

Sara K. MacSorley
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EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration May 2013
University of Rhode Island Kingston, RI
Internship: Metcalf Institute for Marine and Environmental Reporting –
Best models of science communication graduate programs and courses, curriculum
development for new science communication master's program

Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology, *summa cum laude* May 2008
University of Rhode Island Kingston, RI
GPA 3.92
Minor in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies

Study Abroad Semester Fall 2006
Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences St. George's, Bermuda
GPA 4.0
Independent Research: "The ecological implications of the toxins found in the sponge
Dysidea ethereal and the nudibranch *Hypselodoris zebra*"

Honors for Academic Achievement
Presidential Award in Marine Biology – top graduating senior in major
Centennial Scholarship – 4-year merit scholarship
Bessie Belmont Memorial Scholarship – academic achievement in natural sciences
Brett Santoro Memorial Scholarship – academic achievement in biology
Valedictorian, Cambridge South Dorchester High School, Cambridge, MD

WORK EXPERIENCE

Rhode Island EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research), funded by National Science Foundation (NSF) Narragansett, RI

Project Administrator Dec 2009-present
Supervised by Principal Investigator, Jennifer Specker, Ph.D.

- Coordinated proposal writing resulting in \$20 million award to enhance research infrastructure and science job pipeline in nine colleges and universities in Rhode Island, based at the University of Rhode Island, program management in higher education
- Report writing, data collection, survey assessment, strategic planning, business planning for research facilities
- Editor, *The Current*, newsmagazine distributed nationwide to over 2600 people and organizations; organized transition to electronic distribution and environmentally-friendly printing; maintained web content; co-developed science communication training workshops for faculty and students
- Managed student network through social media (i.e. Facebook for community building; Twitter for program updates and announcements); assisted with education and outreach

for K-12 enrichment programs for minority students and undergraduate research experiences, developed career activities for undergraduates, inquiry-based hands on science activities for middle and high school students

- Facilitated meetings with granting agency leadership; coordinated large events from start to finish including site visits by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF); made executive-level presentations on social media outreach, education, public engagement, and communications
- Communicated regularly with students, scientists, administrators, NSF, and the public; maintained office calendar; attended national EPSCoR meetings; regularly facilitated staff meetings
- Responsible for grant administration oversight, budget management, compliance, funding opportunity identification; supervise and motivate a professional staff and coordinate the activities of a network of over 100 scientists and college administrators

Outreach and Communications Coordinator

Jan 2009-Dec 2009

Supervised by Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Peter Alfonso, Ph.D.

- Assisted in educational and outreach activities for K-12, undergraduate and graduate students; selection committee for student research fellowships; coordinated career-building workshops, scientific poster training, and scientific conference
- Organized meetings; regularly communicated with administrators, faculty, students, the public, and governmental officials to promote statewide collaboration and networking

Project Assistant: Outreach

May 2008-Jan 2009

Supervised by Associate Project Director, Babette Allina

- Developed tri-annual newsmagazine (*The Current*) for print and web including timelines, layout, writing, editing, and photography; designed outreach and marketing materials
- Assisted in organizing educational activities including statewide research symposia and undergraduate research fellowships; primary contact for research students; assisted in coordinating career-building activities; supervised student employees

Graduate Village Apartments, University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI

Co-Assistant Site Manager

Sept 2010-present

Supervised by Housing Director, Karen Sherman

- Assist in the management of a 100-unit graduate student housing complex; read and report electricity use for the complex
- Facilitate community relations for an international graduate student population, manage community center schedule for resident programming, safety training, language practice session, music lessons, sports, etc.
- Assist with annual apartment inspections for lease renewals
- Serve on call for emergencies, lock outs, and other duties; regular contact with other housing, facilities, maintenance, and dispatch staff

Marine Biology Program, University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI

Peer Mentor

Sept 2007-May 2008

Supervised by Marine Biology Program Coordinator and Professor, Jacqueline Webb, Ph.D.

- Organized and engaged students; provided academic advisement; assisted students in finding internships, research and study abroad experiences under the supervision of the Program Director
- Edited program website; designed handouts; held informational meetings for students
- Held office hours and answered student queries via email, phone and in-person; participated in university events to promote the program to prospective students and their families

**Census of Marine Life, Office of Marine Programs, University of Rhode Island
Graduate School of Oceanography**

Narragansett, RI

Editorial Assistant

Sept 2007-May 2008

Supervised by Director, Sara Hickox and Communications Consultant, Darlene Trew Crist

- Cataloged local to international media coverage; wrote media coverage summaries; archived images; updated website; and created reference guides and glossary for the book *World Ocean Census: A Global Survey of Marine Life* (Firefly Publishers, 2009)

**Office of Marine Programs, University of Rhode Island Graduate School of
Oceanography**

Narragansett, RI

Assistant Program Coordinator

Summer 2007

Supervised by Sara Hickox, Director and Metcalf Executive Director, Sunshine Menezes, Ph.D.

- Assisted in the organization and execution of marine science programs for teachers, journalists, and researchers
- Assembled program materials; gave tours; provided informational assistance; updated databases; and communicated with local and regional media outlets

Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland

Cambridge, MD

Lab Assistant

Summer 2005, 2006

Supervised by Associate Professor and Extension Aquaculture Specialist, Andrew Lazur, Ph.D.

- Maintained tanks; regulated and prepared fish diet; made feeding and behavioral observations; pit tagging/scanning; measured growth and fecundity; water quality assessment, nutrient testing for aquaculture species of the Chesapeake Bay and marine ornamental fish species

Academic Enhancement Center, University of Rhode Island

Kingston RI

Tutor

Spring 2005

Supervised by Director, David Hayes

- Tutored individuals and small groups in basic biology, chemistry, and calculus; performed class size review sessions for final exams; diversity training

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Strong skills in written and verbal communication, organization, relationship and team building, working with diverse groups of people as a team member, and working independently
- PC and Mac, Microsoft Word and advanced word processing, Excel and spreadsheet analysis, PowerPoint, electronic mail and calendar systems, Adobe Acrobat, digital photography
- Social media development and management – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google +, Blogger, WordPress, Storify
- PADI Advanced SCUBA
- Research Administrator Certification training

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Organizer/Coordinator

- RI EPSCoR/Sea Grant/Metcalf Science Communication Workshop – How to Effectively Communicate Science on the Web, **Organizer and Participant**, Narragansett, RI. July 2012
- NSF Science: Becoming the Messenger Workshop, **Organizer and Participant**, Kingston, RI. July 2012
- RI EPSCoR Evaluation Meeting by AAAS, **Coordinator**, Kingston, RI. June 2012
- RI EPSCoR Evaluation Meeting by AAAS, **Coordinator and Presenter** for Communications, Kingston, RI. June 2011

Presenter

- National NSF EPSCoR Education, Outreach, Diversity Webinar, “Social Media 101 and Your Organization” to 80 participants nation wide, August 2012 - <http://bit.ly/NMxbTU>
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Directors and Project Administrators Meeting, PA Business Meeting – Social Media, Arlington, VA. May 2012
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Directors and Project Administrators Meeting, PA Leadership Committee Best Practices – Social Media, Hot Springs, AR. Jan 2012
- RI EPSCoR Strategic Planning Meeting, Academy Activities and NSF Reporting Requirements, Brown University, Providence RI. Oct 2010
- RI EPSCoR Evaluation Meeting by AAAS, Outreach Activities, Kingston, RI. May 2010

Participant

- Cognition and Learning: Effective Strategies Workshop. Narragansett Bay Classroom and Metcalf Institute, Narragansett, RI. May 2012
- COSEE Ocean Systems and New England Ocean Science Education Collaborative (NEOSEC) Workshop: Strategies for Engaging in Broader Impact Programs, Waquoit, MA. Nov 2011
- National NSF EPSCoR Conference and Project Administrators Meeting, Coeur d’Alene, ID. Oct 2011
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Director and Administrator Meeting, Arlington, VA. May 2011
- Think Before You Speak! Effective Message Development for Your Organization, Communications Training, Coalition for the Homeless, Providence, RI. Jan 2011
- NEOSEC – Ocean Literacy Summit, University of New Hampshire, NH. Nov 2010
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Administrator and Education, Outreach, Diversity Meeting, Missoula, MO. Oct 2010
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Director and Administrator Best Practices Meeting, Arlington, VA. May 2010
- National NSF EPSCoR Project Director and Administrator Meeting, Albuquerque, NM. Jan 2009
- NEOSEC – Ocean Literacy Summit, Boston, MA. Nov 2008
- Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership Conference, 2002

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Rhode Island NSF EPSCoR

- **Chair Elect**, NSF EPSCoR Project Admin Leadership Committee, nominated and elected by national EPSCoR Project Administrators, 2012-present
- **Project Admin Liaison**, NSF EPSCoR Education, Outreach and Diversity (EOD) Leadership Committee, nominated by EPSCoR EODs, 2012-present
- **Member**, NSF EPSCoR Project Admin Leadership Committee, nominated and elected by national EPSCoR Project Administrators, 2011-2012

Science Education & Outreach

- **Student Member**, National Association of Science Writers, 2012-present
- **Co-Teacher**, Cut-Out Animation, Rhode Island Museum of Science and Art – taught elementary and middle school students about animation and guided them making their own cut-out animation videos, August 2012
- **Guest Speaker**, Girls Interested in Real Life Science (GIRLS) Program, Ocean Explorium – spoke to 23 middle school girls and ~25 community members about the importance of mentors to women in science and potential science careers, March 2012
- **Guest Discussion Leader** - facilitated discussion about reactions to Colin Beavan's No Impact Man for course on Women and Natural Sciences, Sept 2011
- **Guest Speaker**, Girls in Science Camp, Save the Bay - spoke to 18 middle school girls about marine career transition from research interests to outreach, July 2010
- **Field Trip Leader**, Namcook Project - assisted facilitation of family day event with Native American youth and underrepresented students from an urban school to enhance the awareness of the cultural, historical and ecological significance of Rome Point, RI., May 2010
- **Poster Judge**, URI Coastal Fellows Program (undergraduate research symposium), Dec 2009
- **Liaison**, URI College of Environmental Life Sciences East Farm Festival - facilitated marine themed games for children and students, Spring 2008
- **Field Trip Leader**, Guaranteed Admissions Program, URI - facilitated hands-on marine related activities including salt marsh and rocky intertidal topics for students of underrepresented groups, Summer 2007
- **President (2005), Secretary (2007)**, URI Marine Science Society - organized activities including a seminar series, environmental clean ups, and aquarium tours and visits, 2004-2008

PUBLICATIONS

Ocean Observations Blog, November 2012 - present - <http://oceanobservations.blogspot.com/>

EPSCoR Highlight on Research.gov, Rhode Island Teachers Take Biotech Lessons Back to the Classroom, June 2012 - <http://go.usa.gov/dDL>

Science Club for Girls, Marine Biologist Sara MacSorley's Letter to her Younger Self, March 2012 - <http://scienceclubforgirls.wordpress.com/2012/03/14/marine-biologist-sara-macsorleys-letter-to-her-younger-self/>

The Current, Rhode Island NSF EPSCoR tri-annual newsmagazine, http://www.riepscor.org/The_Current

- Down by the Bay, Spring 2012 – A Valuable Resource for Research: The Marine Life Science Facility, SURF Student Studies Life Under the Sea in Newport, What is Ocean Acidification?
- Cyberinfrastructure, Winter 2012 – Student Spotlight, Splashing into Science
- Art, Design, and Research, Spring 2011 - Designer in Focus: From London, England, to New England; What is Design Thinking?; Rhode Island Streams Project: Training the Next Field Scientists; A Meeting of Strategic Minds: The Rhode Island NSF EPSCoR Community; Student Spotlight
- Proteomics, Spring 2010 - What is X-ray Crystallography?; Engaging Students in STEM: EPSCoR and ETS; In the Lab; Student Spotlight
- Academy Issue, Fall 2009 - What is inquiry-based learning?; RITES – The Right Approach to Secondary Education; Student Spotlight; Building Networks & Enhancing Collaboration
- Marine Issue, Spring 2009 - Who is Charles Watson?; What is Nitrogen Fixation?; LSAMP Serves as a Pilot for EPSCoR Marine Academy; Student Spotlight
- Inaugural Issue, Fall 2008 - What is Genomics?; Student Spotlight; Students ride the science wave with SURF

URI Common Reading Blog - Meet Sara MacSorley, Aug 2011, <http://uricommonreading.blogspot.com/2011/08/meet-sara-macsorley.html>

Options: Rhode Island's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Newsmagazine

- A Simple Message for Hope: It Gets Better at URI, Coming Out for Change, Oct 2011 - <http://myoptionsri.org/a-simple-message-for-hope-it-gets-better-at-uri-coming-out-for-change/>
- URI Makes Strides Since Student Sit-In Last September, April 2011 - <http://myoptionsri.org/?p=316>
- Promoting Progress – URI's Gay/Straight Alliance, Nov 2010