

Student Subsection Officer Nominations

President-elect

Kyle Bales- President-Elect

I began my academic profile gaining my B.S. in Biology at Central College in Pella, IA, where I quickly realized my love for the environment. While at Central College I worked closely with my professors in the field gaining experience in both wildlife and aquatic ecosystems. As an undergraduate I worked with a local Conservation Board where I gained experience as a conservation supervisor performing both wildlife and aquatic system management. From that point, I started my M.S. at Southeast Missouri State University through a cooperative agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation where I was the crew leader/supervisor on a Lake Sturgeon assessment in the Upper Mississippi River. I was also heavily involved in many other projects that were being carried out by the Missouri Department of Conservation, including five other graduate student projects (e.g., Asian carp population ecology, Grotto Sculpin assessment, Paddlefish demographics, and biological opinion sturgeon assessment). Academically, I have been active at numerous meetings (Missouri River Natural Resources Committee, Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee, Mississippi River Research Consortium, American Fisheries Society Parent Society, Iowa/Nebraska American Fisheries Society, and Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference) where I have presented 20 paper/poster presentations. I was awarded the best student poster at both the 2013 Missouri River Natural Resources Committee meeting and the 2013 Iowa American Fisheries Society subsection meeting. I was also an honorable mention for the Skinner Award at the 2014 American Fisheries Society Meeting and the recipient of the travel award at the Mississippi River Research Consortium in 2014. I have three papers in preparation with outlets including Transactions of the American Fisheries Society, Journal of Applied Ichthyology, and North American Journal of Fisheries Management. In addition to my fisheries interest, I am also very interested in staying active within the American Fisheries Society. I am currently a member of the American Fisheries Society and involved in many subsections including, Missouri Chapter, Iowa Chapter, Fish Management Section, Fish Habitat Section, Fisheries Information and Technology, and the Student Subsection of the Education Section. I was the North Central Division Student Representative where I worked to interact with the student subunits throughout this division. I was also a student judge for best student presentations at the 2013 and 2016 American Fisheries Society meeting and evaluated best student abstracts for the 2014 Society meeting. I am currently the webmaster for both the Student Subsection and the Fish Management Section. I am also the chair for the Early Career Professional Committee of the Fish Management Section. At a more local level I co-created the student subunit at Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) with my advisor Dr. Quinton Phelps. The SEMO student subunit has been awarded the most active student subunit. Additionally, I have helped mold and mentor an AFS Hutton recipient while working with Missouri Department of Conservation. I am hopeful that my fisheries experiences and my active participation in AFS will allow me to become more active as the President-elect of the Student Subsection of the Education Section.

If elected I hope to continue growing the Student Subsection's social media presence. I would also like to bolster the involvement of student subsections across the nation by having them post to our social media outlets after they hold different events (e.g., fishing clinics, fish fry, and stream cleanup days). My goal would be to develop a competition out of these events as an incentive. Hopefully, this short biography summarizes what I have done and demonstrates where I would like to see the subsection go and what we can do to get it there. Thank you for your vote!

Lisa Izzo – President-Elect

I became a member of the American Fisheries Society in 2013 when I started my MS program at the University of Maine, where my research focused on movements and growth of Atlantic Salmon. That year I became involved in the University of Maine AFS Student Subunit, and then went on to serve as the Vice President of the subunit for 2 years. During that time I worked with our executive committee to organize multiple new events for the subunit, including the Spawning Run 5K fundraiser and an annual Women in Science Lunch Panel. I am currently entering my second year as a PhD student with the Vermont Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Vermont, where my dissertation is focused on abundance, movements, and habitat use of Lake Sturgeon in Lake Champlain. While no student subunit currently exists at the University of Vermont, I have been asked to serve as a graduate mentor next year to the undergraduate Wildlife and Fisheries Society and hope to encourage members of the group to become more active in AFS.

I wanted to remain active in AFS during my PhD program, so when I started in Vermont I decided to get involved in the Student Subsection of the Education Section. Over the past year I have served as the Northeastern Division Representative to the Subsection. I have enjoyed being involved in connecting with student subunits in my region and working with the executive committee to increase communication with all fisheries students and early career professionals. Over the past few months I have also been helping to grow the Subsection's presence on Facebook and share some of the great events that subunits across the country organized this past semester.

Since I have attended a university with a very active student subunit, but also one with a limited graduate fisheries program, I believe I have insight into two sides of the AFS student experience. If given the opportunity to serve as President-Elect, I would like to continue the work of the previous executive committee to increase communication with student and early career professional members of AFS. If elected, my goals during my term would be to 1) continue to facilitate connections between members of the Subsection, 2) update and build upon the series of resources on the Subsection webpage to benefit our members, and lastly to 3) further integrate the students and early career professionals from our Subsection with the goals and activities of the Education Section and the overall AFS Governing Board.

I hope to continue to be involved in the Subsection over the coming years. Thank you for your consideration!

Secretary/Treasurer

Carissa Gervasi – Secretary/Treasurer

My name is Carissa Gervasi and I am a PhD student at Florida International University. I have been a member of AFS for the past seven years and have attended several national and local meetings. I volunteered to help solicit donations for the silent auction at the national meeting this year, and I cannot wait to get more involved.

I received my MS degree from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in 2015, where I worked on reproductive biology and population dynamics of Striped Bass in the Chesapeake Bay.

Currently, my research focuses on the bio-economics of marine protected areas. I am passionate about fisheries science, and hope to work someday in the science policy realm at a government agency like NOAA.

During my MS degree, I served as treasurer of our graduate student association. I am extremely organized and love crunching numbers, assets I would bring to the AFS secretary-treasurer position. I am also currently serving on FIU's graduate advisory board, and have been on several other committees. I love being involved, and I have gained so much from AFS over the years that I want to give back to the community. I am dedicated, hardworking, and have a lot of public speaking experience. If you vote for me, I promise I will do my best to help keep our subsection running smoothly and share your thoughts and ideas with the greater AFS community. Thank you!

Canadian Division Representative

Heather Stewart – Canadian Division Representative

For those of you who have not met me yet, my name is Heather Stewart and I am a PhD student at McGill University and a fellow with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. My dissertation work focuses on understanding the dynamics of the communities surrounding mangrove islands. My broad research interests have allowed me to work with freshwater, brackish, and marine fishes around the world. At this time I have nine peer-reviewed publications, two technical publications, I have given over fourteen professional presentations, and host my own radio show. What is most important to me, however, is giving back.

Professionally, I review manuscripts for AFS journals, serve as abstract and poster judges for multiple societies, mentor undergraduate students, and served as a committee member or officer for eight different organizations including AFS for which I was Secretary and Dean's Council Representative during my master's and now in my PhD I have been serving as the Canadian Division Representative. Personally, I spend most of my time outside of academia running outreach programs, promoting education and equality, and connecting children to the outdoors.

The American Fisheries Society is near and dear to me and has shaped me into the researcher I am today. As I have grown academically and followed the winding path of opportunity through universities across the U.S. and Canada, I have continually given back to this incredible organization that has become my family. This past year I served as the Canadian Division Representative and I greatly enjoyed serving you. We had a great year and accomplished the

majority of our goals. I couldn't be more proud of our division. Even though my term is ending, I wish to strive further and continue to grow our division both in membership of existing subunits as well as form new subunits across Canada. If reelected, I will continue to support our current student subunits, promote student engagement and professional development, focus on increasing our participation at the annual meeting, and serve as a voice for you. It would be an honor to serve as your representative once again and I invite you to reach out, whether I am reelected or not, if you ever need help because that is what this society is about. We are a community that supports one another, that builds friendships that last a lifetime, and develop skills to produce the best fisheries biologists out there. Thank you for all you do and for your consideration today.

Sarah Walton-Rabideau – Canadian Division Representative

I am pleased to submit my candidacy for the American Fisheries Society (AFS) Student Section Canadian Division representative. My enthusiasm, curiosity, and drive to teach others about aquatic sciences continually grows. I am a natural leader who embraces diversity, and takes advantage of such when in a team environments. My dedication, self-motivation, expertise in aquatic science, interpersonal, planning and coordination skills, and ingenuity when educating others set me apart from all other candidates.

I have five years of post-secondary education (Fleming College Fish and Wildlife and Trent University's Honours biology programs), and five years of work experience with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Parks Canada, Conservation Authorities, academic research (Michigan State University), non-government organizations, and canoe guiding services. To challenge myself and excel in aquatic sciences, I enrolled in Carleton University's graduate program, where I am completing an MSc. in fisheries ecology. My thesis involves international collaboration between Canada and the USA to research Muskellunge (*Esox masquinoy*) and Northern Pike (*Esox Lucius*) in the St. Lawrence River, to improve our knowledge of the species, and direct conservation efforts to improve their status in the system. My involvement with AFS, to date, includes participation in the AFS-Ontario Chapter annual meeting (2nd place for the Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation Award), speaking at the Ontario Chapter Student Subunit (OC-SSU) 2016 Student Success Workshop about my international fisheries employment experience, and working to become a contributing author for the AFS Fisheries magazine. My premiere article summarized the activities at the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research in Montreal, Quebec, in which I participated.

As Canadian Representative, I aim to significantly expand both my leadership experience and network within AFS. Importantly, I want to connect with and successfully engage students between our nations to explore ecological, evolutionary, and environmental aspects of fisheries science, and management. Graduate studies have emphasized the value of collaborative leadership, relationship building, wise use of resources, and the importance of expanding one's knowledge base beyond immediate scientific interests. I will use this insight actively when promoting Subsection membership, and motivate students to challenge themselves to view aquatic studies in new perspectives. I will use my established government, conservation, and academic networks to liaise, develop, and recommend opportunities for AFS students and early career researchers to gain practical and fundamental experience in fisheries sciences and communication skills. Further, such opportunities will include capacity for leadership

development and enhancing self-awareness. My goal - to enable students to discover their interests, natural skill sets, and support their career paths in aquatic science. Thank you for your consideration.

Northcentral Division Representative

Steven Gratz – North Central Division Representative

Steven Gratz is honored to be running for the North Central Division Representative position. He is very qualified for this position through his education, experience, and AFS involvement. He graduated from Ohio State University in 2006 with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and most recently, in 2017, graduated from Auburn University with a Master's Degree in Fisheries Management. He recently accepted a job with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and previously has worked for Ohio State University and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. While at Auburn University, Steven was very active with their student subunit, serving as vice-president during the 2016-2017 academic year. He participated in and organized many outreach and volunteer events focused at serving the local communities, garnering the interest of children in fishing, and promoting the fisheries program at the university. He also attended and presented at all division meetings and conferences when possible to expand upon his fisheries knowledge and to network with other professionals. Steven is currently completing his term as the Southern Division Representative for Student Subsection, which allowed him to understand the responsibilities of the position and making him an exceptional candidate for the position.

Nicholas Kludt – North Central Division Representative

I would like to nominate Nick for the North Central Division Representative. His initial fisheries career was stream and landscape ecology. He graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2012 with a B.S. in Biogeography, and again in 2015 with a Biology M.S. His thesis work focused on how riparian vegetation and agriculture have influenced fish assemblages in the region for the past 25 years. After completing his M.S., he pivoted into sport fish management at South Dakota State University. Nick is presently a Ph.D. Candidate at SDSU, where he studies the reservoir ecology of Walleye, Rainbow Smelt, and Cisco using hydroacoustics. He is active in the broader AFS community through publishing and presentations at state, division, and national levels.

Nick has been involved with AFS for a number of years. He is the present Centrarchid Technical Committee representative for the AFS Dakota Chapter. Additionally, he has served two terms as Treasurer of the SDSU Student Subunit. He organized and presented a hydroacoustics continuing education workshop for the Dakota Chapter. He remains active in community outreach and education through activities with Walleyes Unlimited and the SDGF&P Salmon Spawning public demonstrations. He also is the SDSU AFS Student Subunit coordinator with the Big Sioux Water Festival, a massive elementary school outdoor education event.

As the North Central Division Representative, Nick is excited to take an active role in representing students of the region. His communication and leadership skills will be an asset to the officer team, and I hope you will consider him for this position.

Chelsey Nieman – North Central Division Representative

I am an Alaskan native, who grew up working on halibut and salmon boats in the lower Cook Inlet. I worked for 4 summers with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as a Fish Technician in the commercial finfish division, where I assisted with salmon escapement in remote field camps all over south central Alaska. I received a bachelor's of science from Linfield College in 2012, with majors in both biology and environmental science. I then attended Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where I received a master's degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation. While there, I studied the effects of the North Atlantic Oscillation of Norwegian Spring-Spawn Herring biomass. After receiving my master's I spent a year working at Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute, where I studied the effects of soy based diets on White Sea Bass growth in a hatchery setting, as well as managed grow-out operations for the hatchery. In 2015, I began a PhD program at the Ohio State University in the School of Environment and Natural Resources. There, she is studying the visual ecology of Lake Erie fishes, including Walleye and Emerald Shiner, under varying types of turbidity. This research has been conducted at Lake Erie's Stone Lab, and not only encompasses basic science research on vision, but also includes a citizen science component. This citizen science component includes working with 20 charter boat captains that operate on Lake Erie, to collect data on Walleye catches and lure preference in different levels and types of turbidity.

I have been an AFS member since 2013, and have attended and presented at several meetings, first as a member of the Cal-Neva chapter, and now as a member of the Ohio Chapter. My goals in this office are to try and support the student subunits in the North Central Division, while also increasing communications between these subunits in order to foster the spread of ideas and collaboration across the area. I am currently working in the Ohio State University Student Subunit to increase membership and activity in order to make AFS a valuable experience that can assist not only in increasing knowledge and awareness of fisheries research in local communities, but also allow members to use this as an opportunity for networking and collaboration. As many of the student subunits in the North Central Division have similar research interests and community goals, it is essential that we can bring our ideas together to make joining AFS a beneficial experience for students. I then want to take this collaboration, and bring it to the rest of the student section of AFS, in order to bring ideas to the forefront, and use these ideas to increase the potential of AFS to support students in ways that are needed and beneficial for both AFS as a whole, and the students themselves.

Northeastern Division Representative

Becca Colby - Northeastern Division Representative

My name is Becca Colby and I am a Masters student in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department at the University of Connecticut. Currently, I am studying the physiology of juvenile Alewives and impacts of climate change on their seaward migration from natal freshwater habitat. My research is in collaboration with local state fisheries biologists (CT DEEP) and the Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center (USGS) in Massachusetts. In my sophomore year as an undergraduate I was given a volunteer position in a fish research lab and since then have held

state, federal, and university affiliated positions working with Arctic Grayling in the Alaskan Arctic, Lake Sturgeon in Northern Michigan, and Shortnose and Atlantic Sturgeon, American Shad, and Alewives in Connecticut. I got my start with AFS volunteering at a SNEC meeting in the summer of 2014 and recently attended the annual meeting in Tampa after becoming a member this year. Though my career now is rooted in research, I also devote time to mentorship, outreach, and communication. In the second semester of my Masters, I mentored five undergraduate students, two of whom attended the Tampa meeting with me. Besides taking part in ongoing research, my mentees learn to read and discuss scientific papers and participate in workshops that I design upon request (and make available to students in other labs) that address professional development skills including crafting a good CV and how to give presentations. Additionally, I have been on numerous panels hosted by my department as well as interdepartmental committees geared towards introducing undergraduates to research, graduate school, and career path options. My outreach efforts to promote high school and middle school science involvement have included volunteering as a science fair judge at the local and state level and visiting biology classes at a local high school with the "Ask a Scientist" program. In the coming months, I plan to participate in public outreach programs for CT Bioblitz and Mystic Aquarium's World Estuaries Day. If chosen as the Northeastern Student Division Representative, I will work towards promoting involvement in AFS of graduate and undergraduate students alike. I will apply my practiced outreach and communication skills to serve the AFS Student Subsection in whatever capacity I can. With the next annual meeting scheduled to take place in New Jersey, it is an exciting prospect to be able to participate in preparations for such an event. This position is a valuable opportunity, and I would be honored to be an AFS representative.

Matt Devine - Northeastern Division Representative

My name is Matt Devine and I am nominating myself for the position of Northeastern Division Representative. I recently defended my M.S. thesis titled, "Juvenile river herring in freshwater lakes: sampling approaches for evaluating growth and survival," and received an M.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation Biology from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. I will begin a Ph.D. this fall at UMass Amherst in the Intercampus Marine Science program. I have been involved with AFS since 2015 and currently hold the position of student sub-unit President at UMass Amherst. I received a B.A. in Environmental Studies from the University of Redlands (CA) in 2007. In the years after undergraduate and before graduate school, I was a seasonal fisheries technician for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. I served as a fisheries restoration technician for Friends of the Teton River (ID) and as a biological fisheries technician at the University of Wyoming. I have worked with and grown to appreciate salmonids in headwater mountain streams, warmwater sportfish in lakes and reservoirs, and anadromous river herring in coastal streams. I have presented research locally in the region, across the country, and overseas to both scientific and non-scientific audiences. I thoroughly enjoy communicating and constantly look to improve my skills, while generating interest in fisheries and our natural resources. Through the newly formed student sub-unit at UMass Amherst, I have contributed to the Fish Rapper newsletter, attended business meetings, and my wife and I began a program in town with two

local elementary schools called “A Day in the Life of a Fisheries Biologist.” This annual event takes 5th graders into the field and into the lab with graduate students and fisheries professionals to learn fish identification, sampling techniques, scale and otolith reading, habitat survey protocols, dissection methods, and more. I enjoy reaching out to the next generation of scientists, the public, and professionals in the field to discuss the wonders of fisheries and the challenges that lie ahead.

As a representative, my goal is to continue to generate interest in AFS and build the student sub-units throughout the region. As young professionals, we have an opportunity, and an obligation, to promote the field of fisheries science and management. If elected as the regions representative, I will work to grow existing relationships and foster new ones. I would like to organize collaborative events with the public that allow universities that are in relatively close proximity of each other to participate (e.g., UCONN and UMass or Syracuse and Cornell). I would strongly encourage undergraduates to participate in university sub-units and would like to have a monthly NED webinar series where universities take turns hosting a speaker (e.g. professor, biologist), and folks from other institutions can participate online.

If elected I would do my best to uphold the mission of AFS and the sub-units and put forth the energy necessary to motivate others. Thank you for your time and consideration, and for the work you do as officers.

Lucas Nathan - Northeastern Division Representative

Lucas is a PhD candidate at the University of Connecticut studying Brook Trout riverscape genetics. He holds a bachelor’s degree in fisheries from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and a master’s degree in conservation biology from Central Michigan University. He has been an active member of AFS since 2008, starting out as a member of his undergraduate student subunit at UWSP. Since 2014 Lucas has been a member of the UConn student subunit, Southern New England Chapter (SNEC), Northeastern Division (NED), genetics section, education section, and student subsection of AFS. During this time he has held multiple officer and committee positions at various levels, including Vice President and Treasurer of the UConn student subunit, website manager for the NED, and student representative for the 2017 SNEC/NED joint meeting planning committee. He also actively participates at AFS meetings and has presented his research at seven local, divisional, and parent society meetings over the last three years. Given his involvement and interactions at multiple levels of AFS, Lucas would be well suited to represent the NED student members and facilitate communication between the students in the division and student subsection.

Southern Division Representative

C. Thomas Olinger – Southern Division Representative

I am interested in applying for a position within the Student Subsection of the Education Section and, consequently, becoming more involved in the American Fisheries Society (AFS). I am an aquatic ecologist with interests in linking population, community, and ecosystem-level processes across multiple spatial and temporal scales. I received my Bachelor of Science in Fisheries Science from Virginia Tech in 2014 under the supervision of Emmanuel Frimpong.

Currently, I am a Master of Science student in Jennifer Howeth's laboratory within the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Alabama.

My undergraduate research addressed the reproductive life history of the Twospot Livebearer (*Heterandria bimaculata*) along an elevational gradient. Delineated by altitude, in the Honduran highlands, individuals showed reproductive trait plasticity influenced by both environmental conditions and predation pressure. This study is one of the few providing information on *H. bimaculata*. The effort involved collaboration with international agencies and non-governmental organizations to facilitate baseline data on a less investigated genus of livebearers.

Building upon this foundation of spatial ecological inquiry, my current research evaluates the community consequences of species dispersal at local and regional scales. My thesis will try to quantify effects of spatio-temporal scales and connectivity on community structure, species diversity, and ecosystem properties in beaver-mediated pond metacommunities. The preliminary results emphasize that environmental gradients can influence species abundance and richness, and beta diversity at spatial and temporal scales. The integration of fisheries biology and community ecology will provide a novel approach to understanding mechanisms driving spatial patterns of fish biodiversity. With anthropogenic climate change and continued habitat loss and degradation influencing fish conservation it is increasingly important to use small-scale studies of ecological processes to make conclusions about larger-scale dynamics that are often of greater environmental and socioeconomic concern.

Almost all biologists share a common developmental history: they possess an innate fascination with nature and had exceptional mentors in the sciences. Teaching and inspiring interest to learn about fishes serves as the foundation of my discipline and perpetuates my future science directions. I plan to apply my education, where past faculty, colleagues, and students have educated me, and communication skills to serve students and young professionals in AFS, hoping to impart that fascination that occupies me. If elected to the subunit I intend to increase my AFS advocacy and return support to individuals within our profession. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my qualifications further and look forward to future correspondence with the committee.

Brendan Runde – Southern Division Representative

I am writing to nominate myself for Southern Division representative to the Student Subsection of the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society. I have been an AFS member since 2009, when I began my undergraduate degree at Virginia Tech. While a member of the Virginia Tech Subunit, I served as a variety of committee chairs as well as Vice President during my senior year. In these capacities, I gained experience with the duties and responsibilities of being an officer of a branch of AFS.

Since graduating with my BS from Virginia Tech in 2013, I have been at NC State University as a graduate student. I recently obtained my MS degree and have commenced work on my PhD, also at NC State. In my first two semesters at NC State, I was heavily involved in the student subunit. However, after those semesters, I was obligated to move from our main campus (Raleigh) to our coastal facility (Morehead City) for my research. This has precluded me from being involved in the student subunit in any major capacity, and has left me eager to involve myself more heavily in AFS.

As a division representative, I would serve as a liaison between student members of the Southern Division and the Student Subsection of the Education Section. In addition, I will prepare the biannual report to the Subsection EXCOM of the Subsection. In order to do this, I will maintain contact with the officers of each of the student subsections in the Southern Division (many of whom are already personal friends or acquaintances), and compile the accomplishments of their members. I will also identify any challenges or suggestions that should be brought to the attention of the Student Subsection or the Education Section/Parent Society. I believe I am prepared to fulfil the duties of Southern Division representative to the Student Subsection of the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society.

Thank you for your time.

Samreen Siddiqui – Southern Division Representative

Being a Fisheries bachelor's student, interest in fisheries, external affairs and public responses makes me to receive higher education and professional experience in this area. After coming to the UK, I decided to enhance the capacity and in the year 2012, joined AFS. In 2013, I joined MS in biology from VSU, Georgia and published first chapter of the thesis in the year 2014, which was presented in AFS annual meeting in Quebec and received the best student poster award. Since, 2016 I started writing blogs for AFS habitat section and find it very interesting and challenging. Every time, it is a creativity and perspective, we need to think about for writing blogs. Yesterday, when I received this email, it made me very curious to apply for a student position either for president or interim representative. It will give me more understanding about fisheries technical knowledge and working procedure. I have 5 published papers so far, one ongoing manuscript and 2 book chapters, due this December. I have served several journals as a reviewer and continuously honing my skills to achieve more exposure in this field.

Please find my education, publications and work experience below: 2016- PhD in CMSS from Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi (USDA- water challenge funding) 2013- 2015: MSc (Research) in Biology from Valdosta State University, USA (With GA and Merit list). 2009 - 2010: MSc (Taught) in Aquatic Eco. Management from Edinburgh Napier University, UK (With Scottish Saltire Scholarship) 2005 - 2009: BSc in Fisheries Science from G. B. Pant Univ. of Agri. and Tech., India (With Distinction) RESEARCH PUBLICATION: Dahlawi, S., Siddiqui, S. (2017) Calcium Polysulfide, Its Applications and Emerging Risk of Environmental Pollution- A Review Article. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 24, 92102. Doi: 10.1007/s11356-016-7842-3 Lockhart, J. M., Siddiqui, S., Loughry, W.J., Bielmyer-Fraser, G.K. (2016). Metal accumulation in wildcaught opossum. *Environ. Monit. Assess.* 188: 317. Siddiqui, S., Bielmyer-Fraser, G.K. (2015) Responses of sea anemone, *Exaiptasia pallida*, to ocean acidification conditions and copper exposure. *Aquatic Toxicology*, 167, 228-239. doi:10.1016/j.aquatox.2015.08.012 Siddiqui, S., Goddard, R., Bielmyer-Fraser, G.K. (2015) Comparative effects of dissolved copper and copper oxide nanoparticle exposure to the sea anemone, *Exaiptasia pallida*. *Aquatic Toxicology* 160, 205-213. doi:10.1016/j.aquatox.2015.01.007 Kaushik, S., Rahal, A., Ahmad, A. H. Siddiqui, S. (2013) Pharmacokinetics of Tilimicosin in broilers following single dose administration. *Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology* 12, 69-71.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: Graduate Research Assistant at Texas A & M, CC 06/2016- Present Graduate Teaching Assistant at Texas A & M, CC 01/2016 – 05/2016 Graduate Teaching Assistant at VSU (Deptt. Of Biology) 08/2013 – 05/2015 Mid Suffolk district council, Assistant

Environmental Officer, Ipswich, UK 08/2012- 01/2013 Ellancowan Environmental Consultancy, Consultant 10/2010- 12/2011 Scottish Water, Assistant Project Consultant (Internship), UK 02/2010-09/2010

Intention as a contributor are to provide innovative approach for the member involvement and external affairs. Better student outreach programs to make general public awareness about the ongoing fish habitat problems. I would like to enhance the AFS committee in its effort to apply environmental issues worldwide and at a global scale. The professional skills, learned from jobs and various trainings in Europe can be applied in this society to improve its existence in the community. Looking forward to hear back from you in near future.

Louisa Torrance – Southern Division Representative

I am beginning my second year in the M.S. Fisheries program at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi (TAMUCC), focusing on the importance of low salinity habitat to red drum. I completed my B.S. in Biology (emphasis in Marine & Freshwater) at the University of Texas at Austin, where I researched a variety of topics and became familiar with the ecology and geography of the Texas Gulf Coast. I concurrently earned my teaching certification in 8-12 Science through the UTeach Program and taught 8th grade science for four years in Austin, Texas. While teaching, I maintained my involvement with research as a research assistant in the lab of Dr. Daniel Bolnick (UT-Austin), traveling to Vancouver Island, BC to investigate assortative mating in Threespine Stickleback.

Although I joined American Fisheries Society (AFS) within the last year, I have already found an incredible network of support and mentorship which has been integral in building my confidence as a future fisheries scientist. I attended my first AFS Annual meeting this August in Tampa, Florida, and was fortunately advised to attend section meetings. I found these to be the most rewarding aspects of my week, not only because of the shared goals and strategies of each section to increase diversity, science communication, and the membership of undergraduate students, but also for the enthusiasm and dedication of the officers and active members.

Within our Student Subunit, I founded an Outreach Committee and established social media accounts to advance public understanding of our coastal and freshwater ecosystems, increase knowledge of fishery resources, promote fisheries related careers, and encourage membership - all of which tie into the larger goals of AFS. I am inspired to be of service at a higher level, and as the Southern Division Representative, my goals to fulfill the current mission of the Student/Early Career Subchapter of the Education Section are to:

- 1) Foster high school and undergraduate membership and involvement at the local, regional, and national level,
- 2) Facilitate dialogue and collaborative projects between Student Subunits within the Southern Division, and
- 3) Advocate inclusion and diversity using the nine proposed action areas as described by Penaluna et al. in *Fisheries* (August 2017).

Western Division Representative

Larissa Lee – Western Division Representative

I am interested in serving as the representative of the Western Division of the student subsection of the education section of AFS. I hope that through this position I can bring together students from all western states and keep everyone up to date on issues and events throughout the region. As a graduate student at the University of Arizona, I participate in the University's student subunit and coordinate volunteer opportunities with the local chapter of Trout Unlimited. I also volunteered and presented my research at the 2017 AZ-NM Chapter meeting, where I was awarded the Miles McInnis Scholarship, which goes to one undergraduate and one graduate student who exemplify both the friendly demeanor and dedication to fisheries management that Mr. McInnis showed each day. I hope to bring this positive attitude and passion for fisheries to my position as Western Division Student Subsection representative.

My experience in the fisheries profession is wide-ranging. I graduated from Colby College in 2013 with a degree in environmental studies, and went on to hold positions in Yellowstone National Park removing invasive lake trout, in Missoula, MT at Trout Unlimited where I worked with stakeholders to create a watershed restoration strategy, and in Salmon, ID where I monitored salmon and steelhead for Idaho Fish and Game. I am currently a graduate student at the University of Arizona, studying fish microhabitat preferences and fish-hydrology relationships in four Arizona streams.

My fellow lab-mates nominated me for this position at the National AFS Meeting in Tampa last week, and I gladly accept this nomination. I hope to bring together the Western Student Subsection and voice both our accomplishments and needs at the national level. I am very responsive to e-mail and open to input from other students. I would love to hear from you on some of your subunit needs and victories!