

Kelcie L. Chiquillo

EDUCATION

UCLA ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY December 2021

Ph.D. Dissertation: Understanding the ecological and evolutionary dynamics of tropical seagrasses and the factors driving habitat distribution

NSF Bridge to Doctorate & GRFP Research Fellow

Advisor: Dr. Paul Barber

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

May 2014

B.S.: Marine Biology & Limnology/ *Minor:* Holistic Health

NSF REU, MARC & LSAMP Research Fellow

Advisor: Dr. Karen Crow

FELLOWSHIPS

2021 NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology (PRFB) **\$138,000**
2020 UCLA Cota Robles Fellowship **\$26,000**
2019 UCLA Cota Robles Fellowship **\$26,000**
2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP): **\$102,000**
2015 Ford Foundation Fellowship: *Honorable mention*
2014 NSF UC Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship: **\$150,000**
2013 Louis Stokes Alignment Participation Undergraduate Award (LSAMP) **\$2,000**
2012 NIH Minorities Access to Research Careers (MARC) Fellowship: **\$28,000**
2012 NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) **\$5,000**

GRANTS

2022 Understanding the epigenetics and eDNA surrounding seagrasses in Biscayne Bay. Herbert W. Hoover Foundation-PIs K. Chiquillo, J. Wong, J. Eirin-Lopez, P. Gardinali **\$23,000**

AWARDS

2022 FIU CREST Addition Funding Travel Award **\$1660**
2019 CERF Travel Award **\$500**
2019 UCLA Department Research Award **\$1000**
2018 International Seagrass Biology Workshop 13' Student Travel Award **\$600**
2018 UCLA Biology Research Symposium **\$100**
2017 UCLA Conference Travel Award **\$1,200**
2017 ASLO Multicultural Program Travel Award **\$2,500**
2016 UCLA Graduate Division Research Grant **\$1,500**
2016 UCLA Department Travel Award **\$1,250**
2016 ASLO Multicultural Program Travel Award **\$2,500**
2015 Ford Fellowship- Honorable Mention
2014 UCLA La Kretz Center for Conservation Science Research Grant **\$500**
2014 Save Our Seas Foundation Travel Award **\$300**
2012 Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Travel Award: **\$1,000**
2010 San Francisco State University, Department of Biology Research Award: **\$350**

PUBLICATIONS

Peer- Reviewed

- 2022 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Vasquez, M.L., Cruz-Rivera, E., Winters, G., Barber, P.H., & Fong, P. League of Seagrasses: the outcome of interspecific interactions between native versus invasive seagrasses shows a positive effect on the invasive, *Halophila stipulacea*. *Oikos* in Review.
- 2021 Fong, C.R, **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Gaynus, C.J., Grier, S.R., Ha, B.A., Ryznar, E.R., Smith, L.L., Sura, S.A., Anggoro, A.W., Moore, T.N., Fong, P. Flip it and reverse it: reasonable changes in designated controls can flip synergisms to antagonisms. *Science of The Total Environment*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.145243>
- 2020 Smulders, F.O.H., **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Willette, D.A., Barber, P.H., Christianen, M.J.A. Inconclusive evidence of sexual reproduction of invasive *Halophila stipulacea*: a new field guide to encourage investigation of flower and fruit production throughout its invasive range. *Botanica Marina*. <https://doi.org/10.1515/bot-2020-0046>
- 2020 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Mims, B.M., Chong, A.U., Johnson, C., Habtes, S., Fong, C.R., Barber, P.H., & Fong P. Herbivory may limit proximity of the seagrass *Halophila decipiens* to fringing reefs in Mo'orea, French Polynesia. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquabot.2020.103294>
- 2020 Willette, D.A., **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Cross, C., Fong, P., Kelley, T., Toline, C.A., Zweng, R., & Muthukrishnan R. Growth and recovery after disturbance of a rapidly-expanding invasive seagrass. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.embe.2019.151265>
- 2020 Winters, G., Beer, S., Willette, D.A., Viana, I.G., **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Becar-Carretero, P., Villamayor, B., Azacarate-García, T., Shem-Tov, R., Mwabvu, B., Migliore, L., Rotini, A., Oscar, M.A., Belmaker, J., Inbal, G., Alexandre, A., Engelen, A.H., Procaccini, G., Rilov, G. The Tropical Seagrass *Halophila stipulacea*; reviewing what we know from its native and invasive habitats, alongside identifying knowledge gaps. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.00300>
- 2020 Muthukrishnan, R., **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Cross, C., Fong, P., Kelley, T., Toline, C.A., Zweng R., & Willette D.A. Little giants: A rapidly invading seagrass alters ecosystem functioning relative to native foundation species. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00227-020-03689-8>

- 2019 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Barber, P.H & Willette, D.A. Fruits and flowers of the invasive seagrass *Halophila stipulacea* in the Caribbean Sea. *Botanica Marina*. 109-112. <https://doi.org/10.1515/bot-2018-0052>
- 2014 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Ebert, D.A., Slager, C.J., & Crow, K.D. The secret of the mermaid's purse: Phylogenetic affinities within the Rajidae and the evolution of a novel reproductive strategy in skates. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 75, 245-251. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2014.01.012>

In prep

- 2022 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Winters, G., Procaccini, G., Barak, S., & Willette D.A., & Barber, P.H., Reconstructing the history of invasion of *Halophila stipulacea* in the Caribbean Sea as a potential stepping-stone colonization. *Global Climate Change*.
- 2022 **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Vasquez, M., Winters, G., Fong, P., & Barber, P.H. The velvet underground: Assessing microbial communities between invasive and native species when grown alone or together.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Seminars

- 2019 Understanding the dynamics of the invasive seagrass and its impacts on native seagrasses **Chiquillo, K.L. California State Fullerton Biology Seminar**

Conference Presentations

- 2019 League of Seagrasses: the outcome of interspecific interactions between native versus invasive seagrasses shows a positive effect on the invasive, *Halophila stipulacea*. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Vasquez, M., Cruz-Rivera, E, Winters, G., Fong, P., Barber, P.H. *Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography- Puerto Rico*.
- 2018 Reconstructing the history of invasion of *Halophila stipulacea*, in the Caribbean Sea. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Winters, G., Barber, P.H., Procaccini, G, Barak, S, & Willette D.A. *International Seagrass Biology Workshop (ISBW 13) – Singapore, Singapore*. *Best Oral Presentation
2017. Comparing the genetic diversity of an invasive seagrass, *Halophila stipulacea*, in its native and invasive range. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Winters, G., Barber, P.H., Procaccini, G., Barak, S., & Willette D.A. *Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography- Honolulu, Hawaii*
- 2016 Comparing the genetic diversity of an invasive seagrass, *Halophila stipulacea*, in its native and invasive range. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Winters, G., Barber, P.H.,

Procaccini, G, Barak, S, & Willette D.A. *International Seagrass Biology Workshop (ISBW 12) – Nant gwehryn, Wales*

- 2016 Comparative genetic analysis of a globally invasive marine angiosperm, *Halophila stipulacea*, in the native and invasive range. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Winters, G., Barber, P.H., & Willette D.A., *EuroMarine foresight workshop: Developing an integrated framework for studying Halophila stipulacea, the worlds first globally invasive marine angiosperm (Seagrass)- Eilat Israel*
- 2014 The secret of the mermaid’s purse: Phylogenetic affinities of the family Rajidae and the evolution of a novel reproductive strategy in skates. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Ebert, D.A., Slager, C.J., and K.D. Crow, *North Pacific Shark Symposium- Seattle, Washington*
- 2013 The secret of the mermaid’s purse: Phylogenetic affinities of the family Rajidae and the evolution of a novel reproductive strategy in skates. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, Ebert, D.A., Slager, C.J., and K.D. Crow, *Western Naturalist Society- Ventura, California*
- 2012 Patterns of herbivory in different age size classes of Opaleye (*Girella nigricans*) in relation to algal community structure in Big Fisherman’s Cove. **Chiquillo, K.L.**, *USC Wrigley Symposium, Santa Catalina Island*

Conference Posters

- 2018 Assessing the outcome of interspecific interactions between native and invasive seagrass. **Chiquillo, K.**, and Barber, P.H., *Twenty-First Annual Biology Research Symposium- University of California, Los Angeles, California*
- 2016 Comparing the genetic diversity of *Halophila stipulacea* in its invasive and native range, **Chiquillo, K.**, Campese L, Winter G, Procaccini G, Barber P, Willette D, *Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography- New Orleans, Louisiana*
- 2012 The secret of the mermaid’s purse: phylogenetic affinities and the evolution of a novel reproductive life history trait in skates of the genus Raja”, **Chiquillo, K.**, N. Bravo, D.A. Ebert, and K.D. Crow, *American Society of Ichthyology and Herpetology- Vancouver, British Columbia*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biology**
Environmental Epigenetics Lab, Lead PI: Professor Jose Eirin-Lopez
Department of Biological Sciences
Florida International University, Biscayne Bay Campus, North Miami, FL, USA
- 2013 **Laboratory Volunteer**
FishLab, Lead PI: Professor Karen Crow
Department of Biological Sciences
San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA, USA

2012 **SCUBA Diver Volunteer**
Aquarium of the Bay, Lead: Michael Grassmann
San Francisco, CA, USA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Appointments

2021 EEB 109- Introduction to Marine Science (Virtual)
2019 EEB 123B – Field Marine Ecology
2019 EEB 134 – Field Biology Quarter
2019 EEB 109 – Introduction to Marine Science
2018 EEB 111 – Vertebrate Zoology
2017 EEB 109 – Introduction to Marine Science
2017 2BRAD Genomic Sequencing Workshop
2017 The Diversity Project (TDP)
2017 EEB 101 – Marine Botany

Divemaster Appointments

2021 In2Deep- Casino Dive Park, in Catalina Island
2021 Diver.Sea.fy – Catalina Island

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

2022 Writing mentor, Grant Fellowship Writing Group, Office of Training and
Fellowships at the University Graduate School. Florida International University
2022 Training Consultant for A WOC Space, LLC American Fisheries Society,
Spokane Washington
2022 Training Consultant for A WOC Space, LLC Benthic Ecology, New Hampshire
2021 Training Consultant for A WOC Space, New England Consortium, Virtual
2021 Flyer designer and Social Media volunteer- Black in Marine Science
2021 Training Consultant for A WOC Space, LLC- Black In Marine Science
2021 Training Consultant of A WOC Space, LLC- IMMC6, Virtual
2019 Notre Dame Academy Elementary School. Guest Lecture. “Seagrass is Grass.”
2018 UCLA Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Faculty Graduate
Student Liaison
2017 Westwood Charter Elementary School Science Slam. Science Leader. “Hunger
Games”.
2017 Explore your Universe. Volunteer
2017 Co-Chair, UCLA Scientific Excellence through Diversity Series (SEDS)
2016 SACNAS Chapter at UCLA. Graduate Student Representative.
2016 iStop Motion Educational Film. Chiquillo, K., and Miranda M., “Out of Thin Air:
The Nitrogen cycle”. <https://youtu.be/FZwq2yzsA20>

CERTIFICATIONS

2019 Yin Yoga Teacher – RYT50
2019 UCLA Entering and Mentoring (EMT) Program

2019 Dive Master– PADI
2018 Yoga Teacher – RYT® 200
2016 RNAseq – Conservation and Gene Expression Training
2015 Eco Stats- Technological Advances between Ecology and Statistics Training
2015 Environmental DNA (eDNA) Training
2015 2b-RADseq Genomic Sequencing
2014 U.S. Boat Operations
2010 AAUS Scientific Diving– Moss Landing

SKILLS

Programming languages: HTML, R, Unix shell- Bash,

Software Applications: Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Adobe Fresco

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Professional proficiency)