

Josi J. Robertson

Environmental Institute of Houston – University of Houston-Clear Lake
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Education

University of Houston-Clear Lake (Houston, TX)

Master of Science, Environmental Science

Graduated with honors (GPA 3.88)

May 2016

Advisor: Dr. George Guillen

Thesis: *Distribution, Habitat Use, and Life History Characteristics of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)*

Hendrix College (Conway, AR)

Bachelor of Arts, Biology (Minor in Psychology)

May 2013

GPA 3.53 and Graduated with Distinction

Undergraduate Advisor: Dr. Jenn Dearolf

Undergraduate Research: *The Role of the Diaphragm and Scalenus in the Ventilation of the Striped and Spotted dolphin (Stenella spp.)*

Work Experience

Environmental Institute of Houston – University of Houston-Clear Lake Jun 2014 - June 2016

Research Assistant / Field Biologist

- Designed and conducted habitat use and life history study on the Saltmarsh Topminnow
- Responsible for collecting biological and habitat data for various research and monitoring projects; led and assisted field crews in data collection
- Responsible for gear maintenance, data analysis, and report preparation

Arkansas Tech University

May 2012 – Aug 2013

Research Assistant

- Assisted on data collection of the Interior Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) research project for the Arkansas Tech University (ATU) Fisheries & Wildlife Department and the Arkansas Fish and Wildlife Service
- Worked independently to collect population and nest ecology data
- Coordinated with business owners and land managers for access to nesting sites

Hendrix College

Aug 2012 – May 2013

Teaching Assistant

- Facilitated in teaching the upper-level ecology and evolution lab
- Responsible for collection and maintenance of field and laboratory equipment
- Led field trips and responsible for transportation

Arkansas Tech University

May 2012 - Aug 2012

Research Assistant

- Assisted on data collection of the prairie lizard (*Sceloporus consobrinus*) field project for ATU Fisheries & Wildlife Department.
- Collected population, behavioral, physiological, and ecological data
- Managed data entry and photo analysis

Hendrix College – Dearolf Research Lab

Apr 2011 – Jan 2012

Research Assistant

- Worked independently to design and conduct an undergraduate research experiment under the direction of main advisor
- Collected and analyzed data from cetacean muscle tissue samples and histochemical assays
- Received grants totaling \$2,000 to fund research costs and travel to a professional conference
- Wrote report and presented findings at the 2012 Society of Integrated and Comparative Biology Conference

Skills & Qualifications

First Aid/CPR/AED American Heart Association (2016)

PADI-certified Advanced Open Water and Rescue SCUBA diver certification (2012)

Arkansas Boating Education Certification (2012)

Field sampling techniques – seining, SCUBA and snorkel surveys (benthic transects and open water), otter trawl, D-frame kick nets, biopsy punch collection for isotope and heavy metal analysis, sediment sampling (Ekman grab sampler and ponar sampler), Sonde and FlowTracker calibration and use, water quality collection and analysis

Use of statistical, graphical, and other computer software – ArcGIS, Minitab, PRIMER6, FiSAT II, Sigma Plot, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Endnote

Field and lab fish and invertebrate identification – use of guides and taxonomic keys

Ability to traverse a variety of terrains; carry equipment weighing in excess of 50 pounds

Ability to swim and snorkel in swift water conditions

Motorized and non-motorized boat handling and trailering

Memberships & Affiliations

Texas Chapter of American Fisheries Society member	2014-Present
Texas Academy of Science member	2015- Present
Tri-Beta National Biological Honor Society member	2010- Present

Scholarships, Grants & Awards

Distinguished Graduate for Environmental Science program, UHCL	2016
University of Houston-Clear Lake TPEG Grant	2014-2016
University of Houston-Clear Lake Scholarship	2014-2016
Named Distinguished Graduate in Biology, Hendrix College	2013
Governor's Distinguished Scholarship, State of Arkansas	2009-2013
Miller Center for Vocation, Ethics and Calling: Mission Grant, Hendrix College	2012
Miller Center for Vocation, Ethics, and Calling: Study Abroad Grant, Hendrix College	2011
Hendrix Odyssey Undergraduate Research Grant	2011

Project Experience

Project Leader	Saltmarsh Topminnow Distribution and Habitat Use, TPWD	2014- 2015
Lab Assistant	Rangia Population Assessment of the Trinity River Delta	2016
Field Assistant	Upper Galveston Bay Dolphin Monitoring Project	2015-2016
PIC / Field Assistant	Clean Rivers Monitoring Program, H-GAC/TCEQ	2014-2016
Field Assistant	Texas Diamondback Terrapin Monitoring Project	2014-2016
Field Assistant	National Coastal Condition Assessment, TCEQ/EPA	2015
Field/ Lab Assistant	Mercury Levels of Texas Coastal Fishes	2015
Field Assistant	Brazos River Instream Flow Study	2014-2015
Field Assistant	Interior Least Tern Monitoring and Population Study	2012-2013
Field Assistant	Prairie Lizard Physiology and Ecology Study	2012
Project Leader	Role of the diaphragm and scalenus in <i>Stenella</i> spp.	2011-2012

Formal Course Work

Graduate	Ichthyology, Neotropical Ecology, Coastal Estuarine Ecology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Environmental Toxicology, Sampling and Analysis of Environmental Contaminates, Conservation Ecology, Advanced Biostatistics, Limnology and Aquatic Biology, Population and Community Dynamics
Undergraduate	Ecology, Marine Biology, Evolution, Genetics, Zoology, Botany, Cell Biology, Organic Chemistry, Animal Behavior, Behavioral Neuroscience, Microbiology, Statistics

Technical Reports and Presentations

Guillen, G, Oakley, J., Curtis, S, **Robertson, J.** 2015. *Distribution, Abundance, and Habitat Use of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)*. Final Report submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Dickinson Marine Lab, TX. EIH Technical Report #15-002.

Guillen, G, Oakley, J., Curtis, S, **Robertson, J.** 2014. *Distribution, Abundance, and Habitat Use of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)*. Interim Report submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Dickinson Marine Lab, TX. EIH Technical Report #14-003.

Robertson, J., Curtis, S., Oakley, J., Guillen, G. 2016. *Habitat, Diet, and Life History Characteristics of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)* (Oral). Texas Academy of Science, Junction, Texas.

Robertson, J., Curtis, S., Oakley, J., Guillen, G. 2016. *Growth and Reproduction of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)* (Oral). Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Kerrville, Texas.

Robertson, J., Curtis, S., Oakley, J., Guillen, G. 2016. *Where They Fish At: An Overview of the Population and Habitat Characteristics of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi) in Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake, TX.* (Oral) State of the Bay Symposium. Galveston, Texas.

Robertson, J., Curtis, S., Oakley, J., Guillen, G. 2015. *Distribution, Abundance, and Habitat Use of the Saltmarsh Topminnow (Fundulus jenkinsi)*. (Oral) Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting (TBEM). Port Aransas, Texas.

Robertson, J., Dearolf, J. 2012. *The Role of the Diaphragm and Scalenus in the Ventilation of the Striped and Spotted dolphin (Stenella spp.)*. (Poster) Society of Integrated and Comparative Biology (SICB). Charleston, South Carolina.