

Michael T. Connelly, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Researcher, Marine Genomics, Ecology, and Evolution

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EDUCATION

2016–2021 **Ph.D.** Marine Biology and Ecology
University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science (RSMAES)

2012–2016 **B.Sc.** Marine Science, Biology, and Chemistry
University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science (RSMAES)
Magna cum laude, 2016 Outstanding RSMAES Student Award.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2023–present **Postdoctoral Fellow**, National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), Bethesda, MD
Supervisor: Dr. Andy Baxevanis
Project: Seascape genomics and single-cell RNA-seq of the colonial marine hydrozoans *Hydractinia symbiolongicarpus* and *Podocoryna americana*.
Techniques: Genome assembly, annotation, population genomics, and scRNA-seq.

2021–2023 **Biodiversity Genomics Fellow**, National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), Washington, D.C., and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), Panama
Co-advisors: Dr. Andrea Quattrini (NMNH) and Dr. Sean Connolly (STRI)
Project: Host–microbe coevolution and cryptic speciation in eastern tropical Pacific *Pocillopora* corals.
Techniques: Scientific SCUBA diving, natural history museum collections management, phylogenomics, species delimitation, and taxonomy.

2016–2021 **Ph.D. Graduate Researcher**, RSMAES, Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory
Advisor: Dr. Nikki Traylor-Knowles
Dissertation: Interactions between the *Pocillopora* coral innate immune system and coral-associated bacteria communities.
Techniques: RNA-seq, microbial 16S analysis, cell biology assays, and FACS.

2014–2016 **Assistant Researcher**, RSMAES, Fish Disease Processes Laboratory
Advisor: Dr. Michael Schmale
Honors thesis: Effects of nickel (II) chloride on zebrafish embryonic cell cultures.
Techniques: Zebrafish husbandry, animal cell culture, and fluorescence microscopy.

2014–2016 **Hollings Scholar**, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Advisor: Dr. Margaret Miller
Internship report: Genet and habitat effects on outplanted *Acropora palmata* coral fragment growth, survivorship and bleaching response.
Techniques: Scientific SCUBA diving, coral restoration, photographic monitoring, and coral gamete collection.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications:

13. Chang, E.S.[†], **Connelly, M.T.**[†], Traver, M., Barreira, S.N., Rivera, A.M., Katzer, A.M., Yu, R., Cartwright, P., and Baxevanis, A.D. 2026. A chromosome-level reference genome for the colonial marine hydrozoan *Podocoryna americana*. *G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics*: jkag160. <https://doi.org/10.1093/g3journal/jkag160> [†]Co-first authors.
12. **Connelly, M.T.**, Glynn, V.M., Cornejo, A., Villalobos-Cubero, T., Kleypas, J., Alvarado, J.J., Brandt, M., Logan, C.A., Palacio-Castro, A.M., Flot, J-F., Leray, M., Connolly, S.R., and Quattrini, A.M. 2025. Genome skimming illuminates hidden species diversity and Symbiodiniaceae associations in east Pacific *Pocillopora* corals. *Genome Biology and Evolution* 17: evaf235. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evaf235>
11. McRae, C.J., Holloway, N., Chen, G.K., **Connelly, M.T.**, Chen, H-K., Ye, Z-M., Chancellor, K.S., Chang, Y-C., Jiang, M-Q., Lam, K.W., Qiu, Y-T., Fan, T-Y., and Sandin, S.A. 2024. Groundtruthing assessments of lab-based coral thermal tolerance with large-area imaging. *Coral Reefs* 44: 31–47 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00338-024-02582-w>
10. **Connelly, M.T.**, Catapang, M.G. and Quattrini, A.M. 2024. Unlocking the treasure trove: leveraging dry coral specimens for museum genomics. *Coral Reefs* 43: 1153–1159. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00338-024-02525-5>
9. **Connelly, M.T.**, Snyder, G.A., Palacio-Castro, A.M., Gillette, P.R., Baker, A.C. and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2023. Antibiotics reduce *Pocillopora* coral-associated bacteria diversity, decrease holobiont oxygen consumption, and activate immune gene expression. *Molecular Ecology* 32(16): 4677–4694. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.17049>
8. **Connelly, M.T.**, McRae, C.J., Liu, P.J., Martin, C.E. and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2022. Antibiotics alter *Pocillopora* coral-Symbiodiniaceae-bacteria interactions and cause microbial dysbiosis during heat stress. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 8: 814124. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.814124>
7. Snyder, G.A., **Connelly, M.T.**, Eliachar, S., Girshoni-Yahalom, O., Browne, W.E., Palmer, C.V., Rosental, B., and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2021. Functional characterization of Hexacorallia phagocytic cells. *Frontiers in Immunology* 12: 662803. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2021.662803>
6. Traylor-Knowles, N.T., **Connelly, M.T.**, Young, B.D., Eaton, K., Muller, E., Paul, V.J., Ushijima, B., DeMerlis, A., Drown, M. K., Goncalves, A., Kron, N., Martin, C.E., and Rodriguez, K. 2021. Gene expression response to stony coral tissue loss disease transmission in *M. cavernosa* and *O. faveolata* from Florida. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 8: 681563. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.681563>
5. Nowotny, J.D., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2021. Novel methods to establish whole-body primary cell cultures for the cnidarians *Nematostella vectensis* and *Pocillopora damicornis*. *Scientific Reports* 11: 4086. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-83549-7>
4. Bonacolta, A.M., **Connelly, M.T.**, Rosales, S., del Campo, J., and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2020. Microniche sampling of the bacteriome in the Starlet Sea Anemone, *Nematostella vectensis*, reveals a compartment-specific dominance of Spirochetes. *FEMS Microbiology Letters* 368(2): fnab002. <https://doi.org/10.1093/femsle/fnab002>
3. Walters, B., **Connelly, M.T.**, Young, B., and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2020. The complicated evolutionary diversification of the Mpeg-1/Perforin-2 family in cnidarians. *Frontiers in Immunology* 11: 1690. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2020.01690>

2. **Connelly, M.T.**, McRae, C.J., Liu, P.J., and Traylor-Knowles, N.T. 2020. Lipopolysaccharide treatment stimulates *Pocillopora* coral genotype-specific immune responses but does not alter coral-associated bacteria communities. *Developmental and Comparative Immunology* 109:103717. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dci.2020.103717>
1. Traylor-Knowles, N.T. and **Connelly, M.T.** 2017. What Is currently known about the effects of climate change on the coral immune response? *Current Climate Change Reports* 3: 252–260. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40641-017-0077-7>

Management Reports:

1. Pausch, R., Miller, M., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Williams, D.E. 2015. *Effects of habitat and genet on outplanted Acropora palmata fragments' survival and performance*. Management report. NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center, in collaboration with Coral Restoration Foundation.

RESEARCH FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Associate Director for Science and Chief Scientist Fiscal Year 2025 Award. Co-PI. Total award: \$59,378; NMNH sub-award: \$15,644.
- 2022 Smithsonian Institution Barcoding Network Research Grant. PI. \$9,837.
- 2021 Smithsonian Institution Biodiversity Genomics Postdoctoral Fellowship. \$118,000.
- 2020 University of Miami Institute for the Americas Field Research Grant. \$2,000.
- 2018 David Rowland Endowed Fellowship, RSMAES. PI. \$3,500.
- 2018 Marine Aquarium Societies of North America Graduate Scholarship. \$5,000.
- 2017 Graduate Career Development Fund for CompBio-athon, RSMAES. Coordinator. \$2,500.
- 2016 NSF East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute Taiwan Fellow. \$5,000.
- 2015 Small Undergraduate Research Grant, RSMAES. \$2,000.
- 2014 NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship. \$8,000.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Best Student Seminar, Marine Biology and Ecology Department, RSMAES.
- 2020 People's Choice Award, University of Miami Three-Minute Thesis Competition.
- 2018 Graduate Student Travel Award, Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance.
- 2016 Outstanding RSMAES Student Award.
- 2016 Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program.
- 2015 Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry, American Chemical Society.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **Workshop Coordinator**, Coral Genetics for Conservation and Restoration Workshop, Center for Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology (CIMAR), University of Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica.
 - Developed, organized, and taught a 4-day workshop on coral DNA extraction and mitochondrial barcoding techniques to Costa Rican undergraduate students, graduate students, and conservation professionals.

- 2020 **Workshop Coordinator**, Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease Transcriptomics Workshop, University of Miami and RSMAES.
- Developed instructional materials and taught a 4-day virtual workshop on coral disease RNA-seq and transcriptome analysis for graduate students in marine science and biology; workshop contributed to a collaborative, peer-reviewed publication in *Frontiers in Marine Science*.
- 2020 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Marine Ecology of the Galápagos (MSC 422)
- Supervised classroom sessions and field trips to Isabela and Floreana islands; delivered lectures on Galápagos coral ecology, ecological data collection, and introductory statistics; mentored students through independent field research projects.
- 2018 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Statistics for Environmental Management (RSM 612)
- Hosted weekly office hours, graded homework, and provided course support in introductory statistics and programming in R.
- 2018 **Guest Lecturer**, Introduction to Comparative Immunology (MSC 465)
- Delivered an invited lecture on cellular and molecular techniques used in coral immunology.
- 2018 **Workshop Coordinator**, CompBio-athon, University of Miami and RSMAES
- Planned and executed a professional development workshop for 15 graduate students; hosted invited speakers from UC Davis and Princeton University to lead bioinformatics training sessions on RNA-seq and population genomics for marine conservation.

RESEARCH MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2026 Miyah Brooks, Ph.D. student, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Ph.D. committee member.
- 2026 Ralph Cerbone, NGHRI summer research intern.
- 2024 Jonah Petty, NHGRI summer research intern. Winner, Best Student Poster Award in Computational and Systems Biology, 2024 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists.
- 2022 Esme Kline, STRI/NMNH bioinformatics research intern.
- 2022 Mary Grace Catapang, Natural History Research Experiences summer intern. Co-author on peer-reviewed publication.
- 2019 Rachel Sandquist, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Completed honors thesis; now Ph.D. candidate, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2019 James D. Nowotny, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Completed honors thesis; first-author publication; now postdoctoral researcher, University of Maryland, College Park.
- 2018 Brian M. Walters, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Completed honors thesis; first-author publication; now Ph.D. candidate, University of Miami.
- 2018 Anthony M. Bonacolta, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Completed honors thesis; first-author publication; now postdoctoral researcher, University of British Columbia.
- 2018 Madison Emery, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory. Completed honors thesis; now postdoctoral researcher, Michigan State University.
- 2016 Megan Howson, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory.
- 2016 Jessica Daly, RSMAES Cnidarian Immunity Laboratory.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 **Speciation, symbiosis and cellular diversity: genomic perspectives from two cnidarians.** Biological Sciences Graduate Program Seminar, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- 2025 **Speciation, symbiosis and cellular diversity: genomic perspectives from two cnidarian models.** Marine Biology and Ecology Seminar, RSMAES, University of Miami, Miami, FL.
- 2024 **Genome skimming reveals species diversity and patterns of adaptation in east Pacific *Pocillopora* corals.** Coral Restoration Consortium Tropical Eastern Pacific Working Group, Reef Futures 2024, Riviera Maya, Quintana Roo, Mexico.
- 2024 **Genome skimming reveals species diversity and patterns of adaptation in east Pacific *Pocillopora* corals.** All-Science Meeting, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.
- 2022 **Sources and impacts of pollution on coral reefs.** Ocean Safety Seminar, New York Society of Cosmetic Chemists, West Orange, NJ.
- 2022 ***Pocillopora* coral host–microbe interactions and coevolution.** Redpath Museum Seminar, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada.
- 2021 **Investigating *Pocillopora* coral host–microbe interactions, holobiont coevolution and cryptic speciation.** No Bones Seminar, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.
- 2021 **Host–microbe coevolution and cryptic speciation in eastern tropical Pacific *Pocillopora* corals.** Ecological and Evolutionary Genomics Group, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama.
- 2018 **Examining the innate immunity of *Pocillopora damicornis* corals from thermally variable reefs in Kenting National Park.** Kenting National Park Headquarters, Hengchun, Pingtung, Taiwan.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Invited and Oral Presentations:

Connelly, M.T., Katzer, A.M., Rivera, A.M., Ryan, W., and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2026. Seascape genomics of the model cnidarian *Hydractinia* reveals population differentiation and local adaptation along the U.S. Atlantic coast. *Cnidofest 2026*, Woods Hole, MA. Invited talk.

Connelly, M.T., Rivera, A.M., Traver, M., Stoilova, M.I., Cartwright, P., and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2026. Cnidarian striated muscle cell evolution and development revealed through scRNAseq of the hydrozoan *Podocoryna americana*. *Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting*, Portland, OR.

Stoilova, M.I., **Connelly, M.T.**, Mah, J.L., and Cartwright, P. 2026. Inferring ‘the sister to the stinger’ using phylogenetic methods at the cell-type level. *Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting*, Portland, OR.

Connelly, M.T., Rivera, A.M., Traver, M., Stoilova, M.I., Cartwright, P., and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2025. Cnidarian striated muscle cell evolution and development revealed through scRNAseq of polyps and medusae of the hydrozoan *Podocoryna americana*. *Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology Biennial Meeting*, Miami, FL.

Ali, V.G., Alvarado, J.J., Fernandez-García, C., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Leray, M. 2025. A novel eDNA assay for monitoring *Pocillopora* spp. corals in the Tropical Eastern Pacific. *Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation Annual Meeting*, Oaxaca, Mexico.

Connelly, M.T., Rivera, A.M., Traver, M., Stoilova, M.I., Cartwright, P., and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2025. Single-cell transcriptomics of polyps and medusae of the hydrozoan *Podocoryna carnea*. *Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA.

Connelly, M.T., Rivera, A.M., Traver, M., Stoilova, M.I., Cartwright, P., and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2024. Single-cell transcriptomics of polyps and medusae of the hydrozoan *Podocoryna carnea*. *Cnidofest 2024*, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA.

Connelly, M.T., Glynn, V.M., Cornejo, A., Leray, M. Connolly, S.R., and Quattrini, A.M. 2024. Genome skimming reveals species diversity and patterns of adaptation and gene flow in east Pacific *Pocillopora* corals. *3rd Joint Congress on Evolutionary Biology*, Montreal, QC, Canada.

Connelly, M.T., Glynn, V.M., Cornejo, A., Leray, M. Connolly, S.R., and Quattrini, A.M. 2024. Genome skimming resolves east Pacific *Pocillopora* species diversity and population differentiation. *Society of Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting*, Seattle, WA.

Connelly, M.T., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2021. Interactions between the *Pocillopora* coral innate immune system and coral-associated bacteria communities. *Frontiers in Tropical Marine and Terrestrial Microbial Ecology Symposium*, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, virtual conference. Invited talk.

Connelly, M.T., McRae, C.J. Liu, P.J., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2021. Experimental treatment of *Pocillopora* corals with LPS stimulates genotype-specific immune responses but does not alter associated bacteria communities. *International Coral Reef Symposium*, Bremen, Germany.

Traylor-Knowles, N., Snyder, G.A., **Connelly, M.T.**, Browne, W.E., and Rosental, B. 2021. From cells to genes: the surprising immune system of *Pocillopora damicornis*. *International Coral Reef Symposium*, Bremen, Germany.

Connelly, M.T. McRae, C.J., Liu, P.J., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2018. Patterns of *Pocillopora damicornis* immune gene expression in response to antibiotics treatment, heat stress, and lipopolysaccharide exposure. *Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance Conference*, Curaçao.

Traylor-Knowles, N., Snyder, G.A., **Connelly, M.T.**, Browne, W.E., and Rosental, B. 2018. From cells to genes: the surprising immune system of *Pocillopora damicornis*. *Cnidofest 2018*, University of Florida Whitney Marine Laboratory, St. Augustine, FL.

Connelly, M.T. McRae, C.J., Liu, P.J., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2018. Differential immune gene expression of *Pocillopora damicornis* corals in response to antibiotics treatment, heat stress, and lipopolysaccharide exposure. *Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference*, Miami, FL.

Connelly, M.T., Pausch, R., Bright, A., Williams, D.E., and Miller, M. 2016. Genet and habitat effects on outplanted *Acropora palmata* fragment growth, survivorship and bleaching response. *Benthic Ecology Meeting*, Portland, ME.

Poster Presentations:

Zimmermann, L.A., Bejarano, S., **Connelly, M.T.**, Connolly, S.R., Marangoni, L.F.B., Keith, I., Alvarado, J.J., García, C.F., and Leray, M. Temperature shapes biogeographical patterns in the *Pocillopora*-Symbiodiniaceae symbioses across the Eastern Tropical Pacific. *International Coral Reef Symposium*, Auckland, New Zealand.

Petty, J.A., Rivera, A.M., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Baxeavanis, A.D. 2024. Comparative protein structural analysis of diverse cnidarian allorecognition systems. *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists*, Pittsburgh, PA.

Petty, J.A., Rivera, A.M., **Connelly, M.T.**, Baxeavanis, and A.D. 2024. Comparative protein structural analysis of diverse cnidarian allorecognition systems. *National Institutes of Health Summer Internship Program Research Symposium*, Bethesda, MD.

Catapang, M.G.L., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Quattrini, A.M. 2022. Assessing historical DNA from *Pocillopora* museum specimens. *National History Research Experiences Poster Symposium*, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Connelly, M.T., Quattrini, A.M., and Kline, D.I. 2022. Towards a modern integrative taxonomy of *Pocillopora* corals: a literature synthesis and meta-analysis of genetic data. *Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Ocean Sciences Meeting*, virtual conference.

Sandquist, R., **Connelly, M.T.**, and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2020. Investigation of tumor necrosis factor receptor-associated factors in *Pocillopora damicornis*. *RSMAES Undergraduate Poster Symposium*, Miami, FL.

Nowotny, J.D., Snyder, G.A., **Connelly, M.T.**, Rosental, B., and Traylor-Knowles, N., 2020. Working towards the establishment of long-term cnidarian cell culture and stem cell characterization through FACS. *RSMAES Undergraduate Poster Symposium*, Miami, FL.

Bonacolta, A.B., **Connelly, M.T.**, Rosales, S., Snyder, G.A., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2020. Organismal compartmentalization of the microbiome in the starlet sea anemone, *Nematostella vectensis*. *RSMAES Undergraduate Poster Symposium*, Miami, FL.

Connelly, M.T. McRae, C.J., Liu, P.J., and Traylor-Knowles, N. 2018. Patterns of *Pocillopora damicornis* immune gene expression in response to antibiotics treatment, heat stress, and lipopolysaccharide exposure. *Cnidofest 2018*, University of Florida Whitney Marine Laboratory, St. Augustine, FL.

Connelly, M.T., Gibbs, P.D., and Schmale, M.C. 2016. Effects of nickel (II) chloride exposure on zebrafish embryonic cell cultures. *RSMAES Undergraduate Poster Symposium*, Miami, FL.

Connelly, M.T., Gibbs, P.D., and Schmale, M.C. 2014. Transgenic zebrafish cell culture and cell response to external stimuli. *Honors Summer Research Forum*, University of Miami, Miami FL.

Connelly, M.T., Pontes, E., Letourneau, M., and Langdon, C. 2013. Understanding the combined impacts of rising temperature and atmospheric CO₂ on calcification and photosynthetic rates of *Porites* and *Acropora* corals. *Research, Creativity, and Innovation Forum*, University of Miami, Miami, FL.

OUTREACH AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

2022 Smithsonian Science Café, Smithsonian Institution.

- Participated in science communication workshop and delivered the public presentation “Coral Microbiomes and the Key to Resilience” on coral biodiversity and microbiome research. Recording available: https://youtu.be/TS_mhT6FOdA?t=1660

2021 Great American Teach-In, Ruskin, FL.

- Led a virtual classroom visit with 3rd-grade students to answer questions about Florida’s coral reefs, marine ecosystems, and careers in marine science.

2020 University of Miami Three-Minute Thesis Competition, University of Miami.

- Presented dissertation research to a general audience in a three-minute format; received the People’s Choice Award.

- 2020 Subtropical Experiments: Corals Above and Below, WDNA Radio Studio, Miami, FL.
- Participated in live radio broadcast and delivered a public presentation on coral conservation in South Florida. Recording available: https://youtu.be/ksZ_ifji86M?t=1381
- 2018 IMPACT Program Mentor, Frost Museum of Science, Miami, FL.
- Mentored two Miami-Dade County high school students through 8-week independent research projects.
- 2016 President, University of Miami Aquarium Club, University of Miami.
- Organized educational trips to the Mote Marine Laboratory, Georgia Aquarium, Shedd Aquarium, New England Aquarium, and Ripley's Aquarium of Canada; coordinated installation and maintenance of a 150-gallon reef aquarium for educational programming.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024 NIH Genome Trainee Advisory Committee Representative.
- 2021 Postdoctoral Fellow Representative, Smithsonian Senate of Scientists.
- 2019 Graduate Student Representative, Student Leadership, Evaluation and Development Committee, RSMAES, University of Miami.

SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW

Ad hoc reviewer: Animal Microbiome 1; BMC Biology 1; BMC Genomics 2; Coral Reefs 2; Ecology 1; Environmental Microbiology 1; Life: The Excitement of Biology 1; PLOS ONE 4.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

- 2022 Science Café Communication Workshop, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.
- 2021 Virtual Species Delimitation Workshop, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.
- 2020 Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease Transcriptomics Workshop, University of Miami, RSMAES. Workshop coordinator and participant.
- 2017 CompBio-athon Bioinformatics Workshop, University of Miami, RSMAES. Workshop coordinator and participant.
- 2016 Environmental Genomics Workshop, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- 2022 Smithsonian Institution Scientific Diver. 33 career Smithsonian Institution dives in Panama and the Galápagos, Ecuador.
- 2019 Spanish I-V Course Completion, Miami-Dade College Continuing Education Department.
- 2017 Motorboat Operator Certification Course, U.S. Department of the Interior.
- 2015 American Academy of Underwater Sciences Authorized Diver, 66 career dives with RSMAES, NOAA, and international research teams in Florida, Puerto Rico, and Taiwan.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology