

Eliya M. Baron Lopez

EDUCATION

University of Rhode Island (URI) **September 2019 – May 2021**

Master of Arts in Marine Affairs '21

GPA: 3.93

Working Thesis: "A Case Study on South Korean Marine Litter Management"

University of California, San Diego (UCSD) **October 2014 – June 2018**

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Policy '18

Minor: Korean Studies

Senior Thesis: "The Outbreak of Pyrosomes, *Pyrosoma atlanticum*, in the southern California Current System"

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fulbright Student, South Korea **April 2021 - Present**

Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology, Busan, South Korea

Researching South Korean marine litter policy and assisting on other projects related to South Korean marine affairs at the Ocean Policy Institute in the Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology.

Graduate Research Assistant **January 2021 – May 2021**

University of Rhode Island, College of Business and Department of Marine Affairs

Conducted a thematic analysis of interview data on users' perceptions of and interactions with marine debris in Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island, with Dr. Seray Ergene and Dr. Tracey Dalton.

Graduate Research Assistant **August 2019 – August 2020**

University of Rhode Island, Department of Marine Affairs

Worked with Dr. Elizabeth Mendenhall to prepare a panel discussion on solutions for marine plastic debris hosted by URI's Division of Research and Economic Development. Conducted literature reviews on international agreements regarding marine debris to support Dr. Mendenhall's research.

Undergraduate Curatorial Lab Assistant **October 2017 – September 2018**

Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), Pelagic Invertebrate Collection

Assisted Collection Manager with curating plankton samples, labeling samples, and boxes, entering data into Excel, preparing solutions, sorting of plankton samples with a dissecting microscope, and general lab maintenance.

Undergraduate Microplastic Lab Assistant **January 2017 – June 2017**

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Mark Ohman Lab

Assisted Ph.D. Candidate Jennifer Brandon with dissertation research related to microplastics. Sorted microplastics from sediment cores using dissecting microscope and taking calibrated digital images. Acknowledged in Brandon, Jennifer A., William Jones, and Mark D. Ohman. "Multidecadal Increase in Plastic Particles in Coastal Ocean Sediments." *Science Advances* 5, no. 9 (September 2019)

Director of Operations, Resources, and Community Outreach **September 2016 – June 2018**

UC San Diego, Student Sustainability Collective

Managed the Sustainability Resource Center's resources, official emails, and meeting agendas. Planned, marketed, coordinated volunteers, and recruited environmental organizations for UCSD's Sustainability Job Fair 2017. Developed the Inter-Sustainability Council to support sustainability-based organizations at UCSD. Developed strategies to ban single-use plastics and promoted bicycle accessibility through free repair events.

National Science Foundation (NSF) Scholar **June 2016 – August 2016**

University of Massachusetts, Boston (UMB) and New England Aquarium

Hosted by Coastal Research in Environmental Science and Technology Research for Undergraduates funded by NSF to lead and conduct experiments to collect data of microplastic ingestion by corals with Dr. Randi Rotjan.

PUBLICATIONS

Baron Lopez, Eliya M. "South Korean and Japanese Air Defense Identification Zone Claims over the Liancourt Rocks." *Ocean Yearbook*, vol. 35 (June 2021).

Mendenhall, Elizabeth, and **Eliya M. Baron Lopez.** "Solving the Oceans' Plastic Problem." *Current History* 119, no. 813 (January 1, 2020).

Rotjan, Randi D., Koty H. Sharp, Anna E. Gauthier, Rowan Yelton, **Eliya M. Baron Lopez**, Jessica Carilli, Jonathan C. Kagan, and Juanita Urban-Rich. "Patterns, Dynamics and Consequences of Microplastic Ingestion by the Temperate Coral, *Astrangia Poculata*." *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 286, no. 1905 (June 26, 2019).

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

E. Baron Lopez, "SWOT Analysis on South Korean Marine Litter Management," Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law workshop on Marine Plastic Pollution Rule of Law, Oral, October 2020.

E. Baron Lopez (presenter), L.M. Sala, & M.D. Ohman, "The waxing and waning of a bloom of pyrosomes, *Pyrosoma atlanticum*, in the southern California Current System, 2014 – 2019," Ocean Sciences Meeting, Poster, February 2020.

L.M. Sala (presenter), **E. Baron Lopez**, & M.D. Ohman, "The waxing and waning of a bloom of pyrosomes, *Pyrosoma atlanticum*, in the southern California Current System, 2014 – 2018," California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations Annual Conference, Poster, December 2018.

E. Baron Lopez (presenter), L.M. Sala, M.D. Ohman, "The Outbreak of Pyrosomes, *Pyrosoma atlanticum*, in the southern California Current System from 2014 – 2017," UCSD Environmental Symposium & Alumni Reunion, Poster, June 2018.

R.D. Rotjan (presenter), R. Yelton, **E. Baron Lopez**, A. Gauthier, J. Carilli, K. Sharp, J. Urban-Rich, "Microplastic ingestion and expulsion by the temperate, urban, coastal coral *Astrangia poculata*," Ocean Sciences Meeting, Oral, February 2018.

E. Baron Lopez (presenter), R. Yelton, J. Urban-Rich, J. Carilli, R.D. Rotjan. "Ingestion and expulsion of microplastics within the temperate coral, *Astrangia poculata*," UMB Summer Science Symposium, Poster, August 2016.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Contributor

University of Washington, Yoshitaka Ota Lab

Contributing research on South Korean marine litter management to a marine litter report.

January 2020 – Present

Graduate Volunteer

Graduate School of Oceanography, J.P. Walsh Lab

Advised methods development process to research microplastic pollution in ocean sediment.

January 2020 – May 2020

Peer Counselor

Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project

Mentored Californian Latino high school students and taught critical leadership skills through interactive workshops.

July 2015

Teen Conservation Leader

Monterey Bay Aquarium

Exhibit guide, sleepover event volunteer, and Young Women in Science camp counselor for bilingual students.

September 2010 – June 2014

AWARDS

2021 Fulbright Open Research Award

2020 Rhode Island Water Resources Grant (Declined)

2020 Runner-up for the Ocean Yearbook Student Prize

2020 Rhode Island Sea Grant Travel Award

2020 URI Graduate School Diversity Fellowship

2020 Finalist for the Switzer Fellowship (Not awarded)

2020 SIO Undergraduate Travel Award

2014-2018 All Ways Up Foundation Scholarship

OTHER

Language: Basic Spanish (read and listen) and basic Korean (read, write, listen, speak).

Skills/Interests: Basic skills in ArcGIS and SPSS; Intermediate skills in interviews and data analysis; Advance skills in networking, Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, literature reviews, problem definition, Zotero and methods development; Studied abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea in Summer 2017.

Organizations: *The Oceanography Society*, UCSD Hillel, UCSD Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Atzlan, URI Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science.

Interviews: Interviewed for URI's *Momentum* Spring 2021 Issue on current graduate research in marine debris.