Elaine Furlan Pegoraro
epegoraro@ufl.edu
407-412-8881
2511 SW 35th Place, Gainesville, FL 32608

EDUCATION

University of Florida: Gainesville, FL 2008-2012

Bachelors of Science, *cum laude*
Major: Environmental Science
Minor: Sustainability
GPA: 3.55
Independent Project: Environmental impacts on litter decomposition in subarctic Alaska

GRANTS

National SMART Grant ($7,000 total) 2009-2011
Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant ($650) 2009

AWARDS

University Scholars Program ($ 1750) 2011
William Bartram Undergraduate Scholarship ($1,800) 2010
Florida Academic Scholars Award ($2000 per year) 2008-2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Laboratory Technician at University of Florida Spring 2012-Present

- Technician for Dr. Ted Schuur at Ecosystem Dynamics Research Laboratory
- Responsible for operating and maintaining an Automated Soil Incubation System that measures carbon efflux and Q10 using an open path infrared gas analyzer (LiCor 820) and a CR1000 data logger; and coordinating, training and mentoring undergraduate volunteers.
- Processed soil cores for long-term incubation study; assembled root ingrowth cores, and filter and litter decomposition bags; sorted roots from soils cores, and measured root surface area and length using WinRhizo; performed cellulose extractions.
- Managed data and references for various projects and proposals

Field Technician at Carbon in Permafrost Experimental Heating Research, Healy, AK Summer 2013

- Measured and sampled ecosystem respiration ^{14}C
- Assisted with daily operations of automated CO_2 sampling system and various measurements at a tundra warming experiment

Student Independent Project, Ecosystem Dynamics Research Laboratory 2011- 2012

- Research project, *Environmental impacts on litter decomposition in subarctic Alaska*

- Performed sequential extractions using the ANKOM fiber analyzer to determine litter composition; determined mass loss from leached litter; measured total organic carbon and total nitrogen in plant leachate using the Shimadzu total organic carbon/ total nitrogen analyzer.
- Spent two weeks in Healy, AK (CiPEHR) and assisted with ecosystem respiration ^{14}C sampling; measured permafrost depth; and sampled methane.

Student: Independent Project, General Ecology: Dr. Ted Schuur Fall 2011

- Research project: *Effects of soil moisture on microbial activity and soil respiration*
- Incubated Florida soils after applying moisture/drying treatments; measured CO_2 flux using a LiCor 6252; analyzed moisture level impact on CO_2 flux using nonlinear regression

Student Independent Project, Coastal Disturbance Ecology: Dr. Jennifer Seavey Spring 2011

- Undergraduate research project, *Effects of water flow on oyster density*
- Project focused on the effects of water flow on *Crassostrea* virginica at the Seahorse Key Marine Lab (located within Cedar Keys Nat'l Wildlife Refuge).

Student Independent Project, Ecosystem Dynamics Research Laboratory: Dr. Ted Schuur 2010-2011

- Research project: *Carbon inventories in Alaskan permafrost soils*
- Sectioned soil cores in depth increments and analyzed subsamples for total soil carbon and nitrogen.

PUBLICATIONS

E. Pegoraro and Hicks, C.E.H. Decay in the Alaskan tundra: the effects of initial litter quality and leaching on long-term plant decomposition. 2013. *University of Florida Journal of Undergraduate Research* **14**(2).

PRESENTATIONS

E. A. G. Schuur , R.G. Bracho, F. Belshe, K.G. Crummer, C.E. Hicks Pries, J. Krapek, S. Natali, **E.Pegoraro**, V. Salmon, C. Trucco, J.G. Vogel, E. Webb. 2013. Long term trends of carbon dioxide exchange in a tundra ecosystem affected by permafrost thaw (poster). American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, California.

E. A. G. Schuur, S. Natali, R. G. Bracho, K.K. Coe, K. G. Crummer, J. Krapek, **E. Pegoraro**, C.E. Hicks Pries, V. Salmon, E. Webb. 2013. The impact of permafrost carbon loss on the carbon balance of an experimentally warmed tundra ecosystem (oral). American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, California.

E. Pegoraro, S. Natali, E.A.G. Schuur. 2013. Response of belowground biomass allocation in Alaska tundra to experimental warming of permafrost (poster). Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, Orlando, Florida.

E. Pegoraro, C. E. Hicks Pries, E.A.G Schuur, M.M. Mack. 2012. Decay in the Alaskan tundra: The effects of initial litter quality and leaching on long-term plant decomposition (oral). Undergraduate Research Assistantship Program, Gainesville, Florida.

E. Pegoraro , C.E. Hicks Pries, and E.A.G. Schuur. 2012. Initial soil carbon and nitrogen pools in an Alaskan tundra warming experiment (poster). Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, Clemson, South Carolina

C.E. Hicks Pries, **E. Pegoraro**, E.A.G. Schuur, M.C. Mack, J. DeMarco. 2012. The effects of permafrost thaw and climate change on decomposition in subarctic tundra (oral). 97nd Annual Meeting of Ecological Society of America, Portland, Oregon.

E. Pegoraro, C. E. Hicks Pries, E.A.G Schuur. 2011. Initial carbon and nitrogen pools in Alaskan tundra warming experiment (poster). Undergraduate Research Assistantship Program, Gainesville, Florida.