

SUZANNE E. SPITZER

429 4th Street, Annapolis MD, 21403

630-877-0324

sspitzer@umces.edu

SUMMARY STATEMENT

My goal is to pursue a career in environmental management with focuses in science communication, citizen science, and community engagement. I am interested in exploring the interface of cultural anthropology and ecology and conducting applied research in order to understand anthropogenic impacts on the environment and solve transdisciplinary problems related to ecosystem management and ecological restoration.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (UMCES) 2015-present

Marine Estuarine Environmental Science (MEES) Graduate Program

PhD student in "Environment and Society" foundation

Advisor: Dr. William Dennison; Committee members: Dr. Michael Paolisso, Dr. Andrea Wiggins, Dr. Judith O'Neil

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME 2009-2013

Department of Biological Sciences and Department of Anthropology

Bachelor of Science, Majors in Biology and Anthropology, Dean's List Honors Recognition

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

INTEGRATION AND APPLICATION NETWORK—UMCES

Graduate Assistant 2015-present

- Collaborate with partners in the Chesapeake Monitoring Cooperative to integrate citizen scientists and their data into the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership
- Conduct literature review and survey to understand the needs and motivations of citizen scientists and traditional scientists who partner with volunteers, as well as the effectiveness of various science communication and data visualization tools that volunteers use to collect, analyze, and share their own data
- Assist with various projects, including environmental report cards, the Maryland Legislative Session, and science communication courses.

Science Communication Intern 2014

- Collaborated with partners and clients to design and develop science communication products, including environmental report cards, conference posters, conceptual diagrams, blog posts, and professional reports
- Gained experience using Adobe Creative Suite, including Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop, and completed a Science Communication training program

MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY ECOSYSTEMS CENTER

Field and Research Assistant – Landscape Management and Restoration Ecology 2013-2014

Adviser: Dr. Christopher Neill

- Conducted ecological field experiments and behavioral observations to examine the effects of cattle grazing manipulations and mechanical mowing in structuring coastal vegetation patterns on Naushon Island
- Engineered an organizational system for hundreds of raw data files, digitized data from field notebooks, identified and corrected inconsistencies, and inventoried all data collected since the start of the project
- Conducted a literature review and authored a scientific paper (*In prep.*) analyzing the effects of deforestation and agricultural expansion on stream water chemistry and habitat quality in the Brazilian Amazon

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Research Assistant – Behavioral Ecology and Disease Ecology 2011-2013

Adviser: Dr. Elizabeth Archie

- Researched the relationship between parasite diversity/abundance and social dominance in wild male baboons

- Expert in standard parasitological techniques (i.e., fecal flotation and sedimentation)

Undergraduate Research Assistant – Ecosystem Ecology 2013

- Used remote sensing technology to characterize patterns of Alaskan vegetation recovery following tundra fires

Logistics Coordinator and Organizational Assistant for "Climate Change and the Common Good" 2013

Served as the sole student representative on a committee to organize a multidisciplinary national conference

AWARDS

Debbie Morrin-Nordlund Memorial Travel Award

\$600 2017

University of Maryland College Park College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences Dean's Fellowship

\$5000 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INTEGRATION AND APPLICATION NETWORK

Graduate Teaching Assistant –Healthy Rivers for All: Setting the course for sustainability with river basin health report cards 2017

Instructors: Dr. Simon Costanzo, Dr. Heath Kelsey, and Dr. William Dennison

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE – MEES PROGRAM

Graduate Teaching Assistant – MEES698Y Science for Environmental Management 2017

Instructors: Dr. Don Boesch and Dr. William Dennison

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND – BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM

Graduate Teaching Assistant – BSCI106 Principles of Biology II 2016

Supervisor: Hans Lemke

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME – DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – BIOS 30407 Animal Behavior 2012, 2013

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Archie

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – BIOS 11161 Biological Sciences I Lab 2012

Instructor: Dr. T. Mark Olsen

PRESENTATIONS

Assessing the priorities of citizen scientists and resource managers for environmental monitoring

Oral presentation presented at

- Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation Conference 2017

Collaboration in Practice: Tools for Engagement

90-minute Session presented at

- Chesapeake Watershed Forum 2017

Exploring the goals and motivations of citizen scientists in the Chesapeake Bay watershed

Oral presentation presented at

- Citizen Science Association Conference 2017

Tools for Integrating Traditional Environmental Science and Local Knowledge: Promoting Collaborative Learning with Conceptual Diagrams, Report Cards, and Citizen Science

Oral presentation presented at

- UMD Department of Anthropology E-lunch series 2016

Upper Potomac Headwaters Report Card 2015

Oral presentation and printed report card presented at

- UMCES Appalachian Lab Watershed Moments Community Learning Series 2015

A Hierarchy of Health: Dominance Rank and Parasite Burden in Wild Male Baboons

Revised research posters presented at

- The Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference 2013
- The University of Notre Dame College of Science Joint Annual Meeting 2012, 2013

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Douglas MM, WC Dennison, RH Kelsey, N Peyronnin, SA Setterfield, **S Spitzer**, and VMD Vargas. (*In preparation*) "Transdisciplinary Science for Environmental Problem Solving".
- Testa JM, JB Clark, WC Dennison, EC Donovan, AW Fisher, W Ni, M Parker, D Scavia, **SE Spitzer**, AM Waldrop, and V Vargas. (2017) Ecological Forecasting and the Science of Hypoxia in Chesapeake Bay. *BioScience*.
- Neill C, **S Spitzer**, MN Macedo, SH Riskin, AV Krusche, D Nunez, and MT Coe (*In preparation*) "Land Use and Impoundment Effects on Temperature and Water Chemistry of Lowland Amazonian Headwater Streams".

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION PRINTED PRODUCTS

- Costanzo SD, Lookingbill T, Walsh B, Fries A, **Spitzer S**, Hawkey J, Vargas V, Webb B, Easby S, Goelst C, Rouch M. (2016) Shenandoah National Park Natural Resource Condition Assessment. IAN Press, Cambridge, MD.
- **Spitzer S**, H Kelsey, WC Dennison, S Costanzo, M Thieme, and S Freeman. (2015) Report Card Review: A survey of report cards available through the world wide web. IAN Press, Cambridge, MD.
- Integration and Application Network (2015) Upper Potomac Headwaters Report Card 2015. IAN Press, Cambridge, MD.
- Integration and Application Network (2015) Long Island Sound Report Card. IAN Press, Cambridge, MD.

PUBLISHED BLOG POSTS

- **Spitzer S**. [Five principles of holistic science communication](#). Integration and Implementation Insights blog. February 19, 2018.
- **Spitzer S**. [Five principles of holistic science communication](#). IAN-UMCES blog. December 15, 2017.
- **Spitzer S**. [Sharing tools for stakeholder engagement and collaboration at the Chesapeake Watershed Forum](#). IAN-UMCES blog. December 4, 2017.
- **Spitzer S**. ["Up close and personal" Community engagement at the Citizen Science conference \(part 2\)](#). IAN-UMCES blog. May 31, 2017.
- **Spitzer S**. ["In this room, it's playtime!" Creative inspiration at the Citizen Science conference \(part 1\)](#). IAN-UMCES blog. May 30, 2017.
- **Spitzer S** and N Olsen. [Greater than the sum of its parts: What is a coupled human and natural system?](#). IAN-UMCES blog. February 8, 2017.
- **Spitzer S**. [Over the river and through the woods to release the Upper Potomac Headwaters Report Card, we go!](#). IAN-UMCES blog. January 14, 2016.
- **Spitzer S**. [A look at the "Earth in Perspective" with Ricky Arnold](#). IAN-UMCES blog. November 6, 2015.
- **Spitzer S**. [Long Island Sound Report Card release in Westport, Connecticut](#). IAN-UMCES blog. June 17, 2015.
- **Spitzer S**, F Zhang, and C Schweitzer. [Who ya gonna call? Recommendations for scientists who are called to action in a state of environmental emergency](#). IAN-UMCES blog. April 8, 2015.