

Kathleen Lanier Semon

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EDUCATION

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, USA

Ph.D. Candidate, Ecology

2002 - present

Dissertation: "The effects of habitat on life history strategies and population dynamics of stony corals (Cnidaria: Scleractinia) of the Bahama banks: implications for long-term survival and persistence of coral communities"

University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA

B.S. Honors in Ecology

2002

Honors Thesis: "The taphonomy of *Chione cancellata* and *Barbatia cancellaria* from seagrass beds and scour pits of San Salvador Island, The Bahamas "

EXPERIENCE

Department of Biology, University of Miami, USA

Research Assistant

2005-present

Environmental Monitoring of Baker's Bay Club development at Great Guana Cay; Responsible for conducting coastal and marine surveys, data analysis, and report production and general lab management.

Department of Biology, University of Miami, USA

Teaching Assistant

2002 - 2005

Instructed two Introductory Biology Laboratory classes per semester in basic laboratory techniques, the scientific method, and scientific writing.

North and South Andros, and Great Exuma, and Great Guana Cay, The Bahamas

Earthwatch Staff Member

2003 - present

Instructed Earthwatch volunteers in data collection for the "Coastal Ecology of the Bahamas" Earthwatch Project. Duties included team organization and management for field surveys in the near shore waters of The Bahamas.

Department of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA

Laboratory Technician

2001-2002

Ran DNA digests, Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR), and Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis (DGGE) to restrict coral symbiont zooxanthellae to clades for seasonal and depth-related analysis of symbiosis patterns. Also responsible for general lab management.

San Miguel Biological Research Station, Cabo Blanco, Costa Rica

Field Researcher and Collection Curator

**Summer 2000 and
2001**

Conducted independent research on gastropod mollusk population distributions and dynamics for two summers. Also maintained a museum collection of mollusks, as well as developed a mollusk teaching collection for the field station.

Gerace Research Center, San Salvador Island, The Bahamas

Field Assistant

2000

Aided in modern bivalve mollusk collection and taphonomy of Bahamian fossil reef mollusks.

AWARDS, FUNDING, AND OTHER SUPPORT

University of Miami Research and Creativity Forum Poster Presentation, 2nd Place Award (2006)
University of Miami Provost Graduate Student Travel Award (2004)
University of Miami Kriloff Graduate Student Travel Scholarship (2003, 2004)
University of Miami GAFAC Travel Award (2004)
Department of Biology Savage Grant (2003)

PUBLICATIONS

Kathleen SEMON, Kathleen SULLIVAN-SEALEY, and Vanessa NERO. 2006. The influence of habitat selection and density on the population dynamics of stony coral species of the Bahamian Archipelago. Proceedings of the 10th International Coral Reef Symposium, Okinawa, Japan.

Kathleen Sullivan SEALEY, A. Lester FLOWERS, Vanessa L. NERO, Kathleen L. SEMON, Jean WILSON. 2004. Characterization and ranking of coastal environments of the Bahamian Archipelago: A database for protection and policy. Bahamas Journal of Science.

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS

Population dynamics of stony coral species across habitats in bank systems of the Bahamian Archipelago: maximizing survival and growth potential through space and time. 10th International Coral Reef Symposium, Okinawa, Japan, July 2004.

Description of coral population structure on patch reefs in the Central Bahamas: recruitment limitations or poor post-recruitment survival? 7th International Conference on Coelenterate Biology, Lawrence, Kansas, July 2003.

INSTITUTIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member of American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) 2005-present
Member of the International Society for Reef Studies (ISRS) 2003-present
Staff Member for the Coastal Ecology of The Bahamas Earthwatch expedition, 2003-2006
President, Biology Graduate Student Association (BGSA) 2006-2007
Student Representative, Dept. of Biology Graduate Academic Affairs 2005-2006
Treasurer, Biology Graduate Student Association (BGSA) 2005-2006
