

ALLISON PARNELL

Research Assistant

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My interests lie in the management of natural and restored wetland communities influenced by anthropogenic input with an emphasis on water quality improvement. My current research interests are freshwater impacts on the distribution of Rangia clams, *Rangia cuneata* and *Rangia flexuosa*, and freshwater eelgrass, *Vallisneria americana*. The relationship between salinity and nutrient gradients and the health and reproductive potential of these species may be used as bioindicators of water quality in Galveston Bay, Texas.

EDUCATION

- 2011** Master of Marine Resources Management
Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, Texas
Thesis title “Effects of Anthropogenic Nutrient Enrichment on Exotic and Restored, Native Aquatic Vegetation”
- 1998** Bachelor of Science, Biology
Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2011-Present** Research Assistant
Phytoplankton Dynamics Laboratory & Coastal and Wetlands Ecology Lab
Department of Marine Biology
Texas A&M University at Galveston
- 2010** Graduate Teaching Assistant
Biological Statistics Lab
Department of Marine Biology
Texas A&M University at Galveston
- 2008-2009** Graduate Teaching Assistant
Coastal Plant Ecology & Marine Botany Lab
Department of Marine Biology
Texas A&M University at Galveston
- 2007-2008** Graduate Research Assistant
Center for Texas Beaches and Shores
Texas A&M University at Galveston
- 2006** Environmental Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Sulphur, Louisiana

- 2002-2003** Biology/Physical Science Teacher
Glynn Academy
Brunswick, Georgia
- 1999-2002** Environmental Education Specialist
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension
Jekyll Island, Georgia
- 1999** Environmental Education Specialist
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension
Dahlonga, Georgia

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2009-2010** Texas A&M University at Galveston Student Research Symposium category winner for Marine Resources Management & third place overall in graduate division (2010)
- 2009** The Erma Lee & Luke Mooney Graduate Student Travel Grant (\$500), Department of Marine Biology Research Mini-grant (\$500)
- 2008** Galveston Graduate Student Association Research Mini-grant (\$500), The National Scholars Honor Society, Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges
- 2007** Texas Association of Environmental Professionals, Chuck Glore Memorial Scholarship (\$1500), MARM Program Tuition Deregulation Set Aside Scholarship (\$2000)

PRESENTATIONS

- Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, A. R. Armitage.** 2010. Effects of anthropogenic nutrient enrichment on exotic and restored, native aquatic vegetation. Thesis defense, Texas A&M University at Galveston.
- Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, A. R. Armitage.** 2010. Effects of anthropogenic nutrient enrichment on restored, native and exotic, invasive aquatic vegetation in Armand Bayou, Texas. Texas A&M University at Galveston Student Research Symposium. (*Poster*)
- Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, K. A. Schwehr, and A.R. Armitage.** 2009. Effects of anthropogenic nutrient enrichment on restored and exotic aquatic vegetation in Armand Bayou, Texas. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation 20th Biennial Conference, Portland, Oregon. (*Poster*)
- Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, K.A. Schwehr, and A.R. Armitage.** 2009. Nutrient impacts on restored and exotic aquatic vegetation: A step towards the valuation of ecosystem services in Armand Bayou, Galveston Bay. 9th Annual Sea Grant Researcher Conference, Texas A&M University at Galveston. (*Oral*)
- Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, and A.R. Armitage.** 2009. Restored and exotic vegetation react differently to nutrient input in an urbanized watershed (Armand Bayou, Texas). Armand Bayou Nature Center Earth Day, Pasadena, Texas. (*Poster*)

Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, and A.R. Armitage. 2009. Restored and exotic vegetation react differently to nutrient input in an urbanized watershed (Armand Bayou, Texas). Texas A&M University at Galveston Student Research Symposium. (*Poster*)

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Parnell, A., J.-Y. Ko, A. R. Armitage. The fate of anthropogenic nutrients entering a tidal brackish wetland. (*In prep*)

Parnell, A., R. Windham, A. Quigg. 2011. Distribution of *Vallisneria americana* in response to freshwater inflows in Galveston Bay, Texas, during 2011. Final report of the Galveston Bay Estuary Program pursuant to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. pp. 35. (*Pending approval*)

Parnell, A., R. Windham, A. Quigg. 2011. Distribution of *Rangia* clams in response to freshwater inflows in Galveston Bay, Texas. Final report for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. TPWD Grant No. 402175. pp. 56. (*Pending approval*)