

# Elena R. Suglia

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Center for Population Biology · University of California, Davis

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## Education

*University of California, Davis*, Ph.D. student, Population Biology, Adviser: Jennifer Gremer 2017-present

*Brown University*, B.A. Biology with honors, 3.88 GPA 2015

## Publications

Bertness, M.D., Brisson, C.P., Coverdale, T.C., Bevil, M.C., Crotty, S.M., and E.R. Suglia. 2014. Experimental predator removal causes rapid salt marsh die-off. *Ecology Letters* doi: 10.1111/ele.12287.

Yajima, M., Suglia, E.R., Gustafson, E.A., and G.M. Wessel. 2013. Meiotic gene expression initiates during larval development in the sea urchin. *Developmental Dynamics* 242(2):155-63. doi: 10.1002/dvdy.23904.

## Research Experience

*PhD Student, Gremer Laboratory, University of California, Davis* 2017-present

Studying plant responses to climate change using a combination of field, genomics, and modeling approaches. Specifically, investigating the effects of snowmelt timing on phenology and gene flow in several populations of the native California plant *Streptanthus tortuosus* at Lassen Volcanic National Park.

*Research Assistant, Schmitt Laboratory, University of California, Davis* 2016-2017

Studied life history variation and local adaptation in the plant *Streptanthus tortuosus* across elevational and latitudinal clines in the context of its ability to adapt to climate change.

*Research Assistant, Winfree Laboratory, Rutgers University* 2015

Conducted field work determining the effectiveness of pollinator habitat restoration strategies on native bees. Identified New Jersey bees and plants to species and curated insect and plant collections. Measured bee and floral traits to quantify trait matching.

*Research Assistant, Bertness Laboratory, Brown University* 2013-2015

Performed field experiments in Cape Cod salt marshes demonstrating that recreational overfishing triggers a trophic cascade that leads to salt marsh die-off.

*Research Assistant, Wessel Laboratory, Brown University* 2013

Studied expression of meiotic genes and proteins during echinoderm embryogenesis and gametogenesis. Designed and performed independent study researching possible splicing event in echinoderm meiotic gene *dmc1*.

## Academic Honors & Awards

Dean Marjorie Thompson Senior Prize in Biology, Brown University 2015

Sigma XI Scientific Research Honor Society 2015

USA Rugby All-Academic 2014

## Funding

Center for Population Biology Research Award, UC Davis (\$1200)	2018
Northern California Botanists Research Scholarship, CNPS Shasta Chapter (\$1000)	2018
Sharon Gray Memorial Award to fund mentorship activities, UC Davis (\$1000)	2017
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Award (\$138,000)	2017
National Association of Science Writers Travel Fellowship to attend AAAS meeting (\$1500)	2015
Voss Environmental Fellowship, Brown University (\$3500)	2014
Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award, Brown University (\$3500)	2013
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship for Rhode Island NSF EPSCoR (\$4200)	2012

## Presentations

\* oral presentation, † poster presentation

- J. Gremer, C. Wilcox, **E. Suglia**, A. Chiono, and J. Schmitt. Life history plasticity and adaptation in a changing climate. Joint Congress on Evolutionary Biology, Montpellier, France. 2018
- J. Gremer, C. Wilcox, A. Chiono, **E. Suglia**, and J. Schmitt. Life history contingency in a native wildflower, *Streptanthus tortuosus*: Mechanisms and fitness consequences. Ecological Society of America, New Orleans, LA and University of Michigan's Green Life Symposium, Ann Arbor MI. 2018
- J. Gremer, C. Wilcox, **E. Suglia**, A. Chiono, and J. Schmitt. Mechanisms of life history variation and climate adaptation in a native wildflower. American Society of Naturalists, Pacific Grove, CA. 2018
- E. Suglia**. The impact of snowmelt on phenology and population genetics of *Streptanthus tortuosus*. Population Biology Graduate Group Student Symposium, Davis, CA.\* 2017
- E. Suglia**, M. Bertness, C. Brisson, T. Coverdale, M. Bevil, and S. Crotty. Experimental predator removal causes rapid salt marsh die-off. Benthics Ecology Meeting, Quebec City, Canada.\* 2015
- E. Suglia**, M. Yajima, E. Gustafson, and G. Wessel. Expression of Meiotic Genes and Proteins During Echinoderm Embryogenesis and Gametogenesis. Rhode Island SURF Conference, Kingston, RI. † 2012

## Teaching Experience

<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Introduction to Evolution, UC Davis	Winter 2019
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Ecology and Evolution of Animal-Plant Interactions, UC Davis	Fall 2018
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Principles of Ecology, Brown University	Spring 2014, Spring 2015
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Statistical Analysis of Biological Data, Brown University	Spring 2015
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Environmental Scholarship and Communication, Brown University	Spring 2015
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Coastal Ecology and Conservation, Brown University	Fall 2015
<i>Democracy Coach</i> , Generation Citizen, Brown University	Fall 2012

## Mentoring

*Mentees*: Vanessa Bassinello, Helena Bayat, Lahari Indraganti, Gautum Mathur, Joaquin Meckler-Pacheco, Ryan Moore, Lauren Okafor, Noah Rosenberg, John Schroder

**Mentored 9 undergraduates**, University of California, Davis 2016-present

Summer research mentor for Evolution and Ecology Graduate Admissions Pathway program (LO), 2018

Sharon Gray Memorial Award Mentor (LI), 2018. Accompanied mentee to California Native Plant Society 2018 Conservation Conference and Jepson Herbarium Introduction to Lichens Workshop

Research Mentor for HB, JM, LI, LO. Assisted with project design, analytical approach, and poster presentation (HB, JM, LO); guided literature review, held weekly check-ins, oversaw research activities (HB, LI, LO)

Aided in applications for jobs and fellowships, navigating degree and GPA, cover letter and resume writing (HB, JM); provided professional development advice and resources (HB, LI, JM, RM)

Designed and ran a cover letter and resume writing workshop for two quarters

Led scientific paper discussion group for three quarters

Designed and taught introductory R programming workshops for two quarters

## **Professional Service**

Reviewer for textbook *Marine Community Ecology and Conservation*, ed. 2

### *Academic Organizations*

Equity in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Entrepreneurship, University of California, Davis

*Outreach Committee Member* (2017-present), <https://esteme.weebly.com/>

Women in Life Sciences at Davis, University of California, Davis

*Administrator* (2018-present), <https://wild.ucdavis.edu/>

### *Professional Membership*

Ecological Society of America (Science Communication Section, Plant Population Ecology Section)

California Native Plant Society (Shasta Chapter, Mount Lassen Chapter)

Botanical Society of America (Ecological Section)

Davis Botanical Society (Center for Plant Diversity, University of California, Davis)

Society for the Study of Evolution

Friends of the Jepson Herbarium

Society for Herbarium Curators

National Association of Science Writers

## **Professional Development**

### *Research*

Introduction to R in GIS, University of California, Davis Data Science Initiative

2018

### *Teaching*

Fall Foundations in Teaching Workshop Series, UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness	2018
Teaching Philosophy Workshop, UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness	2018
Diversity Statement Workshop, UC Davis Center for Educational Effectiveness	2018

### *Diversity & Inclusion*

Strengths Based Leadership Training for Diversity and Inclusion, UC Davis	2018
Diversity 102 Workshop, GradPathways, UC Davis Graduate Studies	2018
Foundations in LGBTQIA Allyship Training, UC Davis LGBTQIA Resource Center	2018
UndocuAlly Program for Educators, UC Davis AB540 and Undocumented Center	2017
Graduate Diversity Orientation Program Extension Workshops, UC Davis	2017-2018

### **Outreach & Community Service**

<i>Student Representative</i> , Population Biology Graduate Group Steering Committee, UC Davis	2018-2019
<i>Member</i> , Population Biology Graduate Group Diversity Committee, UC Davis	2018-present
<i>Steering Committee Member</i> , Graduates for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity, UC Davis	2017-present
<i>Volunteer</i> , STEM Squad, Winters Middle School, Winters, CA <a href="https://estemestemsquad.weebly.com/">https://estemestemsquad.weebly.com/</a>	2017-present
<i>Volunteer</i> , Roundtable Discussion, Holistic U Graduate Diversity Orientation, UC Davis	2018
<i>Volunteer</i> , Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research, UC Davis	2018
<i>Volunteer</i> , Picnic Day Tree of Life Exhibit, UC Davis	2018
<i>Volunteer</i> , Family STEAM night, Barrett Middle School, Carmichael, CA	2017

### **Science Communication | Writing Portfolio: [elenasuglia.journoportfolio.com](http://elenasuglia.journoportfolio.com)**

Contributing writer and editor, NPR's "Friends of Joe's Big Idea" SciComm group	2017-present
SciComm Workshop Series, Scholars Promoting Education Awareness and Knowledge, UC Davis	2017
Lead public Pollinator Walks in New Jersey discussing native bee diversity and conservation	2015
Organized and led 3-day Science Communication Colloquium, Brown University	2015
Published a This I Believe essay about salt marshes on Rhode Island National Public Radio	2015

### *Selected Science Writing*

- "Vanishing Nutrients." Scientific American Blog. 10 December 2018. [Link](#)
- "The Buzz on Bee Research at Fairview Farm." Raritan Headwaters Association Newsletter. 29 October 2015. [Link](#)
- "Tardigrades: The tiny superheroes that have been to space." Public Radio Exchange. 7 May 2015. [Link](#)
- "Robots may soon swarm the ocean floor searching for resources." National Association of Science Writers. 18 February 2015. [Link](#)