



Dr. Gareth Fraser is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Florida. He holds a Ph.D. in evolutionary developmental biology from King's College London. Dr. Fraser's research focuses on the intersection of evolution, development, and regeneration in vertebrate structures such as teeth, skin appendages, and sensory organs. His work utilizes fish models—including pufferfish, cichlids, and sharks—to explore how vertebrates form, shape, and regenerate complex structures. Notably, his lab has identified stem cell niches associated with the continuously regenerative dentition of sharks and studied the tooth-to-beak transition

in pufferfish development. In 2023, Dr. Fraser was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Florida. He was awarded the Colonel Allen R. and Margaret G. Crow Term Professorship for the 2024–2027 term, recognizing his excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service. His research has implications beyond biology, inspiring innovations in engineering. For example, his studies on shark skin denticles—tiny tooth-like structures on shark skin—have led to NSF-funded projects aiming to replicate their patterns for applications in reducing drag on vehicles and aircraft.