

# CONSTANTINA THEOFANOPOULOU

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📍 Rockefeller University

Constantina Theofanopoulou is a Post-Doctoral researcher at the University of Rockefeller (New York).

Her research interests range from neuroscience to genomics. For her Ph.D. (University of Barcelona) she worked on the neurobiology of language, and specifically on the social reward mechanisms of vocal learning, studying the role of oxytocin in vocal learning in songbirds (Theofanopoulou et al. 2017 *Proceedings B*). This project led her to realize that the oxytocin/vasotocin field was suffering from an old and inconsistent gene nomenclature, which was hampering advances and translation of findings. Using genomic tools, she proposed novel ways of how gene nomenclature should be revisited, aiming at a universal vertebrate gene nomenclature, shaking traditional views of the pre-genomic era (Theofanopoulou et al. 2021 *Nature*). She has also studied the genomics of human social evolution, bringing forth evidence for a significant overlap in positive selection signals between humans and domesticated species, shedding light to the Darwinian theory of human self-domestication (Theofanopoulou et al. 2017 *PLoS ONE*).

## EDUCATION-PROJECTS

### September 2019-present:

Post-Doctoral Researcher  
Rockefeller University

### 2020-present:

European Reference Genome Atlas  
<https://www.erga-biodiversity.eu/>  
Council Member  
Leader of ERGA-Greece

### 2016-present:

Vertebrate Genomes Project member  
<https://vertebrategenomesproject.org/>

### April 2020-present:

COVID-Human Genetic Effort member  
<https://www.covidhge.com/>

Oxy-COVID19 Project member  
University of Toledo, Ohio

### October 2016- March 2019:

Phd cum laude (excellent)  
International Degree: University of Barcelona, Duke University, Rockefeller University  
PhD Committee:  
C. Scharff, B. Hare, N. Staes  
Supervisors: C. Boeckx, E. D. Jarvis

### Research visits during graduate school

2017 Rockefeller University (Jarvis Lab)  
2017 Hunter College (Tchernichovski Lab)  
2016 Duke University (Jarvis Lab)  
2016 Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Marques-Bonet Lab)

### 2014-2015:

MA Cognitive Science and Language  
University of Barcelona, GPA: 9,4/10

## PUBLICATIONS

(13/20 1<sup>st</sup> author)

1. **Theofanopoulou, C.**, Gedman, G., Cahill, J.A., Boeckx, C., Jarvis E. D. (2021) A universal evolution-based nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families. *Nature*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-03040-7>
2. Rhie, A....**Theofanopoulou et al.** (2021) Towards complete and error-free genome assemblies of all vertebrate species. *Nature*. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-03451-0>
3. Borie\*, A., **Theofanopoulou\***, C., Andari, E. (in press) The promiscuity of the oxytocin-vasopressin systems and their involvement in autism spectrum disorder. In Swaab, D. (ed.) *The Human Hypothalamus*.
4. **Theofanopoulou, C.** (under review in *Developmental Biology*) Reconstructing the evolutionary history of the oxytocin and vasotocin receptor gene family: insights on whole genome duplication scenarios.
5. Tobari\*, Y., **Theofanopoulou\***, C. et al. (under review) Identification and brain expression of OT (oxytocin) in the wild White-rumped munias and the domesticated Bengalese finches. *bioRxiv*. <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.03.17.435911v1>
6. **Theofanopoulou\***, C., Andirkó\*, A., Boeckx C. (under review in *Scientific Reports*): Oxytocin and Vasopressin Receptor variants as a window onto the evolution of human prosociality. *bioRxiv*. <https://doi.org/10.1101/460584>
7. Núñez, C., **Theofanopoulou, C.**, Senior, C., Cambra, M. R., Usall, J., Stephan-Otto, C., & Brébion, G. (2018). A large-scale study on the effects of sex on gray matter asymmetry. *Brain Structure and Function*. DOI: [10.1007/s00429-017-1481-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00429-017-1481-4)
8. Boeckx, C. & **Theofanopoulou, C.** (2018). (Neural) syntax. In Martin, R. & Gallego, A. (Eds), *Language, Syntax, and the Natural Sciences*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316591529.016>
9. **Theofanopoulou C.**, Gastaldon S. et al. (2017). Self-domestication in *Homo sapiens*: Insights from comparative genomics. *PLoS ONE* 12(10): e0185306. <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0185306>
10. **Theofanopoulou C.**, Boeckx C., Jarvis E.D. (2017). A hypothesis on a role of oxytocin in the social mechanisms of speech and vocal learning. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 284: 20170988. [doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.0988](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.0988)

2010-2014:

Undergraduate studies in Linguistics

National Kapodistrian University of Athens

Erasmus: University of Seville, Spain

GPA: 9,5/10 (1<sup>st</sup> place at the University)

2010:

Graduated from High School

Arsakeio Psychikou, Athens, Greece

GPA: 19,7 /20 (national ranking: 2<sup>nd</sup>)

## AWARDS/GRANTS

Forbes 30 Under 30 2021 List -Science & Healthcare

<https://www.forbes.com/profile/constantina-theofanopoulou/?sh=6b09deffdbd7>

Extraordinary PhD Thesis Award

(University of Barcelona), 2020, Spain.

IBRO-Society for Neuroscience Travel

Award 2019, San Diego, USA.

Glenn I. Hatton Memorial Award 2019

13th World Congress on Neurohypophysial Hormones.

Emm. Andreadis Award 2019

for excellence, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

2018 Nancy Rutledge Zahniser Trainee

Professional Development Award (TPDA), Society for Neuroscience.

2018 Leventis Foundation scholarship for

excellence.

3-MIN-Thesis competition winner

University of Barcelona, March 21, 2018.

Student Travel Award, Evolang XII,

Torun, Poland, 16-19 April, 2018.

Student Travel Award, 18<sup>th</sup> International

Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada, 4-9 June, 2018.

Grant from AGAUR 2017

(Agencia de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca) for a project aiming at supporting underrepresented minorities in science.

11. Theofanopoulou, C. (2016). Implications of oxytocin in human linguistic cognition: from genome to phenome. *Frontiers in Neuroscience* 10: 271. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnins.2016.00271/full>
12. Benítez-Burraco A., Theofanopoulou C. & Boeckx C. (2016). Globularization and Domestication. *Topoi*, 1-14. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s11245-016-9399-7>
13. Boeckx C., Theofanopoulou C. & Benítez-Burraco A. (2016). How the Brain got grammaticalized: Globularization and (self-)domestication. In S.G. Roberts et al. (eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th International Conference (EVOLANG11)*. <http://evolang.org/neworleans/papers/41.html>
14. Theofanopoulou, C., & Boeckx, C. (2016). The central role of the thalamus in language and cognition. In Boeckx, C., & Fujita, K. (Eds.), *In Advances in Biolinguistics: The Human Language Faculty and its Biological Basis*, London: Routledge.
15. Theofanopoulou, C., & Boeckx, C. (2015). Cognitive phylogenies, the Darwinian logic of descent, and the inadequacy of cladistic thinking. *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology* 3: 64. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcell.2015.00064/full>
16. Theofanopoulou, C. (2015). Brain asymmetry in the white matter making and Globularity. *Frontiers in Psychology* 6:1355. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01355>
17. Boeckx, C. & Theofanopoulou, C. (2015). Commentary on “Labels, cognomes, and cyclic computation: An ethological perspective”. *Frontiers in Psychology* 6: 784. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.00784>
18. Theofanopoulou, C., Martins, P. T., Ramirez, J., Zhang, E., Arellano, D., Castillo, G., Shi, E., Alamri, S., Martinez-Alvarez, A., & Leivada, E. (2015). Neurological foundations of language: Emerging perspectives. *Llengua, Societat i Comunicació* 13.
19. Theofanopoulou, C. Light Verbs in Modern Greek. (2015). *Studies in Greek Linguistics* 35: 607- 631. Thessaloniki: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
20. Boeckx, C. & Theofanopoulou, C. (2014). A Multidimensional Interdisciplinary Framework for Linguistics: The Lexicon as a Case Study. *Journal of Cognitive Science* 15: 403-420.

## SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS (invited)

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TALKS (marked)

1. C. Theofanopoulou. (upcoming) *Finishing your PhD*. Talk to the Yale Ciencia Academy. Yale School of Medicine, CT, US. [invited talk]
2. C. Theofanopoulou. (upcoming) *Universal nomenclature for oxytocin-vasotocin ligands and receptors: insights on whole genome duplication scenarios*. Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Crete, Greece, July 13. [invited talk]
3. C. Theofanopoulou. (upcoming) *Eudaemonia; interdisciplinary*. TEDx talk, TEDxAUTH 2021, June 27. [invited talk + public engagement]
4. C. Theofanopoulou. (upcoming) *From social motivation of vocal learning to domestication: insights from the oxytocin-vasotocin system*. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, June 25. [invited talk]

Barcelona Science Slam Winner 2017  
(organized by: Marie Curie Alumni Association,  
Opathy, SINGEK, Incite, Euroleish).

Best Poster presentation Award  
BARCCSYN 2016 meeting (Barcelona  
Computational, Cognitive and Systems  
Neuroscience), Barcelona, Spain.  
June 17, 2016.

Helmsley Fellowship for the Genetics &  
Neurobiology of Language Course in Cold  
Spring Harbor Laboratory, 2016.

Federation of European Neuroscience Soci-  
(FENS) travel grant, Copenhagen,  
2-6 July, 2016.

FI Grant for 3-year Phd Project  
(Generalitat de Catalunya), 2016-2018.

FI Grant from the Spanish Ministry of  
Economy and Competitiveness  
("Language disorders as oscillopathies:  
Towards a paradigm shift in clinical  
linguistics"), 2016.

Honours for the best MA Thesis  
Cognitive Science and Language,  
University of Barcelona, 2015.

Heritage of Pantia- Ralli: Award from the  
University of Athens for excellent  
performance among students of the  
Department of Linguistics, 2014.

Honours (1<sup>st</sup> place in University)  
University of Seville, Spain, 2013.

Erasmus Scholarship  
University of Seville, 2013.

I.K.Y (State Scholarships Foundation)  
Scholarship, 2010-2011.

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Vertebrates Genomes Project Workshop  
(with S. Paez and G. Formenti). **Plant and  
Animal Genome Conference (PAG)**,  
Handlery Hotel San Diego, CA, Jan 15, 2020.

Nanosymposium "Social Communication and  
Behavior, **Society for Neuroscience 2018**,  
San Diego, CA, November 4.  
[Chair: **C. Theofanopoulou**]

Workshop on "Self-domestication and  
language evolution", **Evolang XII**,  
Hotel Filmar, Torún, Poland, April 16, 2018  
(Invited speakers: C. Boeckx, R. Kluender,

5. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2021. *Universal nomenclature for oxytocin-vasotocin ligands and receptors*. Kavli Neural Systems Institute Mini-Symposium Series (Methods). Rockefeller University, NY, USA, June 17. [talk]
6. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2021. *Neurobiology of vocal learning*. Talk and Discussion with the Columbia University and Barnard college undergraduates in the context of the 'Neuroscience Frontiers' course. March 30. [invited talk]
7. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2020. *Comparative genomics reveal the evolutionary history of oxytocin and vasotocin ligands and receptors*. University of Toledo, Ohio, USA, May 4. [invited talk]
8. **Theofanopoulou, C.** 2019. *A universal vertebrate gene nomenclature: a case study of the oxytocin/vasotocin ligand and receptor family*. Advancing the missions of the Vertebrate Genomes Project, Earth Biogenome Project, and other genome projects (VGP Annotation, Alignment and Data Coordination Breakout). Rockefeller University, New York, NY, August 28. [invited talk]
9. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Gedman, J.A. Cahill, C. Boeckx, C., E. D. Jarvis. 2019. *A universal evolution-based nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families*. 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Neurohypophysial Hormones (WCNH2019), Ein Gedi, Israel, April 8-11. [poster+ poster blitz session+ award winner]
10. C. Lee, S. Cho, **C. Theofanopoulou**, C. Boeckx, H. Kim, E. D. Jarvis. 2019. *Molecular Convergence Between Humans and Bonobos vs Chimpanzee*. International Plant & Animal Genome XXVII, San Diego, CA, USA, January 12-16. [poster]
11. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Gedman, J.A. Cahill, C. Boeckx, C., E. D. Jarvis. 2019. *A universal evolution-based nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families*. Sfn Neuroscience 2019, McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois, USA, October 23. [poster]
12. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Gedman, J.A. Cahill, C. Boeckx, C., E. D. Jarvis. 2019. *A universal evolution-based nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families*. Sfn Neuroscience 2019, McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois, USA, October 19. [International Fellows poster session+ IBRO award]
13. **C. Theofanopoulou**, D. Lipkind, O. Tchernichovski, C. Boeckx, E. D. Jarvis. 2018. *The effect of social reward in vocal learning: Testing an oxytocin-dependent mechanism*. Nanosymposium: Social Communication and Behavior. Sfn Neuroscience 2018, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA, USA, November 4. [talk]
14. **C. Theofanopoulou**, D. Lipkind, O. Tchernichovski, C. Boeckx, E. D. Jarvis. 2018. *The effect of social reward in vocal learning: Testing an oxytocin-dependent mechanism*. Nanosymposium: Social Communication and Behavior. Sfn Neuroscience 2018, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA, USA, November 3. [Trainee Professional Development Awards poster session]
15. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2018. *The evolutionary history of oxytocin and vasopressin ligands and receptors and their role in vocal learning*. Workshop: Understanding the neuroregulatory actions of oxytocin and its potential clinical applications, Erice, Sicily, Italy, May 22-27. [talk]
16. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2018. *Somos los humanos auto-domesticados?* BCNspiracy, CosmoCaixa (Museum of Science), Barcelona, Spain, October 27 [invited talk + public engagement]
17. B. Samuels, P.T. Martins, T. O'Rourke, A. Andirko, S. Alamri, **C. Theofanopoulou**, C. Boeckx. 2018. *Rethinking neoteny and neuroplasticity in language evolution*. Workshop: New Directions in Language Evolution

Z. Clay, K. Okanoya, M. Fröhlich).  
[Organiser: **C. Theofanopoulou**]

**Protolang5**: Universitat de Barcelona,  
(with C. Boeckx, P. T. Martins, S. Alamri  
and T. O'Rourke), Barcelona, Spain,  
September 26–28, 2017.

Minisymposium:  
Insights from birdsong into the evolution &  
development of spoken language,  
**Protolang5**, Universitat de Barcelona,  
Barcelona, Spain, September 26-28  
[Speakers: C. ten Cate, C. Scharff,  
E. D. Jarvis, C. Theofanopoulou]  
[Organiser: **C. Theofanopoulou**]

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Mentoring Jian Zheng. 2021.  
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship  
Program (SURF): 10-week program where  
College sophomores and juniors receive  
personalized scientific training by a mentor-  
scientist, Rockefeller University, Project:  
Evolutionary history of the dopamine  
receptors.

Trainer to PhD students on the topic: Get  
prepared and be ready for a scientific  
presentation. 2019. Josep Carreras  
Leukaemia Research Institute, PhD Day of  
Campus Can Ruti, Badalona, Spain, June 7.

Trainer to the 5th Barcelona Science Slam-  
participants. 2019. Organizers: Centre for  
Genomic Regulation (CRG) and Marie Curie  
Alumni Association (MCAA) (Biennal Ciutat i  
Ciencia), CRG, Barcelona, Spain,  
February 6-8.

Mentoring Tai Goldstein. 2017.  
Summer Science Research Program (SSRP):  
7-week program where high-school students  
receive personalized scientific training by a  
mentor-scientist, Rockefeller University,  
Project: Selective vocal learning in a social  
reward context.

Mentoring Alejandro Andirkó. 2016-2017.  
Master Thesis in Cognitive Science and  
Language, University of Barcelona, Project:  
Oxytocin and Vasopressin Receptor variants  
as a window onto the evolution of human  
prosociality.

Teaching MA course. 2016.  
Biological foundations of language-  
Interdisciplinary applications of linguistic  
concepts (Cognitive Science and Language  
MA Program) University of Barcelona, Spain.

Pathways of Life (NGO). 2010-2013  
Teaching Biology, Greek and Ancient Greek

Research, 51st Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europæa, Tallin,  
Estonia, August 29-September 1. [talk]

18. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2018. *Are we humans self-domesticated?* Sala Ramón y Cajal, University of Barcelona, March 21. [ **public engagement** + award winner]
19. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2018. *Convergences in (self-)domesticated species*. Workshop: Self-domestication and language evolution, Evolang XII, Hotel Filmar, Torún, Poland, April 16<sup>th</sup> [talk+ award winner]
20. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2017. *Reward mechanisms of vocal learning. Does oxytocin 'excite' language?* Minisymposium: Insights from birdsong into the evolution and development of spoken language, Protolang5, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, September 26-28 [talk]
21. Muñoz Andrikó, **C. Theofanopoulou** & C. Boeckx. 2017. *Differences on the OXTR between modern humans and extinct hominids: a window to our language-ready behavior*. Protolang5, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, September 26-28 [poster]
22. Boeckx, **C. Theofanopoulou**, B. Samuels & M. Kuhlwilm. 2017. *Genetic changes associated with bone remodeling activity and the origin of the modern human face*. 7th Annual ESHE Meeting, Stadsgehoorzaal, Leiden, Netherlands, September 21-23 [poster]
23. T. Goldstein, **C. Theofanopoulou** & E. D. Jarvis. 2017. *Social Reward Enhances Vocal Learning in the Zebra Finch*. Summer Science Research Program. Rockefeller University, NY, USA, August 10th [poster]
24. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2017. *Reward mechanisms of vocal learning. Does oxytocin 'excite' language?* Laboratory of Neurogenetics of Language (PI: Erich D. Jarvis), Rockefeller University, NY, USA, June 28th [talk]
25. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Geldman, C. Boeckx & E. D. Jarvis. 2017. *A proposed universal nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families*. 18th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada, June 4-9. [poster + award winner]
26. **C. Theofanopoulou**, T. O' Rourke, S. Gastaldon, A. Messner, B. Samuels, P.T. Martins, S. Alamri & C. Boeckx. 2017. *Paleogenomic evidence for self-domestication in Homo sapiens*. European Human Behavior and Evolution Association 2017, Ecole normale supérieure (ENS), Paris, France, April 6-8. [talk + award winner]
27. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2017. *The role of oxytocin in language*. 2017 Marie Curie Alumni Association Conference and General Assembly, Alameda Palace Hotel, Salamanca, Spain, March 23-25. [invited talk + **public engagement** + award winner]
28. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Gedman, C. Boeckx, E. D. Jarvis. 2017. *The Oxytocin Receptor and the Vasopressin/Vasotocin Receptor 1A appear to be paralogous sister genes explaining their common functions*. Nanosymposium: Hormonal and Neuropeptide Control of Physiology and Behavior. Sfn Neuroscience 2017, Washington, D.C., USA, November 15. [talk]
29. **C. Theofanopoulou**. 2017. *The role of oxytocin in language*. Barcelona Science Slam 2017 organized by the Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA), Opaty, SINGEK, Incite and EuroLeish. Bar Mau Mau, Barcelona, Spain, March 3rd. [**public engagement** + Winner lecture]
30. **C. Theofanopoulou**, G. Geldman, C. Boeckx & E. D. Jarvis. 2017. *A proposed universal nomenclature for the oxytocin and vasotocin ligand and receptor families*. Human Genome Meeting (Hugo-HGM). Hotel Barceló Sants, Barcelona, Spain, February 5-7. [poster]

to young immigrants (8-18 years old) voluntarily.

## ACTIONS EMPOWERING UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES IN SCIENCE

Rockefeller Inclusive Science Initiative (RiSI) network coordinator. 2021-2022

New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) selected STEM mentor in teaching Life Sciences to elementary and middle school students in underserved communities throughout NYC. 2019-present

Science Undergraduate Summer Fellowship mentor. 2021

ALBA Network volunteer. 2021-present

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program (SURF) mentor. 2021-present

Women on Top selected STEM mentor for young female generation (volunteer). 2020-present

Volunteer at BioAcCES (a virtual conference for undergraduate students, organized by RiSI, Científico Latino, and the Rockefeller University Dean's Office of Graduate Studies, October 3rd, 2020).

C. Theofanopoulou. 2020. My trajectory as a scientist. Talk to students aged 9-16 working in summer programs in MSKCC, Columbia, Regeneron, and other institutes. Zoom talk.

Summer Science Research Program (SSRP) mentor. 2017-present

### Involved in:

1 million Women in STEM: featured  
BraiNY Brunch Fridays: high school and early college science journal club  
'Women in Science' initiative (WiSeR)  
500 Women Scientists  
Mujeres con.ciencia  
Comissió Dona i Ciència  
Foro de mujeres en ciencia  
Primer Forum Women  
TEDxBarcelonaWomen

### Invited at:

Luncheon for Women in Neuroscience, Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, US, October 22, 2019.

31. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Self-domestication of the Homo sapiens and the case of oxytocin*. Dognition Laboratory (PI: Brian Hare), Duke University, NC, USA, November 30<sup>th</sup>. [invited talk]
32. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *The endocrinome of social communication*. Nanosymposium 'Oxytocin and Social Behavior'. Sfn Neuroscience 2016, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA, USA, November 12-16. [talk]
33. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *How social-reward hormones modulate language-learning*. Beyond Language Learning Workshop, Campus Poblenou, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, September 29-30. [poster]
34. C. Boeckx, C. Theofanopoulou & S. Alamri. 2016. *Characterizing the species-specific developmental trajectory underlying our enhanced learning capacity*. Beyond Language Learning Workshop, Campus Poblenou, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, September 29-30. [poster]
35. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Implications of oxytocin in language*. Cold Spring Harbor Lab, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, July 25<sup>th</sup>. [talk]
36. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Implications of oxytocin in the reward mechanisms of auditory-vocal learning*. Jarvis Laboratory. Duke University, NC, USA. July 31<sup>st</sup>. [talk]
37. C. Theofanopoulou & C. Boeckx. 2016. *Oxytocin pathways, language-related genes, and the emergence of modern cognition*. 10th FENS Forum of Neuroscience, Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2-6 July. [poster]
38. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Oxytocin and Brain Rhythms*. BARCCSYN 2016 meeting (Barcelona Computational, Cognitive and Systems Neuroscience), Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Barcelona, Spain, 16-17 June. [poster]
39. C. Boeckx, C. Theofanopoulou & S. Alamri. 2016. *A syntax of Brain Rhythms for natural language syntax*. BARCCSYN 2016 meeting (Barcelona Computational, Cognitive and Systems Neuroscience), Institut d'Estudis Catalans, Barcelona, Spain, 16-17 June. [poster]
40. C. Theofanopoulou & C. Boeckx. 2016. *Sapiens-specific genetic changes affecting oxytocin pathways*. The European Conference of Human Genetics 2016, CCIB, Barcelona, Spain, 21-24 May. [poster]
41. C. Boeckx & C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Genomic evidence for self-domestication in anatomically modern humans*. The European Conference of Human Genetics 2016, CCIB, Barcelona, Spain, 21-24 May. [poster]
42. C. Boeckx & C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *The complex system underlying neoteny and the evolution of human cognition*. V Jornada Complexitat. Cat: Unifying Complexity Science, INEFC, Barcelona, Spain, 19 May. [talk]
43. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *A framework for studying self-domestication*. 8th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science, Center for Advanced Studies of Dubrovnik, Croatia, 28 April- 1 May. [poster]
44. C. Boeckx, C. Theofanopoulou & A. Benítez- Burraco. 2016. *How The Brain Got Grammaticalized: Globularization And (self-)domestication*. EVOLANG 11, University of Mississippi, USA, 21-24 March. [talk]
45. C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Why oxytocin might affect rhythmicity*. EVOLANG 11 (Workshop: Rhythm: Development, Evolution and Cognition), Tulane University, USA, 21 March. [talk]
46. C. Theofanopoulou, S. Alamri & C. Boeckx. 2016. *A brain symphony for natural language syntax*. The Nijmegen Lectures 2016 (David Poeppel), Max

“Dones a la història de la ciència? Les grans desconegudes.” (“Women in the history of science? Great but unknown.”), Barcelona, Spain, March 4, 2018.

Luncheon for Women in Neuroscience, Society for Neuroscience, Washington D.C., US, November 14, 2017.

Luncheon for Women in Neuroscience Luncheon at Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, November 15, 2016.

Member of ‘Pathways of Life’: voluntary support classes to young immigrants from adverse backgrounds (war, extreme poverty, family abuse) coming to Greece for a better life. 2010-2014.

## PEER REVIEW

*Current Biology*  
*BMC Genomics*  
*Trends in Ecology and Evolution*  
*Journal of Comparative Neurology*  
*Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*  
*Evolutionary Psychological Science*  
*Journal of Anthropological Sciences*  
*Frontiers in Psychology*  
*Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience*  
*Biolinguistics*

## LANGUAGES

Greek: native level  
English: C2 Level (University of Michigan, 2006)  
Spanish: C2 Level (B2 Instituto Cervantes, 2012).  
Italian: C2/Diploma di Lingua Italiana (Istituto Italiano di Cultura, 2006)  
French: B1 level  
Catalan: B2 level  
Latin (10/10 at the University of Athens)  
Ancient Greek (10/10 at the University of Athens)

## POETRY

## PUBLICATIONS/REVIEWS/ AWARDS

2019-now: Poetry monthly column at Natural Selections, Rockefeller University mag (<https://selections.rockefeller.edu/>).

‘Scents they sent’. 2020. Published at the Lumiere Review (1).

Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, 20-22 January. [poster]

47. C. Boeckx & C. Theofanopoulou. 2016. *Some unconventional thoughts on neurolinguistics*. Universitat de Barcelona, Escola Universitaria D'Infermeria, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Spain. 15 January. [invited talk]
48. C. Boeckx & C. Theofanopoulou. 2015. *Brain-related genes and craniofacial development*. Center for Genomic Regulation, Barcelona, Spain, 3 December. [invited talk]
49. C. Theofanopoulou. 2015. *Rhythms in the Alzheimer's Disease's brain: A treatable endophenotype?* IV Clinical Linguistics International Congress, University of Barcelona, Spain, 18- 20 November. [talk]
50. C. Boeckx, C. Theofanopoulou, & A. Benítez-Burraco.. 2015. *Brain-related genes and craniofacial development: a robust molecular link for clinical linguistics*. IV Clinical Linguistics International Congress, University of Barcelona, Spain, 18- 20 November. [talk]
51. S. Alamri, E. Q. Zhang, C. Theofanopoulou, G. Castillo, E. R. Shi, E. P. T . Martins, S. Martínez-Ferreiro, & C. Boeckx. 2015. *Implications of subcortical structures in Aphasia*. Academy of Aphasia 53rd Annual Meeting. Tucson, Arizona, USA, 18- 20 October. [poster] [*Front. Psychol. Conference Abstract: Academy of Aphasia 53rd Annual Meeting*. doi: 10.3389/conf.fpsyg.2015.65.00081]
52. E.Q. Zhang, C. Theofanopoulou, S. Alamri, G. Castillo, E.R. Shi, P.T. Martins, S. Martinez Ferreiro & C. Boeckx. 2015. *Aphasia and subcortical structures*. Experimental Psycholinguistics Conference, University of Madrid, Spain, 7-9 October. [poster]
53. C. Theofanopoulou, E. Q. Zhang, S. Alamri, G. Castillo, E. R. Shi, P. T. Martins, S. Martinez Ferreiro, & C. Boeckx. 2015. *Subcortical structures and language disruption*. 16th Science of Aphasia Conference, University of Aveiro, Portugal, 17-22 September. [poster]
54. C. Theofanopoulou & C. Boeckx. 2015. *Can adequate cognitive phylogenies be constructed?* Protolang 4. Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy, September 24-26. [talk]
55. C. Theofanopoulou. 2015. *Globularity and Laterality*. Symposium on "The emergence of the human language-ready brain". Protolang 4. Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy, September 24-26 [invited talk]
56. Bentez-Burraco, C. Theofanopoulou, & C. Boeckx. 2015. *Recent brain-related gene mutations and the emergence of our language-ready brain*. Tokyo Lectures in Language Evolution. University of Tokyo, Japan. April 2-5. [poster].
57. Theofanopoulou. 2015. *What cognitive phylogenies got wrong*. Tokyo Lectures in Language Evolution. University of Tokyo, Japan. April 2-5. [poster].
58. Theofanopoulou. 2015. *A cognitive approach to the light verb constructions*. Formal Semantics Meets Cognitive Semantics. University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands. January 22-23. [poster]
59. C. Theofanopoulou. 2014. *Greek Light Verbs*. 35th Meeting of Linguistics' Department. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. May 9-10. [talk]

2014-2019: Monthly poetry review column  
<https://www.culturenow.gr/author/konstantina-theofanopoyloy>.

'Figi'. 2015. Published in Eneken (36) 142.

2013-2014: Monthly literature Reviews  
[www.artic.gr](http://www.artic.gr).

2014: 1st Place at the 9th Panhellenic Poetry Competition.

2010- 2011: Article writer at ODEG's newspaper (Organisation for the Spread of Greek Language).

1999: Kid Fairytale Prize from Minoas Publications.

## FLAMENCO DANCE

Personal show at 'Club Bona Fide', with Gabriel Hermida, New York, NY, US. Feb 20, 2020.

Show at Auditorio de Cornellá, Escuela José de la Vega, Barcelona, Spain, July 5, 2019.

Show at 48th Feria de Abril de Catalunya, Parc del Forum, Barcelona, Spain, May 5, 2019.

Show FLASHMOB, FLAMENC-ON festival opening, Santa Coloma de Gramanet, Barcelona, Spain, March 29, 2019.

Show 'Poetas Andaluces, La Generación del 27', Escuela José de la Vega, Barcelona, Spain, March 22, 2019.

Show for the Día de Andalucía, Comercial La Farga, Barcelona, Spain, February 23, 2019.

Show at Auditorio de Cornellá, Escuela José de la Vega, Barcelona, Spain, July 8, 2018.

Show at Teatro Blas Infante, Escuela de Baile La Tani, Badalona, Spain, July 10, 2016.

Show 'Pasabia', Acropol Theater, Athens, Greece, June 25, 2014.

Show 'Diez', Acropol Theater, Athens, Greece, June 14, 2013.

Show 'Cuerda Viajera', National Opera, Athens, Greece, June 10, 2012.

## PRESS MENTIONS/INTERVIEWS

### In English:

Nature: [The Vertebrate Genomes Project](#)

Forbes: [30 Under 30 2021 List - Science & Healthcare](#)

Science: [Can these birds explain how language first evolved?](#)

Science: [These docile foxes may hold some of the genetic keys to domestication](#)

Science: [Researchers reboot ambitious effort to sequence all vertebrate genomes, but challenges loom](#)

New scientist: [The tamed ape: were humans the first animal to be domesticated?](#)

Howard Hughes Medical Institute: [Project to Read Genomes of All 70,000 Vertebrate Species Reports First Discoveries](#)

Spectrum News: [Blocking oxytocin causes birds to sing solitary tunes](#)

Phys.org: [Did humans domesticate themselves?](#)

Science News: [How humans \(maybe\) domesticated themselves](#)

ScienceDaily: [Did humans domesticate themselves?](#)

Quanta magazine: [In Birds' Songs, Brains and Genes, He Finds Clues to Speech](#)

Zme Science: [Man-made: we've domesticated our own species](#)

Universitat de Barcelona news: [Did humans domesticate themselves?](#)

### In Spanish:

LaVanguardia: [Los humanos se domesticaron eligiendo congéneres más sociales](#)

El Periódico: [Los humanos se autodomesticaron seleccionando a los ejemplares más sociables](#)

Ambientum: [¿El ser humano se domesticó a sí mismo?](#)

Muy Interesante: [¿El ser humano se domesticó a sí mismo?](#)

Catalunya Vanguardista: [¿El ser humano se domesticó a sí mismo?](#)

Canal Extremadura: [Entrevista sobre la autodomesticación humana \(Principio de Incertidumbre\)](#)

### In Catalan:

Universitat de Barcelona: [Proposta d'una nova nomenclatura universal per als gens oxitocina i vasotocina](#)

El Punt Avui: [Som humans amansits?](#)

Al dia: [Els humans es "van autodomesticar" i van seleccionar actituds socials, segons un estudi](#)

El Mon: [Un nou estudi reforça la teoria de l'autodomesticació humana](#)

### In Greek:

Ant1 News TV: [interview on Forbes distinction](#)

Kathimerini, Ta Nea, Athens Voice, Lifo, It's Possible [interviews on Forbes distinction](#)

To Vima Science (interview): [Η ωκυτοκίνη πίσω από τις λέξεις \(Oxytocin behind speech\)](#)

Fly News (interview): [Μπορεί Η Ωκυτοκίνη Να Χαρίσει Το Λόγο Σε Άτομα Με Αυτισμό; \(Can oxytocin improve speech in autism patients?\)](#)

## INTERVIEWS/ARTICLES ON COVID-19

1<sup>st</sup> prize in the flamenco competition of the Spanish Dance Society (scholarship to attend dance seminars in the UK). 2012.

Show 'Duende', National Opera, Athens, Greece, June 29, 2011.

Show 'El Pulso del Alma', National Opera, Athens, Greece, June 27, 2010.

Show 'Irini Christou', Iliisia Theatre, Athens, Greece, June 9, 200

Throughout the pandemic, Constantina has been invited to give her opinion on the biology and treatment of COVID-19, as well as lockdown measures. She was the first scientist to analyze and explain the official vs. real number of cases in her home country, Greece. She is currently involved in two COVID-19 projects at Rockefeller University and University of Toledo.

**To Vima (interview): Η μάχη κατά του COVID-19 (The battle against COVID-19.)**

**Athens Voice: Γιατί ο κορωνοϊός ΔΕΝ είναι ανθρώπινο κατασκεύασμα (Why the virus is NOT a human-made.)**

**Athens Voice (most read article on COVID-19 in Greece for a week): Κορωνοϊός: Η Ελλάδα πρέπει να μπει σε καραντίνα σήμερα (Coronavirus: Greece must go lockdown today).**

**ERT TV (interviews)**

**SKAI TV (interviews)**

**STAR CHANNEL (interviews)**

**KRITI TV (interviews)**