

FRANCISCO J. SOTO-SANTIAGO

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EDUCATION

University of Puerto Rico
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
M.S., Biological Oceanography Major, June 2011
GPA 3.7

University of Puerto Rico
Humacao, Puerto Rico
B.S., Coastal Marine Biology Major, July 2005
GPA 3.1

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Graduate Student Research Assistant
Supervisor: Dr. Clark Sherman
August 2009-January 2011

Assist with field operations including diving, coring of reefs
and maintenance of equipment.

Puerto Rico Seismic Network
Department of Geology
University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Graduate Student Earthquake Analyst
Supervisor: Gisela Báez-Sánchez
January 2009-May 2010

Analysis of daily earthquake data in the Caribbean area.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Graduate Student Research Assistant
Supervisor: Dr. Roy Armstrong
June 2008- December 2008

Analysis of photographs from deep coral reefs in Puerto Rico.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Graduate Student Research Assistant
Supervisor: Dr. Ernesto Weil
August 2007-May 2008

Analysis of data and lab and field work on coral reef ecology.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Macro International, Inc.
Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey
Supervisor: Sergio Medina Ríos
January 2007- May 2008

Field Interviewer for the MRFSS on the south and west
coasts, Puerto Rico.

Corporation for National and Community Service
Puerto Rico State Office
AmeriCorps VISTA
Supervisor: Juan Carlos Gastón
January 2006-August 2006

Computer center assistant for the Mayagüez Children's
Library, Inc.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Sea Grant Program
Marine Educator
Supervisor: Dr. Delmis Alicea
June 2010-May 2011

Marine educator in the Guardarenas project at the west
region of Puerto Rico.

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Department of Chemistry
Teacher Assistant (TA)
Supervisor: Fernando Meléndez
January 2007- May 2007

Helped in the organization of organic chemistry laboratory
exercises.

Corporation for National and Community Service
Puerto Rico State Office
AmeriCorps VISTA
Supervisor: Dr. Sean Griffin
August 2005-December 2005

Coordinator of workshops and educational activities in
marine science for the Santa María Boat School of Puerto
Rico, Inc.

University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Sea Grant Program
Environmental Interpreter
Supervisor: Lesbia Montero
August 2003-December 2003

Guided field trips on natural reserves in east Puerto Rico.
Field trips were given to public high school students.

Western Washington University
Shannon Point Marine Center
Outreach Program
Anacortes, Washington
Fourth Grade Teacher
Supervisor: Dr. Brian Bingham
January 2003-March 2003

Taught students in Anacortes public schools about marine
science, how the food chain works and differences
between phytoplankton and zooplankton.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Isla Magueyes Station, Lajas, Puerto Rico
Advisor: Dr. Ernesto Weil
August 2007-June 2011

M.S. thesis on exploring the incidence, prevalence and spatial
distribution of the Yellow Band Disease on *Montastraea* spp. in
La Parguera Natural Reserve, Lajas, Puerto Rico.

University of Puerto Rico
Humacao, Puerto Rico
Advisor: Prof. Cedar García Ríos
August 2003- July 2005

Exploring the diversity of micro invertebrates living in a
green calcareous alga.

The College of William and Mary
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Gloucester Point, Virginia
Advisor: Dr. Rochelle Seitz
Summer 2004

Exploring the relation to predation between blue crabs and clams in the Chesapeake Bay. Work included researching the literature and developing a research plan.

Western Washington University
Shannon Point Marine Center
Anacortes, Washington
Advisor: Dr. Gisele Muller-Parker
January 2003-June 2003

Studied the symbiosis between two microscopic algae and a temperate sea anemone. Explored the effects of low temperatures on algal productivity and translocation of carbon to the host.

PUBLICATIONS

Rivero-Calle S., Armstrong R.A., **Soto-Santiago F.J.** 2008. Biological and physical characteristics of a mesophotic coral reef: Black Jack reef, Vieques, Puerto Rico. Proceedings of the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium 1: 574-578.

García-Rios C., **Soto-Santiago F.J.**, Colón-Rivera R.J., Medina-Hernández J.R. 2008. Gasterópodos asociados al alga calcárea *Halimeda opuntia* (Udoteaceae) en Puerto Rico. Revista de Biología Tropical, 56(4): 1665-1675.

Soto-Santiago F.J. and Weil E. Prevalence of Caribbean yellow band disease in La Parguera, Puerto Rico. In preparation.

Soto-Santiago F.J. and Weil E. Spatial distribution patterns and incidence of Caribbean yellow band disease in La Parguera, Puerto Rico. In preparation.

PRESENTATIONS

Poster presentation at the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. “**Spatial distribution patterns of Yellow Band Disease in La Parguera, Puerto Rico.**”
Albuquerque Convention Center, New Mexico
August 2009

Poster Presentation at the Simposio de Flora y Fauna Annual Meeting. **“*Diadema antillarum*, algal cover and juvenile coral abundance in La Parguera, Puerto Rico.”**

University of Puerto Rico, Humacao, Puerto Rico
April 2009

Oral Presentation at the Ecological Society of America (ESA) Annual Meeting. **“Gastropod communities associated to the green calcareous alga *Halimeda opuntia*.”**

Palais de Congress, Montréal, Canada
August 2005

Oral Presentation at the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) Meeting. **“Exploring the effects of food availability and predation on blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) enhancement.”**

Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah
February 2005

Oral Presentation at the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) Meeting. **“Exploring the effects of low temperature on two algal symbionts in the sea anemone *Anthopleura elegantissima*.”**

Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah
February 2003

SPECIAL SKILLS

Bilingual: fluent in English and Spanish

Boating Skills and Seamanship certified

PADI Open Water, PADI Advanced Diver, PADI Enriched Air Diver and PADI Rescue Diver certified

AWARDS

2011 National Science Foundation-Integrate Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (NSF-IGERT) Doctoral Fellowship recipient

2009 Central New York-Puerto Rico Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Fellowship recipient

2008 George Burlew Scholarship recipient

2007-2008 Alliance for the Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Program at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez.

The Southern Association of Marine Laboratories
Outstanding Student Presentation, Third Place Award
American Society of Limnology and Oceanography
Salt Lake City, Utah
February 2005

Full scholarship by the Ecological Society of America
SEEDS Program to attend the ESA Annual Meeting.
Mérida, México
January 2006
Montréal, Canada
August 2005

Full scholarship by the National Science Foundation to
attend the American Society of Limnology and
Oceanography (ASLO) Annual Meeting.
Salt Lake City, Utah
February 2003 and 2005

**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS**

American Society of Limnology and Oceanography

Ecological Society of America

Association of Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean