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## Meagan K.M. Rathjen

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Research Assistant

Texas A&M University at Galveston - Department of Marine Biology  
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### EDUCATION

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2012 **B.A. Botany**  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) – Honolulu, Hawai'i

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### RESEARCH AND FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

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- Feb. 2013 – March 2013 **Field Research Assistant**, *University of Cincinnati, Biological Sciences*
- Jan. 2012 – Feb. 2012 Assisted with a field study on the evolution of dioecy of *Schiedea globosa* on coastal cliffs of Maui and Oahu.  
*Principal Investigator: Sunita Yadav-Pauletti, University of Cincinnati*
- May 2012 – Sept. 2012 **Research Staff**, *UHM Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences, Entomology*  
Assisted lab with research to analyze the biological invasion of *Pentalonia nigronervosa* in Hawaiian banana plantings by testing cellular labeling and silver-enhanced immunogold labeling of the *Banana bunchy top virus* to analyze the transmission by the aphid vector.  
*Principal Investigator: Dr. Alberto Bressan*
- August 2012 – Sept. 2012 **Volunteer Field Assistant**, *Hawai'i Pacific University, Pelagic Ecology Lab*  
Assisted Dr. David Hyrenbach with weekly capture and weighing of Wedge-tailed Shearwater chicks at the Freeman Seabird Preserve.  
*Principal Investigator: Dr. David Hyrenbach*
- January 2012- May 2012 **Student Researcher**, *UHM Department of Botany, Invasion Ecology*  
Co-designed and implemented a biogeographic study to understand why *Ardisia elliptica* (Myrsinaceae) is invasive in Hawaii, but not in its native range in the Western Ghats of India.  
*Principal Investigator: Dr. Curtis Daehler*
- June 2011- May 2012 **Student Researcher**, *Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program UHM Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences, Entomology*  
Designed and conducted an independent study to investigate the translocation pathway of *Banana bunchy top virus* within the aphid vector, *Pentalonia nigronervosa*.  
*Principal Investigator: Dr. Alberto Bressan*
- Feb. 2011- May 2012 **Research Assistant**, *UHM Plant & Environmental Protection Sciences, Entomology*  
Assisted the lab with lab and greenhouse work related to research on *Banana bunchy top virus* and the aphid vector, *Pentalonia nigronervosa*.  
*Principal Investigator: Dr. Alberto Bressan*
- February 2012 **Ethnoecology & Conservation Field Course**, *UHM Department of Botany*  
Designed, carried out, and analyzed ethnoecology field experiments and created distribution models.  
*Instructor: Dr. Tamara Ticktin*
- January 2012 **Volunteer Field Assistant**, *Pu'u Pia Trail, Honolulu, Hawai'i*  
Assisted with fern distribution study in the Ko'olau Range.  
*Principal Investigator: Victoria Kraft, University of Colorado – Boulder*

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### ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

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April 2013 – Nov. 2013 **Biological Science Technician (Plants)**, *US Forest Service, Hathaway Pines, CA*  
Conducted sensitive plant surveys in the Stanislaus National Forest and researched and mapped species using ArcGIS, the California Natural Diversity Database, and Natural Resource Information System.  
*District Botanist: Quinn Young*

- May 2012 – April 2013 **Coordinator**, *Hawaii Audubon Society, Honolulu, HI*  
 Coordinated habitat restoration service projects, educational field trips, volunteers, organized fundraisers, applied for and received grants, and developed educational birding tours at ‘Iolani Palace;  
*Executive Director: Wendy Johnson*
- Oct. 2010 - May 2012 **Editorial Assistant**, *Journal of Natural Resources Policy Research (JNRPR)*  
 Managed all manuscript submissions to JNRPR and edited, formatted, and processed final versions of all manuscripts for publication.  
*Chief Editor: Dr. Chennat Gopalakrishnan, JNRPR*

#### VOLUNTEER SERVICE

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- Spring 2014 Fieldtrip Liaison, Galveston FeatherFest, Galveston, TX  
 Texas City Y Oil Spill Monitoring Volunteer, Galveston Bay Foundation, Galveston, TX  
 Trash Bash Volunteer, Scenic Galveston, Galveston, TX  
 Beach Clean-up Volunteer, Surfrider Foundation, Galveston, TX
- Summer 2013 Environmental Educator, Wakaluu Hepyoo Campground, Stanislaus National Forest, CA
- January 2013 Restoration Volunteer, ‘Ihi‘ihilauakea Crater, Oahu
- Jan - April 2013 Restoration Volunteer, Freeman Seabird Preserve, Oahu
- March - April 2013 Restoration Volunteer, Oahu Invasive Species Committee, Oahu
- Sept 2011 - April 2013 Restoration Volunteer, Manoa Cliff Trail Restoration Project, Oahu
- Fall 2012 Restoration Volunteer, Mokulua Islets, Oahu
- Jan - May 2012 Treasurer, Botanical Society of America Student Chapter at UHM
- September 2011 Arbor Day Volunteer, Hoakalei Cultural Foundation, Hawai‘i
- Jan - May 2009 Secretary, Western Montana Sheep Association
- Nov - Dec 2008 Farm Volunteer, Yangshuo, China

#### EDUCATION GRANTS AND AWARDS

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2011	\$3,000	Undergraduate Research Opportunities Stipend
2011	\$680	ASUH Scholarship
2010	\$4,000	National SMART Grant
2003	\$8,000	Dean’s Scholarship

#### PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

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Botanical Society of America

#### CERTIFICATES & TRAINING

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- November 2012 **C.O.R.A.L. Certificate**, NOAA, O‘ahu (Care of our Culture, Oceans, Reefs and Animal Life)
- September 2012 **Rubiaceae Identification Workshop**, Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI

#### RELATED COURSEWORK

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Systematics of Vascular Plants; Plant-Animal Interactions; Plant Evolutionary Diversity; Plant Physiology; Plant Evolution; Mycology; Ethnoecology & Conservation; Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change on Small Islands; Statistics

#### RELATED SKILLS

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Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook; Adobe Photoshop; Beginner proficiency in R, SPSS, ImageJ, ArcGIS; GPS navigation; Keying plants to species level and fungi to genus level using a dichotomous key; Preparing herbarium specimens; Isolating fungi to pure culture; Microscopy; Insect dissection; Ultramicrotomy; Spanish and Chinese languages