

Education

August 2011-2013	Southeastern Louisiana University	Hammond, LA
<i>MS Biology</i>	<i>GPA 4.0/4.0</i>	
September 2006- May 2010	Erskine College	Due West, SC
<i>B.S. Biology</i>	<i>GPA: 3.4/4.0</i>	
GRE 07/09	Total score 1240	
	Quantitative score 680	
	Verbal score 560	

Research Experience

- May 2012-present Southeastern Louisiana University Louisiana
Shape shifters: A look at fish body shape plasticity through geometric morphometrics
Advisor: Dr. Kyle Piller
-Presented poster at Southeastern fishes Council. November 2012.
- August 2011-present Southeastern Louisiana University Louisiana
Niche position and competitive exclusion in stream fish communities: A geometric morphometric approach
Advisor: Dr. Kyle Piller
-Presented as a poster at the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. August 2012. Presented talk at Southeastern fishes Council. November 2012.
- January 2010 MRRRI Lab Charleston, SC
Preliminary assessment of striped mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) pectoral fin tissue damage caused by the parasitic isopod *Nerocila acuminata* (family *Cymothoidae*).
Advisor: Bill Roumillat
*-I did a histological assessment on the pectoral fin of *Mugil cephalus* to determine the amount of tissue damage done by *Nerocila acuminata* (Research presented at ASB on April 10th 2010 and Erskine College on March, 2010)*
- April, June-August 2009 South Carolina State Parks
All Taxa Biodiversity Initiative of South Carolina State Parks
Organizer: Stan Hutto
-I collected and identified herps in State Parks of South Carolina as part of an initiative to better understand the biodiversity in the State Parks
- January 2008-May 2008 Erskine College Due West, SC
Extraction of Nitrogen from Local Flora using Tri-ethyl Phosphate Organic Solvent Remediation
Advisors: Dr. Tad Whiteside (Savannah River National Lab) and Dr. Howard Thomas (Erskine College Chemistry Department)
*-I analyzed local flora to find the highest nitrogen extraction using Tri-ethyl Phosphate.
Results presented at SERMACS regional meeting, Fall, 2008. Submitted for publication to Bioremediation Journal*

Relevant Work Experience

- August 2011-2013 Vertebrate Collections Manager Southeastern Louisiana University
I oversee the vertebrate collections at Southeastern Louisiana University.
- August 2011-2013 Teaching assistant Southeastern Louisiana University
I teach an introduction level biology lab. This lab includes non-major and major biology students.
- January 2011-July 2011 Volunteer Naturalist San Luis, Costa Rica
Volunteered as a Naturalist for University of Georgia in Costa Rica. I guided natural history hikes, presented talks on various topics, created programs, interacted with guests and locals, and various tasks.
- May 2010-October 2010 Internship with BLM Pinedale, WY
Internship through Conservation and Land Management Internship Program with the Bureau of Land Management as a native plant materialist intern. Worked with Seeds of Success program
- January 2010 Internship with DNR Charleston, SC
Internship with DNR
I participated in fish collection and histological work for DNR. I collected preliminary data on the damage done by an isopod to the pectoral fin of *Mugi cephalus*. (Research presented at ASB on April 10th 2010)
- May 2008-August 2008 Perrigo Company Greenville, SC
Chemical Analyst
Temporary position working in Perrigo's lab (Greenville, SC) performing chemical assays of vitamins
Worked to maintain and clean ecology lab, as well as other labs.

Awards Received

- Diversity Fellowship (Texas A&M University)
- Excellence Fellowship (Texas A&M University)
- Lechner Graduate Grant (Texas A&M University, \$5000)
- Member of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society 2007-2010
- South Carolina LIFE Scholarship
- Towers Scholarship (through Erskine College)
- Dean's list (Erskine College)
- Eagle Scout (Boy Scouts of America)
- Vigil Honor (Boy Scouts of America)
- Tri-Beta Award for Service and Achievement through Erskine College

Presentations

Bower, L. M. & Piller, K. R. Habitat and Ecomorphological Patterns of Gulf Coastal Plain Fishes: A Geometric Morphometrics Approach. Texas A&M Wildlife and Fisheries Friday talks. September 2013.

Bower, L. M. & Piller, K. R. Shaping up: A Geometric Morphometrics Approach to Community Ecology. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. 2013.

Bower, L. M. & Piller, K. R. Shape shifters: A look at fish body shape plasticity through geometric morphometrics. Southeastern Fishes Council. November 2012.

Bower, L. M. & Piller, K. R. Niche position and competitive exclusion in stream fish communities: A geometric morphometric approach. Southeastern Fishes Council. November 2012.

Bower, L. M. & Piller, K. R. Niche position and competitive exclusion in stream fish communities: A geometric morphometric approach. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. August 2011.

Bower, L. M. & Roumillat, B. A preliminary assessment of striped mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) pectoral fin tissue damage caused by the parasitic isopod *Nerocila acuminata* (family Cymothoidae). Association Southeastern Biologists. April 2010.

Volunteer work

- 2013 National Geographic Louisiana
Bioblitz: public outreach team leader
- September 2007-May 2010 Erskine College Biology Department Due West, SC
Vertebrate Collection's Volunteer
Temporary work-study position collecting and preserving specimens and managing the museum.
- September 2007-May 2010 Erskine College Biology Department Due West, SC
Bio Outreach Head/Volunteer
Volunteer position coordinating programs for 4th grade to K-12 students to teach them about various topics in biology at Erskine College or the student's school. I created lessons on specified topics and taught lesson actively through out time my as a volunteer.

Committees

Ecological and evolutionary Biology

- Event planner (2013-present)

American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists:

- Conservation committee (2012-present)

Biological Graduate School Organization

- Treasurer (2012-2013)
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