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**Education**

2018 – present **University of California Santa Barbara**

Ph.D., Ecology Evolution and Marine Biology

Advisor: Gretchen Hofmann

2011 – 2015 **Dartmouth College**

B.A., Biology; Anthropology modified with Environmental Studies

Biology Foreign Study Program in Costa Rica and Little Cayman, British West Indies

Spanish Language Study Abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina

GPA: 3.66/4.0, *cum laude*

**Research Experience**

2016 – 2018 **Research Assistant**

Dr. Daniel Kronauer

Rockefeller University, New York, NY

2015 – 2016 **James B. Reynolds Scholar**

Caribbean Marine Biological Institute, Curacao, Dutch Antilles

2014 **Junior Research Scholar**

Mentor: Jessica V. Trout-Haney

Dr. Kathryn L. Cottingham

Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

2014 **Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Intern**

Dr. Thomas K. Frazer

Central Caribbean Marine Institute, Little Cayman, British West Indies

2013 **Lab and Field Assistant**

Dr. Seth D. Dobson

Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico

2012 – 2013 **Sophomore Science Scholar**

Mentor: Samuel B. Fey

Dr. Kathryn L. Cottingham

Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

**Grants, Fellowships, and Awards**

2018 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program ($138k)

2015 James B. Reynolds Scholarship for Foreign Study ($20k)

2014 Central Caribbean Marine Institute Research Experience for Undergraduates ($4k)

2014 Dartmouth Undergraduate Research Grant ($2.5k)

2012 Dartmouth Sophomore Science Scholarship ($1k)

**Publications**

**Published**

**Ritger, A.L.**, Fountain, T.C., and Pierotti, M.E.R. Evidence for selectivity in the invasive lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*). 2020. Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology(524): 151311.

Chandra, V., Fetter-Pruneda, I., Oxley, P.R., **Ritger, A.L.**, McKenzie, S.K., Libbrecht, R., Kronauer, D.J.C. 2018.Social regulation of insulin signaling and the evolution of eusociality in ants. Science 361(6400): 398-402.

**Ritger, A.L.,** Curtis, A., and Chen, C.Y. 2018. Bioaccumulation of mercury and other metal contaminants in invasive lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*) from Curaçao. Marine Pollution Bulletin 131: 38-44.

**In prep**

Trout-Haney, J.V., **Ritger, A.L.**, Cottingham, K.L. Benthic cyanobacteria of the genus *Nostoc* are a source of microcystins in Greenlandic lakes and ponds. (in prep)

**Posters and Presentations**

**Ritger, A.L.,** Stier, A.C. 2019. Intraspecific variation in a clonal corallimorph alters purple urchin foraging behavior. Poster. 100th Annual Meeting, Western Society of Naturalists. Ensenada, Mexico.

**Ritger, A.L.,** Curtis, A., and Chen, C.Y. 2017. Patterns of Mercury bioaccumulation in invasive lionfish *(Pterois volitans/miles*) from Curacao. Oral Presentation. 13th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant. Providence, RI.

**Ritger, A.L.**, and Fountain, T.C. 2016. To Eat or Not to Eat? the diet of the Curacao lionfish and the woes of field research. Oral presentation. Caribbean Marine Biological Institute, Curacao. Oral presentation.

**Ritger, A.L.**, Jacoby, C.A., and Frazer, T.K. 2015. Friend or foe? prey fish perception of predatory lionfish. Poster presentation. Karen E. Wetterhahn Science Symposium, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.

**Ritger, A.L.**, Jacoby, C.A., and Frazer, T.K. 2014. Friend or foe? prey fish perception of predatory lionfish. Poster presentation. Oral presentation. Central Caribbean Marine Institute, Little Cayman Island, British West Indies.

**Teaching and Mentorship, Seminars, and Outreach**

2019 Ocean Global Change Biology REU mentor, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA

2019 Science communicator, World Oceans Day Festival, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center, Santa Barbara, CA

2019 – 2020 Judge, Santa Barbara County Science and Engineering Fair

2017 Evolution in Philadelphia Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2017 Social Evolution and Genome Complexity Symposium, Columbia University, New York, NY

2016 Field assistant mentor, Caribbean Marine Biological Institute, Curacao

2014 Undergraduate teaching assistant, Animal Behavior (BIOL 27), Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

**Professional Service**

2015 – 2020 Reviewer for *Ethology*, *Ecology*, NOAA/MARFIN