



**Curriculum Vita
September 2025**

Instructor: Walter Paulin Tapondjou N., Ph.D
Academic Department: Biological and Environmental Sciences

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. 2022

M.S., Zoology,
University of Yaoundé 1, Yaoundé, Cameroon. 2011

B.S., Animal Biology,
University of Yaoundé 1, Yaoundé, Cameroon. 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sept 2024 – Present, Assistant Professor, East Texas A&M University

August 2022 – August 2024, Postdoctoral Research Assistant, University of Florida

August 2016 – July 2024, Research/Teaching Assistant, University of Kansas

PUBLICATIONS

Kameni N.*, M., **Tapondjou, W.**, Conradie, W. 2024. Phylogenetic placement of Mt Bamboutos endemic skink, *Trachylepis mekuana* (Chirio and Ineich, 2001). *Acta Herpetologica*.

Kameni N.*, M. M., Yuan, F. L., Gonwouo, L. N., **Tapondjou N., W. P.**, Allen, K. E., Fomena, A., Tsang, T. P. N. 2023. Range contractions and reduced body mass

predicted for endemic skinks of the Cameroon Volcanic Line with future Warming. *Diversity and Distributions*. 29(8), 1052-1063.

- Tapondjou N., W.P.**, Allen, K., Hime, P., Knipp*, K., Kameni*, M., Tchassem, A., Gonwouo, L., Brown, R. 2022. Diversification and historical demography of Rhampholeon spectrum in West-Central Africa. *PLOS ONE*, 17(12), 24.
- Machado-Stredel, F., Freeman, B., Jiménez-García, D., Cobos, M.E., Nuñez-Penichet, C., Jiménez, L., Komp, E., Perktas, U., Khalighifar, A., Ingenloff, K., **Tapondjou N., W.P.**, de Silva, T., Fernando, S., Osorio-Olvera, L., Townsend, P. 2022. On the potential of documenting decadal-scale avifaunal change from before-and-after comparisons of museum and observational data across North America. *Avian Research*, 13(1), 100005.
- Allen, K.E., Greenbaum, E., Hime, P., **Tapondjou N., W.P.**, Sterkhova, V., Kusamba, C., Rodel, M., Penner, J., Peterson, T., Brown, R. 2021. Rivers, not refugia, drove diversification in arboreal, sub-Saharan African snakes. *Ecology and Evolution*, 11(11), 6133–6152.
- Greenbaum, E., Allen, K., Vaughan, E., Pauwels, O., Van Wallach, Kusamba, C., Muninga, W., Mwenebatu, A., Mali, F., Badjedjea, G., Penner, J., Rödel, M., Rivera, J., Sterkhova, V., Grant Johnson, G., **Tapondjou N., W.P.** & Brown, R. 2021. Night stalkers from above: A monograph of *Toxicodryas* tree snakes (Squamata: Colubridae) with a description of two new cryptic species from Central Africa. *Zootaxa*, 4965(1), 1–44.
- Allen, K., **Tapondjou N., W.P.**, Freeman, B., Cooper, J., Brown, R., Peterson, T. Modelling potential Pleistocene habitat corridors between Afrotropical Forest regions. 2021. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. 30(8–9), 2361–2375.
- Tchassem, A. M. F., Doherty-Bone, T. M., Kameni*, M. M., **Tapondjou N., W. P.**, Tamesse, J. L., & Gonwouo, N. L. 2019. What is driving declines of montane endemic amphibians? New insights from Mount Bamboutos, Cameroon. *Oryx*, 55(1), 23–33.
- Allen, K.E., **Tapondjou N., W.P.**, Greenbaum, E., Welton, L.J., Bauer, A.M. 2019. High levels of hidden phylogenetic structure within central and west African *Trachylepis* skinks. *Salamandra*, 55(4), 231–241.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2024 Distinguished Postdoc Mentor Award. University of Florida Postdoctoral Affairs.
- 2020 The University of Kansas, Biodiversity Institute Panorama Grant: \$1,000
- 2020 Graduate student research award/Society of Systematic Biology (SSB) Award: \$1,800
- 2019 University of Kansas chancellor's doctoral fellowship: \$25,000
- 2019 The University of Kansas, Graduate student travel Fund: \$800
- 2019 The University of Kansas, Biodiversity Institute Panorama Grant: \$1,000

2018 The University of Kansas, Biodiversity Institute Panorama Grant: *\$1,000*
2017 Conservation Action Research Network, Congo Basin Conservation Grant, :
\$4,700
2017 The University of Kansas, Biodiversity Institute Panorama Grant: *\$1,000*
2015 Conservation Action Research Network, Congo Basin Conservation Grant:
\$4,450
2014 Idea Wild Grant material *\$1,120*
2014 Rufford Small Grant: *\$8,700*