Department of Biology, University of New Mexico. “Macroecological patterns, microevolutionary processes: the lost carnivore communities of California.”
- 2020 Cultural Politics of Dinosaurs seminar, Pomona College, Claremont, CA. “Paleontology: more than just dinosaurs!”
- 2020 Ecomunch seminar series, Department of Biology, University of Oklahoma. “Ancient originations, recent extinctions: Fossil insights on extant carnivore biodiversity.”
- 2020 Pal(a)eo PERCS (Paleo EaRly Career Seminars). “Ancient originations, recent extinctions: Fossil insights on extant carnivore biodiversity.”
- 2020 Fossil Friday Chats, Alf Museum of Paleontology (Claremont, CA) and Western Science Center (Hemet, CA). “The (Fossil) Dog Days of Summer.”
- 2020 Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, Pacific Grove, CA. “That’s so metal: Bone-crushing dogs and other extinct California carnivores.” *Cancelled; coronavirus.*
- 2020 Western Science Center, Hemet, CA. “Saber-toothed cats and bone-cracking dogs: Carnivorous surprises from California’s deep past.” *Cancelled; coronavirus.*
- 2020 Biology Department, California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA. “Ancient originations, recent extinctions: Fossil insights on extant carnivore biodiversity.”
- 2019 Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Science, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. “Success and specialization in North American fossil dogs.”
- 2018 Department of Biological Sciences, California State University, Los Angeles, CA. “Success and specialization in North American fossil dogs.”
- 2017 Research and Collections Seminar Series, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, CA. “Success and specialization in North American fossil canids, and a note on bone-crushing dogs of central California.”

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Oral presentations

- 2023 **Balisi MA.** Ecomorphological and biogeochemical shifts in a late-Pleistocene to Anthropocene mesocarnivore community. International Union for Quaternary Research, Rome, Italy.
- 2022 **Balisi MA,** AK Sharma, CM Howard, CA Shaw, R Klapper, and EL Lindsey. Computed tomography reveals hip dysplasia in the Pleistocene saber-tooth

- cat Smilodon. International Paleontological Congress, Khon Kaen, Thailand.
- 2022 **Balisi MA.** Ecomorphological shifts across a rodent community since the Ice Age extinctions. American Society of Mammalogists, Tucson, AZ.
- 2022 **Balisi MA,** JL Blois, AB Farrell, GT Takeuchi, J Southon, and EL Lindsey. Survivors of the Ice Age: Rancho La Brea mesocarnivores from late Pleistocene to modern-day. International Biogeography Society, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- 2022 **Balisi MA.** Small mammals can tell big stories: mesocarnivore insights on Rancho La Brea. Geological Society of America, Cordilleran / Rocky Mountain joint section meeting, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
- 2020 **Balisi MA.** Mesocarnivore ecomorphological shifts from Ice Age to modern-day. Early Career Conference, International Biogeography Society, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. *Cancelled; coronavirus.*
- 2020 **Balisi MA.** Ecomorphological shifts revealed in Rancho La Brea mesocarnivores from Ice Age to modern-day. Macroecology 2020, Konstanz, Germany.
- 2019 **Balisi MA.** Recent ecomorphological selectivity of North American canid extinction. Geological Society of America annual meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2019 **Balisi MA.** Recent ecomorphological selectivity of North American canid extinction. North American Paleontological Convention, Riverside, CA. *Invited presentation, Sixth Extinction symposium.*
- 2018 **Balisi MA.** Climate as modulator of the macroevolutionary ratchet: Diversification and turnover in North American fossil canids. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology annual meeting, Albuquerque, NM. *Romer Prize session recognizing outstanding scientific contributions in vertebrate paleontology by predoctoral students.*
- 2016 **Balisi MA** and B Van Valkenburgh. Hypercarnivory and extinction risk in North American fossil canids. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2016 **Balisi MA** and B Van Valkenburgh. Ecological success in space and time among North American fossil canids. Evolution annual meeting, Austin, TX.
- 2015 **Balisi MA,** X Wang, and J Sankey. Fossil canids from the Mehrten Formation, late Cenozoic of northern California. Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists annual meeting, Turlock, CA.
- 2014 **Balisi MA** and B Van Valkenburgh. Character displacement in body size and craniodental adaptations among North American fossil canids. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology annual meeting, Berlin, Germany.
- 2014 **Balisi MA,** C Brown, B Van Valkenburgh, and CA Shaw. What can paleopathology tell us about hunting modes? Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists annual meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

Poster presentations *undergraduate co-author

- 2021 **Balisi MA.** Millennial-scale ecomorphological shifts in a mesocarnivore community in southern California. Ecological Society of America, virtual.
- 2021 Godoy DM* and **MA Balisi.** Then and now again—A bobcat’s tail. Cordilleran

- Section meeting, Geological Society of America, virtual.
- 2021 Gomez G* and **MA Balisi**. Microevolutionary changes in gray foxes (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) as analyzed from Rancho La Brea. Cordilleran Section meeting, Geological Society of America, virtual.
- 2021 Jardon L* and **MA Balisi**. Analyzing ecomorphological shifts in the striped skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*): From Ice Age to modern day. Cordilleran Section meeting, Geological Society of America, virtual.
- 2020 **Balisi MA**. Ecomorphological shifts in Rancho La Brea mesocarnivores from Ice Age to modern-day. American Quaternary Association meeting, virtual.
- 2020 Tome L* and **MA Balisi**. Survivors of the Ice Age: Ecomorphological changes in the American badger from the Pleistocene to modern-day. Cordilleran Section meeting, Geological Society of America, Pasadena, CA. *Abstract accepted; conference canceled due to coronavirus.*
- 2019 **Balisi MA**, JL Blois, AB Farrell, GT Takeuchi, and EL Lindsey. Characterizing mesocarnivore distributions at Rancho La Brea. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology annual meeting, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.
- 2016 Flake J*, **MA Balisi**, and B Van Valkenburgh. Morphological changes among Los Angeles rodents since the Ice Age extinctions. UCLA Research Symposium.
- 2016 **Balisi MA** and J Chang. Hypercarnivory and extinction risk in North American fossil dogs. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Portland, OR.
- 2015 **Balisi MA**, C Casey*, and B Van Valkenburgh. Ecological success in space and time among North American fossil canids. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Dallas, TX.
- 2015 Casey C*, **MA Balisi**, and B Van Valkenburgh. Teasing apart the relationship between ecomorphology and geographic distribution in the fossil record of North American Canidae. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Dallas, TX.
- 2013 **Balisi MA**, C Brown, B Van Valkenburgh, and CA Shaw. What can paleopathology tell us about hunting modes? Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2012 **Balisi MA** and C Badgley. Dietary behavior and resource partitioning among large carnivores of late Pleistocene Rancho La Brea. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology annual meeting, Raleigh, NC.

Organized symposia and workshops

- 2020 Kukla T, S Schachat, JKC Rugenstein, and **MA Balisi**. "The Co-Evolution of Phanerozoic Climate, Landscapes, and Terrestrial Ecosystems." Technical session organized for Geological Society of America 2020 Connects Online.
- 2020 Mychajliw AM, **MA Balisi**, E Ellwood, and J George. "From the Modern to Millennia: Temporal Techniques for the Conservation Biologist's Toolkit." Workshop at Student Conference on Conservation Science—New York.

FIELDWORK

2022–present Miocene, Mojave Desert, California

- 2022–present Cretaceous, Frontier & Mesaverde Formations, Wyoming
- 2022 Miocene, Red Rock Canyon, Kern County, California
Participant in expedition led by Fabian Hardy (University of Michigan). Described sediments & measured stratigraphic sections to reconstruct paleoenvironments.
- 2022 Miocene, Red Rock Canyon, Kern County, California
Participant in expedition led by Xiaoming Wang (NHMLA) and Catherine Badgley (University of Michigan). Excavated and jacketed ungulate fossils.
- 2021 Pleistocene, Natural Trap Cave, Big Horn County, Wyoming
Participant in expedition led by Julie Meachen (Des Moines University); one week. Excavated mammalian small-carnivore fossils.
- 2017–2019 Pleistocene, El Golfo de Santa Clara, Sonora, Mexico
Participant in expeditions led by Christopher Shaw (Idaho State University) and Fred Croxen III (Arizona Western College); one week. Found and collected ungulate and turtle fossils.
- 2014 Miocene, Sharktooth Hill Bonebed Quarry, Kern County, California
Participant in expeditions led by Samuel McLeod and Vanessa Rhue (Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County); one week. Excavated cetacean macrofossils; screened for shark microfossils.
- 2009 Modern, University of Michigan Biological Station, Pellston, Michigan
Two months. Surveyed insects, using pitfall traps along transects, to track community turnover in the Forest Accelerated Succession Experiment.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Museum teaching

- 2022–present Advanced Studies in Paleontology (individual research course) – Alf Museum
- 2022–present Honors Paleontology – Alf Museum
- 2019 **Mesocarnivore Summer Research Program**, director –
La Brea Tar Pits & Museum
Secured funding, developed a syllabus, created modules, lectured, and assessed students on: comparative anatomy, osteology, and biomechanics; statistics and data visualization; scientific writing and presentation.
- 2018–2019 **Tar Pits Field School**, assistant instructor – Institute for Field Research
Developed modules and lectured on: comparative biomechanics; statistics; presenting a lightning talk; writing a research proposal. Coordinated with laboratory and excavations staff to provide hands-on training for students. Planned a 200-mile day-long field trip to observe active asphalt seeps around southern California. Ensured student safety and preparedness on field trips.

As graduate instructor

- 2017–2018 Mathematics for Life Sciences (UCLA)
- 2017 Teaching Biology in Higher Education (UCLA)
- 2014 Evolution for Everyone (UCLA)
- 2013–2015 Comparative Vertebrate Morphology (UCLA)

- 2013 Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity (UCLA)
2012–13, 18 Introduction to Ecology and Behavior (UCLA)
2010 Chordate Anatomy and Phylogeny (Univ of Michigan)
2009–2011 Introductory Biology (Univ of Michigan)

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate interns (10 total)

- 2019–2021 Jacob Feingold (University of Chicago; received UChicago Careers in STEM and Metcalf summer research grants)
Derek Mena Godoy (Los Angeles Mission College; received Honorable Mention, SVP Futures Award)
Giancarlo Gomez (Cal State Univ, Northridge)
Lizbeth Jardón (Cal State Univ, Long Beach)
Lilibeth Tome (Cal State Univ, Dominguez Hills)
2018 Maurissa Brown (UCLA)
2015–2016 Jasmine Flake, Ori Nagasaka (UCLA)
2014–2015 Corinna Casey (UCLA; received Jackson School of Geosciences Travel Grant to present poster at Society of Vertebrate Paleontology 2015 meeting)
2010–2011 Catherine Wangen (University of Michigan)

High school interns (2 total)

- 2018 Kalere Watson (Girls Academic Leadership Academy, Los Angeles)
2011–2012 Katherine Ewell (presented poster, Marlborough School research symposium)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2018–present Peer reviewer for: *Animal Conservation*, *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, *Evolution*, *Frontiers in Earth Science*, *Geodiversitas*, *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, *GSA Books*, *Journal of Archaeological Science*, *Journal of Biogeography*, *Journal of Mammalian Evolution*, *Journal of Mammalogy*, *Journal of Quaternary Science*, *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, *Naturwissenschaften*, *Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia*, *PLoS ONE*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, *Western North American Naturalist*.
Publons profile: <https://publons.com/researcher/C-9793-2018/>
2019–2022 Presenter, various events at La Brea Tar Pits and Museum, including Ecology and Climate Training for docents & volunteers and the Tar Pits Teen Program
2021 Diversity / Equity / Inclusion Panel, Conservation Paleobiology Network
2021 Mentor, Diversity in Environmental Careers, Stanford Conservation Program, Stanford University
2018–2019 Organizer, Brown Bag Lunch seminar series, La Brea Tar Pits and Museum
2014–2017 Speaker on Research Collections, Recruitment Weekend, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA

2014–2016 Faculty-student liaison, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Dept, UCLA

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2018–2022 **Outreach events representing La Brea Tar Pits and Museum**, including: Career Day at east L.A. elementary to middle schools; City of STEM; Project Scientist at Loyola Marymount University; Women in STEM Expo organized by L.A. Mayor's office; Career Day, a partnership between the Natural History Museum of L.A. County and the L.A. Department of Water and Power
- 2020 Panelist, Finding Your Leadership Rhythm event, Association of California School Administrators and California Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators Women's Leadership Network, San Bernardino, CA
- 2016, 2018 Speaker, Career Day, Garden Grove Unified School District schools
- 2015 Speaker, *Jurassic Park* Day, San Gabriel Unified School District
- 2012–2016 Counselor, California Girls State, a leadership program for high school girls
- 2011 Board member, Inter-Cooperative Council, Ann Arbor, Michigan

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

- 2022 Grant Writing and Peer Review Workshop. National Science Foundation & Society for the Advancement of Chicanos / Hispanics and Native Americans in Science. *Declined because of schedule conflict.*
- 2020, 2021 NextProf Science: Future Faculty Workshop. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; May 4–7.
- 2019 Integrating Research with Education and Outreach in the Life Sciences. Life Sciences Diversity Initiative, University of California, Berkeley; May 9.
- 2018 Tutorial: The Search for Selection. National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS), Knoxville, TN; June 18–22.
- 2018 Postdoctoral Recruitment Initiative in Sciences and Medicine (PRISM). Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA; March 14–16.
- 2017 IsoCamp: A Course in Stable Isotope Biogeochemistry and Ecology. University of Utah, Salt Lake City; June 12–23.
- 2014 Fossilworks Intensive Workshop in Analytical Palaeobiology. Macquarie University, Australia; June 9 – July 14.
- 2012 Short Course on Macroevolution in R. National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), Santa Barbara, CA; June 11–14.

SELECTED SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Full list with links at <https://www.mairinbalisi.com/media>

- 2023 Public discussion, La Brea Tar Pits & Museum. [These Hips Don't Lie: How a collaboration between La Brea Tar Pits and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center reveals social structure in Ice Age saber-toothed cats.](#)

- 2023 Radio panel. Jurassic Park 30 years on—will we bring back extinct animals from the dead? *Big Ideas with Natasha Mitchell* on **Radio National, Australian Broadcasting Corporation**.
- 2022 Expert quote. Cats give the laws of physics a biiiiig stretch. *The Atlantic*.
- 2022 Research feature. Mountain lions are eating California wild donkeys. Why scientists say this is a good thing. *Los Angeles Times*.
- 2022 Fossil Friday Chats, Alf Museum of Paleontology and Western Science Center. Fossils with Cat-titude.
- 2022 Interview. Episode 359 – Dr. Mairin Balisi & Laura Tewksbury (La Brea Tar Pits) – Rodeo Vampire. *The Purrrecast*, Exactly Right Podcast Network.
- 2021 Interview. Saber-toothed cats cared for each other when injured, fossil evidence suggests. *Quirks and Quarks with Bob McDonald*, **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation**.
- 2021 Research feature. These hips don't lie: 3D imaging of a pelvis suggests social care for saber-tooths. *Stories*, NHMLAC.
- 2021 Expert quote. The animals that may exist in a million years, imagined by biologists. *Unexplainable* on **Vox Media**.
- 2021 Appearance. "Le voyage du cheval d'Eurasie." *L'odyssée des Animaux*. **ARTE Documentary**.
- 2021 Appearance. In Our Nature: The Mystery of Earth's Disappearing Giants (presented by Emily Graslie). *It's Okay to Be Smart* on **PBS Global**.
- 2021 Expert quote. Prehistoric wild dog found at iconic human fossil site. *National Geographic*.
- 2021 Interview. Episode #38: A Dog's Day at the Tar Pits with Mairin Balisi. *Paleo Nerds Podcast*.
- 2021 Expert quote. Baby Mammoths Were Meals for These Saber-toothed Cats. *The New York Times*.
- 2021 Expert quote. Prehistoric dire wolves looked different than those on 'Game of Thrones,' study suggests. *NBC News*.
- 2020 National Fossil Day livestream. Let's Tour! La Brea Tar Pits. Organized by Alf Museum of Paleontology.
- 2020 Research feature. Saber-toothed cats were surprising heavyweights. *National Geographic*.
- 2020 Research feature. Digging into dog bones. *Naturalist*, NHMLAC.
- 2020 Interview. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology 2020: A Voyages Smörgåsbord. *The Voyages Podcast*.
- 2020 Interview. PeerJ talks to Mairin Balisi. *PeerJblog*.
- 2019 Expert quote. Feast your eyes on the first-ever photos of a silver-backed chevrotain in the wild. *PBS NOVA*.
- 2019 Expert quote. New fossils capture million-year timeline of life after the dinosaurs died. *PBS NOVA*.
- 2019 Interview. Voices of La Brea – Bonus Episode. *The Common Descent Podcast*.
- 2018 **Balisi MA.** Jack of all trades or master of one? Answers from fossils and dog

- 2018 poop. *Science Trends*.
2018 Appearance. Ep 24: Go Fact Yourself. *Maximum Fun*.
2018 Interview. What can ancient dog poop reveal about an ecosystem? *Massive Science*.
2018 Interview. Prehistoric dogs with Mairin Balisi. *Space Cave* podcast.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)
Filipino / Tagalog (native)
French (conversational)
Japanese (readable with dictionary)

MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

American Society of Mammalogists
Ecological Society of America
Geological Society of America
International Biogeography Society
Paleontological Society
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology