

SIMONA MERCEDES CLAUSNITZER

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Education

Bryn Mawr College

Bachelor of Arts, Geology: 2014, Cum Laude

Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Master of Advanced Studies in Marine Biodiversity & Conservation: 2020

Capstone topic: climate justice, discourse analysis, phenomenology. Primary advisor: Dr. Isabel Rivera-Collazo

Experience

Seafood Slavery Risk Tool, Inc.: Edna Bailey Sussman Fellow

2020

- Researched and developed profiles to assess human rights violations in the fishing industry
- Used policy-focused indicators to investigate child labor and forced labor in India's farmed shrimp industry

Olympic National Park: Interpretive Ranger

2018– 2019

- Gave interpretive talks using metaphors, analogies and storytelling about glaciers, ice worms, geology, and flora
- Lead thematic guided hikes and snowshoe walks to engage park visitors with the resource in a hands-on way
- Staffed the main Visitor Centers, trained new volunteers, and helped manage day-to-day operations

The Pacific Whale Foundation: Marine Naturalist and Deckhand

2017– 2018

- Gave marine science talks to groups of 145+ discussing coral reef ecology, climate change, and conservation
- Led in-water snorkel tours, crewed large catamarans, and gave 2-hour narrated whale watches
- Wrote science-themed posts for the PWF research blog

Cocha Cashu Biological Field Station, Peru: Field Assistant

2016

- Independently maintained biodiversity transects off-trail in the Amazon Rainforest for the University of Stirling
- Assisted MacArthur Fellow John Terborgh with ongoing collection of growth data in successional forest
- Participated in owl surveys to compare species abundance in two local habitats, terra firme and floodplains

Call of the Sea: Head Educator and Deckhand

2015

- Taught marine science, maritime history, navigation, and seamanship on a schooner in San Francisco Bay
- Led overnight science and sailing voyages for youth to the Farallon Islands, Drake's Bay, Santa Cruz, and more
- Developed curriculum and trained educators about microplastics, marine geology, plankton, and stewardship

Utah State University Department of Geology: Structural Geology Field Assistant

2015

- Collected structural geology data on-site in the Mecca Hills Wilderness Area
- Measured strike/dip, mapped fault systems and rock types, took detailed notes describing the geology of the field area
- Organized rock samples, hiked gear to and from the field site each day, and packed out rock samples

Denali National Park: Wilderness AmeriCorps Intern

2014

- Designed and coordinated events for the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act celebration
- Created a "Wilderness50th" in Denali podcast with wilderness stories from locals and park community
- Developed Citizen Science education projects focusing on ecosystems and the scientific process

Glacier National Park: Interpretive Park Ranger AmeriCorps Intern **2013**

- Researched, prepared, and presented original interpretive programs to diverse audiences
- Initiated informal discussion with visitors about Glacier’s ecosystems, cultural history, and climate change
- Helped manage two of the busiest visitor centers in Glacier (St. Mary and Logan Pass)

National Council for Science and the Environment: Climate Change Intern **2012-2013**

National Park Service, Western Arctic National Parklands, Kotzebue Office

- Worked with Native Alaskan Iñupiaq community to document how climate change influences culture
- Conducted interviews with community members, wrote articles, coordinated community involvement
- Wrote articles synthesizing current Alaskan climate change research with Iñupiaq aspects of climate change

Sea Education Association (SEA) Semester Student: Oceans and Climate Program **2012**

- Studied Oceanography, Climate, Nautical Science, and Marine Public Policy on SEA campus in Woods Hole
- Sailed for 6 weeks from Hawaii to Tahiti on the Robert C. Seamans as crew and as a research student
- Stopped at port in Raiatea, French Polynesia and Kiritimati to study environmental/cultural sustainability

NASA Microgravity University Team Member, Bryn Mawr College Geology Department **2011-2012**

- Developed research project on determining the porosity of a Martian soil simulant in microgravity
- Co-wrote and was awarded a grant from NASA’s Microgravity University to conduct research
- Collected data under zero-gravity conditions aboard NASA’s reduced gravity aircraft “The Vomit Comet”

Publications, Papers, and Presentations

- “Early-career perspectives on the UN Conference of Parties (COP) and how to address the unfolding Climate Crisis,” *Frontiers in Marine Science* (In Prep)
- [Climate Justice Capstone Symposium Presentation](#), Scripps Institution of Oceanography (2020)
- [Climate change: The past as a glimpse into the future](#), Scripps Institution of Oceanography (August 2019)
- [Diel Vertical Migration of plankton](#), Pacific Whale Foundation (May 2017)
- [Your Wilderness Stories Podcast](#), Denali National Park and Preserve (2014)

Honors and Scholarships

- Enhanced Educational Opportunity Scholarship, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (2019-2020)
- Emily M. Hewitt Memorial Scholarship, Calaveras Big Trees Association (2019-2020)
- Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation (CMBC) annual film festival winner (2019)
- STAR (Special Thanks for Achieving Results) Award, Olympic National Park (May 2019)
- Posse Foundation Full-Tuition Leadership Scholarship to Bryn Mawr College (2010-2014)
- Bryn Mawr College Convocation Speaker (September 2013)

Languages and Skills

- English (native language), Spanish (intermediate written and spoken)
- Experience using Adobe Premiere Pro, Microsoft Office Suite, Google Software, and social media platforms