

**Dr. Kay McMonigal (he/him or they/them)**

Assistant Professor  
 Department of Oceanography  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks

email: ktmcmmonigal@alaska.edu  
 website: kmcmonigal.github.io  
 phone: 907-474-5714

**EDUCATION**

- 2020      **Ph.D.**, University of Miami (UM) Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (RSMAS)  
 Meteorology and Physical Oceanography  
 Dissertation: *Estimating a time-series of South Indian Ocean heat transport*  
 Advisor: Lisa Beal
- 2015      B.A., Northwestern University  
 Earth and Planetary Sciences, Math, Integrated Sciences, minor: Gender Studies

**EMPLOYMENT**

- 2023 -      Assistant Professor of Oceanography  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
- 2023 -      Adjunct Assistant Professor with Graduate Faculty Affiliation  
 MEAS, North Carolina State University
- 2020 - 2023    Postdoctoral Scholar  
 MEAS, North Carolina State University. Advisor: Sarah Larson
- 2022      Visiting Instructor  
 Duke University, course: *The Climate System*
- 2015 - 2020    Graduate Research Assistant  
 University of Miami RSMAS
- 2014 - 2015    Undergraduate Research Assistant  
 Northwestern University Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS)

**PUBLICATIONS - PEER REVIEWED**

\*NCSU or UAF student first author

[10] Fu, S., S. Hu, X.-T. Zheng, **K. McMonigal**, S. Larson, Y. Tian (2024), Unfolding the role of wind-driven ocean circulation in the historical Pacific warming pattern. *Nature Communications*, 15, 1562. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-45677-2>

- [9] **McMonigal, K.**, N. Evans, D. Jones, J. Brett, R.C. James, M.C. Arroyo, A.Y. Gong, E.C. Miller, C. Kelly, J. Middleton, C. Spear, W. Holmes, D. Lane (2023). Navigating gender at sea, *AGU Advances*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023AV000927>  
*Featured as an editors highlight*
- [8] **McMonigal, K.**, Larson, S., Hu, S., & Kramer, R. (2023). Historical changes in wind-driven ocean circulation can accelerate global warming. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 50, e2023GL102846. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023GL102846>  
*Highlighted as AAAS Editors' Choice In Other Journals: <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adh4769>*
- [7] Hasan, M.\*, S. Larson, **K. McMonigal** (2022), Hadley cell edge modulates the role of Ekman heat flux in a future climate, *Geophysical Research Letters*. <http://doi.org/10.1029/2022GL100401>
- [6] Gunn, K.L., **K. McMonigal**, L.M. Beal, S. Elipot (2022), Decadal and Intra-annual Variability of the Indian Ocean Freshwater Budget, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*. <https://doi.org/10.1175/JPO-D-22-0057.1>
- [5] **McMonigal, K.**, K.L. Gunn, L.M. Beal, S. Elipot, & J.K. Willis (2022). Reduction in Meridional Heat Export Contributes to Recent Indian Ocean Warming, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, 52(3), 329-345. <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/phoc/52/3/JPO-D-21-0085.1.xml>
- [4] **McMonigal, K.**, S. Larson (2022), ENSO explains the link between Indian Ocean Dipole and ocean meridional heat transport, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49. DOI: [10.1029/2021GL095796](https://doi.org/10.1029/2021GL095796).
- [3] **McMonigal, K.**, L.M. Beal, S. Elipot, K. Gunn, T. Morris, J. Hermes, A. Houk (2020): The impact of meanders, deepening and broadening, and seasonality on Agulhas Current temperature variability, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, **50** (12). DOI: [10.1175/JPO-D-20-0018.1](https://doi.org/10.1175/JPO-D-20-0018.1)
- [2] Gunn, K.L., L.M. Beal, S. Elipot, **K. McMonigal**, A. Houk (2020): Mixing of subtropical, central and intermediate waters driven by shifting and pulsing of the Agulhas Current, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, **50** (12). DOI: [10.1175/JPO-D-20-0093.1](https://doi.org/10.1175/JPO-D-20-0093.1)
- [1] **McMonigal, K.**, L.M. Beal, and J.K. Willis (2018): The seasonal cycle of the south Indian Ocean subtropical gyre circulation as revealed by Argo and satellite data, *Geophysical Research Letters*, **45** (17). DOI: [10.1029/2018GL078420](https://doi.org/10.1029/2018GL078420)

## PUBLICATIONS - IN REVIEW

- [2] M. Hasan\*, S. Larson, **K. McMonigal**, W. Robinson, A. Aiyyer. Hemisphere-dependent Response of Hadley Circulation to ENSO and Eddy Forcing. In review with Journal of Climate.

[1] Larson, S., **K. McMonigal**, Y. Okumura, D. Amaya, A. Capotondi, K. Bellomo, I. Simpson, A. Clement, Ocean realism shapes sea surface temperature variability in a CESM2 coupled model hierarchy. In review with Journal of Climate.

## PUBLICATIONS - IN PREPARATION

[4] Zhang, Y., C. Chen, S. Hu, G. Wang, **K. McMonigal**, S. Larson. The impacts of westerly wind intensification on the Southern Ocean delayed warming and weakened seasonal cycle under global warming. In prep for submission to Geophysical Research Letters.

[3] Yen-Chi Wu, Yu-Chiao Liang, Sarah Larson, **K. McMonigal**, and Yu-Heng Tseng. Varying Wind-driven Ocean Circulation Causes Arctic Ocean Cooling.

[2] **McMonigal, K.**, Larson, S., Buckley, M., Gervais, M., Wind driven ocean circulation changes alter the future evolution of the North Atlantic warming hole. In prep for submission to Journal of Climate.

[1] Gunn, K.L., **K. McMonigal**, L.M. Beal, S. Elipot, Eddy heat fluxes within the Agulhas Current.

## PUBLICATIONS - NON PEER REVIEWED

[1] **McMonigal, K.** “Aerosols hold the key to recent and future Pacific Warming Patterns.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, vol. 121, no. 6, 26 Jan. 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2322594121>.

## INVITED TALKS

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2023 | <i>The role of wind driven ocean circulation changes in climate</i><br>UW Applied Physics Lab, Seattle, WA  |
| 2022 | <i>Using observations and models to understand the role of the ocean circulation on climate change</i><br>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK   |
| 2022 | <i>Using observations and models to understand the role of the wind driven ocean circulation on climate change</i><br>Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Ocean and Climate Physics Seminar series (virtual) |
| 2022 | <i>Combining observations and models to understand the role of the ocean in climate</i>   |

University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, Orono, ME

2022 *Combining observations and models to understand the role of the ocean in climate*

URI Graduate School of Oceanography, Narragansett, RI

2022 *Why is the Indian Ocean warming so rapidly?*

NOAA AOML, Miami, FL (virtual)

2021 *Estimating a time series of South Indian Ocean heat transport*

Physical Oceanography Dissertation Symposium, HI

2021 *Why is the Indian Ocean warming so rapidly?*

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (virtual)

2021 *Convergence Indian Ocean heat transport drives recent warming*

CASPO seminar, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, San Diego, CA (virtual)

## **SELECTED SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS**

2024 *Wind Driven Ocean Circulation Changes Exacerbate Tropical Pacific SST Trend Biases in CESM2, Leading to Amplified Global Warming*  
Ocean Sciences Meeting, New Orleans

2024 *Navigating gender at sea*  
Ocean Sciences Meeting, New Orleans

2023 *Future evolution of the North Atlantic warming hole is impacted by wind driven ocean circulation changes*  
American Geophysical Union annual meeting, San Francisco

2023 *How do changes to wind driven ocean circulation alter global warming?*  
SANCOR seminar, University of Cape Town, South Africa

2023 *Effect of Indian Ocean Dipole on meridional ocean heat transport depends on ENSO*  
European Geophysical Union, Vienna, Austria

2023 *The role of wind driven ocean circulation changes in climate change in CESM2*  
Climate and Global Dynamics Seminar, NCAR (virtual)

2022 *Wind driven ocean redistribution of heat leads to increased anthropogenic surface warming over 1979-2014 in CESM2*

American Geophysical Union (Chicago, IL)

- 2022 *Drivers of Atlantic SST variability in a coupled model hierarchy (poster)*  
Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics conference (Breckenridge, CO)
- 2022 *Anthropogenically forced wind driven ocean redistribution of heat leads to increased warming over the historical period (poster)*  
CLIVAR pattern effect workshop (Boulder, CO)
- 2022 *What role do wind driven ocean circulation trends play in the rate of global warming?*  
NCSU MEAS department symposium (Raleigh, NC)
- 2022 *ENSO explains the link between Indian Ocean Dipole and meridional heat transport*  
Ocean Sciences Meeting (virtual): [YouTube](#)
- 2022 *ENSO explains the link between Indian Ocean Dipole and meridional heat transport*  
Climate Variability and Change Working Group (virtual)
- 2022 *Why is the Indian Ocean warming so rapidly?*  
South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research seminar (virtual)
- 2022 *Why is the Indian Ocean warming so rapidly?*  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute seminar series (virtual)
- 2022 *Why is the Indian Ocean warming so rapidly?*  
Northwestern University Earth and Planetary Sciences seminar (virtual)
- 2021 *Drivers of Indian and Pacific Ocean heat transport*  
International Workshop for Air-sea Interactions (virtual poster)
- 2020 *Estimating a time series of meridional heat transport of the Indian Ocean at 34°S*  
Ocean Sciences Meeting, San Diego, CA
- 2020 *Variability in Agulhas Current temperature and freshwater transports, with implications for Agulhas Leakage fluxes*  
Gateways to the Ocean Symposium, San Diego, CA
- 2019 *The time varying temperature transport of the Agulhas Current*  
IUGG Assembly, Montreal, Canada

- 2018 *The seasonal cycle of the South Indian Ocean subtropical gyre as revealed by Argo and satellite data*  
National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, UK
- 2018 *The seasonal cycle of the South Indian Ocean subtropical gyre as revealed by Argo and satellite data*  
University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018 *The seasonal cycle of the South Indian Ocean subtropical gyre (poster)*  
Statewide Graduate Research Symposium, Florida State University
- 2018 *The seasonal cycle of the South Indian Ocean subtropical gyre*  
University of Miami, Graduate Research Symposium
- 2017 *Meridional heat transport of the Indian Ocean across 34°S based on high resolution Agulhas Current hydrography, satellite, and Argo data*  
IAPSO-IAMAS-IAGA Joint Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014 *Calcite rafts-rapid deposition of transgressive infill cave sequences as a new paleo sea level proxy (poster)*  
Geological Society of America, Vancouver, CA

## FUNDING

- 2023 NSF, NNA: Collaborative Research: ACTION - Alaska Coastal Cooperative for Co-producing Transformative Ideas and Opportunities in the North, **Senior Personnel**. PI: C. Maio.
- 2023 BOEM, Feasibility study for a novel instrumental technique to characterize subsurface currents and hydrography within the Alaska OCS. \$30,354, **PI**.
- 2023 NSF, CR: US GO-SHIP 2021-2026 Repeat Hydrography, Carbon and Tracers. \$96,539.00 (UAF sub award from UCSD).
- 2022 NSF, Determining the role of ocean dynamics in Atlantic sea surface temperature variations using a hierarchy of coupled models  
PI: M. Buckley. I was named postdoc and contributed to proposal writing.
- 2019 Mary Roche Scholarship. University of Miami. \$10,000
- 2018 Elevating diversity and inclusion at RSMAS. University of Miami Career Development Fund. \$2,500.

## AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2024	DBO Atlantic Travel Grant to attend Arctic Science Summit Week (1500 Euro)
2023	EPSCOR Travel Grant to attend IGNITE workshop (\$600)
2019	Mary Roche Scholarship, University of Miami
2018	Best physical sciences presentation, Graduate Student Research Symposium, UM
2017	RSMAS Career Development Award, University of Miami
2015 - 2020	University of Miami Graduate School Fellowship
2015	Seymour Schlanger Undergraduate Earth Science Award, EPS
2012	Academic All-Big Ten Student Athlete

## SEAGOING EXPERIENCE

2023	GO-SHIP I05 hydrographic crossing from Fremantle, AUS to Cape Town, SA. Co Chief Scientist. Chief Sci: Brendan Carter. 55 days. CTD ops, drifters, floats.
2023	Arctic Chief Scientist Training Cruise, RV Sikuliaq, Seward, AK to Nome, AK. Chief Scientists: Emily Eidam and Laurie Juranek. 7 days. CTD and coring operations.
2020	FLOTSAM undergraduate cruises, RV Walton Smith, Florida Straits, Chief Scientist: Jim Happell. Two one day cruises. CTD operations and plankton tows.
2019	GO-SHIP I06S, RV Thomas G Thompson, Indian/Southern Ocean, Chief Scientist: Alex Orsi. 42 days. CTD operations, drifter and float deployment.
2018	Agulhas System Climate Array (ASCA), SA Agulhas, Indian Ocean, Chief Scientist: Lisa Beal. 14 days. Mooring recovery, CTD operations.
2016	ASCA, RV Algoa, Indian Ocean, Chief Scientist: Lisa Beal. 14 days. Mooring deployment, CTD operations.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor of Record

2022	<i>The Climate System</i> , Duke University Graduate level for a professional Masters of Environmental Management
2019	<i>Basic Dynamical Oceanography</i> , University of Cape Town Two week intensive course at Honours level (1 year degree post BS)

### Guest Lecturer

2024 *Marine Science and Society*, WWU. Instructor: Nina Whitney  
 2023 *Introduction to Physical Oceanography*, UAF. Instructor: Seth Danielson  
 2022 *Climate Predictability*, NCSU. Instructor: Sarah Larson  
 2022 *Introduction to Coastal Environments*, NCSU. Instructor: Christopher Osborne  
 2021 *Introduction to Coastal Environments*, NCSU. Instructor: Christopher Osborne  
 2019 *Climate Change*, UM. Instructor: Amy Clement

### Teaching Assistant

2020 *Introduction to Physical Oceanography*, UM  
 In person instructor for hybrid course. Lead instructor: Lisa Beal  
 2018 *Environmental Oceanography*, UM. Instructor: Pamela Reid  
 2016 *Climate and Global Change*, UM. Instructor: Igor Kamenkovich

### Other Teaching Experience

2019 University of Miami Teaching Academy  
 2016 - 2019 Tutor, Tutorial Resources. Math, sciences, English for grades 6-12

### Graduate Student Committees (active)

Cece Borries-Strigle, UAF Atmospheric Sciences  
 Tia Ogus, PhD, NCSU Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences  
 Jackie Beight, PhD, UAF Oceanography (Chair)  
 Savannah Sandy, PhD, UAF Oceanography

### PUBLISHED DATASETS

CESM2 Mechanically Decoupled Model, publicly available on Earth System Grid. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26024/ffeq-wr08>

Agulhas System Climate Array in situ volume, temperature, and salt transport twenty six month time series. <https://beal-agulhas.earth.miami.edu/data-and-products/index.html>

Agulhas System Climate Array cross sectional velocity, temperature, and salinity twenty six month time series. <https://beal-agulhas.earth.miami.edu/data-and-products/index.html>

### SERVICE & OUTREACH

OSM Townhall: Best practices for successful gender-diverse field expeditions, 2024.  
 NSF reviewer, 2024  
 Reviewer for *Geophysical Research Letters*, *Scientific Reports*, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans*, *Journal of Climate*, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, *PNAS*,



*Atmosphere, Ocean Sciences, Nature Climate Change, Nature, Nature Reviews, Communications Earth & Environment, Geoscientific Model Development, IPCC AR6 report.*

Maintaining an Environment of Respect Aboard Ships (MERAS) committee member (UNOLS), 2021 - present

International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean, Early Career Scientist working group, committee member, 2019 - present

Video “What is it like to be an oceanographer?” for Tacoma Public Schools Online high school students (2023)

Geosciences Education & Mentorship Support (GEMS) mentor

Unlearning Racism in Geosciences (URGE) Pod member, 2021

University of Miami RSMAS Student-Led Evaluations and Development, committee member

Ocean Sciences Bowl 2020 volunteer

Ocean Kids program 2019 volunteer

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

CTD operations and sampling

Mooring deployment and recovery

Set up, calibration, quality control, and analysis of hydrographic data from CTDs, microCATs, CPIES, ADCPs, Nortek current meters

Interpolation of disparate data sources including mooring, Argo, and satellite

HPC usage

Programing with Matlab, python, cdo, NCL, shell, C++

Code modifications and running of climate models (CESM)

Processing of CCSM and CESM ocean, atmosphere, and sea ice output

Running CESM including coupler modifications and large ensembles

Writing workshop with Dallas Murphy, 2018

Mentoring workshop with Merlin Wahlberg, 2018

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

European Geophysical Union, member

American Meteorological Society, member

The Oceanography Society, member

American Geophysical Union, member

## **REFERENCES**

Lisa Beal, Professor

[lbeal@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:lbeal@rsmas.miami.edu)

Sarah Larson, Assistant Professor

slarson@ncsu.edu

Rana Fine, Professor Emeritus  
[rfine@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:rfine@rsmas.miami.edu)

Brendan Carter, Research Associate  
[brendan.carter@noaa.gov](mailto:brendan.carter@noaa.gov)