

# Elora Hayter López-Nandam

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## Education

- 2021 exp. Ph.D. Stanford University. Biology- Hopkins Marine Station.  
2015 B.A. Columbia University. Environmental Biology- Ecology and Evolution.

## Fellowships

- 2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship  
2015 Morgridge Family Fellowship (Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science and Engineering)  
2015 Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship (declined)  
2013 NSF Biology REU at the American Museum of Natural History

## Grants and Awards

- 2020 [Walter M. Fitch Award Finalist](#), Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution  
2018 [National Geographic Early Career Explorer Grant](#)  
2018 The Explorers Club Rolex Explorer Grant  
2018, 19 Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Young Investigator Travel Award (2x)  
2016, 18 Stanford Office of Graduate Education Travel Grant Award (2x)  
2014 Dept. of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B) Thesis Research Award  
2014 The Explorers Club Youth Activity Fund  
2014 Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program (CUSP) Summer Enhancement Fellowship  
2014 Columbia College Class of 1939 Summer Research Fellowship  
2014 Columbia University Earth Institute Student Travel Grant  
2014 NSF Biology REU Mentor-Student Travel Scholarship (with Dr. Mary Blair)  
2011-15 John W. Kluge Scholar, Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program (CUSP)

## Publications

López EH & Palumbi SR (2020). Somatic mutations and genome stability maintenance in clonal coral colonies. *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 37:828-838 DOI: [10.1093/molbev/msz270](https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msz270)

Thomas L\*, López EH\*, Morikawa MK, Palumbi SR (2019). Transcriptomic resilience, symbiont shuffling, and vulnerability to recurrent bleaching in reef-building corals. *Molecular Ecology* 28:3371-3382 DOI: [10.1111/mec.15143](https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.15143)

\*equal contributors

Thomas L, Rose NH, Bay RA, **López EH**, Morikawa MK, Ruiz-Jones LJ, Palumbi SR (2018). Mechanisms of thermal tolerance in reef-building corals across a fine-grained environmental mosaic: lessons from Ofu, American Samoa. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 4:434. DOI: [10.3389/fmars.2017.00434](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2017.00434)

Drew J, **López EH**, Gill L, McKeon M, Miller N, Steinberg M, Shen C, McClenachan L (2016). Collateral damage to marine and terrestrial ecosystems from Yankee whaling in the 19th century. *Ecology and Evolution*. 6:8181-8192. DOI: [10.1002/ece3.2542](https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.2542)

Eastwood EK\*, **López EH\***, Drew JA (2016). Population connectivity measures of fishery-targeted coral reef species to inform marine reserve network design in Fiji. *Scientific Reports* 6:19318. DOI: [10.1038/srep19318](https://doi.org/10.1038/srep19318)

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## Reports

**López EH**, Eastwood E, Drew J (2017). Genetic connectivity among populations of lollyfish (*Holothuria atra*). In S. Mangubhai, W. Lalavanua and S.W. Purcell (eds.). Fiji's Sea Cucumber Fishery: Advances in Science for Improved Management. Wildlife Conservation Society. [Report No. 01/17. Suva, Fiji. pp. 62–70.](#)

## Selected Presentations

**López EH**, Albright R, Palumbi SR. Asexual and sexual mutation inheritance in clonal coral colonies. Oral presentation online for the SMBE Fitch Symposium. [View on YouTube.](#) June 30, 2020.

**López EH**, Albright R, Palumbi SR. Genome integrity and the heritability of somatic mutation in clonal, colonial corals. Poster presentation online for The Allied Genetics Conference. [View on FigShare.](#) April 2020.

**López EH** & Palumbi SR. Somatic mutations and genome stability maintenance in clonal coral colonies. Poster presentation at the Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution in Manchester, England. July 22, 2019.

**López EH** & Palumbi SR. Patterns and frequency of variation among asexual clones in a long-lived coral species. Oral presentation at the American Genetics Association Presidential Symposium in Portland, OR. June 3, 2019.

**López EH** & Palumbi SR. Considering somatic mutations and genome maintenance capacity in colonial cnidarians. Poster presentation at the Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution in Yokohama, Japan. July 9, 2018.

**López EH** & Palumbi SR. Uncovering within-colony coral diversity using high-throughput sequencing data. Oral presentation at the International Coral Reef Symposium in Honolulu, HI. June 20, 2016.

**López EH**, Le MD, Nguyễn TV, Dương HT, Cao GTH, Sterling EJ, Blair ME. Inferring molecular phylogenetic relationships among slow lorises (genus *Nycticebus*) with mitochondrial DNA sequence data. Poster presentation at the XXV International Primatological Congress in Hanoi, Vietnam. August 15, 2014.

López EH & Drew JA. Comparative phylogeography of Indo-Pacific marine taxa presents idiosyncratic genetic connectivity patterns. Oral presentation at the Society for Conservation Biology Oceania Section Meetings in Suva, Fiji. July 9, 2014.

## Invited Talks and Panels

“Why mutations matter for corals.” Invited talk at California Academy of Sciences’ Institute for Biodiversity Science and Sustainability Seminar Series online. September 24, 2020.

“Asexual and sexual somatic mutation inheritance in a colonial coral.” Cnidarian Zoom Seminar. May 20, 2020.

“Paradise irradiated: The Marshall Islands 60 years after nuclear testing.” Invited talk at The Explorers Club headquarters. New York, NY. March 17, 2019.

“From climate change to nuclear bombs: using genomics to understand wildlife responses to environmental change.” Invited talk at The Explorers Club Northern California Chapter meeting. San Francisco, CA. May 25, 2018.

Moderator and organizer of the panel “Looking Forward: Marine Science & Policy in the New Administration.” Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University. March 1, 2017.

“Marine conservation and genetic connectivity of marine taxa in Fiji.” Invited talk at the Global Vision International (GVI) Tovuto base on Nanuya Lai Lai, Fiji. August 5, 2014.

## Selected Media

- 2019            Twitter [thread](#) on our coral bleaching paper in *Molecular Ecology*
- 2018            *High Tidings* [blog post](#) on Bikini Atoll research
- 2017            Appearance in Bikini Atoll segment of [episode 2](#) of PBS’ *Big Pacific*
- 2017            [Article](#) in *The Guardian* about Bikini Atoll research
- 2017            [Quoted](#) in *USA Today* about Bikini Atoll research
- 2016            [Article](#) in *The Atlantic* about Yankee whaling research
- 2016            [Quoted](#) in *Columbia Magazine* about Yankee whaling research
- 2014            I wrote a [story](#) about my undergraduate thesis research in Fiji for Columbia’s website

## Teaching Experience

- Nov. 2019-    Polygence Mentor  
Mentoring two high school students in Shanghai to design a research project in the Galápagos
- Fall 2018    T.A. for Ecology of the Hawaiian Islands (BIO 116). Stanford Wrigley Field Program in Hawaii  
Taught and supervised marine fieldwork techniques, gave three lectures

- Spring 2018 T.A. for Evolution (BIOHOPK 85). Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University  
Led interactive discussion sections and molecular labs, gave one lecture
- May 2016 Instructor for Stanford Science Circle Middle School Program  
Gave two lectures: conservation biology and coral reef ecology
- Winter 2016 T.A. for Evolution (BIO 143). Stanford University  
Led discussion sections

## **Leadership and Service**

- 2019 EEB Mentor Match Program, Mentor
- 2018-2019 Hopkins Marine Station Graduate Student Organization (HMSGSO) President
- 2017-2019 Mentor, Salinas High School Marine Biology Internships at Hopkins Marine Station  
Mentees: Isabelle Mandon, Grace Gonzales, Giovanni Fusco
- 2016-2018 Monterey Area Research Institutions Network for Education (MARINE) Student Liaison
- 2016-2018 Hopkins Marine Station Graduate Student Organization (HMSGSO) Secretary
- 2015-2016 Biology Eco-Evo Graduate Student Seminar Speaker Committee, Stanford University
- 2015-2019 NSF GRFP Mentor, Stanford University

## **Certifications**

- AAUS Scientific Diver
- Wilderness First Aid
- CPR/First Aid