A tribute to Victor H. Gonzalez:  
Twenty years of melittological contributions

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Abstract. In celebration of the 40th birthday of Victor H. Gonzalez, melittologist and founding assistant editor of the Journal of Melittology, we provide here a brief biographical sketch and summary of his contributions to melittological science during his 20 years of active research. We tabulate his 154 publications (including published abstracts and reviews), along with his 99 species-, six genus-, and one family-group names (all but three have been for bees).

INTRODUCTION

Today we celebrate the 40th birthday of one of Journal of Melittology’s founding assistant editors, Victor H. Gonzalez, along with his 20 years of contributions to the science of melittology. In recognition of the concurrence of these events, the Journal of Melittology presents here a brief account of Victor’s academic life along with a bibliographic summary of his published works and a listing of those taxa newly recognized and named by him.

Victor was born on 12 November 1977 in Ibagué, Tolima where his father was serving on the army base located there, although over the next five years the family was restationed several times. By the time he was 5, Victor’s mother returned to Ibagué with he and his sister, Margarita, where they lived with his grandparents. Six years later they all moved to Florencia, Caquetá to be closer to a pair of uncles who were farming in the region. From an early age Victor was fascinated by biology and his interest were initially drawn to plants. Around the age of 8 he pleaded with his mother for a hydroponics kit he had seen advertised as he wished to grow his own vegetables. It was in Florencia that Victor finished high school and decided to pursue his university education in Bogotá at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. At uni-

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During a field course, he was focused on pollination mechanisms and therefore collected various plant species along with their associated pollinators. He was soon confronted with a common challenge, how to identify the species of floral visitors he collected, foremost the bees. There was no taxonomist at the university capable of adequately identifying his material to species and one of his professors told him of Charles D. Michener at the University of Kansas, suggesting he contact Michener for assistance with his specimens. Victor therefore wrote to Mich, who replied within a couple of months answering his various questions and encouraging him to continue his studies. Already favoring bees by that time, the encouragement of the elder melittologist solidified his passion and from that point forward Victor’s interests evolved from botany to entomology. Victor was fortunate to have the encouragement and tutelage of prominent Colombian faculty such as Rudolfo Ospina-Torres and Guiomar Nates-Parra, the latter of whom led the most significant program in bee biology and ecology and in whose lab Victor flourished. Although obstacles did present themselves, as they do often do, Victor took them in stride and demonstrated a tenacity for tackling any challenge with his usual boundless energy. For example, the only available book on bees in the university library was in English, a language Victor did not yet speak, and so he worked tirelessly with a dictionary to translate, word-by-word, the sections of text he needed in order to undertake his studies.

In 2000, Victor graduated from Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogotá with a B.Sc. in Biology. Following graduation he moved to Panama where he worked as a Research Assistant to William T. Wcislo at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, and was based on Barro Colorado Island. In Panama, Victor worked on the biology of wild bees and particularly on the nocturnal species of the genus *Megalopta* Smith (Halictidae), and also developed collaborative projects with David W. Roubik. It was

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during his time on Barro Colorado Island that Victor learned English, as well as many practical field methods for the study of bees. By 2002, Victor was ready to proceed with graduate education and resolved to study at the University of Kansas where Michener was based.

Victor arrived at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas in the Autumn semester of 2002, and initiated his doctoral work on the systematics of the bee tribe Megachilini, with a particular focus on the genus *Megachile* Latreille s.l. In addition to his studies on *Megachile*, Victor’s broad interests became engaged in myriad other activities, ranging from ethnoentomology and ethnobotany of native tribes in Colombia to the nesting ecology and systematics of innumerable other bee lineages. Victor graduated from the University of Kansas in 2008 with a Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology.
ary Biology under the mentorship of Deborah R. Smith. Victor truly blossomed at the University of Kansas and it was there that he met his wife, Amy R. Comfort.

Following Kansas, Victor and Amy moved to Logan, Utah where he was a post-doctoral fellow with Terry L. Griswold in the USDA-Agricultural Research Service’s Bee Biology and Systematics Laboratory. Given Victor’s expertise by this time with megachilines, it was only natural for him to work alongside Terry, the foremost authority on the Megachilidae. Together, Victor and Terry worked on the New World *Anthidium* Fabricius, as well as sundry projects on Osmiini and other groups of bees. It was a fabulously productive period and Victor’s melittological career was truly ascendent by this time. Victor remained in Logan until 2011, at which time he and his family, now growing by the addition of a daughter, Rosella, moved back to Lawrence where he worked again at the University of Kansas as a Research Affiliate and post-doctoral researcher with the Division of Entomology, Natural History Museum (Biodiversity Institute).

In 2012 Victor was offered a position as Assistant Professor in Biology at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and the Gonzalez clan moved to Weatherford, Oklahoma. There in Weatherford, Victor was in charge of the courses and labs for Human Anatomy, and although trained as an entomologist he was able to build upon his years as a graduate teaching assistant in human anatomy while in Lawrence. Victor excelled in his teaching role, quickly becoming a favorite among students, but never gave up his active research on bees. He and his family participated in the numerous BioBlitzes held in Oklahoma and he made contacts with diverse biologists throughout

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**Figure 4.** Victor, Oliver (in Victor’s arms), Amy, and Rosella at the Acropolis, Athens, Greece, on 10 June 2017.
the state. In particular, Victor met fellow melittologist John F. Barthell of the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmund, Oklahoma. Barthell had recently launched a highly successful NSF-funded REU program studying bees with collaborators in Turkey and later Greece. Beginning in 2013, Victor joined and became an integral part of Barthell’s team, participating in and leading summer field courses in Turkey and Greece each summer from 2013 to the present.

In the summer of 2014, Victor moved again to Lawrence, and took the position of Director of Laboratories and Lecturer for the Human Anatomy courses in the Undergraduate Biology Program at the University of Kansas. In this capacity he has again excelled and found various ways to innovate, such as the inclusion of an art exhibit through which anatomy students were challenged to use any medium they preferred to develop an anatomy-related piece of art. The interest of the students and the resulting exhibit were outstanding, and the activity has subsequently become a more regular part of the course. Back in Lawrence, Victor and Amy welcomed another child into their family, Oliver. Victor was also able to resume his collaborative work in the university’s Natural History Museum with its extensive and comprehensive bee collection, and through this his melittological research has continued to expand, including a courtesy appointment with the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology.

Today, Victor is one of the world’s more accomplished melittologists and his affable and enthusiastic personality is a treasured asset to the field. Twenty years ago melittology was blessed to gain his attention, and we look forward to the innumerable ways in which his research shall continue to enrich the study of bees. We are delighted to share his family’s celebration of his 40th birthday, and wish him many happy returns.

PUBLICATIONS OF VICTOR H. GONZALEZ
1997–2017

The present list is complete for publications appearing from 1997 through 10 November 2017 and are numbered by their date of appearance. Taxa proposed by Victor within these works are listed with each article, indicating taxon authorship and page of publication. In total, this listing covers 154 citable works.


Anthophora (Mystacanthophora) walteri Gonzalez: 586


23–29.


Neocorynura puruhana Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez: 124
Neocorynura toromaima Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez: 125
Neocorynura tungurahuana Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez: 125
Neocorynura wauanca Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez: 126


bution in North America and beyond. *Biological Invasions* 13(9): 2115–2133.


Chalicodoma (Lophanthedon) Gonzalez & Engel: 600
Chalicodoma (Largella) donbakeri Gonzalez & Engel: 604
Chalicodoma (Pseudomegachile) gibbsi Gonzalez & Engel: 608
Chalicodoma (Pseudomegachile) strangei Gonzalez & Engel: 610


Anthidioma obibense Griswold & Gonzalez: 177


Incasarus Gonzalez, Rasmussen, & Engel: 3

Austrothurgus Gonzalez & Engel: 3
Austrothurgus malgaru Gonzalez, Rasmussen, & Engel: 6


Anthidium (Anthidium) adelphum Gonzalez & Griswold: 257
Anthidium (Anthidium) atacamense Gonzalez & Griswold: 262
Anthidium (Anthidium) atripoides Gonzalez & Griswold: 267
Anthidium (Anthidium) cafayate Gonzalez & Griswold: 272
Anthidium (Anthidium) calchaqui Gonzalez & Griswold: 273
Anthidium (Anthidium) chameleense Gonzalez & Griswold: 275
Anthidium (Anthidium) danunciae Gonzalez & Griswold: 288
Anthidium (Anthidium) duomarginatum Gonzalez & Griswold: 291
Anthidium (Anthidium) kolla Gonzalez & Griswold: 312
Anthidium (Anthidium) labergei Gonzalez & Griswold: 313
Anthidium (Anthidium) macushi Gonzalez & Griswold: 319
Anthidium (Anthidium) mapuche Gonzalez & Griswold: 322
Anthidium (Anthidium) meloi Gonzalez & Griswold: 324
Anthidium (Anthidium) michenerorum Gonzalez & Griswold: 325
Anthidium (Anthidium) multispinosum Gonzalez & Griswold: 328
Anthidium (Anthidium) neffi Gonzalez & Griswold: 329
Anthidium (Anthidium) parkeri Gonzalez & Griswold: 336
Anthidium (Anthidium) platyfrons Gonzalez & Griswold: 342
Anthidium (Anthidium) schwarzi Gonzalez & Griswold: 353
Anthidium (Anthidium) sparsipunctatum Gonzalez & Griswold: 356
Anthidium (Anthidium) spatulatum Gonzalez & Griswold: 358


*Chlerogella anchicaya* Engel, Gonzalez, & Hinojosa-Díaz: 3


*Lonchopria* (Biglossa) *comforti* Gonzalez & Engel: 3


Lonchopria (Biglossa) danunciae Gonzalez & Engel: 237

   Epanthidium (Epanthidium) cuneiforme Griswold & Gonzalez: 255
   Epanthidium (Epanthidium) danunciae Griswold & Gonzalez: 258
   Epanthidium (Epanthidium) nigrifascies Griswold & Gonzalez: 262


   Callonychium (Paranyakium) ilejji Gonzalez & Engel: 32


Comparative Biology 57(Supplement 1): e101.


Xeranthrena Gonzalez & Engel: 14
Xeranthrena imponticula Gonzalez & Engel: 18
Spinoliella aidae Gonzalez, Smith-Pardo, & Engel: 27
Spinoliella confusa Gonzalez & Engel: 31
Spinoliella packeri Gonzalez & Engel: 47
Spinoliella polita Gonzalez & Engel: 52
Spinoliella propinqua Gonzalez & Engel: 54


Eufriesea oliveri Gonzalez & Griswold: 76
Eufriesea barthelli Gonzalez & Griswold: 83
Eufriesea engeli Gonzalez & Griswold: 88


Nannotrigona camargoi Rasmussen & Gonzalez: 209


NAMES PROPOSED

The current list includes all taxa proposed as of 8 November 2017, encompassing 99 species, six genera/subgenera, and one tribe. In total, three orders of insects are represented — one Diptera, two Coleoptera, and 96 Hymenoptera (all Anthophila).

Species-group Names

Order Coleoptera Linnaeus
Family Leiodidae Fleming
Subfamily Leiodinae Fleming

Scotocryptus cortinorum Davis & Gonzalez, 2008
Scotocryptus meliponios Davis & Gonzalez, 2008
Order Diptera Linnaeus
Family Phoridae Curtis
Subfamily Metopininae Rondani
Megaselia neocorynurae Gonzalez, Brown, & Ospina, 2002

Order Hymenoptera Linnaeus
Family Andrenidae Latreille
Subfamily Panurginae Leach
Acamptopoeum fernandezi Gonzalez, 2004
Callonychium (Paranychium) leleji Gonzalez & Engel, 2016
Incascarus garciai Gonzalez, Rasmussen, & Engel, 2013
Liphanthus (Melaliphanthus) cuscoensis Gonzalez, Rasmussen, & Engel, 2014
Protandrena bachue Gonzalez & Ruz, 2007
Protandrena guarnensis Gonzalez & Ruz, 2007
Protandrena maximina Gonzalez & Ruz, 2007
Protandrena rangeli Gonzalez & Ruz, 2007
Protandrena wayruronga Gonzalez & Ruz, 2007
Protandrena (Andinopanurgus) amyae Gonzalez & Engel, 2011
Protandrena (Andinopanurgus) femoralis Gonzalez & Engel, 2011
Spinoliella aidae Gonzalez, Smith-Pardo, & Engel, 2017
Spinoliella confusa Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Spinoliella packeri Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Spinoliella polita Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Spinoliella propinqua Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Xeranthrena imponticula Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez et al., 2017

Family Apidae Latreille
Subfamily Apinae Latreille
Anthophora (Mystacanthophora) walteri Gonzalez in Gonzalez & Chávez, 2004
Geotrigona jocarroyoi Gonzalez & Engel, 2012
Geotrigona kaba Gonzalez & Sepúlveda, 2007
Lestrimelitta catira Gonzalez & Griswold, 2012
Lestrimelitta huilensis Gonzalez & Griswold, 2012
Lestrimelitta opita Gonzalez & Griswold, 2012
Lestrimelitta piedemontana Gonzalez & Rasmussen in Gonzalez et al., 2010
Eufriesa barthelli Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Eufriesea engeli Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Eufriesea olivieri Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez et al., 2017
Nannotrigona camargoi Rasmussen & Gonzalez, 2017
Oxytrigona chocoana Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008
Oxytrigona huoranii Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008
Oxytrigona isthmina Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008
Paratrigona scapisetosa Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011
Paratrigona uwa Gonzalez & Vélez, 2007
Paratrigona wasbaueri Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011

Family Colletidae Lepeletier de Saint Fargeau
Subfamily Xeromelissinae Cockerell
Chilicola (Anoediscelis) paramo Gonzalez & Michener, 2004
Chilicola (Anoediscelis) paramoides Gonzalez in Gonzalez & Giraldo, 2009
Chilicola (Hylaeosoma) bochica Gonzalez in Gonzalez & Giraldo, 2009
Chilicola (Hylaeosoma) muruiimuinae Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2007
Chilicola (Oroediscelis) deborahae Gonzalez in Gonzalez & Giraldo, 2009
Subfamily Paracolletinae Cockerell
Leioproctus (Perditomorpha) *rosellae* Gonzalez in Gonzalez & Florez, 2011
Lonchopria (Biglossa) *comforti* Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez *et al*., 2014
Lonchopria (Biglossa) *danunciae* Gonzalez & Engel, 2015

Family Halictidae Thomson
Subfamily Halictinae Thomson
Chlerogas *tatamaensis* Engel & Gonzalez, 2009
Chlerogella *anchicaya* Engel, Gonzalez, & Hinojosa-Díaz, 2014
LasioGLOSSum (Dialictus) *santaFensis* Gonzalez & Rasmussen in Gonzalez *et al*., 2010
LasioGLOSSum (Dialictus) *urbanus* Gonzalez, 2006, nomen praecoccupatum
Megalopta (Megalopta) *tetewana* Gonzalez, Griswold, & Ayala, 2010
Megalopta (Noctoraptor) *huaoranii* Gonzalez, Griswold, & Ayala, 2010
Neocorynura *aymara* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *carolinae* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *caucana* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *cauchanana* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez in Gonzalez *et al*., 2006
Neocorynura *cuisace* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez in Gonzalez *et al*., 2006
Neocorynura *puruhana* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *toromaima* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *tungurahuana* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura *wanuca* Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009

Family Megachilidae Latreille
Subfamily Lithurginae Newman
Austrothurgus *malgaru* Gonzalez, Engel, & Griswold, 2013

Subfamily Megachilinae Latreille
Afroheriades *hyalinus* Griswold & Gonzalez, 2011
Anthidiorma *obibense* Griswold & Gonzalez, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *adelphum* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *atacamense* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *atropoides* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *cafiayate* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *calchaqui* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *chamalense* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *danunciae* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *duomarginatum* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *kolla* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *labergei* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *macushi* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *mapuche* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *meloi* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *multispinosum* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *neffi* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *parkeri* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *platyfrons* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *schwarzi* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *sparsipunctatum* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidiium (Anthidium) *spatulatum* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Chalicodoma (Largella) *dombakeri* Gonzalez & Engel, 2012
Chalicodoma (Pseudomegachile) *gibbsi* Gonzalez & Engel, 2012
Chalicodoma (Pseudomegachile) *riyadhense* Alqarni, Hannan, Gonzalez, & Engel, 2012
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REFERENCES

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