

Antonis Rokas

Cornelius Vanderbilt Chair in Biological Sciences at Vanderbilt University

Nashville, TN, US

Expert on patterns of evolution, with a focus on the earliest forms of life.

Biography

Research in Rokas' lab focuses on the study of the DNA record to gain insight into the patterns and processes of evolution. Through a combination of computational and experimental approaches, his current research aims to understand the evolution of human pregnancy, the molecular foundations of the fungal lifestyle, and the reconstruction of the tree of life. His discoveries have been reported in the world's premier journals, receiving thousands of citations, and been recognized by many awards, including an endowed chair (2013), a Chancellor's Award for Research (2011), an NSF CAREER award (2009) and a Searle Scholarship (2008). He serves as an Associate Editor in several journals including *Evolution*, *Medicine & Public Health*, *PLoS ONE*, *BMC Microbiology*, and *G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics*. Rokas received his undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Crete, Greece and his PhD from Edinburgh University in Scotland. Prior to joining Vanderbilt in the summer of 2007, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a research scientist at the Broad Institute.

Areas of Expertise

Tree of Life, Mosquito Functional Genomics, Evolution of Fungal Metabolism, Molecular Evolution, Evolutionary Development, Comparative Functional Genomics, Phylogenetics, Evolution of the Human Genome, Evolution

Education

University of Edinburgh

Ph.D. Evolutionary Biology

University of Crete

B.Sc. Biology

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