

EDUCATION

- 2020- **PhD Candidate, Anthropology, University of Toronto**
 Collaborative specialization in Environmental Studies
 Project: Effects of environmental and socioeconomic risks on activity pattern and sleep in a rural agropastoral community in South Africa
 Supervisor: David Samson
- 2020 **MSc, Anthropology, University of Toronto**
 Project: Influence of age, sex, and dominance rank on intragroup spatial position, foraging strategy, and feeding success in wild vervet monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*)
 Supervisor: Julie Teichroeb
- 2017 **BA & Sc, Anthropology and Biology, McGill University**

PUBLICATIONS (* co-first authors)

A. Peer-reviewed contributions

- 2025 **Li, M.F.**, Lecheko, P., Phuthing, T., Lesholu, T. & Samson, D.R. Winter sleep extension and fragmentation in a South African agropastoral community. *Sleep Health*[†], 11(4), 477-485. DOI: 10.1016/j.sleh.2025.05.008
 [†] Special Issue “Sleep Deserts: Environments and Sleep”
- 2025 **Li, M.F.**, Lecheko, P., Phuthing, T., Lesholu, T. & Samson, D.R. Low-to-Moderate Daytime Physical Activities Predicted Higher-Quality Sleep Among Habitually Active Agropastoralists. *American Journal of Human Biology*, 37(2), e70008. DOI: 10.1002/ajhb.70008
- 2025 **Li, M.F.***, Nagendran, L.*, Samson, D.R., & Schroeder, L. The impact of Daylight Saving Time on dog activity. *PLOS ONE*, 20(1), e0317028. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0317028
- 2022 **Li, M.F.***, Nagendran, L.*, Schroeder, L., & Samson, D.R. The activity patterns of nonworking and working sled dogs. *Scientific Reports*, 12(1), 7999. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-022-11635-5
- 2022 Smeltzer*, E.A., Stead*, S.M., **Li, M.F.**, Samson, D.R., Kumpan, L.T., & Teichroeb, J.A. Social sleepers: the effects of status on sleep in terrestrial mammals. *Hormones and Behavior*, 143(5), 105181. DOI: 10.1016/j.yhbeh.2022.105181
- 2022 **Li, M.F.**, Swaisgood, R.R., Owen, M.A., Zhang, H., Zhang, G., Qiu, J., & Martin, M.S. Consequences of nescient mating: Artificial insemination increases cub rejection in the giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*). *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 247, 105565. DOI: 10.1016/j.applanim.2022.105565

MING FEI LI
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- 2021 **Li, M.F.**, Arseneau-Robar, T.J.M., Smeltzer, E.A., & Teichroeb, J.A. Be early or be tolerated: vervet monkey, *Chlorocebus pygerythrus*, foraging strategies in a dispersed resource. *Animal Behaviour*, 176, 1-15. DOI: 10.1016/j.anbehav.2021.03.010
- 2020 Woods, H.J., **Li, M.F.**, Patel, U.A., Lascelles, B.D.X., Samson, D.R., & Gruen, M.E. A functional linear modeling approach to sleep–wake cycles in dogs. *Scientific Reports*, 10(1), 22233. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-020-79274-2

B. Forthcoming peer-reviewed contributions

- 2025 Kilius, E., McKinnon, L., **Li, M.F.**, & Samson, D.R. The Students' Gambit: Canadian university students' perceived vulnerability to disease and situational COVID-19 risk in the transition back to campus. *PLOS ONE* (Under review).
- 2025 **Li, M.F.***, Nagendran, L.*, Kiru, C., Schroeder, L., & Samson, D.R. Who is disrupting whom? The impact of co-sleeping on humans and their dogs. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior* (Under review).
- 2025 Kilius, E., **Li, M.F.**, & Samson, D.R. Support for protective fields in the sleep architecture of Eastern Cape village men susceptible to livestock theft. *SLEEP Advances* (Under review).
- 2025 **Li, M.F.**, & Samson, D.R. Sentinel role of dogs in a community experiencing stock theft. (In preparation).
- 2026 **Li, M.F.**, Mercado Malabet, F., & Samson, D.R. Ranging pattern of village and cattle post dogs in the Eastern Cape. (In preparation).

C. Encyclopedia entries and reports

- 2022 Belecky, M., Stolton, S., Dudley, N., Dahal, S., **Li, M.F.**, & Hebert, C. *Living with Tigers: How to manage coexistence for the benefit of tigers and people*. WWF International, Switzerland.
- 2019 Landry, F., & **Li, M.F.** Costs of Group Living. In J. Vonk & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*. Springer International Publishing.
- 2019 **Li, M.F.** Infanticide. In J. Vonk & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*. Springer International Publishing.
- 2019 **Li, M.F.** Philopatry. In J. Vonk & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*. Springer International Publishing.

D. Non-peer-reviewed contributions

- 2018 **Li, M.F.** Significance and decline of customary law among the Samba people of Lushoto, Tanzania. *McGill Undergraduate Journal of Anthropology*, 8(1), 19-27.

- 2017 **Li, M.F.**, & Kecelioglu, Z. Notre-Dame de la Salette. *Redpath Museum Society Research Journal*, 5, 24-28.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 **Li, M.F.** & Samson, D.R. Restless but reassured: The influence of guard dogs on sleep quality among herders experiencing stock theft. 94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Poster.
- 2025 **Li, M.F.**, Lecheko, P., Phuthing, T., Lesholu, T. & Samson, D.R. Low-to-moderate intensity daytime physical activities predicted higher quality sleep among habitually active agropastoralists. 50th Annual Meeting of the Human Biology Association. Podium presentation (flash talk).
- 2025 Kilius, E., McKinnon, L., **Li, M.F.**, & Samson, D.R. The Students' Gambit: Canadian university students' perceived vulnerability to disease and situational COVID-19 risk in the transition back to campus. 50th Annual Meeting of the Human Biology Association. Poster.
- 2024 **Li, M.F.**, Mercado Malabet, F., & Samson, D.R. Ranging pattern of village and cattle post dogs in the Eastern Cape. 103rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists. Poster.
- 2024 **Li, M.F.** & Samson, D.R. Seasonal sleep variation among rural South African agropastoralists. 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Podium presentation.
- 2024 Kilius, E., **Li, M.F.**, & Samson, D.R. Sleep architecture and nighttime vigilance in a rural agropastoral community in South Africa. 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Poster.
- 2022 **Li, M.F.**, Smeltzer, E.A., Arseneau-Robar, T.J.M., & Teichroeb, J.A. Feeding strategies in a social forager: The influence of sex, dominance, and intragroup spatial positions on feeding success in *Chlorocebus pygerythrus*. XXVIIth Congress of the International Primatological Society. Virtual podium presentation.
- 2021 **Li, M.F.**, Smeltzer E.A., & Teichroeb, J.A. Navigating networks: Stronger social bonds correlate with greater feeding tolerance in wild vervet monkeys. 49th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology. Podium presentation.
- 2021 Kilius, E., McKinnon, L., & **Li, M.F.** Rebuilding a healthy student community: Preliminary survey results from University of Toronto students in Fall 2021. 49th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology. Poster.

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- 2021 McKinnon, L., Kilius, E., & **Li, M.F.** Social connectivity, health, and accessibility: Preliminary survey results from students returning to campus in Fall 2021. 49th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology. Poster.
- 2021 Stead, S.M., Smeltzer E.A., Kumpan, L.T., **Li, M.F.**, Samson, D.R., & Teichroeb, J.A. Slumber in numbers: Impacts of social hierarchies on sleep in terrestrial mammals. 49th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology. Podium presentation.
- 2021 **Li, M.F.**, Nagendran, L., Schroeder, L., & Samson, D.R. Environmental, human, and biological drivers of sled dog (*Canis familiaris*) activity. 58th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society. Virtual podium presentation.
- 2021 **Li, M.F.**, Smeltzer, E.A., & Teichroeb, J.A. Network approach reveals evidence of biological market principles in a wild primate group. 8th Annual Medusa Graduate Conference. Virtual podium presentation.
- 2020 **Li, M.F.**, Smeltzer, E.A., Arseneau-Robar, T.J.M., & Teichroeb, J.A. Foraging strategies in wild vervet monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*) when resources are dispersed. 57th Annual Conference of the Animal Behavior Society. Virtual podium presentation.
- 2019 **Li, M.F.**, Smeltzer, E.A., & Teichroeb, J.A. The early monkey gets the matoke: The influence of sex, rank, and arrival time on feeding strategies and food acquisition in *Chlorocebus pygerythrus*. 47th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology. Podium presentation.
- 2019 **Li, M.F.** Risky foraging in wild vervet monkeys and its implications for crop-raiding. 6th Annual Medusa Graduate Conference. Podium presentation.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021- **Lead PI**, “*Effects of environmental and socioeconomic risks on activity, sleep, and health in an agropastoral community in the Eastern Cape*,” University of Toronto
Collaborators: David Samson, Erica Kilius
- 2020- **Co-PI**, “*Canid sleep: Assessing the influence of domestication on activity patterns in dogs and wolves*,” University of Toronto
Collaborators: Lavania Nagendran, David Samson, Lauren Schroeder, Wolf Science Center, Wolf Park
- 2021-22 **Co-PI**, “*Social distance: Perspectives on social connectivity, health, and an equitable transition back to campus*,” University of Toronto
Collaborators: Leela McKinnon, Erica Kilius
- 2021- 22 **Research Assistant**, “*Human-tiger coexistence*,” WWF Tigers Alive, WWF-Cambodia

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Supervisor: Mike Belecky

- 2020-22 **Research Associate**, “*Maternal care and reproductive success in the giant panda*,” PDXWildlife
Collaborator: Meghan Martin
- 2018-20 **Project Lead**, “*Social foraging and feeding tolerance in wild vervet monkeys*,”
University of Toronto
Collaborators: Julie Teichroeb, Eve Smeltzer, T. Jean M. Arseneau-Robar
- 2017-18 **Conservation Intern**, PDXWildlife
Supervisors: Meghan Martin, Nathan Wintle
- 2017 **Field School**, Africa Field Study Semester, McGill University
- 2017 **Research Assistant**, Zooarchaeology Lab, McGill University
Supervisor: James Savelle

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

Course Instructor, University of Toronto Scarborough

ANTD40: Anthrozoology: Exploring human and nonhuman animal interactions (Fall 2024)

Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto (St. George, Scarborough, Mississauga)

ANT100: Introduction to Anthropology (Fall 2018-Winter 2019)

ANTA01: Introduction to Anthropology: Becoming Human (Fall 2021, Winter 2024)

ANTB14: Evolutionary Anthropology (Fall 2024)

ANT220: Introduction to the Anthropology of Health (Fall 2020)

ANT332: Human Origins I (Fall 2019)

ANT335: Human Evolution (Fall 2022-23)

ANT338: Laboratory Methods in Biological Anthropology (Winter 2024-25)

ENV100: Introduction to Environmental Studies (Fall 2021-23, Summer 2024-25)

ENV337: Human Interactions with the Environment (Winter 2022)

University of Toronto Teaching Assistants' Training Program Certifications

Accessible, Inclusive, and Anti-Oppressive Pedagogies

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS (*competitive)

- 2025 University of Toronto Edward W. Nuffield Graduate Travel Fellowship (\$2,823CAD)
- 2025 Sigma Xi Grants in Aid of Research* (\$1,000USD)
- 2024 University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies Conference Travel Grant
(\$610CAD)

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2024	University of Toronto, Department of Anthropology Conference Award (\$1,000CAD)
2023	University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant (\$4,868CAD)
2023	University of Toronto, Department of Anthropology Research Travel Grant (\$965CAD)
2022	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada CGS D Scholarship* (\$110,000CAD)
2022	University of Toronto, Department of Anthropology Research Travel Grant (\$922CAD)
2021	University of Toronto, Department of Anthropology Pilot Research Award (\$3,740CAD)
2021	University of Toronto Global Student Engagement Award* (\$3,000CAD)
2021	Ontario Graduate Scholarship* (\$15,000CAD)
2021	Sigma Xi Grants in Aid of Research* (\$1,000USD)
2021	University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts & Science, Study Elsewhere of Less Commonly Taught Languages Fund* (\$1,890CAD)
2021	University of Toronto, The School of the Environment, Beatrice and Arthur Minden Graduate Research Fellowship* (\$3,500CAD)
2020-24	University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts & Science Top Doctoral Award* (\$40,000CAD)
2020	University of Toronto, Department of Anthropology Conference Travel Award (\$500CAD)
2019	University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$930CAD) - <i>declined</i>
2018	McGill University, David & Erica Davidovic Science Internship Award* (\$2,000CAD)
2017	McGill University, Science Lab Without Borders Undergraduate Award* (\$2,735CAD)

INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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- 2025 Diet, Activity, and Sleep in Rural Agropastoral Villages, Ha Nkai and Mpharane Community Halls, South Africa
- 2023 Project Introduction Presentation and Discussion, Ha Nkai and Mpharane Community Halls, South Africa
- 2022 Use of Actigraphy in Field Research, Sleep and Human Evolution Lab, University of Toronto Mississauga
- 2022 Panelist at Trinity College Environmental Studies High Table, University of Toronto

SERVICE

- 2020-22 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Subcommittee, Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology
- 2019- 21 Graduate Conference Organizing Committee, Anthropology Graduate Student Union, University of Toronto
- 2020 Virtual Conference Planning Committee, Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology
- 2020 Skype a Scientist
- 2019-20 Event Organizing Committee, Got Anthropology Speaker Series, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2025 Do dogs hate daylight saving time too? *National Geographic*.
- 2025 How sled dogs and pets respond when the clocks change. *BBC News*.
- 2025 Does daylight saving time affect dogs? It depends if they have to work. *The Washington Post*.
- 2025 The Annual Quirks & Quarks Holiday Question Show. *CBC Radio*.
- 2022 Upcoming time change can adversely affect sleep quality, research shows. *University of Toronto Mississauga News*.
- 2022 Giant pandas more likely to reject cubs after artificial insemination. *The New Scientist*.

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REVIEWER (* co-reviewers)

Animal Behaviour (n = 2)

*Proceedings of the Royal Society B** (n = 1)