

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Biology, Concentration in Integrative Biology and Evolution

Expected Graduation:

May 2025

Gonzaga University | Spokane, WA

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

SACNAS Travel Scholarship 2024

Ecological Society of America SEEDS Travel Award 2024

Mary Stuart Rodgers Scholarship 2023 & 2024

Bayer Hawai'i Life Sciences Scholarship, 2021

Lions Club Scholarship, 2021

Geraldine Arnold Scholarship, 2021

Community Scholar, 2021

Dussault Scholarship, 2021

WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ecological Aquatic Undergraduate Researcher funded by NSF

January 2023 – Current

Gonzaga University Bancroft Lab | Spokane, WA

- Data collection, writing protocols, data analysis
- Extensive use of microscopes to ID and dissect macroinvertebrates
- Formulating questions and designing research experiments

Avian Disease Dynamics Undergraduate Researcher funded by NSF

June – August 2023

United States Geological Survey PIERC and the University of Hawaii | Hilo, HI

- Data analysis using RStudio
- Forest bird banding collecting morphometric and other biological data
- qPCR prep, dissections, gel electrophoresis

Endangered Plant and Invertebrate Field Technician Intern

June – August 2022

Army Natural Resources Program Oahu | Wahiawa, HI

- Endangered plant/invertebrate surveying, management, relocation, and ID
- Herbicide/pesticide application and predator control (A-24/snare traps)
- Helicopter operations and camping trips

Seasonal Restoration and Nursery Assistant

June – December 2021 & 2023

Waianae Mountains Watershed Partnership | Kapolei, HI

- Installing predator-proof ungulate fences on steep mountain ridges (Mikilua fence line)
- Helicopter operations (sending/receiving large loads)
- Propagated and maintained native plants in a shade house nursery
- Invasive species control (weed whacking, girdling, leading community groups)

Field Technician Intern for the Snail Extinction Prevention Program June – August 2020

Department of Land and Natural Resources | Honolulu, HI

- Surveying, relocating, and managing, in-situ and ex-situ populations of endangered Hawaiian land snails
- Helicopter operations, camping, and night surveys

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Competition and Hydroperiod Selectively Modify Various Aspects of Snail and Tadpole Life Histories”

Authors: **Makoa A De Almeida**, Josh T David, Carson Sellers, Owen VanDerPuy, Katie Ellis, Clare McGowan, Joseph M Baum, Mia Mastrangelo, Holly Fijolek, Zoe Dodsley, Isabella Centanaro-Castro, Annika Rose-Person, Betsy A Bancroft

Status: In Preparation for Review

PRESENTATIONS

1. **De Almeida, Makoa A** and David, Joshua T, “Competition and Hydroperiod Selectively Modify Various Aspects of Snail and Tadpole Life Histories.” Poster presented at the 2024 SACNAS NDiSTEM Conference, 2024.
2. **De Almeida, Makoa A**, “Carotenoids and Disease in the Hawaii Amakihi.” Talk presented at the 2023 PIPES Symposium at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, 2023.

OUTREACH AND SERVICE

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| 2024 | Taught a group of Spokane high school students about freshwater ecology and opportunities in higher education through the Gonzaga Biology Department, Spokane, WA |
| 2023-present | Captive rearing facility volunteer with the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum’s Malacology Department, Honolulu, HI |
| 2023 | Volunteered at Hale o Lono loko i’a to restore a native Hawaiian fishpond |
| 2023–present | Volunteer with Protect and Preserve, to restore native Hawaiian ecosystems, Honolulu, HI |

- 2022-2024 Gonzaga Hawaii and Pacific Islanders Club public relations chair, Spokane, WA
- 2022-2023 Co-instructor of a hula class for students at Shaw Middle School, Spokane, WA
- 2022 Photographer for the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association, Honolulu, HI
- 2020–present Volunteer with the Snail Extinction Prevention Program and contributed towards data collection for a masters thesis, Waialua, HI.
- 2017–present Volunteer with the Army’s Natural Resources Program working to preserve endangered Hawaiian flora and fauna, Wahiawa, HI.

RELEVANT COURSE WORK

BIOL 334: Advanced Evolution

BIOL 335: Advanced Genetics: Race and Racism

BIOL 323: Conservation Biology

BIOL 344: GIS and Ecological Techniques

CPSC 122: Computer Science II

BIOL 206: Ecology

BIOL 360: Plant Biology

BIOL 357: Principles of Wildlife Management

BIOL 305: Biological Data Analysis

MATH 121: Introductory Statistics