Alejandra Enriquez

205 Fort Johnson Rd., Charleston, SC | enriqueza@g.cofc.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests lie in understanding the future impact of human input on marine ecosystems, and how we can improve conservation efforts by communicating with the public.

EDUCATION

- New Mexico State University | 2014-2017 | B.S. in Biology, Biochemistry minor |
- College of Charleston | 2017-2020 | M.S. candidate in Marine Biology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

College of Charleston | Graduate Research Assistant | Jan. 2018-current
- Collected samples from salt marsh to test for deep-sea bacteria, *Zetaproteobacteria*
- Analyzed data sets with several spatial and temporal variables

NMSU | Nishiguchi Lab Intern | Jan. 2015-June 2017

- Worked on experimental evolution in symbiotic bacteria as Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) research fellow to observe physiological responses to temperature gradients

Indiana University Center for Integrative Study of Animal Behavior | REU lab intern | June 2015-July 2015

- Observed zebrafish in lab to understand their physiological responses to different flow rates

NMSU | Throop Lab student aide (regular student employment) | Mar. 2014-current

- Assisted in “Photopriming” NSF-based project regarding nitrogen cycling in soil

WORK EXPERIENCE

Patriot’s Point | *Marine Science Educator* | Nov. 2018-current
- Actively communicated with the children, parents, and teachers to teach marine science

Arcelor Mittal Steel Company | Statistics Intern/Advisor | Dec. 2014-Jan. 2015

- Worked with data for statistical analysis and advised on reduction of energy usage/costs

UNDERGRADUATE COURSEWORK

- Genetics
- Ecology
- Evolution
- Environmental Microbiology
- Zoology
- Biochemistry I
- Honors Thesis
- Intro to Python

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

- Genomics
- Oceanography
- Marine Ecology
- Marine Physiology
- Comparative Genomics
- Biometry
- Marine Conservation and Policy

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PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 American Geophysical Union conference *From Seafloor to Shore: Understanding Biogeography in Zetaproteobacteria in the Salt Marshes of South Carolina*. Poster Presentation
- 2016 Animal Behavior Society Conference *Larger Groups of Zebrafish (Danio rerio) Trigger a Stronger Response to Visual Stimuli.* Poster Presentation
- 2016 URCAS symposium, *Sustainable fishing: How Fish can be Friends and Food.* Poster Presentation
- 2015 Biosymposium, *Out of Sight, out of Flow, out of Mind? How Group Size Affects Shoaling Behavior in Zebrafish, Danio rerio.* Oral Presentation
- 2015 Indiana University CISAB Animal Behavior Presentation *How Changes in Flow Rates and Visual Stimuli Affect Shoaling Behavior in Zebrafish, Danio rerio.* Oral Presentation

AWARDS

- 2018 NASA exobiology panel honorarium
- 2017-2019 Marine Genomics Fellowship College of Charleston
- 2016 Turner Scholar for the Animal Behavior Society
- 2016 Biology Dept. Scholarship
- Fall 2016 Sundt Honors Scholar
- 2014-2017 Crimson Scholar
- 2015-2017 MARC Scholar
- 2015 Donna and Bill Dehn Undergraduate Education Endowed Biology Scholarship

VOLUNTEER WORK

2017-2019 | Grice Lab CORAL program | Charleston, SC
Volunteer Educator
- Engaged wide audience using touch tank to get kids excited about marine biology

2019 | SCDNR field work | Charleston, SC
- Tagged and released sharks off the coast of Bull's Bay

2017 | Generaciones Mother-Daughter Program: Kappa Delta Chi | NMSU Las Cruces, NM
Volunteer Educator
- Shared with middle-school girls about what it means to be a scientist through talks/demonstrations

2016 | Girls Can Outreach Event | Las Cruces NM
Volunteer Educator
- Inspired young girls to get involved in biology/marine science

Aug. 2016-Apr. 2017 | New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
Kappa Delta Chi Sorority Inc., Branch Academic Officer
- Oversaw progress reports from members to ensure academic success

August 2016-August 2017 | New Mexico State University Rio Grande Student Chapter Branch of the American Society for Microbiology
- Organized educational activities for members to interact with microbiology