



Robert J. Dellinger

PH.D. STUDENT, ATMOSPHERIC & OCEANIC SCIENCE

UCLA Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, Box 951565, Los Angeles, CA 90095

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Oceanic & atmospheric scientist investigating how physical and social drivers of environmental change shape ecosystem patterns, processes, and outcomes across marine and terrestrial systems.

Educational Experience

PH.D. STUDENT, ATMOSPHERIC AND OCEANIC SCIENCES

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) | 2024 – Present
Advisors: Dr. Aradhna Tripathi & Dr. Robert Eagle

Research focus: Coral biomineralization and symbiont community dynamics under climate variability and coastal land-use change, integrating multi-proxy geochemistry with ancient coral DNA (coraDNA).

M.S., BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) | 2021 – 2024
Advisor: Dr. Nyssa Silbiger

Research focus: Quantitative marine ecology and biogeochemistry, examining the physiological and energetic responses of marine invertebrates to the combined impacts of ocean acidification and warming.

B.S., MARINE & COASTAL SCIENCE, AND B.A., INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

University of California, Davis | 2017 – 2021 *Departmental Citation for Outstanding Achievement and Contributions*
Study Abroad Program: “Ecological and Social Issues in Lake Atitlán, Guatemala”

Awards & Distinctions (Selected)

Ideas & Organizing Doctoral Award	2025-2026
UCLA LUSKIN INSTITUTE ON INEQUALITY & DEMOCRACY	\$10,000
Center for Diverse Leadership in Science Fellowship	2024-2025
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES	\$4,000
UCLA Eugene V. Cota Robles Fellowship	2024
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES	\$120,000
Center for Diverse Leadership in Science Fellowship	2023-2024
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES	\$4,000
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	2022-2025
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	\$138,000

Professional Experience (Selected)

RESESEARCH POSITIONS

Graduate Research Assistant, Critical Ecology Lab	May 2024 - Jan 2025
HUBBARD BROOK EXPERIMENTAL FOREST (HBEF), NSF LONG TERM ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH (LTER) PROGRAM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyzed how social drivers (e.g., structural racism, classism, and unequal resource distribution) shape the geography of industrial emissions, and how these inequality-driven pollutants contribute to acid rain formation and long-term shifts in forest ecosystem function, linking inequality to environmental change through a critical ecology framework.	

Graduate Student Researcher, Quantitative Marine Ecology Lab

Sep 2021 - Sep 2024

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

- Designed and executed experiments to investigate the interactive effects of ocean acidification and warming on the physiological energetics of marine invertebrates and applied advanced statistical modeling to quantify thermal performance curves and metabolic responses; applied various physiological and biogeochemistry protocols to support research objectives.

Research Intern, National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Association

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021

NOAA FISHERIES, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- Conducted histopathological analyses to evaluate contaminant impacts on estuarine fish in urban ecosystems, examining tissues for markers of stress, disease, and injury; contributed to a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) by quantifying pollutant-induced physiological changes, and presented findings to scientists and policymakers.

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Climate Futures Studio, Co-Founder

Sep 2023 - Present

UCLA CENTER FOR DIVERSE LEADERSHIP IN SCIENCE

- Co-founded and co-lead Climate Futures Studio, an interdisciplinary collective advancing scientific communication through storytelling that strengthens public understanding and civic imagination around optimistic climate futures.

Queer Sol Collective (NGO), Board of Directors

Jun 2023 - Present

KUMEYAAY TERRITORY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

- Queer and Indigenous-led initiative designed to strengthen community healing and connection to nature for QTBIPOC communities.

Marine Biology Graduate Student Association, President

Sep 2022 - Jun 2023

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

- Led readings on marine ecology, organized professional development workshops and outreach events, and created events to foster community in the marine biology graduate program.

Conferences & Colloquia (Selected)

Dellinger, R.J., Pierre, S., & Hawkins, P-S. (2025). Linking Social Drivers to Biogeochemical Change. *NSF Long-term Ecological Research (LTER) Project Review*, Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest.

Dellinger, R.J. & Silbiger, N.J. (2023). Facing Physiological Constraints: The Response of an Intertidal Gastropod to the Interactive Effects of Ocean Acidification and Warming. *NSF Sustainable Oceans Conference*, UC Davis.

Skills

LANGUAGES

Bilingual (English, Spanish), Programming (R, MATLAB, Python, LaTeX, CSS, HTML).

COMPUTATIONAL & RESEACH

Univariate and multivariate statistics (Excel, MATLAB, R, Python, JMP), Bioinformatics tools (BLAST), Image analysis (ImageJ), Photography (Adobe Photoshop), Design (Adobe Illustrator), Web design (Adobe Dreamweaver), Data visualization, Statistical analysis, Database management, Computational modeling. Boating safety courses/license, Experimental design, Scientific writing, Environmental compliance, Protocol development, Environmental review, Environmental and aquatic sampling, Microscopy, Confocal microscopy, Micro-pipetting, Serial dilutions, Titrations, Interdisciplinary collaboration, Scientific communications, Stakeholder engagement.

References

DR. ARADHNA TRIPATI

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DR. RACHAEL BAY

UC Davis, Department of Evolution and Ecology

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