

Kyra Ricci Shaw

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EDUCATION

PhD, Wildlife Ecology | University of Wisconsin-Madison | 2020-2025*

*Expected August 2025, GPA 4.0

BS, Biology | Coastal Carolina University | 2017-2020

HTC Honors College, Summa Cum Laude, Psychology & Chemistry Minors, GPA 4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2025 Graduate Researcher. UW - Madison, PI: Jessica Hua.
- 2022-2025 Community Engagement & Broader Impacts Specialist. UW - Madison, PI: Jessica Hua.
- 2022-2023 Workshop Facilitator and Project Assistant. Toolbox Dialogue Initiative at Michigan State University, PI: Marisa A. Rinkus.
- 2022 Outreach and Education Project Manager. Binghamton University, PI: Kirsten Prior.
- 2020-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant. Binghamton University, Supervisor: Chris Smyth
- 2019-2020 Research Fellow. Coastal Carolina University, PI: Fang Ju Lin.
- 2019 EuroScholars International Research Assistant. University of Zürich, PI: Steven Brown.
- 2017-2019 Research Assistant. Coastal Carolina University, PI: Daniel C. Willaims.

SUPPORTED RESEARCH

- 2022-present National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP). \$159,000+ for three years of graduate stipend, tuition, and benefits.
- 2024 World Congress of Herpetology Travel Award. \$500 for conference travel.
- 2023 Society for Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR) Grants in Herpetology. \$500 for amphibian education research.
- 2020-2022 Woods Ravine Conservation Foundation Award. Co-PI with Drs. Grascen Shidemantle, Nicholas Buss, and Jessica Hua; Overall project \$10,000.
- 2021 Semifinalist for Fulbright Fellowship - Australia.
- 2019-2020 HTC Honors College Undergraduate Research Fellowship. \$3,000 to support research.

PUBLICATIONS

6. *K. Ricci & *E. Ronan, G. Shidemantle, N. Buss, G. DiGiacopo, K. Affek, I. Gomez-Mestre, & J. Hua. (2025) Effects of body mass and legacy of pesticide contamination on oxidative stress biomarkers in larval *Rana sylvatica* under baseline and NaCl-contaminated conditions. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*. *Co-first authors. DOI: [10.1093/etojnl/vgaf162](https://doi.org/10.1093/etojnl/vgaf162).
5. *K. Ricci & *I. Velasquez, E. Milusich, B.F. Tuthill II, K. Sauer, O. Hernández-Gómez, & J. Hua. (2025) Microbial responses to antibiotics cryptically shift the direction of disease outcomes. *Scientific Reports*. *Co-first authors. DOI: [10.1038/s41598-025-02930-y](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-02930-y).
4. K. Ricci, K. Lu, G. Shidemantle, & J. Hua (2024) Engaging youth in biodiversity education through visual narrative. *Conservation Biology*, Special Issue: Diversifying Voices in Conservation. DOI: [10.1111/cobi.14386](https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.14386)

3. **K. Ricci** & N. Li. (2024) Communicating environmental and ecological sciences through visual arts: a cross-disciplinary review. *Environmental Communication*. DOI: [10.1080/17524032.2024.2334749](https://doi.org/10.1080/17524032.2024.2334749).
2. **K. Ricci**, B. McLauchlin, & J. Hua. (2023) Impact of a science art exhibit on public perception and student comprehension of disease ecology research. *Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education*, Special Issue: Science Literacy. DOI: [10.1128/jmbe.00162-22](https://doi.org/10.1128/jmbe.00162-22).
1. L.E.A. Young, C. Shoben, **K. Ricci**, & D.C. Williams. (2018) Genetic analysis of KillerRed in *C. elegans* identifies a shared role of calcium genes in ROS-mediated neurodegeneration. *Journal of Neurogenetics*. DOI: [10.1080/01677063.2018.1531857](https://doi.org/10.1080/01677063.2018.1531857).

Manuscripts in review

2. ***K. Ricci** & J. Garcia-Vila, J. Hua, M.A. Rinkus, & V. Imbruce. Using interdisciplinary dialogue to understand the influence of identities on undergraduate research experiences. In review, 2025.
1. ***K. Ricci**, K. Lu, C. Hansen, M. Campbell, C. Chen, E. Low, E. Milusich, B. Tuthill, I. Velasquez, & J. Hua. The Wetlands and You: Outcomes of a collaborative art exhibit to promote awareness of amphibian conservation. In review, 2025.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025	Thomas O'Brien Award for Advanced Research in Wildlife Ecology.
2023	Hastings Award for Outstanding Female Student in Wildlife Ecology.
2022	Biological Sciences Graduate Excellence Award in Research.
2020	Coastal Carolina University Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award.
2020	Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Biology Award.
2019	HTC Honors College Academic Excellence Award.
2018	Gupta College of Science Dean's Excellence Award.
2017	Coastal Carolina University Presidential Scholarship.

PRESENTATIONS (*Indicates presentations by undergraduate mentees)

2024	"Engaging youth in amphibian biodiversity education through visual narrative." World Congress of Herpetology (WCH), Borneo, Indonesia.
2024	*"The Wetlands and You: Inspiring interest in amphibian conservation through environmental art." WCH, Borneo, Indonesia (Chloe Hansen).
2024	"Examining interest and participation in wetland conservation through visual art and citizen science." Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research (SABER) East, Rochester, NY.
2024	*"Influence of pre-trip lesson materials and teacher variation on student outcomes at an experiential science field trip." SABER East, Rochester, NY (Cathy Chen).
2023	"Communicating disease ecology through art: an empirical investigation." Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB), Austin, TX.
2023	*"Citizen science from the perspective of community members and scientists: case study of an EcoBlitz." SICB, Austin, TX. (Cathy Chen and Emily Low, Poster)
2023	*"Impact of art on public perception and student comprehension of disease ecology research." SICB, Austin, TX. (Kathleen Lu, Poster)
2023	*"The Message Matters: Sexual Assault Intervention Content Interacts with Hostile Masculinity and Impersonal Sex Orientation." International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Brussels, Belgium. (Alberto Torres-Aragón, Poster)
2022	"Science as Art: Impact of the Arts on Public Perception and Student Comprehension of Science." Biology Graduate Student Annual Symposium, Binghamton University.

2020	"Measurement and Optimization of ROS Production in <i>C. elegans</i> neurons." South Carolina IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (SC INBRE) Symposium, University of South Carolina (Poster).
2019	"Designed Ankyrin Repeat Proteins and the Disruption of the Circadian Clock." EuroScholars Midstay Research Symposium, Leiden University, Netherlands.
2018	"Neurodegeneration in <i>C. elegans</i> ." Biomedical Research Seminar, Coastal Carolina University.
2018	"Visualization of Cell-Specific ROS Production in <i>C. elegans</i> " Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University (Poster).
2018	"Genome Announcement of Mycobacterium Phage Hangman." Undergraduate Research Competition, Coastal Carolina University (Poster).

TEACHING, MENTORING, AND SERVICE

Teaching

2020-2022	Teaching Assistant, Binghamton University Courses taught: Organisms and Populations Biology, Cell and Molecular Biology Avg. 75 students per semester Responsibilities: Course content development; independent class instruction; grading; coordination with team of undergraduate teaching assistants
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Invited Speaking

2025	Guest Lecturer. "Science Communication and Amphibian Conservation." <i>Course</i> : Real World Wildlife Capstone (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
2023	Guest Lecturer. "Science Communication and Informal Education: Research and Careers." <i>Course</i> : Ecology, Pollutants, and You (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
2022	Panelist. "Amphibians and Art." Summer Scholar and Artist Program Community Engaged Research and Outreach Panel (Binghamton University)
2022	Guest Lecturer. "Examining what Drives Positive Perceptions and Understanding of Science." Ecology, Pollutants, and You (Binghamton University)
2021	Guest Lecturer. "Science Communication." <i>Course</i> : Environmental Pollution: Science and Policy, (Binghamton University)
2021	Guest Lecturer. "Disease Transmission in Amphibian Communities." <i>Course</i> : First Year Research Immersion Program (Binghamton University)

Undergraduate Mentoring

2024-2025	Cathy Chen (NSF REU), Emily Low
2023-2024	Chloe Hansen, Alberto Torres-Aragón
2022-2023	Kathleen Lu (NSF REU), Lila Pomerantz, Ingrid Shen, Nagasri Thota, Olivia Cashimere, Angela Luo
2021-2022	Nora Hines, Christina Jacob, Emma Glemboki, Apurva Singh, Jurnee Blackwood
2020-2021	Mary Campbell (NSF REU), Skylar Lai (NSF REU), Evelyn Mukesha (Community College Bridges to Baccalaureate)

Service

2024	Judge, Biology Graduate Student Symposium
2021-2022	Graduate Representative, Biology Graduate Student Organization
2021-2022	Graduate Representative, Biology DEI Committee
2019-2020	Chapter President, TriBeta National Biological Honor Society

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP

2024-2025	Education specialist, <i>Amigos de los amfibios</i> family and community nature walks for Hispanic families (Hua Lab, UW - Madison)
2023-2024	Education specialist, <i>Friends for Amphibians</i> citizen science and wetland monitoring initiative (Hua Lab, UW - Madison)
2023-2024	Project lead, <i>The Wetlands and You: A Science-Art Exhibition</i> (Hua Lab, Binghamton University / UW - Madison)
2022-2024	Co-organizer, <i>EcoBlitz</i> citizen science and community outreach (Center for Integrated Watershed Studies, Binghamton University)
2022-2023	Project manager and editor, <i>Phoebe's First Forage: Ant-Plant Mutualisms on the Forest Floor</i> children's book (Prior Lab, Binghamton University)
2022	Project lead and educator, Amphibian Biodiversity third grade student field trips (Roberson Museum and Science Center)
2022	Project lead and presenter, Third Grade Teacher Workshop on Science Education (Roberson Museum and Science Center)
2022	Co-organizer, Family Science at the Farm Day (Woods Ravine Farm, private nature reserve)
2021-2022	Project manager and editor, <i>Amphibian Adventurers: Beyond the Vernal Pool</i> children's graphic novel (Hua Lab, Binghamton University / UW - Madison)
2017-2020	Organizer and presenter, Biology Careers and Research Outreach (Montrose Area High School)

GRADUATE COURSEWORK (Course Complete, GPA 4.0)

Fall 2023	Ecological Statistics (audit)
Spring 2022	Data Management in Psychology (audit)
Fall 2021	Grant Writing
	Scholarly Teaching
	Science Communication
Spring 2021	Advanced Ecology
Fall 2020	Advanced Evolution
	Environmental Biological Analytical Chemistry