

JUDD CURTIS

Fisheries Ecology Lab
Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies
Texas A&M – Corpus Christi
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EDUCATION

Texas A&M – Corpus Christi PhD Student Marine Biology Mentor: Dr. Gregory Stunz	Corpus Christi, TX current student
Clark University B.A. <i>magna cum laude</i> Double major: Biology and Environmental Science & Policy	Worcester, MA May 2006
School for Field Studies , Center for Marine Resource Studies Semester study abroad	Turks & Caicos Islands Spring 2005
United World College of the Atlantic International Baccalaureate Diploma	Wales, UK May 2001

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Assembling the Fungal Tree of Life** (*Clark University Biology Department*) Jun 2004 – May 2006
NSF awarded undergraduate research assistantship to determine phylogenetic relationships among members of the basidiomycota fungi using PCR and DNA sequencing.
- Aquatic Invasive Species** (*Capstone, Clark University*) Fall 2005
Case study of aquatic invasive species with specific reference to the zebra mussel invasion in the Great Lakes.
- Elkhorn Coral Fragmentation** (*Directed Research, Turks & Caicos Islands*) Spring 2005
Studied the effects of hurricane activity on the abundance and distribution of Elkhorn coral fragments using circular line transects and GPS navigation.
- Field Research/Data Collection Coursework** (*Turks & Caicos Islands*) Spring 2005
Conducted point surveys to assess spatial variation in the diversity and density of herbivorous fishes in reef, mangrove and seagrass communities. Performed visual assessments of the abundance of queen conch and categorization of benthic substrates using line transects in comparing efficacy of marine reserves. Measured sedimentation levels on coral reefs caused by recreational diving and snorkeling activity for environmental policy purposes.
- Rocky Intertidal Studies** (*Clark University*) Fall 2004
Investigated the ecology of rocky intertidal organisms including the correlations between periwinkle snails and intertidal elevation and the distribution of seastars with seasonal intertidal migration habits.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Correlagen Diagnostics

Assistant Lab Manager

Perform quality assurance of DNA sequence data and disease variant identification in immunology, cardiology, and endocrinology assays for review by the medical director.

Research Associate

Conduct PCR-based DNA sequencing assays for the determination of genetic diseases. Responsible for the detection of genetic mutations for all immunology and cardiology assays, including all steps required from DNA extraction through PCR setup to sequence analysis and variant identification.

Worcester, MA

Dec. 2007 – present

Oct. 2006 – Dec. 2007

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

- Data Analysis packages: SPSS, R
- Microsoft Office suite
- Molecular techniques
- Automation/robotics in DNA sequencing
- Boating experience: powerboat license, canoe, kayak, sailing experience
- SCUBA – advanced open water, enriched air diver

PUBLICATIONS

- Morra M., Geigenmuller U., Curran J., Rainville I., Brennan T., **Curtis J.M.**, Reichert V., Hovhannisyan H., Majzoub J., Miller D.T. (2008). Genetic Diagnosis of Primary Immune Deficiencies. *Immunology and Allergy Clinics of N. Am.*
- Matheny, P. B., Wang Z., Binder M., **Curtis, J. M.**, Lim, Y. W., Nilsson, H. R., Hughes, K. W., Hofstetter, V., Ammirati, J. F., Schoch, C., Langer, E., Langer, G., McLaughlin, D. J., Wilson, A. W., Frøslev, T., Ge, Z. W., Kerrigan, R. W., Slot, J. C., Yang, Z. L., Baroni, T. J., Fischer, M., Hosaka, K., Matsuura, K., Seidl, M. T., Vauras, J., and Hibbett, D. S. (2007). Contributions of rpb2 and tef1 to the phylogeny of mushrooms and allies (Basidiomycota, Fungi). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 43: 430-451.
- Matheny, P. B., **Curtis, J. M.**, Hoffstetter, V., Aime, M. C., Moncalvo, J. M., Ge, Z. W., Yang, Z. L., Slot, J. C., Ammirati, J. F., Baroni, T. J., Bougher, N. L., Hughes, K. W., Lodge, D. J., Kerrigan, R. W., Seidl, M. T., Aanen, D. K., DeNitis, M., Daniele, G. M., Desjardin, D. E., Kropp, B. R., Norvell, L. L., Parker, A., Vellinga, E. C., Vilgalys, R., and Hibbett, D. S. (2006). Major clades of Agaricales: a multilocus phylogenetic overview. *Mycologia* 98(6): 982-995.
- James, T. Y., Kauff, F., Schoch, C., Matheny, P. B., Hofstetter, V., Cox, C., Celio, G., Gueidan, C., Fraker, E., Miadlikowska, J., Lumbsch, H. T., Rauhut, A., Reeb, V., Arnold, A. E., Amtoft, A., Stajich, J. E., Hosaka, K., Sung, G. H., Johnson, D., O'Rourke, B., Crockett, M., Binder, M., **Curtis, J. M.** et al. (2006). Reconstructing the early evolution of the fungi using a six gene phylogeny. *Nature* 443: 818-822.

PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

- **Aquatic Invasive Species and The Zebra Mussel as a Model of Invasion.** Apr 2006. Academic Spree Day, Clark University. Worcester, MA.
- **Abundance and distribution of Elkhorn Coral (*Acropora palmata*) fragments following hurricane activity in South Caicos, Turks and Caicos Islands.** May 2005. The School for Field Studies, Center for Marine Resource Studies.

- **Ecology of the Northern Seastar (*Asterias vulgaris*)**. Dec. 2004. Nunnemacher Research Symposium, Clark University. Worcester, MA.
Website: <http://www.clarku.edu/departments/biology/biol201/2004/jcurtis>