

MEGAN ELIZABETH MACDOWELL

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EXPERTISE

Communication, education and participation for conservation and sustainable development.

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, Masters of Science, *May 2005*
Master of Science in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology *GPA: 4.0*
Honors: Full graduate fellowship. Nominated for Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, Bachelor of Arts, *May 1999*
Major: Biology. Concentration: Environmental Studies. GPA: 3.85
Study abroad: Antioch Education Abroad: Brazilian Ecosystems, Curitiba. Fall 1997
Hamilton College Academic Year in Spain, Madrid. Spring 1998
Honors: Phi Beta Kappa; National Science Scholars and Peter Mertz Scholarships.

Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, NC *June 1995*
Honors: Valedictorian, National Merit Finalist, Spanish Honors Society

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, Network of Communicators, Conservation International, *July 2005 - present*
Coordinate network of 104 conservation communication and conservation education professionals from 24 countries. Encourage exchange of experiences and best ideas, organize capacity building opportunities, and provide technical support for field communicators and educators working for CI or partner organizations.
Supervisor: Haroldo Castro, VP Global Awareness, (202) 912-1210

Communication Training Assistant, Conservation International *Oct 2004 – June 2005*
Responsible for research on environmental education programs; training material and program development; workshop logistics and co-facilitation; communication with international staff; creation of on-line resource library; report writing and editing for the Global Communications Division's Capacity Building Department.
Supervisor: Shannon Earle, Manager, Global Partnerships, (202) 912-1331

Development Officer, Natural Partners, Washington, D.C. *August– October 2004*
Volunteered to conduct foundation prospect research for recently founded international NGO working on conservation of southern Brazil's threatened Araucaria Moist Forest.
Supervisor: William H. Dent, Jr., Vice President, Board of Directors, (202) 487-5343

Faculty Staff, International Student Volunteers, Costa Rica *July - August 2004*
Led a group of 9 US and Canadian university students on a two-week volunteer macaw conservation project at a refuge in Puntarenas, and then an additional 10 students on a two-week community development project near Juan Castro Blanco National Park. Coordinated activities and academic components of the projects, including discussions, language lessons, and journal writing on projects and then on two-week adventure tour.
Supervisor: Deanna Mathewson, International Program Coordinator, (714) 779-7392

Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, College Park, MD *Fall 2003 - Spring 2004*
Prepared and taught laboratory for two sections of BSCI 103, The World of Biology.
Supervisor: Dr. Joelle Presson, Assistant Director, Biology Department, (301) 405-6892

Conservation Science Program Intern, World Wildlife Fund, Washington, DC 2003-04
Analyzed a survey of Costa Rican coffee farmers to determine how the world coffee market crisis has affected their land-use decisions, and the extent that they are turning to specialty markets (e.g. organic or fair trade) or switching to other crops.
Supervisor: Dr. Taylor Ricketts, Director, Conservation Science, (202) 822-3477

Bilingual Outreach Coordinator, Child Care Aware, NACCRRRA, Washington DC 2003
Provided phone orientation in Spanish and English to parents seeking quality childcare.
Supervisor: Susan Perry-Manning, (202) 787-5147

Resource Development Coordinator, El Vínculo Hispano, Siler City, NC 2000 – 2002
Developed and implemented empowerment projects, coordinated volunteers, and provided direct services and advocacy for Latino immigrants living in Chatham County. Researched funding opportunities, wrote grant proposals, and planned events, raising over \$200,000 for this community-based nonprofit. [Continued as contract grantwriter during 2003 and 2004]
Supervisor: Ilana Dubester, NC coordinator, Hispanics in Philanthropy (919) 542-5538

Program Assistant, Antioch Education Abroad, Brazil *Fall 1999*
Assisted Program Director with trip preparation and all aspects of the three-month program. Taught introductory Portuguese to students. Served as tutor and group mediator. Translated lectures by local biologists and environmentalists.
Supervisor: Dr. Suzanne Kolb, Brazil Program Director, (800) 874-7986

Brazil Division Intern, The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, VA *Summer 1999*
Prepared report on the history of US land trusts and the emerging Latin American land trust movement. Researched NGO's active in Brazil's Atlantic Rainforest. Created detailed map of conservation units in Brazil. Applied newly developed computer program to ecoregional planning. [Also served as independent contractor creating extensive report on the forest products sector in Brazil with focus on finding potential partnerships for the creation of reserves, Spring 2000]
Supervisor: Joseph Keenan, Director of Latin American Programs, jkeenan@tnc.org

Administrative Assistant, The Law Office of Robert J. Willis, Raleigh, NC 1998
Assisted lawyer specializing in workman's compensation cases for Spanish-speaking clients. Performed office duties and translations.
Supervisor: Robert Willis, Attorney, (919) 821-9031

Intern, Instituto Ambiental do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil *November 1997*
Studied the workings and goals of the State's Department of Units of Conservation. Assisted with flora and fauna surveys. Participated in the Brazilian Conference on Units of Conservation. Prepared independent report analyzing the effectiveness of the Management Plans to attain predetermined goals in three state parks.
Supervisor: Márcia Pires Tossulino, Biologist with IAP (41) 333-6163

**ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION**

Proficient in Word, PowerPoint, Excel, ArcGIS, database mgmt., and internet research.
Fluent in Spanish and conversant in Portuguese.
Experience with field techniques for wildlife management and plant taxonomy.
Trained in Environmental Education, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

**PROFESSIONAL
AFFILIATIONS**

Member, Intl. Commission, North American Association for Environmental Education
Member, Society for Conservation Biology