

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

Department of Natural Resources and the Environment
University of Connecticut
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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**
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2014–Pres. **Assistant Extension Educator and Coordinator of Natural Resources Conservation Academy**, Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Connecticut
- 2014 **Adjunct Professor**, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut
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PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed (*student research under my mentorship)

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

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

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

Presley, S.J., **Cisneros, L.M.**, Higgins, C.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Scheiner, S.M. & Willig, M.R. Extensive habitat loss may create filters that limit functional and phylogenetic biodiversity of local bat assemblages. **Oecologia**, *Submitted*.

Cisneros, L.M., Fagan, M.E. & Willig, M.R. Environmental and spatial drivers of taxonomic, functional, and phylogenetic bat community structure in a human-modified landscape. **PeerJ**, *Submitted*.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited

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. 1er Congreso Latinoamericano de Murciélagos, Quito, Ecuador.

Contributed (*student research under my mentorship)

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). 94th 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. 98th 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. 93rd 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. 93rd 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. 16th 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. 93rd American Society of Mammalogists Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Cisneros, L.M. & Willig, M.R. (2012) Effects of landscape structure on multiple dimensions of bat biodiversity. 97th 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. 97th Ecological Society of America Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

Cisneros, L.M. & Willig, M.R. (2011) Neotropical bat metacommunities in a human-modified landscape. 91st 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 AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2013 The Honoraria and Travel Grant, American Society of Mammalogists. **\$300**
- 2012 Travel Award for 97th Ecological Society of America Meeting, Dimensions of Biodiversity Distributed Graduate Seminar, National Science Foundation. **\$1,220**
- 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**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2016 **Integrating Humans and the Environment** (NRE 4695), University of Connecticut, *Instructor* (to be taught Spring 2016)
- 2014 **Field Mammalogy** (EEB 3898), University of Connecticut, *Instructor* (one intensive summer session)
- 2007–2014 **Foundations of Biology** (BIOL 1102), University of Connecticut, *Laboratory Teaching Assistant* (six semesters)
- 2013 **Conservation Biology** (EEB 5310), University of Connecticut, *Lecture Assistant* (one semester)
- 2011 **Mammalogy** (EEB 3254/5254), University of Connecticut, *Laboratory Teaching Assistant* (one semester; nominated for EEB Excellence in Student Teaching Award)
- 2003 **Science Camp**, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, *Teaching Assistant* (one summer; classes taught to elementary and middle school students)

STUDENT MENTORSHIP

- 2012–2013 **Kathryne Durant, Ryan Hall, Rachael Hyland**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Independent study on reproductive phenologies of bats; \$1,000 award from the Office of Undergraduate Research; two presentations; publication in *Journal of Mammalogy*.

2008 **Lauren Jones, Nicole Rivera**, Luquillo LTER, El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico
NSF REU project on metacommunity ecology of leaf litter spiders.

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2015 **Conference on Case Study Teaching**, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
- 2011–2012 **Dimensions of Biodiversity Distributed Graduate Seminar**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Environmental drivers of biodiversity along elevational gradients.
- 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; collection of behavioral data of two species of monkey (*Ateles belzebuth* and *Lagothrix lagotricha*); 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*).
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OUTREACH

- 2015 **BioBlitz Executive Committee Member**, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Organized the UConn BioBlitz held in July on the Storrs campus.
- 2015 **STEM Career Fair Participant**, Crosby High School, Waterbury, CT
- 2015 **STEM Career Fair Participant**, Two Rivers Magnet High School, Hartford, CT
- 2015 **BioBlitz Naturalist**, Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy, North Windham, CT
- 2012 **Elementary Outreach Instructor**, Franklin Elementary, North Franklin, CT
Designed/taught lesson on bat echolocation; collaborative effort by graduate students to introduce adaptations of species to the environment.
- 2010 **Environmental Teaching Assistant**, Notal Nature Community Project, Sarapiquí, Costa Rica
Taught environmental classes at elementary schools in banana plantation communities; designed/taught lesson on the importance of bats; classes taught in Spanish.
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND AFFILIATIONS

Committees

Connecticut Audubon Society Education Advisory Committee (2014-2015); Town of Mansfield Climate Change Task Force (2015-Pres.)

Reviewer

Acta Chiropterologica; Acta Oecologica; Ecography; Ecology and Evolution; Ecological Research; Journal of Applied Ecology; Journal of Mammalogy; Therya

Societies

Ecological Society of America; American Society of Mammalogists; Bat Conservation International

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Statistical Programs: R, Matlab, Minitab, SPSS and EstimateS

Geospatial Technologies: arcGIS, ERDAS, Garmin GPS, and Telemetry

Language: Fluent in written and conversational Spanish