

RICCARDO PANSINI

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Evolutionary Biology
- Evolution of cooperation
- Primatology
- Behavioural Economics

WORK EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

- 2014-present** Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China **Post-doc researcher**
Yunnan University of Finance and Economics, Kunming, China
Post-doc researcher in the labs of Prof. Rui-Wu Wang (Experimental and Theoretical Ecology Group), Prof. Lei Shi (Behavioral and Experimental Economics Research Center), and Prof. Douglas Yu. I study the effect of culture and social norms within the evolution of cooperation of Chinese people, as opposed to cooperation strategies displayed by westerners. We obtain behavioural results from university students who participate in game theory experiments, such as Prisoner's Dilemma and Public Goods games. I focus on strategies about gender gap, socioeconomic segregation, and climate change.
- 2013-2014** Bahcesehir College, Edirne, Turkey Private secondary and high school biology teacher
From September 2013 to February 2014, I obtained a Comenius Assistantship grant from the European Community to teach Biology in English in a secondary and high school (Scientific lyceum) and be 'ambassador' of my country in Turkey.
- 2012-2013** Cavazzi-Sorbelli Institute, Pavullo, Italy Public high school science teacher
From October 2012 to June 2013, employed as a science teacher, teaching to 14-15 years old pupils.
- 2007-2011** CNRS, DEPE, Éthologie évolutive, Strasbourg, France **PhD in Evolutionary Biology**
Université de Strasbourg, École Doctorale Vie et Santé, Strasbourg, France and
University of South Africa, Applied Behavioural Ecology and Ecosystem Research Unit
Paid PhD research on the economic behaviour of primate cooperation with Prof. Ronald Noë at the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve, South Africa. I investigated the sociology and biological market theories in vervet monkeys. Thesis title "Cooperation and economic behaviour of wild vervet monkeys: an experimental approach".
- 2008-2011** Anthropology Dept., University of Durham, UK **Honorary Research Associate**
Member of the Durham Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group. The position was conferred in acknowledgement of the publication work carried on as a result of my Master by Research.
- 2007-2011** European Doctoral College, Strasbourg, France European Multicultural Programme Certificate
I attended a cycle of lectures organised in collaboration with the Council of Europe. Main themes of the programme were: (1) Knowledge of European institutions; (2) European cultures and societies; (3) European economy and future; and (4) European geopolitics.
- 2006** Parco del Frignano, Italy **Environmental management internship**
Three months' experience in a nature reserve park working on topics such as: (1) surveying of sedentary populations of wolves, (2) the environmental certification ISO 14001 of the park, and (3) the updating the database of mountain paths, also through Arcview. Supervision was given by Dr. Davide Pagliai, researcher in ecology at the park.
- 2006** IAL Institute, Modena, Italy **Master in Environmental Management**
Graduated from a one-year taught master course. The main topics developed have been: land use and management, fauna protection, sustainable development, environmental certification (EMAS and ISO 14001), environmental communication, and health and safety. During the three summer months, I have been employed by the nature reserve Parco del Frignano where I did (1) surveying of local populations of wolves sedentary of an area (150 km²) of the mountain range Appennini (through methods of wolf howling, GIS analysis, faecal collection and strip transect), (2) working on the park's ISO 14001 certification, and (3) updating the database of mountain paths (through the use of geographical software GIS ArcView). Thesis title "La Gestione della Fauna Protetta in una Riserva Naturale: procedure di SGA per la gestione del lupo nel Parco Regionale dell'Alto Appennino Modenese".
- 2005** Chester Zoo, UK **Leonardo da Vinci internship**
Three months' employment funded by the EU community to assess stress in a group of captive primates. The work has allowed me to gain experience in captive animal husbandry and behavioural data collection under supervision of the Zoo's Research Officer Dr. Sonya Hill.
- 2005-2007** University of Durham, Anthropology Dept., UK **Master by Research in Biological Anthropology**
Graduated from a Master by Research to study captive primate animal stress with the primatologist Dr. Jan de Ruiter. The title of the thesis was 'Assessing Animal Welfare in a Captive Primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in Mandrillus sphinx'. This study has been able to show a highly significant correlation between large affluence of visitors at the zoo and visitor-directed aggressive behaviours and stereotypies performed by a group of mandrills. In addition, one mandrill was observed performing tool manufacture for hygienic purposes. Following the results obtained, Chester Zoo acknowledged the necessity of a permanent modification of the enclosure that was completed in July 2005. A UFAW award was subsequently awarded to this innovation, and the medias gave some resonance to this: BBC, Reuters, Metro, ScienceDaily, etc.

- 2003-2004** Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy **Laurea** in Biological Sciences ≈ **Taught MSc**
Graduated from the final year of the Biological Sciences five-year course with emphasis on Ecology. The degree is internationally equivalent to a taught MSc in Biology and Ecology. Thesis' title "*Evoluzione sociale dei parassiti della malaria: la natura della competizione intra-ospite.*"
- 2003** *Laboratory assistant* Institute of Cell, Animal and Population Biology, Edinburgh University, UK.
Thanks to particularly successful undergraduate thesis project, I was extended my stay in the lab, this time with a short contract, to carry out supplemental analyses on malaria infections with supervision from Dr J. de Roode, and Prof A. Read.
- 2001-2003** University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK **Bachelor** in Biological Sciences, Zoology Honours
My calling towards Zoology within the Biology area prompted me to transfer from my Italian university to attend the Zoology Honours programme in Edinburgh. The Zoology subjects have greatly widened my biological knowledge from a vocabulary of English scientific terms, to personal and critical appreciation of research papers, from assessing simple tutorial problems to my final year project. The latter, undertaken in one of the most advanced laboratories in the field (Read Group), concerned the study of the ecology of mixed infections of malaria parasites (*Plasmodium chabaudi*) in mice. Using molecular PCR protocols and GLM statistics, different strains of parasites sensitive and non-sensitive to drugs were tracked throughout the infections. In Edinburgh my practical skills greatly developed, conferring me the necessary bases to work in a research environment. The thesis project (titled "*Social evolution of malaria parasites: the nature of in-host competition*") was eventually part of a publication in PNAS.
- 2000-2001** University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, UK Biological Sciences faculty
Socrates-Erasmus exchange student from Italy. Attended an intensive program of modules leading to the full academic recognition of 7 biological modules from the third and fourth year program in Biology.
- 1997-2001** Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy Facoltà di Scienze Biologiche
I enrolled at the first three years of an extensive 5-year degree in Biological Science which I completed in 2004.

PUBLICATIONS

Pansini R, Kesberg R. & Shi L. (in prep.) Attainment of future carbon sequestration to curb climate change in the Chinese collectivist society.

Pansini R, Campenni M & Shi L. (submitted) Asymmetric use of punishment in socioeconomic segregated societies leads to an unequal distribution of wealth.

Pansini R, Shi L, Wang RW. (2016) Women tend to defect in a social dilemma game in Southwest China. *PLOS ONE* DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0166101](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0166101) PDF

Gao L, Wang Z, **Pansini R**, Li YT, Wang RW. (2015) Collective punishment is more effective than collective reward for promoting cooperation. *Scientific Reports* DOI: [10.1038/srep1775217752](https://doi.org/10.1038/srep1775217752) PDF

Pansini R. (2012) Hierarchical societies of primates: comments on love, war and cultures. *Journal of Bioeconomics* DOI: [10.1007/s10818-012-9138-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10818-012-9138-0) PDF

Pansini R & Poulin N. (in prep.) The need of cooperation partners causes a temporary modification in the social structure of wild vervet monkeys.

Pansini R. (2011) Induced cooperation to access a sharable reward increases the hierarchical segregation of wild vervet monkeys. *PLoS ONE* DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0021993](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0021993) PDF. A talk I gave of it.

Pansini R & de Ruiter JR. (2011) Observation of tool use and modification for apparent hygiene purposes in a mandrill. *Behavioural Processes* DOI: [10.1016/j.beproc.2011.06.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2011.06.003) PDF
In the news: *BBC*, *The Telegraph*, *Daily Mail*, *El Mundo*, *Folha*, etc. (see a [press review in PDF](#)). And at the radio: [BBC radio 4](#)

de Roode JC, **Pansini R**, Cheesman SJ, Helinski MEH, Bell AS, Chan BHK, Walliker D & Read AF. (2005) Virulence and competitive ability in genetically diverse malaria infections. *PNAS* **102**(21):7624-7628 PDF

Conference proceedings:

Pansini R. (2011) Cooperation Behaviour of Wild Vervet Monkeys Follows the Law of Supply and Demand. *Folia Primatologica* 82(6): 370. DOI:[10.1159/000337909](https://doi.org/10.1159/000337909)

Pansini R & Noë R. (2009) Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys. *Folia Primatologica* 80(6):376. DOI:[10.1159/000265602](https://doi.org/10.1159/000265602)

Pansini R & Noë R. (2008) Cooperation between members of two artificially formed trader classes in free-ranging vervet monkeys. *Primate Eye* 96(Sp CD-ROM iss - IPS 2008), abst #114

Pansini R & de Ruiter JR (2008) Assessing animal welfare in a captive primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in Mandrillus sphinx. *Primate Eye* 96(Sp CD-ROM iss - IPS 2008), abst #256

Published theses:

Pansini R. (2011) *Cooperation and Economics Behaviour of Wild Vervet Monkeys: an experimental approach*. Université de Strasbourg and CNRS, France.

Pansini R. (2006) *La Gestione della Fauna Protetta in una Riserva Naturale: procedure di SGA per la gestione del lupo nel Parco Regionale dell'Alto Appennino Modenese*. IAL Institute, Modena, Italy

Pansini R. (2006) *Assessing Animal Welfare in a Captive Primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in Mandrillus sphinx*. University of Durham, UK.
In the news: *BBC, Reuters, Metro, ScienceDaily*, etc.

Pansini R. (2003) *Social Evolution of Malaria Parasites: the nature of in-host competition*. University of Edinburgh, UK.

Didactic textbooks:

Pansini R. (2005) *Introductory photography and video recording: effective data collection in the field*. Anthropology Dept., University of Durham, UK.

Pansini R. (2005) *Fractals: a guide for understanding fractal theory and analysis*. Anthropology Dept., University of Durham, UK.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2015-2016** Yunnan Province postdoctoral training oriented grant (100,000 RMB).
2015-2016 Chinese Academy of Science, President's International Fellowship Initiative for Young International Scientists (3141101218) (416,000 RMB).
2015 National Science Foundation of China, Young Scholar research expenses fund for the project "Cultural differences in cooperation strategies between the eastern and the western societies" (31450110421) (200,000 RMB).
2014-2015 56th batch of China Postdoctoral Science Foundation research expenses fund (2014M562350) (1102090001) (50,000 RMB).
2014-2015 Postdoctoral career development fund from the Kunming Institute of Zoology and Yunnan University of Finance and Economics (120,000 RMB).
2014 IIASA Austrian bursary to take part in a conference on Evolution of Cooperation in Beijing, China.
2013-2014 Comenius *programme* (2013-1-IT2-COM04-51604) from the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission (€7,310).
2010 Società Italiana di Etologia conference bursary (€100).
2010 European Doctoral College bridge scholarship – 6 months' PhD salary (€8,400).
2010 TECT bursary to attend the program's final conference in Budapest, Hungary.
2010 INCORE bursary to attend the summer school in Dobogoko, Hungary.
2007-2009 PhD salary and research expenses paid by GEBACO - toward the GENetic BASis of COoperation (FP6-NEST-028696) an FP6 grant from the European Commission (€203,990).
2008 INCORE bursary to attend a NYAS conference in Barcelona, Spain.
2008 INCORE bursary to attend a summer school in Obernai, France.
2008 International Primatological Society Conservation grant for a conservation project on wild vervet monkeys (US\$1,440).
2007-2008 Selected for a scientific research grant from the French government and the Italian Foreigner Ministry (€6,900).
2007 Commendation certificate in the Best Research Project section of BIAZA 2007 awards.
2007 UFAW Wild Animal Welfare Award 2007 for the best innovations for zoo animal welfare (£1,000 to Chester Zoo)
2005 Leonardo da Vinci Programme (I-O3-A-PL-154353) from the European Commission (€3,025).
2004-2005 Ustinov College Accommodation Grant, University of Durham, UK (£3,600).
2001-2003 Tuition Fees Grant from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland, UK (£2,150).
2000-2001 Socrates-Erasmus Grant from the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission (Lit1,800,000).

SKILLS

Languages (CEFR level): **Italian** native speaker; **English** fluent (C2); **French** intermediate (B1).

Student supervision and teaching: At a **scholastic** level, between end of 2012 and beginning of 2014, I have been teaching in both middle and high schools, being responsible for the biology teaching programme of 8 high school classes (15-16 years old Italian students) and 6 secondary school classes (10-11 years old Turkish students).

At a **university** level, I have the potential to offer training and welcome undergraduates and postgraduates as assistants in the field, in the laboratory and also for statistical analyses. Beside general evolutionary biology and primatology, I can teach some data analysis methods. Specifically, I can teach network analysis, presently so useful to describe social groups of animals, and I can start teaching basics of game theory under an evolutionary perspective. In fact, I based my PhD and postdoc on both these aspects to explain evolution of cooperation in both humans and monkeys. I have some experience in preparing **coursework** at British universities. In 2005 at the University of Durham I prepared the coursework of one module to train anthropologists to collect data in the field. It was titled "Introductory photography and video recording: effective data collection in the field." The same year I also prepared the coursework of another module more theory centred titled "Fractals: a guide for understanding fractal theory and analysis."

In 2005, I have **supervised** (at 20%) Miss M. Hargreaves with her undergraduate final year anthropology project at University of Durham. In 2007, I have supervised (at 70%) Miss Yaëlle Bouquet, from Neuchatel University, Switzerland, with her MSc in Biology both in South Africa with fieldwork and in Switzerland for her thesis preparation. In 2008, I have supervised Miss Laura Walther (at 70%) from Basel University and Miss Josephine Hula (at 30%) from Zurich University, Switzerland, with their MSc and fieldwork in South Africa. In 2009, it was the time of Mr. Michele Mignini and Misses Emilie and Virginia Tournier who assisted me with fieldwork still in South Africa (no theses were meant to be published then). In 2014-2015, I supervised Ma Bo and Zhou Zhi Peng in their Economy and Statistics Master project. In 2015 I supervised Rebekka Kesberg in behavioural economics experiments in Kunming, China.

Communication: The decision to study for several undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in foreign countries has greatly improved my communication abilities, not only at the level of learning new languages (English and French), but also for improving my

oral and written scientific knowledge. Scientific presentations both at a departmental and conference level have improved my ability of stand up and talk to groups of people. I gave over a dozen talks in English at international conferences. The recent experience at a French university has developed my capacity to communicate science in French both to biologists and the general public. The most recent jobs as biology teacher at an Italian and at a Turkish school have contributed to improve my ability to simplify scientific topics to be taught to young students.

From 2003 and in several turns, I have lead the application of Marie Curie proposals for the **funding** of scientific projects, personally putting together teams of supervisors based in many European universities and research institutes. From there on I was successful in grant applications, including a major FP6 STREP which employed me in Strasbourg, France for 4 years at the CNRS. I was selected amongst 50 candidates for such PhD position.

On the artistic side, I have been involved in photography, one of my passions. I have been a committee member of the Edinburgh University Photographic Society (2002-2003). In 2009 I published a photo **book** titled *Portraits of Denilton, South Africa* available at Blurb. As a result in 2010 I have had a **photographic exhibition** titled *Township - South Africa: portraits of Dennilton* at the Espace Insight, Strasbourg, France, 30 June - 28 August, which was advertised in the newspaper 20 minutes. In the same year I had some photos with a title *Portraits de singe* at the Fête de la Science, Illkirch-Graffenstaden, France.

I.T.: Computer experience of over 15 years based on **OS** Windows 95/98/2000/XP/Vista/7 and lately Linux Ubuntu. I have an extensive knowledge of the **Office** package, in particular Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Extensive use of **statistical** software like Minitab, SPSS and some R, Matlab and Mathematica. Basic knowledge of **GIS software** ESRI ArcGIS and ArcPad. Frequent searching of scientific literature through the Web of Science, Google Scholar, PubMed and archiving of papers with EndNote and Mendeley Desktop. Three years' experience with Noldus The Observer and Pendracon Forms for **ethological data collection** in the field with WM Pocket PC's. Use of social **network analysis** software namely SOCPROG for Matlab. Use of z-Tree **behavioural economics** experiment software.

I have intermediary knowledge of **graphic** software (Photoshop), **video editing** (Adobe Premiere Pro) and of **web site** production (Adobe Dreamweaver). Deep insights into Adobe Lightroom for **photography**.

Scientific techniques: I am familiar with and have used the following **lab** techniques/procedures: Real-time quantitative PCR, red blood cells staining and counting (flow cytometry), making agar plates, and obviously light microscopy. Performed EnzymeImmunoAssays for extraction of hormones from faecal samples of primates.

Ethological methodologies: focal animal sampling, scan sampling (see software above), use of video camera, fractal analysis of behaviour. **Ecological:** surveying of wolves (wolf howling), faecal samples collection in the field, strip transect. I have experience handling birds and small mammals.

I have some knowledge in mechanics and **electronics** which served during the actuation of my PhD experiments. I built from scratch automated boxes that served as feeders given to the monkeys involved in the feeding experiments. I designed these devices from portable and light containers which hosted an activation system (radio-controlled and activated by incorporated push/pull levers) of engines and brushes for the serial release of food.

Statistical models: multilevel linear models, Generalised Linear Models, fractal analysis of continuous behaviour. Social Network Analysis. Game theory models. Basics of Agent Based Modelling.

CONFERENCES, TALKS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

18-20 Oct 2016: Participation to the 5th Asian Primate Symposium on Evolutionary history and conservation of Asian primates at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

7-9 Sep 2016: **Talk** titled *High cooperation levels in a PGG by Chinese subjects to mitigate climate changes* at the Japanese Society for Mathematical Biology annual conference, Fukuoka, Japan.

7-11 Jul 2016: **Selected talk** titled *The economic integration of richer and poorer social classes in relation to punishment leads to a redistribution of wealth* at the Economic Science Association world conference, Jerusalem, Israel.

20 May 2016: **Invited seminar** titled *Experiments on the evolution of cooperation in Kunming, P. R. of China: Gender gap, socioeconomic classes' divergences, and climate change* at the Department of Economics, College of Social Sciences, National Taiwan University.

12 Jan 2016: **Invited general public talk** in Italian titled *La Cina di oggi e le sue sorprese: disuguaglianze di genere, classi sociali e cambiamenti climatici* at the cycle of talks organised by Prof Anna Setti on "Art and culture of Modena people", Italy.

22-28 Jun 2015: **Selected talk** titled *Segregating social classes leads to an unequal distribution of wealth* at the International Sunbelt Social Network Conference, Brighton, UK.

23 Mar 2015: **Talk** titled *Cooperative strategies shown by non-human and human primates* at the Institute of Eastern-Himalaya Biodiversity Research, Dali University, China.

5 Feb 2015: **Invited general public talk** titled *Cooperative strategies shown by Chinese people* at the Chinese-English Old Style Private School, Kunming, China.

15-16 Jan 2015: Participation to the conference "Cognitive control and social decision making" at the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse and the Toulouse School of Economics, France.

12 Jan 2015: **Invited talk** titled *Cooperative strategies shown by different genders and different economic classes: two unusual behavioural economics' experiments implemented on the Chinese conservative society* at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (National Health Institute), Rome, Italy.

8-11 Apr 2014: Invited talk titled *Cooperation in wild vervet monkeys: partner choice strategy displayed during an experiment implementing the matching market design* at the conference "Evolution of Cooperation" organised by the Sino-German Center for Research Promotion, Beijing, China. The [video](#) of it.

10 Oct 2013: Invited seminar within the cycle of DPZ-colloquia organised by the German Primate Center titled *An experiment of food sharing in wild vervet monkeys: dominance effects and economics of cooperative behaviour*, Göttingen, Germany.

22 Apr 2013: Participation to the conference "New frontiers in social neuroscience" at the IPSEN Foundation, Paris, France.

17-22 Jun 2012: Selected talk titled *Premoral conventions are apparently not followed by wild vervet monkeys when induced to cooperate over a shareable reward* at the workshop "The evolution of morality: the biology and philosophy of human conscience", Ettore Majorana Centre, Erice, Sicily, Italy.

16 Feb 2012: Invited talk titled *Cooperation behaviour of vervet monkeys: an experimental approach* to the Institute of Cognitive & Evolutionary Anthropology, University of Oxford, UK.

7 Feb 2012: Invited general public talk in Italian titled *I meccanismi della cooperazione e dell'amicizia come fenomeno sociale nell'uomo e altre specie* at the cycle of talks organised by Prof Anna Setti on "Art and culture of Modena people", Italy.

6-9 Dec 2011: Participation at the Göttinger Freilandtage titled "Behavioral Constraints and Flexibility" held at the German Primate Centre, Göttingen, Germany.

14-17 Sep 2011: Talk titled *Cooperation behaviour of wild vervet monkeys follows the law of supply and demand* at the IV congress of the European Federation for Primatology, Almada, Portugal.

17-20 Apr 2011: Talk titled *The need of cooperation partners induces wild vervet monkeys to act according to supply and demand* at the conference "Social Decision Making, bridging Economics and Biology," at Monte Verita, Ascona, Switzerland.

17-18 Sep 2010: Participation to the INCORE conference "Cooperation: an Interdisciplinary Dialogue", Collegium Budapest, Budapest, Hungary.

15-17 Sep 2010: Participation to the TECT (The Evolution of Cooperation and Trading) final conference, Collegium Budapest, Budapest, Hungary.

11-15 Sep 2010: Participation to the TECT-INCORE Summer School titled *Cooperation since life began*, Dobogókő, Hungary. Given a talk titled "A cooperation experiment with wild vervet monkeys – cooperation at its onset".

16-18 Jul 2010: Talk titled *Increase in social differentiation in wild vervet monkeys cooperating experimentally* given at the Fifth European Conference on Behavioural Biology, Ferrara, Italy.

10-13 Dec 2009: Talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys* given at the Darwin Bicentenary conference titled "Evolution: intersecting natural and social sciences", Scuola Superiore Santa Chiara, Università di Siena, Italy.

26-27 Jun 2009: Talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys* given at the PEGG Primate Ecology and Genetics Group, The South African Primatology Association Annual Meeting, National Zoological Park, Pretoria, South Africa.

20-22 Apr 2009: Participation to the PhD school titled "Social Interaction" held at the Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

26-28 Feb 2009: Participation to the INCORE meeting titled "Feathered apes meet furry crows – a comparison of cooperation in corvids and primates" in Strasbourg, France.

20-23 Nov 2008: Meeting of the EUROCORES program TECT, INCORE EU FP6 grant, and NYAS conference titled "Values and Empathy across Social Barriers: A Neurocognitive Approach to Fairness", Barcelona, Spain.

12 Nov 2008: Invited talk titled *Economics and cooperation dynamics in free-ranging vervet monkeys*, at Department of Zoology of the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy.

30 Aug – 6 Sep 2008: Participation to the TECT-INCORE summer school titled *Tools of the trade in cooperation research*, Obernai, France. Given a talk titled *Competition between malaria parasites and cooperation between members of two trader classes of vervet monkeys*.

4-9 Aug 2008: Selected talk titled *Cooperation between members of two artificially formed trader classes in free-ranging vervet monkeys* and **poster** titled *Assessing Animal Welfare in a Captive Primate: an analysis of stress related behaviour in Mandrillus sphinx* presented at the International Primatological Society conference 2008 in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

21-22 Jun 2008: Attendance of the conference organised by the Primate Ecology and Genetics Group of South Africa, Crystal Springs, South Africa.

18 Feb 2008: Poster titled *Observation of tool use and modification for hygiene purposes in the mandrill* shown at the conference "The Neurobiology of Umwelt", IPSEN Foundation, Paris, France.

25 May 2007: Invited seminar titled *Biological Markets* presented to the PhD school at the Dipartimento di Economia Politica of Università di Siena, Siena, Italy.

16-18 May 2007: Attendance of the XVIII Associazione Italiana di Primatologia Conference, hosted by the Università di Pisa, Calci, Italy.

30 Mar 2007: Invited talk titled *Moving from Competition in Protozoa to Cooperation into Primates: a lesson for behavioural ecologists from the parasite world* given at Institut de Biologie, Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

22-25 Feb 2007: Poster titled *Observation of tool use and modification for hygiene purposes in the mandrill* shown at the conference “Social Organization and Cognitive Tools: General Patterns in Vertebrates?” Konrad Lorenz Forschungsstelle, Grünau, Austria.

18-22 Sep 2006: Poster titled *Observation of tool manufacture for hygiene purposes in the mandrill (Mandrillus sphinx)* shown at the XXII national conference of the Italian Society of Ethology (Società Italiana di Etologia, SIE), Università di Palermo, Erice, Sicily, Italy.

12 Nov 2005: Organised the meeting “The LEMUR project” for the submission of a Marie Curie proposal, Hotel Coronado, Zurich, Switzerland.