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<http://coralreefdiagnostics.com>

**Education**

**University of Hawaii, Manoa**, ***Department of Zoology***, Honolulu, Hawaii. **Ph.D.**, ***Zoology***. Fall 2009.

Supervisor: Dr. Ruth D. Gates, University of Hawaii, Manoa/Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

**University of Hawaii, Manoa**, ***Department of Zoology***, Honolulu, Hawaii. **M.S.**, ***Zoology***. Fall 2007.

Supervisor: Dr. Ruth D. Gates, University of Hawaii, Manoa/Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology

**Duke University**, Durham, North Carolina. **B.S.,** ***Biology***. Fall 2003. GPA: 3.8/4.0 (*magna cum laude*)

**James Cook University**, Townsville, Australia (study abroad). Fall 2003.

**Bermuda Institute of Oceans Sciences**, Bermuda (study abroad). Spring 2003.

**Duke University Marine Laboratory**, Beaufort, North Carolina. Spring 2003.

Financed 100% of undergraduate education through employment and early graduation.

# Professional research experience

# National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association (NOAA)/Cooperative Institute for Marine &

# Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS; University of Miami), *assistant scientist*, Apr. 2019-present.

# Postdoctoral research experience

**Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation (LOF)**, *postdoctoral researcher,* Jan. 2013-Mar.

2019. Conducted research aboard the *Golden Shadow* as part of the LOF “Global Reef

Expedition” to 1) understand the molecular basis of the coral stress response and 2) develop

molecular diagnostic tools for assessing reef coral health.

**National Science Foundation (NSF) international postdoctoral research fellowship (OISE-**

**0852960), *National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium (NMMBA)*, *Checheng, Taiwan*,** *postdoctoral researcher,* Feb. 2010-Dec. 2012. Investigated the physiological and sub-cellular impacts of climate change on reef-building corals.

**NSF grant OCE 04-17412 to Peter Edmunds** (The Mo’orea Coral Reef Long Term Ecological

Research [LTER] program), ***Mo’orea, French Polynesia***, *postdoctoral researcher*, Feb.-Apr. 2011. Investigated the impacts of ocean acidification on reef-building coral larvae.

**Master’s and Ph.D. research experience**

**NSF grant OCE-0752604 to Ruth Gates**, ***Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB)***, ***Kaneohe, HI***, *graduate researcher,* Oct. 2008-Jun. 2009. Developed new molecular markers for the coral endosymbiont *Symbiodinium* sp.

**NSF East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes fellowship*, NMMBA, Checheng, Taiwan***,

*participant,* Summer 2008. Conducted research on molecular regulation of coral physiology.

**NSF graduate research fellowship, *HIMB*, *Kaneohe, HI*,** *graduate researcher*,Fall 2005-Fall 2008.

Developed molecular methodology for reef corals at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.

**Pauley Summer Program, *HIMB*, *Kaneohe, HI,*** *research technician,* Summer 2007. Trained foreign

students in coral molecular biology techniques (e.g., DNA/RNA extractions, PCR, and qPCR).

**Northwest Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) research cruise,** *research assistant,*Summer 2006. Collected

corals on an HIMB-sponsored NWHI research expedition aboard the NOAA ship *Hi’ialakai.*

**Undergraduate and post-baccalaureate research experience**

**Centro Ecológico Akumal (NGO), *Akumal, Mexico*,** *coral reef ecologist/volunteer,* Spring 2004.

Assessed health of coral reefs along the Mayan Riviera, with an emphasis on reefs of Akumal.

**Duke University Marine Laboratory**, ***Beaufort, NC***, *undergraduate research project*, Summer 2003.

“Triclosan-induced oxidative stress in the whip coral *Leptagorgia virgulata*.”

**Duke University**, ***Durham, NC***, *experimental test subject*, Winter 2002. Participant in the Divers Alert Network’s “flying after diving” study at the Duke University hospital’s hyperbaric chamber.

**Peer-reviewed publications**

**(54) Mayfield AB,** Manzello D,Chen CS (in prep.) Elucidating the molecular cascades underlying

coral thermotolerance using novel proteomic technologies.

**(53) Mayfield AB**, McRae C, Fan TY, Chen CS, Lu CY (in prep.) Protein signatures of larval corals

from thermally challenged parent colonies.

**(52) Mayfield AB,** Dempsey AC, Chen CS (in prep.) Biomarker profiling in pocilloporid corals of the Solomon Islands.

**(51)** Gan C, Wang YB, Chen WNU, **Mayfield AB**, Peng SE (in review) Developing a laboratory

system for the culture of the sea anemone *Exaiptasia pulchella*. *PeerJ*

**(50)** Lin C, **Mayfield AB** (in review) Physiological differences between cultured and wild coral eggs.

*Coral Reefs*

**(49)** Monteiro HJA, Brahmi C, Lapeyre B, **Mayfield AB**, Le Luyer J(in review) Identifying conserved

molecular mechanisms of thermo-acclimation in symbiotic organisms. *Global Change Biology*

**(48)** Martinez-Castillo V, Rodriguez-Troncoso AP, **Mayfield AB**, Rodriguez-Zaragoza FA, Cupul-

Magana AL (in review) Evidence of coral recovery in the Northeastern Tropical Pacific: the 20-year struggle of corals vs. ocean warming and ENSO events. *Regional Environmental Change.*

**(47)** Cruz-GarcíaR, Rodríguez-TroncosoAP, Rodríguez-Zaragoza FA, Cupul-Magaña AL, **Mayfield**

**AB** (in review) Evaluation of the stress response of hermatypic corals and the benthic groups with which they associate on a Mexican Pacific coral reef. *Marine Biology*

**(46)** Peng SE, Moret A, Chang C, **Mayfield AB**, Giordano M, Chen CS (in review)The *Exaiptasia*-

*Symbiodinium* mutualism shifts towards a parasitic relationship under food-deprived

conditions. *PeerJ*

**(45)** Lin HJ, Lee CL, Peng SE, Hung MC, Liu PJ, **Mayfield AB** (in review) Effects of typhoons on

intertidal seagrass beds over decadal timescales. *Journal of Ecology*

**(44)** Chen TY, Hwang GW, Lin HJ, **Mayfield AB**, Chen CP (in review) The development of a habitat suitability model for sub-tropical tidal flat fiddler crabs. *Ocean and Coastal Management*

**(43)** Liu PJ, Chang HF, **Mayfield AB**, Lin HJ (in review) The influence of seagrass on high

temperature- and ocean acidification-challenged coral reef ecosystems.*Global Change Biology*

**(42) Mayfield AB** (in press) Advancing reef coral diagnostic capabilities using molecular

biotechnology and artificial intelligence. *Proceedings of the First Maluku International Conference on Marine Science and Technology*

**(41) Mayfield AB,** Tsai S, Lin C (in press) The Coral Hospital. *Biopreservation and Biobanking*.

**(40) Mayfield AB**, Chen CS, Dempsey AC (2019) Modeling environmentally-mediated variation

in reef coral physiology. *Journal of Sea Research* 145, 44-54.

**(39)** Rodríguez-Troncoso AP, Rodríguez-Zaragoza FA, **Mayfield AB,** Cupul-Magaña AL (2019) Temporal variation in invertebrate recruitment on an Eastern Pacific coral reef. *Journal of Sea Research* 145, 8-15.

**(38)** **Mayfield AB**, Dempsey AC, Inamdar J, Chen CS (2018) A statistical platform for assessing

coral health in an era of changing global climate-I: a case study from Fiji’s Lau Archipelago*.*

*Platax* 15, 1-35.

(**37)** Lin HJ, Lee CL, Peng SE, Hung MC, Liu PJ, **Mayfield AB** (2018) Anthropogenic nutrient enrichment may exacerbate the impacts of El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events on intertidal seagrass beds. *Global Change Biology* [24,](https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14404) 4566-4580

**(36) Mayfield AB,** Chen YJ, Lu CY, Chen CS (2018) Exploring the environmental physiology of the Indo-Pacific reef coral *Seriatopora hystrix* using differential proteomics. *The* *Open Journal of Marine Science* 8, 223-252

**(35)** **Mayfield AB**, Chen YJ, Lu CY, Chen CS (2018) The proteomic response of the reef coral *Pocillopora acuta* to experimentally elevated temperature. *PLoS ONE* e0192001

**(34) Mayfield AB**, Chen CS, Dempsey AC (2017) The molecular ecophysiology of closely related pocilloporid corals of New Caledonia. *Platax* 14, 1-45

**(33) Mayfield AB**, Chen CS, Dempsey AC. (2017) Biomarker profiling in reef corals of Tonga’s Ha’apai and Vava’u Archipelagos. *PLoS ONE* e0185857

**(32)** Chen HK, **Mayfield AB**, Wang LH, Chen CS (2017) Coral lipid bodies as the relay center interconnecting diel-dependent lipidomic changes in different cellular compartments. *Scientific Reports* 7, 3244

**(31) Mayfield AB**, Chen CS, Dempsey AC (2017) Identifying corals displaying aberrant behavior in Fiji’s Lau Archipelago. *PLoS ONE* e0177267

**(30)** Chen TY, Hwang GW, **Mayfield AB**, Chen CP, Lin HJ (2017) The relationship between intertidal soil composition and fiddler crab burrow depth. *Environmental Engineering* 100, 256-260

**(29) Mayfield AB,** Chen CS, Dempsey AC, Bruckner AW (2016) The molecular ecophysiology of closely related pocilloporids from the South Pacific: a case study from the Austral and Cook Islands. *Platax* 13, 1-25

**(28) Mayfield AB**, Wang YB, Chen CS, Chen SH, Lin CY (2016) Dual-compartmental transcriptomic+proteomic analysis of a marine endosymbiosis exposed to environmental change. *Molecular Ecology* 25, 5944-5958

**(27)** Cheng YR, Meng PJ, **Mayfield AB**, Dai CF (2016) Copepods associated with scleractinian corals: a worldwide checklist and a case study of their impact on the reef-building coral *Pocillopora damicornis* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Pocilloporidae). *Zootaxa* 4174(1): 291-345

**(26)** Tortolero-Langarica JJA, Cupul-Magaña AL, Carricart-Ganivet JP, **Mayfield AB**, Rodriguez- Troncoso AP (2016). Changes in growth and calcification rates in the reef-building coral *Porites lobata*: the implications of morphotype and gender on coral growth. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 3(179)

**(25) Mayfield AB** (2016) Uncovering spatio-temporal and treatment-derived differences in the molecular physiology of a model coral-dinoflagellate mutualism with multivariate statistical approaches. *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering* 4:63

**(24)** Chen WNU, Hsiao YJ, **Mayfield AB**, Young R, Hsu L, Chen CS, Peng SE (2016) Vertical transmission of heterologous clade C *Symbiodinium* in a model anemone infection system. *Peer J* 4:e2358

**(23) Mayfield AB**, Chen YJ, Lu CY, Chen CS (2016) Proteins responsive to variable temperature exposure in the reef-building coral *Seriatopora hystrix*. *Coral Reefs: Ecosystems, Environmental Impact and Current Threats.* Ed. S. Ortiz, NOVA Publishing, New York. 1-72

**(22) Mayfield AB,** Bruckner AW, Chen CH, Chen CS (2015) A survey of pocilloporids and their endosymbiotic dinoflagellate communities in the Austral and Cook Islands of the South Pacific. *Platax*12: 1-17

**(21)** Chen HK, Song SN, Wang LH, **Mayfield AB**, Chen YJ, Chen WNU, Chen CS (2015) A compartmental comparison of major lipid species in a coral-*Symbiodinium* endosymbiosis: evidence that the coral host regulates lipogenesis of its cytosolic lipid bodies. *PLoS ONE*10(7): e0132519

**(20)** **Mayfield AB**, Wang YB, Chen CS, Chen SH, Lin CY (2014) Compartment-specific transcriptomics in a reef-building coral exposed to elevated temperatures. *Molecular Ecology*

23: 5816-5830

**(19) Mayfield AB**, Chen CS, Liu PJ (2014) Decreased green fluorescent protein-like chromoprotein gene expression in specimens of the reef-building coral *Pocillopora damicornis* undergoing high temperature-induced bleaching.*Platax* 11: 1-23

**(18) Mayfield AB,** Chen YH, Dai CF, Chen CS (2014) The effects of temperature on gene expression in the Indo-Pacific reef-building coral *Seriatopora hystrix*: insight from aquarium studies in Southern Taiwan. *International Journal of Marine Science* 4(50): 1-23

**(17) Mayfield AB,** Hsiao YY, Chen HK, Chen CS (2014) Rubisco expression in the dinoflagellate

*Symbiodinium* sp. is influenced by both photoperiod and endosymbiotic lifestyle. *Marine Biotechnology* 16: 371-384

**(16)** Doo SS, **Mayfield AB**, Nguyen HD, Chen HK (2014) Protein analysis in large benthic foraminifera. Invited book chapter in: *Approaches to Study Living Foraminifera*. Editors: Hiroshi Kitazato and Joan Bernhard. Pp. 71-89

**(15) Mayfield AB,** Fan TY, Chen CS (2013) Real-time PCR-based gene expression analysis in the model reef-building coral *Pocillopora damicornis*: insight from a salinity stress study. *Platax* 10: 1-29

**(14) Mayfield AB**, Fan TY, Chen CS (2013) Physiological acclimation to elevated temperature in a reef-building coral from an upwelling environment. *Coral Reefs* 32: 909-921

**(13) Mayfield AB**, Fan TY, Chen CS (2013) The physiological impact of *ex situ* transplantation on the Taiwanese reef-building coral *Seriatopora hystrix*. *Journal of Marine Biology* Article ID 569369

**(12)** Wang LH, LeeHH, FangLS, **MayfieldAB**, Chen CS (2013) Normal fatty acid and phospholipid synthesis are prerequisites for the cell cycle of *Symbiodinium* and their endosymbiosis with sea anemones. *PLoS ONE* e72486

**(11)** Putnam HP, **Mayfield AB**, Fan TY, Chen CS, Gates RD (2013) The physiological and molecular

responses of larvae from the reef-building coral *Pocillopora damicornis* exposed to near-future

increases in temperature and *p*CO2. *Marine Biology* 160: 2157-2173

**(10)** **Mayfield AB**, Chen M, Meng PJ, Lin HJ, Chen CS, Liu PJ (2013) The physiological response of

the reef coral *Pocillopora damicornis* to elevated temperature: results from coral reef mesocosm

experiments in Southern Taiwan. *Marine Environmental Research* 86: 1-11

**(9) Mayfield AB**, Hsiao, YY, Fan TY, Chen CS (2012) Temporal variation in RNA/DNA and

protein/DNA ratios in four anthozoan-dinoflagellate endosymbioses of the Indo-Pacific:

implications for molecular diagnostics. *Platax* 9: 1-24

**(8) Mayfield AB**, Chan PH, Putnam HP, Chen CS, Fan TY (2012) The effects of a variable

temperature regime on the physiology of the reef-building coral *Seriatopora hystrix*: results from a laboratory-based reciprocal transplant. *The* *Journal of Experimental Biology* 215: 4183-4195

**(7)** Doo SS, **Mayfield AB**, Byrne M, Chen HK, Nguyen H, Fan TY (2012)Reduced expression of the

rate-limiting carbon fixation enzyme RuBisCO in the benthic foraminifer *Baculogypsina sphaerulata* holobiont in response to heat shock. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 430-431: 63-67

**(6)** Chen WNU, Kang HJ, Weis VM, **Mayfield AB**, Fang LS, Chen CS (2012) Diel rhythmicity of

lipid body formation in a coral-*Symbiodinium* endosymbiosis. *Coral Reefs* 31: 521-534

**(5) Mayfield AB**, Wang LH, Tang PC, Hsiao YY, Fan TY, Tsai CL, Chen CS (2011) Assessing the

impacts of experimentally elevated temperature on the biological composition and molecular chaperone gene expression of a reef coral. *PLoS ONE* e26529

**(4)** Peng SE, Chen WNU, Chen HK, Lu CY, **Mayfield AB**, Fang LS, Chen CS (2011) Lipid bodies in coral-dinoflagellate endosymbiosis: ultrastructural and proteomic analyses. *Proteomics* 17: 3540-3455

**(3) Mayfield AB**, Hsiao YY, Fan TY, Chen CS, Gates RD (2010) Evaluating the temporal stability of

stress-activated protein kinase and cytoskeleton gene expression in the Pacific corals *Pocillopora damicornis* and *Seriatopora hystrix*. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 395: 215-222

**(2) Mayfield AB**, Hirst MB, Gates RD (2009) Gene expression normalization in a dual-compartment

system: a real-time PCR protocol for symbiotic anthozoans. *Molecular Ecology Resources* 9: 462-470

**(1) Mayfield AB**, Gates RD (2007) Osmoregulation in anthozoan-dinoflagellate symbiosis. *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology A: Molecular and Integrative Physiology* 147: 1-10

**Popular science articles (non-peer-reviewed)**

**(2) Mayfield AB** (2018) Are reef corals stressed or just pessimistic? *The Conservation* (Jakarta,

Indonesia). https://theconversation.com/are-reef-corals-stressed-or-just-pessimistic-107361.

**(1) Mayfield AB** (2012) Understanding the effects of global climate change on Earth’s coral reefs:

cutting-edge research at Taiwan’s National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium. 全球氣候變遷對珊瑚礁的影響 (in Chinese) *Scientific Monthly*, Taipei, Taiwan.

**Presentations**

**(42) *Indo Aggressor* Deep South Komodo National Park coral reef expedition, *Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia,*** *invited speaker*. Jan. 2019. “An introduction to reef corals.”

**(41) The First Maluku International Conference on Marine Science and Technology, *Ambon, Moluccas, Indonesia,*** *invited speaker.* Oct. 2018. “Coral reef diagnostics in a changing world.”

**(40) Department of Biology-National University of Singapore,** *invited speaker.* Oct. 2018. “Reef coral diagnostics in an era of changing global climate.”

**(39) East Coast Marine Sustainable Tourism Conference*, Taitung, Taiwan,*** *keynote speaker*. Sept. 2018. “Assessing ocean health in an era of changing global climate.”

**(38) JMP®, SAS Institute, *Cary, NC, USA*,** *invited speaker*. Aug. 2018: “Assessing coral health in an era of changing global climate.”

**(37) Pattimura University, *Ambon, Moluccas, Indonesia,*** *invited speaker.* Apr. 2018. “Reef coral health assessment in the Indo-Pacific: the development of biotechnological tools for gauging coral sensitivity to climate change.”

**(36) I-Shou University, *Kaohsiung, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker.* Apr. 2018: “Reef coral health assessment in the Indo-Pacific.”

**(35) Northwestern University, *Chicago, IL, USA,*** *invited speaker.* Nov. 2016. “An introduction to coral reefs: microbiology, threats, and diagnostics.”

**(34) University of the Philippines, Los Baños, Philippines,** *invited speaker.* Oct. 2016. “Reef coral health assessment in the South Pacific: preliminary results from Fiji’s Lau Archipelago.”

**(33) The Omics in the Ocean: 7th International Symposium for Marine Biology and Biotechnology, *Checheng, Taiwan****, invited speaker*. Sept. 2015. “Proteins involved in acclimation to a variable temperature regime in the reef coral *Seriatopora hystrix*.”

**(32) Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium, *Kenting, Taiwan,*** *oral presentation,* July 2014. “Exploring the genetic basis of thermotolerance in the model reef coral *Pocillopora damicornis*: an RNA-Seq approach.”

**(31) National Taiwan University, *Taipei, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* May 2014. “Reef coral health assessment in the South Pacific: the “Global Reef Expedition.”

**(30) I-Shou University, *Kaohsiung, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* Feb. 2014. “Coral reef health assessment in the Indo-Pacific: the Global Reef Expedition.”

**(29) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* Feb. 2014. “Coral health assessment in the Indo-Pacific: the Global Reef Expedition.”

**(28) American Society for Cell Biology annual meeting, *New Orleans, LA***, *poster*, Dec. 2013. “Molecular diagnostics and reef-building coral health assessment: can biomarkers be utilized with confidence in the absence of their functional characterization?”

**(27) Mote Marine Laboratory, *Sarasota, FL****, invited speaker,* Mar. 2013. “Physiological acclimation to elevated temperatures in a reef-building coral from an upwelling environment.”

**(26) National Chung-Hsing University, *Taichung, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker*, Mar. 2013. “Physiological acclimation to elevated temperatures in a reef-building coral from an upwelling environment.”

**(25) City University of Hong Kong, *Kowloon, Hong Kong,*** *invited speaker*, Jan. 2013. “The complex physiological response of two life history stages of the model reef coral *Pocillopora damicornis* exposed to climate change simulations.”

**(24) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* Dec. 2012. “Taiwan’s coral reef biodiversity: threats and diagnostics in an era of global climate change.”

**(23) Hengchun Community College, *Hengchun, Taiwan*,** *invited speaker*, Dec. 2012. “Taiwan’s coral reef biodiversity: threats and diagnostics in an era of global climate change.”

**(22) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* Dec. 2012. “Physiological acclimation to elevated temperature in *Pocillopora damicornis* specimens from an upwelling reef.”

**(21) Mindao University**, ***Beidou, Taiwan***, *invited speaker*, Dec. 2012. “Taiwan’s coral reef biodiversity: threats and diagnostics in a time of global climate change.”

**(20) Academia Sinica, *Nangang, Taiwan****, invited speaker,* Dec. 2012. “The complex physiological response of two life history stages of the model reef coral *Pocillopora damicornis* exposed to climate change simulations.”

**(19) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *invited speaker,* Feb.

2012. “The physiological response of reef corals exposed to climate change simulations.”

**(18) Hengchun Community College, *Hengchun, Taiwan*,** *invited speaker***,** Nov. 2011. “An introduction to Taiwan’s coral reefs: biodiversity and threats in a changing climate.

**(17) Mindao University*, Beidou, Taiwan***,*invited speaker,*Oct. 2011. “An introduction to Taiwan’s

coral reef inhabitants: threats and diagnostics in a changing climate.”

**(16) The Omics in the Ocean: 3rd International Symposium for Marine Biology and Biotechnology, *Checheng, Taiwan****, invited speaker*. Sept. 2011. “Coral health diagnostics in a changing ocean: assessing the physiological response of reef-building pocilloporids to global climate change scenarios.”

**(15) National Cheng-Chi University, *Taipei, Taiwan***,*invited speaker*,July 2011.“An Introduction to

Taiwan’s marine biodiversity.”

**(14) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan****, invited speaker,* April2011. *“*Conveying scientific discoveries in the English language.”

**(13) University of Louisiana, Lafayette,** *invited speaker*, Jan. 2010. “Understanding the physiological

impacts of global climate change on reef-building corals of Taiwan.”

**(12) Mindao University*, Changhua, Taiwan***,*invited speaker,*Dec. 2010. “An introduction to Taiwan’s coral reefs: threats and diagnostics in a changing climate.”

**(11) National Chiayi University**, ***Chiayi, Taiwan***, *invited speaker,* Dec. 2010. “An introduction to

Taiwan’s coral reefs.”

**(10) 25th Symposium on Natural Products, *Checheng*, *Taiwan*,** *poster***,** Nov. 2010. “Sub-cellular

mechanisms of acclimation to altered temperature regimes in the coral *Seriatopora hystrix*.”

**(9) National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan*,** *invited speaker*,

Nov. 2010. “Investigating the sub-cellular impacts of global climate change on the reef-building corals of Taiwan.”

**(8) Marine Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation in the South China Sea, *Kaohsiung,***

***Taiwan*,** *talk*, Jul. 2010. “The search for physiologically relevant biomarkers for coral health assessment: two case studies from pocilloporids exposed to acute temperature increases.”

**(7) Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium, *Phuket,* *Thailand*,** *talk*, Jun. 2010. **“**Absence of a molecular

chaperone response in *Seriatopora hystrix* colonies exposed to an acute thermal perturbation.**”**

**(6) Moorea Coral Reef Long-Term Ecological Research annual meeting, *Santa Barbara, CA*,** *talk,*

Nov. 2009.“Using functional genomics to understand the biology of reef corals.”

**(5) “Responses of Coral Holobionts Under Impact of Climate Change” Conference, *Taipei,***

***Taiwan,*** *poster*, Jun. 2009. “Diel variation in cytoskeleton gene expression in the reef coral

*Seriatopora hystrix*: evidence for dynamic changes in cell volume resulting from

photosynthesis.”

**(4) Marine Biotechnology Conference, *Checheng, Taiwan*,** *poster***,** Sept. 2008. “Diel variation in cell

volume gene expression in the reef-building coral *Seriatopora hystrix*.”

**(3) Tester Symposium, *Honolulu, HI,*** *talk,* Mar. 2007. “Osmoregulation in the coral-algal symbiosis.”

**(2) Symbiosis cell biology workshop, *Heron Island, Australia,*** *poster*, Jan. 2007. “Osmoregulation in

coral-dinoflagellate symbiosis.”

**(1) Tester Symposium, *Honolulu, HI,*** *poster*, Mar. 2006. “Osmoregulation in coral-dinoflagellate

endosymbiosis.”

# Research awards (total research awards: $924,600 USD)

**Schmidt Ocean Institute (coral reef conservation call)-**in review. $52,000 to develop a microchip

with the capacity to predict coral bleaching susceptibility.

**National Geographic Society (“Explorers” grant)-**in review. $30,000 to develop a “coral stress test”

in Taiwan to be employed in the Coral Triangle.

**Fulbright Global Scholar program (US Department of State)-**Feb. 2019.$50,000 to develop a “coral stress test” in Taiwan to be employed in the field in the Philippines.

**“AI for Earth” grant (Microsoft)**-Apr. 2019. $15,000 to develop “big data” analytical tools geared

towards using artificial intelligence to conserve coral reefs.

**US National Research Council-**Sept. 2018. $164,000 to work with scientists at NOAA’s Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (Miami, FL) on the development of a “coral

stress test” (co-PI; lead PI=Dr. Derek Manzello)

**Japan Society for the Promotion of Science-**Apr. 2015. $114,000 to conduct Japan-based coral reef

research, with an emphasis on global climate change. Co-PI=Dr. Saki Harii. \*Declined funds.

**Living Oceans Foundation-**Nov. 2012. $300,000 to conduct biomarker-based coral reef surveys.

**NSF MCR-LTER**-Feb. 2010. $14,000 to study the impacts of ocean acidification on coral health.

**PADI Project Aware**-Jun. 2009. $1,200 for Taiwan-based research on the coral heat stress response.

**NSF International Postdoctoral Fellowship-** Jun. 2009. $126,500 for Taiwan-based coral research.

**Company of Biologists travel fellowship-** Sept. 2008. $1,800 for Taiwan-based coral research.

**NSF EAPSI Fellowship**- May 2008. $7,500 for Taiwan-based coral reef research.

**Edmondson Fund**- Apr. 2008. $900 for coral osmoregulation research.

**PADI Project Aware**- Mar. 2008. $1,000 for coral gene expression normalization study.

**PADI Foundation*-*** Apr. 2007. $4,000 for coral gene expression normalization study.

**Edmondson Fund*-*** Dec. 2006. $800 for coral stress gene transcription experiments.

**PADI Project Aware**- Nov. 2006. $1,400 for gene expression experiments on corals.

**NSF small travel grant**- Sept. 2006. $1,000 for collaborative visit.

**NSF Graduate Research Fellowship*-*** Spring 2004. $121,500 for graduate research.

**Teaching and volunteer/unpaid experiences**

***PLoS ONE*,** *senior topic editor,* 2018-present. I have served as a chief topic editor (marine molecular

biology) for *PLoS ONE* since early 2018 and have handled dozens of manuscripts.

**Coral Reef CPR (NGO),** *volunteer researcher*, 2016-present. I have been working with Coral Reef CPR to help them establish high-temperature-resilient coral nurseries in the Maldives.

**Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation (LOF),** *volunteer researcher,* 2016-2019. I have been working with LOF to help them publish and disseminate findings from their “Global Reef Expedition” in order to aid marine managers in protecting their local coral reefs.

**Friendly Bear Editorial Service,** *president,* 2007-present. I have reviewed and edited hundreds of scientific manuscripts free-of-charge since 2007, as I feel it is my scientific duty to ensure that excellent science is not rejected by publishers and journals simply due to poor English drafting.

**Scientific editing**, *volunteer reviewer/editor*, 2006-present. I have gained a favorable reputation across numerous journals for my constructive, well written scientific reviews, and I routinely review and/or edit ~20-30 manuscripts for high-impact scientific journals (e.g., *Science*) each year.

**Duke University,** *interviewer,* 2012-present. I am the local, on-the-ground interviewer for Taiwanese students wishing to attend my alma mater, Duke University.

***Carpe Diem* fleet, *Maldives*,** *volunteer researcher,* Spring-Summer 2017. Trained tourists in coral reef ecology while helping to remove crown of thorns seastars from local reefs.

**Anantara Resorts-Dhigu/Veli & Kihavah, *Maldives*,** *volunteer researcher*, Winter 2016.Monitored reefs, sampled corals, and established long-term monitoring sites for two Maldivian resorts.

**National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *guest lecturer,* Winter 2016. Volunteered to teach college students about marine biology, specifically coral reefs.

**National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, *Checheng, Taiwan,*** *guest lecturer,* Summer 2015. Volunteered to teach elementary school students about marine biology and diving.

**Martin Luther King Magnet High School, *Nashville, TN,*** *guest lecturer,* Spring 2013. Volunteered to teach high school seniors about coral reef biology and global climate change.

**White Creek High School, *Nashville, TN****, guest lecturer*, Fall 2012. Volunteered to teach high school sophomores about coral reef biology, the scientific method, and tips for excelling academically.

**Department of Zoology, UH-Manoa,** *teaching assistant*, Spring 2005.Tuesday laboratory section of

## Zoology 430 (animal physiology) assisting Prof. Jonathon Stillman.

**Department of Zoology, UH-Manoa,** *teaching assistant,*Fall 2004. Tuesday and Thursday Zoology

101 (introductory zoology) laboratory sections assisting Prof. Steven Robinow.

**North Carolina Rural Healthcare Coalition**, *internship/volunteer*, Summer 2002. Worked with

Duke Hospital physicians as part of the MEDS program to provide medication to farmers.

**Duke Recycles**, *environmental manager*, Spring-Fall 2002. Coordinated campus recycling efforts.

**Leadership and awards**

**President/Founder**- *Duke University SCUBA Club*, Fall 2002-2003.

**Vice President**- *North Carolina Rural Healthcare Coalition*, Spring 2002-Fall 2002.

**Community Service Award**- (*for coordination of football game recycling*), Fall 2001-Spring 2002.

**Employee of the Quarter**- *Duke Recycles*, Spring 2002.

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**Dr. Virginia Weis**, [weisv@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:weisv@science.oregonstate.edu), Oregon State University (***Ph.D. committee***)

**Research interests**

**Fundamental cell biology of cnidarian-dinoflagellate endosymbioses**: My research interests center around three predominant themes, all of which involve photosynthetic mutualisms between anthozoans (namely reef-building corals and sea anemones) and intracellular dinoflagellates of the genus *Symbiodinium*. First, I am interested in how an anthozoan cell modifies it physiology to accommodate these dinoflagellates, which can occupy nearly the entire volume of their hosts’ gastrodermal cells. I have utilized molecular, cellular, and physiological approaches to uncover the mechanisms by which reef-building corals, in particular, modulate their intracellular environments in order to carry out the myriad biochemical processes they need to survive whilst exploiting only a miniscule cytoplasmic space within which to function. Such works have been particularly focused on the importance of osmoregulation and how each member works to establish the osmotic pressure of the coral “holobiont” (host+symbiont); indeed, I hypothesize that osmoregulation may be the central axis around which the spectrum of cellular defects elicited by compromised environmental states revolves.

**Environmental physiology of coral-dinoflagellate mutualisms**: My second interest involves the response of reef-building corals exposed to changes in their environments, particularly increases in temperature. During my first postdoctoral research project at Taiwan’s National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium (2010-2012), I utilized molecular and microscopic tools to monitor the sub-cellular and cellular responses, respectively, of specimens of the model reef corals *Seriatopora hystrix* and *Pocillopora damicornis* that had been exposed to elevated seawater temperature and acidity (i.e., *p*CO2) over both short- (hours-days) and long-term (weeks-months) timescales. The molecular approaches included genome-, transcriptome- (e.g., mRNA sequencing with Illumina’s TRU-Seq® technology), and proteome- (e.g., 2D gels followed by mass spectrometry) scale techniques, and the microscopic approaches featured light, scanning electron, and transmission electron microscopy. Using such methodologies, we found that the corals’ responses to elevated temperature are much more pronounced than their responses to acidified seawater. In fact, neither coral species appears to be significantly affected by ocean acidification. Although this is good news on the one hand, even small increases in temperature evoked dramatic, detrimental cellular and physiological responses in both species, and I am now further exploring their transcriptomes and proteomes to uncover the genes and proteins, respectively, involved in their stress response for those coral samples that ultimately bleached, as well as those genes and proteins underlying acclimation in the case of the experiments in which corals ultimately survived in their artificially manipulated environments. Such data will ideally allow us to predict how reef-building corals will respond to the higher temperatures and *p*CO2 levels that will characterize their abiotic milieu in the coming decades as a result of global climate change.

**Development of a “coral stress test:”** I have spent over 15 years attempting to develop a “coral stress test” (CST) in which concentrations of each of a series of analytes (e.g., mRNAs, proteins, metabolites) are measured in order to rapidly assign a level of health to a sampled colony. This work has progressed slowly due to a variety of methodological hurdles. First, we had to develop endosymbiosis-tailored molecular protocols (i.e., how to measure concentrations of cellular analytes when you have a mix of molecules from two different eukaryotes: host coral and *Symbiodinium*). Then, we found that there is no correlation between gene and protein expression in reef corals; although gene mRNAs could still be used as biomarkers for coral health assessment (described in more detail below), their expression levels cannot, on the other hand, be used to reconstruct cellular physiology since the proteins that actually undertake cellular work do not show a corresponding trend. Therefore, if we want to uncover the cellular pathways responsible for coral acclimation to environmental change, or, in contrast, their stress response in the cases in which acclimation does not occur, then we need to instead target their proteomes. I am consequently investing a good portion of my time these days to profiling the proteomes (rather than only the transcriptomes) of corals of the aforementioned, Taiwan-based global climate change manipulation experiments.

In addition to these proteomics projects, I have been using the mRNA-level molecular biomarkers that have emerged from the aforementioned environmental challenge studies in Taiwan to document the health of >1,000 *P. damicornis* specimens collected at numerous points along a 4,000-km transect across the Pacific and Indian Oceans as part of the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation’s “Global Reef Expedition,” the largest coral reef survey ever undertaken. However, as an additional hurdle in the development of the CST, we have yet to have identified an “ideal” biomarker that is *only* synthesized by corals that ultimately bleach or become sick. Until such a molecule is identified in samples of my laboratory-based experiments (amongst other potential means), I have instead been using advanced mathematics to calculate a level of “normality” for each sampled colony of the Global Reef Expedition, with the hypothesis being that those colonies that exhibit statistically aberrant behavior with respect to a suite of molecular-scale response variables (including *Symbiodinium* density, RNA/DNA ratio, and expression of eight mRNA biomarkers) will be the ones that are most likely to be of compromised resilience. Future return visits to sites featuring such aberrantly behaving coral colonies will allow us to verify the efficacy of this molecular biomarker+multivariate statistical analysis approach for coral health diagnostics.

**Developing an analytical platform for evaluating coral health data in an era of changing global climate.** I have been working with the statistical company JMP (part of the SAS family) to develop means of assessing the health of organisms that reside in ever-changing environments. In my opinion, it no longer makes sense to use static traditional approaches (e.g., ANOVA) to analyze data from animals whose environments are in a constant state of flux as a result of global climate change. Furthermore, there are no pristine reefs left on Earth due to the wide-ranging effects of climate change. We therefore do not actually know what constitutes a “healthy” coral, unless molecular data can be obtained from samples collected prior to the Industrial Revolution (or some other period at which coral health could be hypothesized to have been less detrimentally influenced by human behavior). If we do not know what constitutes normal behavior in a coral, how can we attempt to gauge coral health in future survey efforts? I am attempting to use a series of novel statistical approaches to address these questions, with an emphasis on the notion (broached above) that variation/variability within a sample may be more telling as to the health of a coral than the absolute concentrations of any one particular analyte (e.g., gene mRNA, protein, etc.). This has involved the use of artificial intelligence-based approaches, particularly neural networking, a sophisticated, computer learning-driven modeling approach. I am also working with JMP web develops to improve means of visualizing coral health data using features such as interactive HTML; this will not only lead to the production of better quality figures, but it will allow for greater data transparency since interested individuals can download the data from my personal website (coralreefdiagnostics.com), as well as from the interactive HTML figures themselves, and attempt to reproduce them. I am currently in the process of posting all data I have ever obtained (the majority of which never having been published) on this website.

**SCUBA diving and fieldwork**

I have been an avid SCUBA diver for the past 20+ years, logging over 2,500 dives across Bermuda, the Caribbean (Belize, Bonaire, Costa Rica, Colombia, Florida, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama), inland United States (Alabama, North Carolina, and Tennessee), Hawaii, French Polynesia (Mo’orea and the Austral Islands), the Cook Islands, Fiji, Tonga, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Palau, Australia (southern and northern sections of the Great Barrier Reef), and elsewhere in the Indo-Pacific, including the British Indian Ocean Territory (Chagos Banks, south of the Maldives), Indonesia (Bali, Lembongan/Penida, Nusa Tenggara [Flores and Komodo National Park (northern and central regions)], Sulawesi [southern & northern regions], Maluku [Ambon/Seram & the Banda Islands], and Papua [Triton Bay & Raja Ampat]), Malaysia (Peninsular and Borneo), Maldives (central and northern atolls), Philippines (Luzon, Visayas, and Palawan/Coron), Taiwan (mainland, offshore territories, and South China Sea atolls), and Thailand (Gulf of Thailand and Indian Ocean).

I have also dived as part of a research expedition to the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, the world’s largest marine protected area, on the NOAA ship *Hi’ialakai*. I have rescue, NITROX, and master diver certifications through NAUI, as well as AAUS training and certification from the University of Hawaii, Manoa. From April 2013 to May 2015, I conducted fieldwork across the Indo-Pacific on the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation’s research vessel, the *Golden Shadow*, and have logged over 600 dives across 10 nations with this organization. More recently, I have been undertaking fieldwork at Dongsha, a Taiwanese-governed atoll in the South China Sea, with plans of going even further south into the South China Sea (Nansha Atoll) in 2018. Since 2016, I have also been undertaking volunteer work (namely training tourists in marine biology and establishing long-term monitoring programs) with the NGO Coral Reef CPR in the Maldives, an opportunity that has afforded considerable diving. For images of the coral reefs visited, as well as more information on various coral reef-focused projects addressed herein, please see my personal website: [http://coralreefdiagnostics.com](http://coralreefdiagnostics.com/).

In addition to having had the good fortune to have dived in so many spectacular locales, I participated in hyperbaric physiology research while an undergraduate at Duke University. I was a test subject in one of their “flying after diving” studies sponsored by the Diver’s Alert Network (which is based at Duke University’s South Hospital). Briefly, we underwent dive and flight simulations in the world’s premier hyperbaric chambers in order to determine whether flying after diving truly does result in bubble formation in the blood. Although no one in our test group succumbed to decompression sickness, I nevertheless do not recommend flying after diving until at least 12 hours have passed.

**Hobbies/interests/likes**

Asian food, backpacking, bacon, basketball, BBQ, beaches, biking, blue crabs, camping, canoeing, cats, Central America, cheese, cliff jumping, coffee, conservation, coral reefs, Coral Triangle, craft beer, crawfish boils, Diet Coke, Duke basketball, ESBs, exploring, fancy cheese, forests, football (NFL), golden retrievers, grilling, Hawaii, heavy metal, hiking, hot chicken, hot sauce, Indonesia, instant noodles, international travel, islands, karaoke, kayaking, Latin America, lobster, mangos (Taiwanese), meat, Mexico, microscopy, molecular biology, Monster Magnet, mountains, national parks, NFL, Philippines, photography, pork belly, proteomics, Raja Ampat, reading, ribs, sashimi, science, SCUBA diving, snorkeling, South America, spicy food, statistics, swamps, swimming, *Symbiodinium*, symbiosis, tacos, Taiwan, tubing, unagi, *Westworld*