Melaina Wright graduated in 2015 from Wellesley College with a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences and a minor in Environmental Studies. Under the direction of Dr. Koslow at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, she used multivariate statistics to determine the sampling requirements for creating a long-term ecological monitoring program for fish communities. At the Duke University Marine Lab, she determined if there are genetically distinct populations of shortfin mako sharks using RAD sequencing.

As a MESM student at the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, Melaina is specializing in Coastal Marine Resources Management. Her main interest is in improving the ecological and socioeconomic sustainability of fisheries in the United States.