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

Michael S. Engel¹

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).

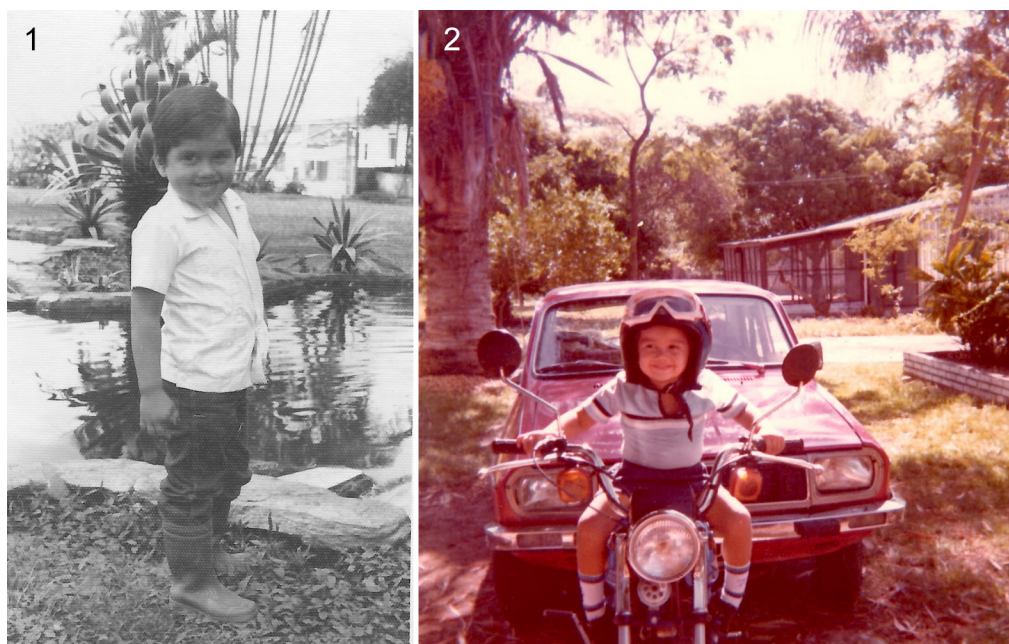
INTRODUCTION

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-

¹ Division of Entomology, Natural History Museum, and Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, 1501 Crestline Drive – Suite 140, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045-4415, USA (msengel@ku.edu).

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Figures 1–2. The future melittologist in his youth. 1. Victor near Ibagué, 20 March 1982. 2. Enjoying an early motorcycle ride at Tolemaida Air Base, Tolima, 12 November 1980.

versity, Victor studied biology, building on his early botanical curiosity. 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



Figure 3. Victor collecting in Boyacá, Colombia.

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 & Evolution-



Figure 4. Victor, Oliver (in Victor's arms), Amy, and Rosella at the Acropolis, Athens, Greece, on 10 June 2017.

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

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.

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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 meliponiops 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 fernandezii González, 2004

Callonychium (Paranychium) leleji Gonzalez & Engel, 2016

Incasarus 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 aidaei 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 joearroyoi 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

Eufriesea barthelli Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2017

Eufriesea engeli Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2017

Eufriesea oliveri Gonzalez & Griswold in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2017

Nannotrigona camargoi Rasmussen & Gonzalez, 2017

Oxytrigona chocoana Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008

Oxytrigona huaoranii Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008

Oxytrigona isthmiana Gonzalez & Roubik, 2008

Paratrigona scapisetosa Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011

Paratrigona uwa Gonzalez & Vélez, 2007

Paratrigona wasbaueri Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011

Family Colletidae Lapeletier 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) muruimuinane 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 praeoccupatum*
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 **iguazuensis** Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2006
Neocorynura **muiscas** Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2006
Neocorynura **puruhana** Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura **toromaima** Smith-Pardo & Gonzalez, 2009
Neocorynura **tungurahua** 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
Anthidioma **obibense** Griswold & Gonzalez, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **adelphum** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **atacamense** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **atripoides** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **cafayate** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **calchaqui** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **chamelense** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **danunciae** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **duomarginatum** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **kolla** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **labergei** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **macushi** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **mapuche** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **melo** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **michenerorum** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **multispinosum** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **neffi** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **parkeri** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **platyfrons** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **schwarzi** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*Anthidium*) **sparsipunctatum** Gonzalez & Griswold, 2013
Anthidium (*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

Chalicodoma (Pseudomegachile) strangei Gonzalez & Engel, 2012
 †*Ctenoplectrella phaeton* Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011
Epanthidium (Epanthidium) cuneiforme Griswold & Gonzalez, 2015
Epanthidium (Epanthidium) danunciae Griswold & Gonzalez, 2015
Epanthidium (Epanthidium) nigrifascies Griswold & Gonzalez, 2015
Heriades (Neotrypetes) tayrona Gonzalez & Griswold, 2011
Megachile (Argyropile) longuisetosa Gonzalez & Griswold, 2007
Megachile (Cressoniella) amparo Gonzalez, 2006
Megachile (Eutricharaea) arachosiana Gonzalez, Engel, & Hinojosa-Díaz, 2010
Noteriades jenniferae Griswold & Gonzalez, 2011
Noteriades spinosus Griswold & Gonzalez, 2011
Stelis (Dolichostelis) vallenata Gonzalez, Ascher, & Engel, 2012

Genus-group Names

Family Andrenidae Latreille

Incasarus Gonzalez, Rasmussen, & Engel, 2013
Protandrena (Andinopanurgus) Gonzalez & Engel, 2011
Xeranthrena Gonzalez & Engel in Gonzalez *et al.*, 2017

Family Megachilidae Latreille

Austrothurgus Gonzalez & Engel, 2013
Chalicodoma (Alocanthedon) Engel & Gonzalez, 2011
Chalicodoma (Lophanthedon) Gonzalez & Engel, 2012

Family-group Names

Family Megachilidae Latreille

Aspidosmiini Gonzalez, Griswold, Praz, & Danforth, 2012

EPONYMY

Caenaugochlora (Caenaugochlora) gonzalezi Engel, 2014 [Colombia: Magdalena Dept., 2500 ft. (about 762 m)].

Habralictus gonzalezi Gibbs, 2012 [Dominica: St. Joseph Parish, 430 m].

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