L A U R A M C I S N E R O S

Department of Natural Resources and the Environment
Institute of the Environment
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SUMMARY

As a trained ecologist and experienced environmental educator, I strive to develop and implement culturally-sustaining, experiential, place-based environmental learning opportunities that integrate tools and technology used by professionals to encourage environmental action by diverse lifelong learners. As Director of UConn's Natural Resources Conservation Academy (NRCA; https://nrca.uconn.edu/), I have cultivated an extensive network of professionals, community partners and educators to provide innovative conservation programs for teens, adults and teachers, and support over 260 community-based environmental action efforts.

EDUCATION

2014	**University of Connecticut**	**Ph.D.**	**Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**
	Effects of human-modified landscapes on metacommunity structure and multiple dimensions of biodiversity (Advisor: Michael R. Willig)		
2006	**Michigan State University**	**B.S.**	**Zoology, Zoo and Aquarium Science, Honors**

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2023–Present **Associate Extension Professor**, Natural Resources and the Environment & Institute of the Environment, University of Connecticut

2019–2023 **Assistant Extension Professor**, Natural Resources and the Environment & Institute of the Environment, University of Connecticut

2016–2019 **Visiting Assistant Professor & Coordinator,** Natural Resources Conservation Academy's Conservation Training Partnerships & Teacher Professional Learning Programs, Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Connecticut

2014–2016 **Visiting Assistant Extension Educator & Coordinator,** Natural Resources Conservation Academy's Conservation Ambassador Program, Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Connecticut

2014 **Adjunct Professor**, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed *student research under my mentorship

Cisneros, L.M., Campbell, T., Freidenfelds, N., Lindemann, A., Elliot-Famularo, H., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D. & Park, B-Y. (2023) Eco-digital storytelling: Engaging historically excluded populations in environmental action through mentoring, geospatial technology, and digital media storytelling. **Frontiers in Education**, DOI: 10.3389/2022.1083064.

Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Moss, D.M., Volin, J., Arnold, C., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., & Freidenfelds, N. (2022) Part of our DNA": Intergenerational family learning in informal science. **International Journal of STEM Education**, DOI: 10.1080/21548455.2022.2099032.

Burgio, K.R., Davis, K.E., Dreiss, L.M., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Klingbeil, B.T., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2022) Integrating multiple dimensions of biodiversity to inform global parrot conservation. **Animal Biodiversity and Conservation**, 45, 189-202.

Peer Reviewed *(continued)*

Freidenfelds, N.A., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Cabaniss, A.D., Colby, R., Meadows-McDonnell, M., Kumar Singh, A., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D.M., Simmons, J., & Volin, J.C. (2022) Pivoting during a pandemic: transforming in-person environmental STEM field programs into immersive, online experiential learning. **Connected Science Learning**. URL<https://www.nsta.org/connected-science-learning/connected-science-learning-march-april-2022/pivoting-during-pandemic>

Cisneros, L.M., Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Freidenfelds, N., Moss, D. & Volin, J. (2021) Program design principles to support teen-adult community conservation efforts. **Frontiers in Education –STEM Education,** 6, 674667.

Rodriguez, L., Campbell, T., Volin, J., Moss, D., Arnold, C., & **Cisneros, L.M.** (2021) Assessing STEM identities in intergenerational informal STEM programming**. Contemporary Issues in Technology and Teacher Education,** 21, 680-712.

Park, B-Y., Campbell, T., Kelly, M., Gray, R., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Cisneros, L.M., Dickson, D., Moss, D., Rodriguez, L., Volin, J.C., & Willig, M.R. (2021) Improving NGSS focused model-based learning curriculum through the examination of students' experiences and iterated models. **Research in Science and Technological Education,** DOI: 10.1080/02635143.2021.1978962.

Campbell, T., Rodriguez, L., Moss, D.M., Volin, J., Arnold, C., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Rubenstein, J.M. & Abebe, B. (2021) Intergenerational community conservation projects, STEM identity authoring, and positioning: the cases of two intergenerational teams. **International Journal of Science Education, Part B: Communication and Public Engagement,** 11, 174-190.

Freidenfelds, N.A., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Rodriguez, L., Park, B-Y., Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D., Volin, J.C., & Willig, M.R. (2020) Investigating human impact on local water resources & exploring solutions: Next Generation Science Standards-designed unit. **American Biology Teacher**, 82, 619**–**623.

Watling, J.I., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Pfeifer, M., Baeten, L., Banks-Leite, C., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Fang, R., Hamel-Leigue, C., Lachat, T., Leal, I.R., Lens, L., Possingham, H.P., Raheem, D.C., Ribeiro, D.B., Slade, E.M., Urbina-Cardona, J.N., Wood, E.M. & Fahrig, L. (2020) Support for the habitat amount hypothesis from a global synthesis of species density studies. **Ecology Letters**, 23, 674**–**681.

Burgio, K.R., Davis, K.E., Dreiss, L.M., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Klingbeil, B.T., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2019) Phylogenetic supertree and functional trait database for all extant parrots. **Data in Brief**, DIB103882.

Presley, S.J., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Klingbeil, B.T. & Willig, M.R. (2019) Landscape ecology of mammals. **Journal of Mammalogy,** 100, 1044**–**1068.

Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Arnold, A., **Cisneros, L.**, Volin, J. Campbell, T., Moss, D. & Rodriguez, L. (2018) Connecting generations through informal geospatial and conservation education. **Journal of Extension**, 56, 5IAW2.

Presley, S.J., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Higgins, C.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Scheiner, S.M. & Willig, M.R. (2018) Phylogenetic and functional underdispersion in Neotropical phyllostomid bat communities. **Biotropica**, 50, 135**–**145.

Pfeifer, M., Lefebvre, V., Peres, C., Wearn, O.R., Marsh, C., Banks-Leite, C., Butchart, S.H.M., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Barlow, J., Cerezo, A., **Cisneros, L.M.**, D'Cruze, N., Fariah, D., Hadley, A., Klingbeil, B.T., Kormann, U., Lens, L., Medina-Rangel, G.F., Morante-Filho, J.C., Olivier, P., Peters, S., Pidgeon, A., Ribeiro, D.B., Scherber, C., Schneider-Maunory, L., Struebig, M., Urbina-Cardona, N., Watling, J.I., Willig, M.R., Wood, E.M. & Ewers, R.M. (2017) Creation of forest edges has a global impact on forest vertebrates. **Nature**, 551, 187**–**191.

Cisneros, **L.M.**, Fagan, M.E. & Willig, M.R. (2016) Environmental and spatial drivers of taxonomic, functional, and phylogenetic characteristics of bat communities in a human-modified landscape. **PeerJ**, 4, e2551.

Cisneros, **L.M.**, Fagan, M.E. & Willig, M.R. (2015) Effects of human-modified landscapes on taxonomic, functional and phylogenetic dimensions of bat biodiversity. **Diversity and Distributions**, 21, 523**–**533.

Cisneros, **L.M.**, Fagan, M.E. & Willig, M.R. (2015) Season-specific and guild-specific effects of anthropogenic landscape modification on metacommunity structure of tropical bats. **Journal of Animal Ecology**, 84, 373**–**385.

Peer Reviewed *(continued)*

Dreiss, L.M., Burgio, K.R., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Klingbeil, B.T., Patterson, B.D., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2015) Taxonomic, functional, and phylogenetic dimensions of rodent biodiversity along an extensive tropical elevational gradient. **Ecography**, 38, 876–888.

Cisneros, L.M., Burgio, K.R., Dreiss, L.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Patterson, B.D., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2014) Multiple dimensions of bat biodiversity along an extensive tropical elevational gradient. **Journal of Animal Ecology**, 83, 1124–1136.

Pfeifer, M., Lefebvre, V., Gardner, T.A., Arroyo-Rodriguez, V., Baeten, L., Banks-Leite, C., Barlow, J., Betts, M.G., Brunet, J., Cerezo, A., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Collard, S., D'Cruze, N., da Silva Motta, C., Duguay, S., Eggermont, H., Eigenbrod, F., Hadley, A.S., Hanson, T.R., Hawes, J.E., Heartsill Scalley, T., Klingbeil, B.T., Kolb, A., Kormann, U., Kumar, S., Lachat, T., Lakeman Fraser, P., Lantschner, V., Laurance, W.F., Leal, I.R., Lens, L., Marsh, C.J., Medina-Rangel, G.F., Melles, S., Mezger, D., Oldekop, J.A., Overal, W.L., Owen, C., Peres, C.A., Phalan, B., Pidgeon, A.M., Pilia, O., Possingham, H.P., Possingham, M.L., Raheem, D.C., Ribeiro, D.B., Ribeiro Neto, J.D., Robinson, W.D., Robinson, R., Rytwinski, T., Scherber, C., Slade, E.M., Somarriba, E., Stouffer, P.C., Struebig, M.J., Tylianakis, J.M., Tscharntke, T., Tyre, A.J., Urbina Cardona, J.N., Vasconcelos, H.L., Wearn, O., Wells, K., Willig, M.R., Wood, E., Young, R.P., Bradley, A.V. & Ewers, R.M. (2014) BIOFRAG – a new database for analyzing BIOdiversity responses to forest FRAGmentation. **Ecology and Evolution**, 4, 1524–1537.

*Durant, K.A., Hall, R.W., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Hyland, R.M. & Willig, M.R. (2013) Reproductive phenologies of phyllostomid bats in Costa Rica. **Journal of Mammalogy**, 94, 1438–1448.

Presley, S.J., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Patterson, B.D. & Willig, M.R. (2012) Vertebrate metacommunity structure along an extensive elevational gradient in the tropics: a comparison of bats, rodents, and birds. **Global Ecology and Biogeography**, 21, 968–976.

Willig, M.R., Presley, S.J., Bloch, C.P., Castro-Arellano, I., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Higgins, C.L. & Klingbeil, B.T. (2011) Tropical metacommunities along elevational gradients: effects of forest type and other environmental factors. **Oikos**, 120, 1497–1508.

Non-Peer Reviewed

Cisneros, L.M. (2022) Facilitating teen and adult community environmental action projects via near-peer mentors and resources. **North American Association of Environmental Educators Blog**, URL <https://eepro.naaee.org/community/blog/facilitating-teen-and-adult-community-environmental-action-projects-near-peer>.

Farkas, T., Fucikova, K., Caskenette, A., **Cisneros, L.**, Medina, R., Sezen, U. & Wade, E.J. (2015) UConn BioBlitz 2015 post-blitz report. **Connecticut Wildlife Magazine**, 35, 14–17.

Cisneros, L.M. (2014) Getting to know our northern long-eared bat. **New England Society of American Foresters News Quarterly**, 75, 4.

Manuscripts In Review

Burgio, K.R., Presley, S.J., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Davis, K.E., Dreiss, L.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Patterson, B.D. & Willig, M.R. Dimensions of passerine biodiversity along an elevational gradient: a nexus for historical biogeography and contemporary ecology. **Animal Biodiversity and Conservation**, *Submitted*.

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Invited

Cisneros, L., Cane, C., Freidenfelds, N., Gichuru, L., & Seldon, S. (2023) Culturally-relevant youth mentorship for inclusive environmental action. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, Middletown, Connecticut.

Liu, D., Avery, B., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Little, L., Quincy, S., & Thompson, A. (2022) Conservation education: empowering students to help our planet. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, *Virtual*.

Cisneros, L.M., Brown, H., Rack, J. & Spector, S. (2021) Keynote panel. University of Connecticut Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Graduate Student Symposium, *Virtual*.

Cisneros, L.M. (2020) Program design principles to support teen-adult conservation efforts. Michigan State University Department of Natural Resources Seminar Series, *Virtual*.

Invited *(continued)*

Volin, J.C., **Cisneros, L.**, Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Rodriguez, L., Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Moss, D. & Rubenstein, J. (2019) Promoting lifelong STEM learning through conservation, geospatial technology and community engagement. National Science Foundation Advancing Informal STEM Learning PI Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Cisneros, L.M. & Beissinger, A. (2018) Fueling local conservation with student power & mapping technology. Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions Conference, Cromwell, Connecticut.

Campbell, T., Rodriguez, L., Chadwick, C., Arnold, C., **Cisneros, L.**, Moss, D., Volin, J., Dickson, D., Willig, M. & Kelly, M. (2018). Designing and engaging teachers in NGSS educative curriculum focused on water and sustainability using models, investigations, and online mapping tools. Innovating Teaching and Learning in the Food-Energy-Water-Nexus Conference, Washington, D.C.

Cisneros, L., Beissinger, A. & Volin, J. (2017) Natural Resources Conservation Academy: promoting a more resilient Connecticut via youth conservation projects. Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation Forum, Storrs, Connecticut.

Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., **Cisneros, L.**, Kelly, M., Moss, D., Volin, J., Willig, M. & Wilson, E. (2017) Water and sustainability: educative curriculum using online mapping tools to support teacher and student learning. NC-FEW FEW Education Symposium-Water for Food Global Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Cisneros, **L.M.** & Willig, M.R. (2014) Efecto de los paisajes modificados por humanos en las dimensiones taxonómicas, funcionales y filogenéticas de biodiversidad en murciélagos. Congreso Latinoamericano de Murciélagos, Quito, Ecuador.

Contributed *student research under my mentorship

Cisneros, L.M. & Kloster, D.P. (2023) Culturally Relevant Mentoring & Environmental Action Impact on Historically Excluded Groups. North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, *Virtual*.

Kloster, D.P. & **Cisneros, L.M.** (2023) Engaging and Retaining Historically Marginalized Teens in Natural Resources and Environmental Fields with Service Learning and Near-Peer Mentoring. Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences Conference, Portland, Oregon.

Boekestein, E., **Cisneros, L.,** Hoover, J., Waite, K. & Woolums, D. (2022) Navigating stakeholder partnerships to promote civic engagement and meaningful learning. North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, Tucson, Arizona.

Freidenfelds, N., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., **Cisneros**, **L.**, Dickson, D., Simmons, J. & Volin, J.C. (2022) Impacts of intergenerational community conservation. National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. URL<https://stemforall2022.videohall.com/presentations/2495>

Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Moss, D.M., Volin, J., Arnold, C., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Chadwick, C., Dickson, D. & Freidenfelds, N. (2022) Intergenerational family learning in conservation science. NARST Annual International Conference, Vancouver, BC.

Freidenfelds, N., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., **Cisneros**, **L.**, Dickson, D., Simmons, J. & Volin, J.C. (2021) Socially-distanced community conservation partnerships. National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. URL<https://stemforall2021.videohall.com/presentations/2079>

Cisneros, L.M., Volin, J.C., Simmons, J. Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D. & Freidenfelds, N. (2020) Conservation in action: supporting teen-community partnerships and demonstrating collective environmental impact. Ecological Society of America Meeting, *Virtual*.

Cisneros, L.M., Freidenfelds, N., Campbell, T., Volin, J., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D. & Simmons, J. (2020) Program design principles to support teen-adult community partnerships' conservation efforts. North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, *Virtual*.

Freidenfelds, N.A., **Cisneros, L.M.,** Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Rodriguez, L., & Willig, M. (2020) Investigating human impact on local water resources: an NGSS-designed approach. North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, *Virtual*.

Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., **Cisneros**, **L.**, Dickson, D., Freidenfelds, N., Moss, D.M. Rodriguez L., Simmons, J. & Volin, J.C. (2020) Designing for intergenerational community conservation. National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. URL<https://stemforall2020.videohall.com/presentations/1788>

Contributed *(continued)*

Rodriguez, L., Campbell, T., Volin, J., Moss, D. M., Arnold, C., **Cisneros, L.**, Chadwick, C. & Dickson, D. (2020) Assessing STEM identities in intergenerational informal STEM programming. Association for Science Teacher Education Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Cisneros, L.M., Volin, J., Beissinger A., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D. & Moss, D. (2019) Environmental and community impacts by teen and adult partnerships. North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

Rodriguez L., Campbell, T., **Cisneros**, **L.**, Volin, J.C., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D.M. & Rubenstein, J. (2019) Intergenerational conservation STEM learning and identity. National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. URL<https://stemforall2019.videohall.com/presentations/1465>

Beissinger, A. & **Cisneros, L**. (2019) Using technology to energize teens and conservation volunteers. Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association Conference, Farmington, Connecticut.

Cisneros, L., Arnold, C., Beissinger, A., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Rubenstein, J., Vokoun, J. & Volin, J. (2019) Fuel your conservation efforts with student power & mapping technology. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, Middletown, Connecticut.

Cisneros, L.M., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D., Rodriguez, L., Rubenstein, J. & Volin, J.C. (2019) Promoting STEM learning through conservation, mapping & community engagement. Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs, Connecticut.

Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., **Cisneros, L.**, Volin, J.C., Arnold, C., Rubenstein, J., Campbell, T., Moss, D. & Rodriguez, L. (2019) Kick-starting conservation with maps, apps, & teens. Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs, Connecticut.

*Horton, C. & **Cisneros**, **L.** (2019) Developing tech materials & approach for citizen science bat house monitoring program. Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs, CT.

Cisneros, L.M., Beissinger, A., Volin, J.C., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Moss, D.M., Dickson, D., Rodriguez L. & Rubenstein, J. (2018) Energized teens + local conservation volunteers + geospatial technology = environmental action. New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference, Fairlee, Vermont.

Campbell, T., Rodriguez, L. Arnold, C., Beissinger, A., **Cisneros, L.** & Volin, J.C. (2018) Human impacts on local water resources: a 3D unit and assessment. Connecticut Science Teachers Association Conference, Southington, Connecticut.

Rodriguez, L., Bessinger, A. & **Cisneros, L.** (2018) Teachers supporting students as liaisons between formal and informal science programs: University of Connecticut's CAP and CTP programs. Connecticut Science Teachers Association Conference, Southington, Connecticut.

Chadwick, C., **Cisneros, L.**, Dickson, D., Volin, J., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Moss, D., Rodriguez, L. & Wilson, E. (2018) Tech savvy teens + local conservation leaders + mobile mapping = environmental action. Esri International User Conference, San Diego, California.

Cisneros, **L.M.**, Volin, J.C., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Moss, D.M., Dickson, D. & Rodriguez L. (2018) Conservation Training Partnerships: intergenerational environmental solutions in action. National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. URL<http://stemforall2018.videohall.com/presentations/1145>

Beissinger, A. & **Cisneros L.** (2018) Engaging and mentoring the next generation of conservation leaders. Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association Conference, New Haven, Connecticut.

Cisneros, L., Arnold, C., Beissinger, A., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Vokoun, J. & Volin, J. (2018) Environmental programming & conservation solutions. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, Middletown, Connecticut.

Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., **Cisneros, L.**, Volin, J.C., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Moss, D. & Wilson, E. (2017) Using geospatial technology to bridge the gap between intergenerational learners. Northeast Arc User Conference, Newport, Rhode Island.

Cisneros, L., Arnold, C., Beissinger, A., Chadwick, C., & Volin, J. (2017) Natural Resources Conservation Academy: intergenerational environmental programming & conservation solutions. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, Middletown, Connecticut.

Contributed *(continued)*

*Masthay, J. & **Cisneros**, **L.** (2017) Connecticut bat house citizen science monitoring program. Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs, CT.

Burgio, K.R., Davis, K.E., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Dreiss, L.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2016) Integrating multiple dimensions of biodiversity and considerations of climate change for parrot conservation. North American Ornithological Congress Conference, Washington, D.C.

Cisneros, **L.M.**, Chadwick, C., Doss, L., Volin, J. & Worthley, T. (2016) Youth conservation projects that benefit local environments. Connecticut Land Conservation Conference, Middletown, Connecticut.

*Hernandez, M., Marson, B. & **Cisneros**, **L.** (2015) Bring the bats back: restoring the New England bat population one bat house at a time. Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs, CT.

Willig, M.R., Burgio, K.R., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Dreiss, L.M., Patterson, B.D., Presley, S.J. & Klingbeil, B.T. (2014) Gradients of phylogenetic relatedness and size similarity: bats and rodents in a hotspot of tropical biodiversity (Manu, Peru). American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Cisneros, **L.M.** & Willig, M.R. (2013) Partitioning the effects of spatial and environmental variation on phylogenetic structure of a bat metacommunity in a human-modified landscape. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Cisneros, **L.M.** & Willig, M.R. (2013) Identifying landscape characteristics that promote taxonomic, functional and phylogenetic dimensions of bat biodiversity. American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

*Hall, R.W., Durant, K.A., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Hyland, R.M. & Willig, M.R. (2013) Reproductive phenologies of phyllostomid bats from Costa Rica. American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

*Hall, R.W., Durant, K.A., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Hyland, R.M. & Willig, M.R. (2013) Reproductive phenologies of phyllostomid bats from Costa Rica. Frontiers in Undergraduate Research Poster Exhibition, Storrs, Connecticut.

Willig, M.R., Burgio, K.R., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Dreiss, L.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Patterson, B.D. & Presley, S.J. (2013) Comparative biodiversity of bats and rodents along an extensive tropical elevational gradient: taxonomic, functional, and phylogenetic dimensions. American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Cisneros, **L.M.** & Willig, M.R. (2012) Effects of landscape structure on multiple dimensions of bat biodiversity. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

Klingbeil, B.T., Burgio, K.R., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Dresis, L.M., Patterson, B.D., Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2012) Variation in multiple dimensions of biodiversity along a tropical elevation gradient: inter-taxon comparison. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

Cisneros, **L.M.** & Willig, M.R. (2011) Neotropical bat metacommunities in a human-modified landscape. American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

Klingbeil, B.T., Bloch, C.P., Castro-Arellano, I., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Presley, S.J. & Willig, M.R. (2009) Metacommunity structure of gastropods along an elevational gradient in the Luquillo Mountains, Puerto Rico. Luquillo Experimental Forest LTER Site Meeting, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.

Willig, M.R., Klingbeil, B.T., Bloch, C.P., Castro-Arellano, I., **Cisneros, L.M.** & Presley, S.J. (2009) Metacommunity structure of gastropods along an elevational gradient in the Luquillo Mountains, Puerto Rico. LTER All Scientists Meeting, Estes Park, Colorado.

GRANTS & FUNDRAISING

2023-2025	Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, "Eastern Connecticut Conservation Ambassadors" **Co-PI** with N. Freidenfelds. **$60,000**
2023-2025	Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Education. "School Based Green Infrastructure Initiative" **Co-PI** with N. Freidenfelds, M. Deitz & D. Dickson. **$100,000**
2023	CAHNR Teaching Enhancement Grant. "Engaging Underrepresented Populations in Environmental Action through Mentoring, Geospatial Technology and Digital Media Storytelling" **PI** with N. Freidenfelds, C. Chadwick & A. Lindemann. **$13,807**

Grants *(continued)*

2023 CAHNR Strategic Visioning Implementation Committee Grant. "HartBeat Ensemble, "Stuck in the Tape", An Interactive Play for UConn CAHNR" Co-**PI** with M. Amalaradjou, C. Chadwick, D. Dickson, K. Cooksey-Stowers. **$10,000**

2022-2026 National Science Foundation, Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers. "Engaging Underrepresented Populations in Environmental Action through Mentoring, Geospatial Technology and Digital Media Storytelling" **PI** with T. Campbell, C. Chadwick, A. Lindemann & H. Elliott-Famularo. **$1,350,000**

2022-2025 Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, "NRCA Difference Maker Mentors: Empowering Teens Historically Underserved in STEM with Environmental Action & Engaged Leadership" **PI. $325,000**

2022-2023 Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, "Natural Resources Conservation Academy Windham Conservation Corps" **Co-PI** with N. Freidenfelds. **$30,000**

2021-2024 USDA NIFA, Woman & Minorities in STEM Fields, "A FANH Pathway: Engaging & Retaining Historically Marginalized Teens with FANH Service Learning & Near-Peer Mentoring" **PI. $100,000**

2018-2020 Goldring Family Foundation, "Natural Resources Conservation Academy" **Co-PI** with A. Beissinger, J. Volin (PI) & J. Vokoun. **$60,000**

2018-2020 Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Environmental & Animal Welfare Grants. "Preserving New London County Coastal Environments by Engaging Teens, Adults and Teachers in Environmental Education and Service Learning" **Co-PI** with A. Beissinger (PI), C. Arnold, J. Volin & J. Vokoun. **$12,000**

2017–2018 Diebold Foundation, "Natural Resources Conservation Academy: Fostering Young Scientists in Connecticut Communities" **PI** with J. Volin. **$25,000**

2017–2018 Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation, Matching Fund Program, "Natural Resources Conservation Academy: Fostering Young Scientists in Connecticut Communities" **PI** with J. Volin. **$6,250**

2016–2021 National Science Foundation, Advancing Informal STEM Learning. "Promoting Lifelong STEM Learning Through a Focus on Conservation, Geospatial Technology, and Community Engagement" **Senior Personnel** with C. Arnold, T. Campbell, C. Chadwick, D. Moss & J. Volin (PI). **$2,995,133**

2016–2018 USDA NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, Educational Literacy Initiative's Professional Development for Secondary School Teachers and Educational Professionals. "Water and Sustainability: Educative Curriculum Using Online Mapping Tools to Support Teacher and Student Learning" **Co-PI** with C. Arnold (PI), C. Chadwick, T. Campbell, D. Moss, J. Volin, E. Wilson & M. Willig. **$144,138**

Fundraising

2023 36-hour UConn Giving Day Event, Natural Resources Conservation Academy received 67 gifts. **$3,275**

2021 36-hour UConn Giving Day Event, Natural Resources Conservation Academy received 59 gifts. **$2,856**

2019 36-hour UConn Giving Day Event, Natural Resources Conservation Academy received 131 gifts. **$3,618**

2018 36-hour UConn Giving Day Event, Natural Resources Conservation Academy received 230 gifts (highest number of unique gifts in university). **$9,828**

2016 Natural Resources Conservation Academy Crowdfunding Campaign, Natural Resources Conservation Academy received 69 gifts. **$4,310**

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2023 Rising Leaders Fellowship, Justice Outside.

Awards *(continued)*

2021-2022	CEE-Change Fellowship: Building Leadership in Civics and Environmental Education, North American Association for Environmental Education.
2021	STEM Achievement Award, Connecticut Science Center to Natural Resources Conservation Academy Team. *(awarded under my direction)*
2021	STEM for All Video Showcase Facilitator Choice Award for Socially-Distanced Community Conservation Partnerships, National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase.
2021	CES Award for Innovative Programming in Extension, UConn College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources. **$5,000**
2020	STEM for All Video Showcase Public Choice Award for Designing for Intergenerational Community Conservation Video, National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase.
2020	Excellence in Land Conservation Organization Award to Natural Resources Conservation Academy Team, Connecticut Land Conservation Council. *(awarded under my direction)*
2019	Provost's Award for Excellence in Community Engaged Scholarship to Natural Resources Conservation Academy Team, University of Connecticut. *(awarded under my direction)*
2018	DataHaven Innovation Award to NRCA Conservation Training Partnership Team, DataHaven. *(awarded under my direction)*
2018	Outstanding Organization of the Year Award to Natural Resources Conservation Academy Team, Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association. *(awarded under my co-direction)*
2016	Maria Pirie Environmental Education Program Award to Natural Resources Conservation Academy's Conservation Ambassador Program Team, New England Environmental Education Alliance. *(awarded under my direction)*
2013	The Honoraria and Travel Award, American Society of Mammalogists. **$300**
2010	Multidisciplinary Environmental Research Award for Graduate Students, Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering, University of Connecticut. **$8,000**
2010	Student Research Scholarship, Bat Conservation International. **$3,500**
2010	Grants-in-Aid of Research, American Society of Mammalogists. **$1,290**
2010	Clark, Manter, Trainor, Wetzel and Whitworth Endowment Fund, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut. **$750**
2009	Multidisciplinary Environmental Research Award for Graduate Students, Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering, University of Connecticut. **$5,000**
2009	Research Fellowship, Organization for Tropical Studies. **$2,500**
2009	Grants-in-Aid of Research, American Society of Mammalogists. **$1,000**
2009	Center for Conservation and Biodiversity Award, Center for Conservation and Biodiversity, University of Connecticut. **$600**
2007–2014	Multicultural Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Connecticut. **$84,000**
2002–2003	Beaumont Tower Grant Education Scholarship, Michigan State University. **$1,000**

MENTORSHIP

Extension

2022–Present **NRCA Conservation Ambassador Program & Difference Maker Mentor Participants**, University of Connecticut, across CT

Supporting 38 high school students with multi-layered mentorship (10 Difference Maker Mentors, community partners) and need-based stipends as they develop and implement 7-month local environmental action projects tailored to each students interests and community need. Projects presented annually at statewide conference.

Mentorship *(continued)*

2016–2019 **NRCA Conservation Training Partnership Intergenerational Teams**, University of Connecticut, across CT
Advised 68 intergenerational teams participating in the Natural Resources Conservation Academy's Conservation Training Partnerships program (https://nrca.uconn.edu/ctp/) as they conduct conservation projects statewide using geospatial technology. Teams comprise a high school student and an adult conservation volunteer from land trusts, conservation commissions.

2014–2016 **NRCA Conservation Ambassador Students**, University of Connecticut, across CT
Mentored 70 teens participating in the Natural Resources Conservation Academy's Conservation Ambassador Program (https://nrca.uconn.edu/cap/) on 10-month individual conservation projects in collaboration with community partners (e.g. conservation organizations, government agencies). Projects presented annually at Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources.

Undergraduate Students

2021–Present **Difference Maker Mentors:** serve as NRCA program leaders & near-peer mentors to teens during multi-month-long community environmental action projects

- 2023–Present: Alexandra Blas (Allied Health Science), Paige Booth (Environmental Science), Aalyah Contreras (Human Development & Family Studies), Adriana Garcia Vazquez (Cognitive Science), Andy Zhang (Environmental Science & Economics), UConn.
- 2022–2023: Leilani Duarte (Natural Resources), Leah Gichuru (Molecular & Cellular Biology), Ilana Goldner (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), Erin McKeehan (Economics & Environmental Studies), Sydney Sledon (Environmental Science & Environmental Policy), UConn.
- 2021–2022: Celine Agbotey (Applied Mathematics), Michio Agresta (Natural Resources, Human Rights & Spanish Minor), Margaret Sanders (Natural Resources, Human Rights Minor) & Caitlin Daddona (Environmental Science), UConn.

2022–Present **Community Facilitator Interns**: assist with co-designing future programs with community stakeholders via focus groups & listening sessions

- 2022–Present: Chelcy Htoo (Human Development & Family Studies) & Honore Munyaneza (Health Care Management), University of Connecticut & Hartford communities.

2022–Present **Extension Intern**: assist with development & implementation of extension NRCA summer programs

- Summer 2022: Abigail Bar (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology; Applied Mathematics), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2020: Margaret Sanders (Environmental Science) & Sydney Collins (Environmental Science), University of Connecticut.

2018–2021 **Difference Maker Interns**: NRCA alumni currently enrolled as UConn undergraduate students contribute to NRCA science communication, participant support efforts & NRCA programming

- 2020–2021: Margaret Sanders (Natural Resources, Human Rights Minor) & Tianna Felder (Marketing & Business Management), University of Connecticut.
- Spring 2020: AJ Barthel (Environmental Studies) & Tianna Felder (Marketing & Business Management), University of Connecticut.
- Fall 2019: Amanda Hernandez (Mathematics) & Tianna Felder (Marketing & Business Management), University of Connecticut.
- Spring 2019: Richard Moore (Natural Resources) & Margaret Chafouleas (Journalism), University of Connecticut.
- Fall 2018: Kenechi Nkwo (Human Development & Family Studies) & Hannah Curran (Environmental Science), University of Connecticut.

2014–2016 **CAP Field Experience Interns:** Exclusively assist with implementation of the intensive summer Conservation Ambassador Program field experience

- Summer 2016: Riley Doherty (Environmental Science) & Diana Cristina Macklem (Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.

Mentorship *(continued)*

- Summer 2015: Jenna Lopardo (Natural Resources) & Diana Cristina Macklem (Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2014: Joshua Tracy (Natural Resources), Diana Cristina Macklem (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) & Derek Cotroneo (Secondary Education), University of Connecticut.

2008–Present **Independent Study:** environmental education and ecological research efforts

- Spring 2022: Tamashi Hettiarachchi (Education - Curriculum & Instruction) & Emma Morgan (Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.
  Manuscript project on design principles that support youth-led environmental action efforts.
- 2012–2013: Kathryne Durant (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), Ryan Hall (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) & Rachael Hyland (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), University of Connecticut.
  Independent study on reproductive phenologies of bats; $1,000 award from the Office of Undergraduate Research; two conference presentations; publication in J. Mammalogy.
- Summer 2008: Lauren Jones (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) & Nicole Rivera (University of Puerto Rico), Luquillo LTER, El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico.
  NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduate on metacommunity ecology of leaf litter spiders.

Graduate Students

2021–Present **NRCA Graduate Student Mentors with Difference Maker Mentors & Conservation Ambassador Program**

- 2022-Present: Christopher Cane (MS student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.
- 2021-2022: Ankit Singh (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.

2017–2021 **NRCA Graduate Student Mentors with Conservation Ambassador Program Field Experience & Conservation Training Partnerships Workshops**

- Summer 2021: Madeleine Meadows-McDonnell (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Ankit Singh (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), & Rebecca Colby (Ph.D. student; Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2020: Madeleine Meadows-McDonnell (MS student; Natural Resources), Ankit Singh (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Rebecca Colby (Ph.D. student; Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) & Grace Vaziri (Ph.D. student; Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2019: Eric Moore (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Daniel Wright (MS student; Natural Resources), Andrew Stillman (Ph.D. student; Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) & Rebekah Thielman (MS student; Civil & Environmental Engineering), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2018: Aidan Barry (MS student; Natural Resources), Kristen Beattie (MS student; Natural Resources), Steven Dilfaco (MS student; Natural Resources) & Olivia Johnson (MS student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2017: Danielle Kloster (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Lucas Nathan (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Sara Pedro (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources) & Elliott Volin (MS student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.

2014–2016 **NRCA Graduate Student Mentors with Conservation Ambassador Program Field Experience**

- Summer 2016: Lindsay Keener-Eck (MS student; Natural Resources), Danielle Kloster (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Luke McNaboe (MS student; Natural Resources) & Jason Sauer (MS student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.
- Summer 2015: Lindsay Dreiss (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Jan-Michael Hessenauer (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Danielle Kloster (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources) & David Rosa (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.

Mentorship *(continued)*

- Summer 2014: Lindsay Dreiss (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), Kelly O'Connor (MS student; Natural Resources), Jason Parent (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources) & David Rosa (Ph.D. student; Natural Resources), University of Connecticut.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022–Present **Leadership in Community-Based Conservation** (NRE4695), University of Connecticut, *Instructor*.
2022 **Environmental Conservation** (Pre-College Summer Course), University of Connecticut, *Instructor*.
2020 **Advancing Collective Environmental Action by Diverse Stakeholders** (NRE4998), University of Connecticut, *Instructor*.
2016–2017 **Integrating Humans and the Environment** (ENVS 2000; NRE 4695), University of Connecticut, *Instructor*.
2014 **Field Mammalogy** (EEB 3898), University of Connecticut, *Instructor.*
2013 **Conservation Biology** (EEB 5310), University of Connecticut, *Lecture Assistant*.
2011 **Mammalogy** (EEB 3254/5254), University of Connecticut, *Lab Teaching Assistant* (nominated for EEB Excellence in Student Teaching Award).
2007–2014 **Foundations of Biology** (BIOL 1102), University of Connecticut, *Lab Teaching Assistant*.
2003 **Science Camp**, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, *Teaching Assistant* (classes taught to elementary and middle school students).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professional Development

2020-2021 **Co-Designing Conservation with Communities Site Training**, Online Training with Dr. Kayla Cranston, Antioch University New England
2020 **Building the Foundation: Exploring Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Course**, Online Training with Center for Diversity & the Environment
2020 **Environmental Education Outcomes**, Cornell University Online Course
2018 **Introduction to Environmental Education**, Cornell University Online Course
2016 **Bat Acoustic Data Management Workshop**, Bat Survey Solutions, Harrisburg, PA
2015 **Conference on Case Study Teaching**, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
2011–2012 **Dimensions of Biodiversity Distributed Seminar**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Environmental drivers of biodiversity along elevational gradients.

Field Experience

2008 **Field Research Leader**, Luquillo LTER, El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico
Metacommunity structure of invertebrates along an elevational gradient; management of all aspects of data collection; mentorship of two undergraduate students.
2007 **Field Research Assistant**, Tiputini Biodiversity Station, Yasuní Biosphere Reserve, Ecuador
Assisted Dr. Anthony Di Fiore; data collection of movement patterns of two species of monkey (*Ateles belzebuth* and *Lagothrix lagotricha*) using radio telemetry; collection of phenological data of food-plant species.
2006 **Field Research Assistant**, Cocha Cashu Biological Station, Manú National Park, Peru
Assisted Dr. K. Nicole Gibson; collection of ecological and behavioral data that influence male reproductive strategies in spider monkeys (*Ateles belzebuth*).
2005 **Zoo Intern**, San Antonio Zoo, San Antonio, TX
Performed basic duties of an animal keeper within the small mammal department; gained understanding of captive management and husbandry for a wide variety of species.
2004 **Infirmary Intern & Caretaker Volunteer**, Howell Nature Center, Howell, MI
Medical attention for injured Michigan wildlife; care and enrichment for orphaned baby wildlife and non-releasable Michigan wildlife; developed skills in raptor and mammal handling.

OUTREACH

2023–Pres. **Team Project Coordinator for Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event** (1 total), Connecticut Association of Agriculture Educators & Connecticut FFA Association, Storrs, CT

Outreach *(continued)*

2023 **Getting Your Feet Wet as a Wetland Scientist Panel,** Society of Wetland Scientists New England Chapter, Natural Resources Conservation Academy University of Connecticut, & the Environmental Business Council of New England, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2022-2023 **Bats & Farming: Bat House Workshop Series**, Knox Community Gardens, Hartford, CT

2022-Pres. **Urban Forestry/Milling Workshop** (3 total), Keney Park Sustainability Project, Hartford, CT

2020-2021 **Envirothon Aquatics Workshop** (2 total), Connecticut River Academy, Hartford, CT (*Virtual* in 2021)

2020 **Connecticut Environmental Action Day Planning Committee Member**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2020 **UConn Rising Scholars**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2019 **Covert Program**, UConn Cooperative Extension, Yale Forest Camp, Norfolk, CT

2019 **Sisters in STEM**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2018–Pres. **Acoustic Bat Monitoring Walking Tours** (5 total), CT Forest & Park Association, Joshua's Trust, Town of Mansfield, Goodwin Conservation Center, statewide CT (*Virtual* in 2020)

2018 **Science Café**, Connecticut Science Center, East Hartford High School, East Hartford, CT

2017–2019 **UConn 4-H Adventures in STEM Conference** (2 total), University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2016–2022 **Collections Facilitator for Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event** (5 total), Connecticut Association of Agriculture Educators & Connecticut FFA Association, Storrs, CT (*Virtual* in 2021)

2016 **Connecticut State BioBlitz Naturalist**, Two Rivers Magnet School, East Hartford, CT

2015 **BioBlitz Executive Committee Member**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Organized the UConn BioBlitz held in July on the Storrs campus.

2015 **BioBlitz Naturalist**, Barrows STEM Academy, North Windham, CT

2012 **Elementary Outreach Instructor**, Franklin Elementary, North Franklin, CT
Collaborative effort by graduate students to introduce species adaptations of species.

2010 **Environmental Teaching Assistant**, Nogal Nature Community Project, Sarapiquí, Costa Rica
Taught environmental classes at elementary schools in banana plantation communities; designed and taught lesson on the importance of bats; classes taught in Spanish.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Committees

2022–Present Connecticut Forest & Parks Association Board

2022–Present Keney Park Sustainability Project Board

2022–Present Latino Outdoors CT Outings Volunteer

2022 UConn Office of Sustainability Program Advisory & Strategic Visioning Committee

2021–2022 UConn NatureRX Steering Committee

2021–Present UConn College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources Diversity & Inclusion Committee

2020-Present UConn College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources Working Group on Structural Racism

2020-Present Department of Natural Resources Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Anti-Racism Committee

2018-Present Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association Executive Board Member

2015-2017 Town of Mansfield Climate Change Task Force

2014-2015 Connecticut Audubon Society Education Advisory Committee

Reviewer: Acta Chiropterologica; Acta Oecologica; Diversity; Ecography; Ecology and Evolution; Ecological Research; Functional Ecology; Human Dimensions of Wildlife; Journal of Animal Ecology; Journal of Applied Ecology; Journal of Mammalogy; PeerJ; The American Naturalist; Therya.

Societies: American Society of Mammalogists; Bat Conservation International; Connecticut Outdoor Environmental Education Association; Ecological Society of America; North American Association for Environmental Education.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Technology & Software: ArcGIS; ERDAS; ESRI Story Maps; GPS; Matlab; Microsoft Word, Excel, & PowerPoint; R statistical software; SonoBat; Telemetry; Wildlife Acoustic Monitoring

Language: Fluent in written and conversational Spanish

First Aid: American Red Cross Adult First Aid/CPR/AED (last received in 06/2022)