

GRACE RODRIGUEZ

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OBJECTIVE

Current Master's student at the University of Michigan, pursuing a dual degree with a M.S. of Sustainable Systems and a M.S.E. of Environmental Engineering, with two years of full-time work experience. Seeking to apply my academic knowledge and work experience towards the study and practice of water quality management and systems analysis. A dedicated, independent worker who strives to contribute to global water quality and access efforts.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)

School of Natural Resources and Environment

- **Master of Science**, Natural Resources and Environment: Sustainable Systems, December 2017

College of Engineering

- **Master of Science in Engineering**, Environmental Engineering, December 2017

Michigan State University (Lansing, MI)

- **Bachelor of Science**, Zoology, May 2013
- Concentration in Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology
- GPA: 3.81
- Graduated with Honors
- Two semesters of environmental engineering coursework, August 2014-May 2015

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2016	International Institute Individual Fellowship, University of Michigan (UM)	\$4,000
2016	Sue and Kenneth Coleman Global Experience Scholarship, UM	\$1,000
2015-2016	Peter M. Wege and Jonathan W. Bulkley Fellowship in Sustainable Systems, UM	\$10,000
2015-2016	School of Natural Resources and Environment Dean's Excellence Award, UM	\$20,000
2013	Outstanding Academic Achievement and Promise in Zoology Award Michigan State University (MSU)	
2012-2013	Bill and Zelda Memorial Scholarship, MSU	\$1,000
2012	Akers Study Abroad Scholarship, MSU	\$1,750

EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Graduate Research Assistant

(Ann Arbor, MI) January 2016-present

- Designed and executed a study which examined the current state of water quality testing infrastructure in rural Bangladesh with a focus on the numerous mobile arsenic testing kits commonly used by local government offices and NGOs to determine if drinking water is safe for human consumption
- Conducted two months of field work in Bangladesh, including seven weeks in Jessore and one week in Dhaka, with the in-country research supported by the Asia Arsenic Network, a local NGO focused on arsenic awareness and removal
- Interviewed arsenic test kit users in Bangladesh to assess the level of satisfaction with the currently available arsenic testing kits and gather opinions on possible improvements for the kits and testing procedures
- Assisted a fellow graduate student with a baseline household survey in two districts of southern Bangladesh, which included training local surveyors and overseeing survey work in villages

Ecology Center of Ann Arbor, Research Assistant (Ann Arbor, MI) September 2015 – December 2015

- Tested a wide variety of consumer products for hazardous materials using X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) and Infrared Spectroscopy (IR)
- Analyzed IR spectra using OMNIC and OMNIC Spectra software to determine the presence of specific chemicals in canned food linings and interior household items

EXPERIENCE (continued)

Names for Life/Michigan State University, Biodata Curator (East Lansing, MI) August 2012 – August 2015

- Supervised the collection and management of extensive sets of microbial, genetic, and etymological data gathered from numerous academic journals and online databases for use by paying customers
- Normalized highly variable sets of data and developed a standardized vocabulary for microbial terms with a team of biologists, computer programmers, and linguists
- Performed with meticulous attention to detail and the ability to adapt quickly to new programs as the team focused on different aspects of phenotypic and genotypic data, growth conditions, and antibiotic sensitivity
- Facilitated the training of two Assistant Biodata Curators and developed the curation workflow to be used at Names for Life

Michigan State University Student Housing Cooperative, Education Officer (East Lansing, MI) August 2012-July 2014

- Organized workshops and social functions that provided members with opportunities to learn and share various skills
- Collaborated with other committees to maintain a healthy financial, social, and educational environment for co-op members

Howell Nature Center, Wildlife Rehabilitation Intern (Howell, MI) January 2012 – May 2012

- Assisted veterinarian in the identification and diagnosis of a diverse range of injured species and the development of treatment plans
- Administered medical and physical treatment plans to patients and oversaw the daily care of the permanent animals
- Advised concerned residents about wildlife care and rehabilitation options
- Completed Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation course through the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (April 2012)

Eaton County, Resource Recovery Intern (Charlotte, MI) May 2011 – August 2011

- Organized and executed large-scale hazardous and non-hazardous waste recycling events for Eaton County, which included coordinating vendors and directing constituents before and after events
- Designed an educational program for elementary school students focusing on energy sustainability and waste reduction

SKILLS

- **Computer Skills:** Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), ArcGIS, MATLAB
- **Instrumental:** X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)
- **Language:** Spanish (speaking and writing: novice)
- **International Experience:** Field work experience assessing water quality infrastructure in Bangladesh; Study abroad focused on sustainable environmental, food, and social systems, Australia (2012); traveled to ten countries in N. America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Water Works Association, 2015-present

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Huron River Watershed Council volunteer, which includes regularly monitoring the flow and water quality of selected sites along the Huron river and its tributaries, 2016 - present
- Member of Sustainability Without Borders at the University of Michigan, which includes working with a team of students and community members to assess the feasibility of creating a clean source of water in Madagascar, 2015 - 2016
- Humane Society volunteer, 2013

REFERENCES

- Available upon request