

## **NATALIA B. LÓPEZ FIGUEROA**

Graduate Student in Biological Oceanography

Department of Marine Sciences • University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

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## **EDUCATION**

2014- Master of Marine Sciences in Biological Oceanography. University of Puerto Rico  
at Present Mayagüez.

2013 Bachelor in Natural Sciences with a major Coastal Marine Biology. University of Puerto Rico at Humacao.

## **CURRENT POSITION**

Graduate student in Biological Oceanography at the Caribbean Laboratory of Marine Genomics. Department of Marine Sciences, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez.

- Advisor: Dr. Nikolaos V. Schizas ([nschizas@gmail.com](mailto:nschizas@gmail.com))

## **RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2015 General Biology teaching assistant. Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.

2014 Intro. to Biological Sciences teaching assistant. Department of Biology. University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez.

Field Interviewer. Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS). Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). San Juan, Puerto Rico.

2013 Wildlife Management Intern, Fall 2013 to Spring 2014. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Assateague Island, VA.

Shorebird Management Intern, Summer 2013. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service- Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. Assateague Island, VA.

2011 Undergraduate Research Assistant at the University of Puerto Rico Humacao Campus at Ecotoxicology Laboratory. Humacao, Puerto Rico.

2009 Undergraduate Research Experience at Humacao's Natural Reserve Research Group (GIRNH). Texas A&M University and the University of Puerto Rico- Humacao Campus.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- 2014 B. Shamblin, J. Nairn, K. S. Holcomb, E. Ayala Díaz & **N.B. López-Figueroa**. Nest success and maternal DNA comparison of loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (CNWR). Ocean Sciences Meeting at Honolulu, Hawai'i. February 22-28, 2014. Poster presentation.
- 2013 **N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Isotopic Variations of the Different Water Sources Reaching the Humacao Natural Reserve (HNR). American Society of Limnology and Oceanography Annual Meeting at New Orleans, Louisiana. August 5-10, 2012. Oral presentation.
- N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Isotopic Variations of the Different Water Sources Reaching the Humacao Natural Reserve (HNR). U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, VA. July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Oral presentation.
- N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Isotopic Variations of the Different Water Sources Reaching the Humacao Natural Reserve (HNR). PRISM/AMP 48<sup>th</sup> Junior Technical Meeting. Universidad del Turabo-Gurabo, PR. March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Oral presentation.
- 2012 **N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Isotopic Variations of the Different Water Sources Reaching the Humacao Natural Reserve (HNR). 98<sup>th</sup> Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon. August 5-10, 2012. Poster Presentation.
- N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Using Isotope Hydrology to Understand the Impacts of Climate Change to Coastal Wetlands in Puerto Rico. Ocean Sciences Meeting at Salt Lake City, Utah. February 20-24, 2012. Poster presentation.
- N.B. López-Figueroa**, R.J. Colón-Rivera, J.B. West & R. Feagin. Using Isotope Hydrology to Understand the Impacts of Climate Change to Coastal Wetlands in Puerto Rico. First Annual Student Poster Exhibition. March 29, 2012. Department of Biology of the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao. Poster presentation.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 Colón-Rivera, R.J., Feagin, R.A., West, J.B., **López-Figueroa, N.B.** and Benítez-Joubert, R.J., Hydrological modification, saltwater intrusion, and tree water use of a *Pterocarpus officinalis* swamp in Puerto Rico. Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science. 147:156-167.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2015 Alumni travel award from the Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability (SEEDS) to participate in the 100<sup>th</sup> Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting (\$800). Baltimore, MD.
- 2014 Travel Award from Hampton University to participate in the 2014 Ocean Sciences Meeting under the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography Multicultural Program (ASLOMP) at Honolulu, Hawai'i.
- 2013 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner in SEEDS Video Contest 98<sup>th</sup> Annual ESA Meeting (\$300). Minneapolis, MN.
- Travel Award from Hampton University to participate in the American Society of Limnology and

Oceanography Meeting under the Multicultural Program (ASLOMP) at New Orleans, Louisiana.

2012 Travel Award from the Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability (SEEDS) to participate in the 97<sup>th</sup> Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon.

Travel Award from Hampton University to participate in the Ocean Sciences Meeting under the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography Multicultural Program (ASLOMP) at Salt Lake City, Utah.

## **SERVICES**

Active member of the Student Association of the Department of Marine Sciences (AECiMa for it's name in Spanish) at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez.

- Webmaster for the AECiMa webpage: <http://www.uprm.edu/aecima>
- Co-Captain at the 2014 SCUBA Dogs Society National Beach Clean up at Crash Boat Beach, Aguadilla.

Alumni Mentor of the Strategies for Education in Ecology, Diversity and Sustainability (S.E.E.D.S).

- Application reviewer for the Undergraduate Student Travel Awards for the Ecological Society of America (ESA) Centennial Meeting. Baltimore, Maryland.
- Meeting mentor for undergraduate students

President of the Strategies for Education in Ecology, Diversity and Sustainability (S.E.E.D.S) Chapter, at the University of Puerto Rico- Humacao Campus (2010-2013)

- 2013 Chapter of the Year Award
- Group Leader at the 2011 Jornada LTER National Field Trip (New Mexico)

Valedictorian at Luis Pales Matos High School. Bayamón, Puerto Rico. (2005-2008)

- U.S.A. President's Award for Educational Excellence
- Puerto Rico Legislature's recognition for Educational Excellence
- Bayamón Town Hall recognition to Honor Role students (Mayor's honor medal)
- BPPR Banker's Club recognition for outstanding leadership in Public School systems
- Luis Palés Matos Award for Outstanding Leadership

Leading Petty Officer at the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC). Caribbean Division. US Coast Guard Base at La Puntilla, San Juan. Puerto Rico. (2004-2007)

- 2005 Recruit training command (RTC) Battalion Honor Cadet (one award per year)
- 2005 RTC Company Honor Cadet
- 2005 US Navy League Medal for Outstanding Youth Leadership
- 2006 Caribbean Division's Cadet with Most Outstanding Leadership
- 2007 Petty Officer Leadership Academy (P.O.L.A.) Honor Cadet

\*References available upon request.