
JULISSA ROJAS-SANDOVAL, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2005 – 2010	Ph.D. Biology. Major in Conservation Ecology. University of Puerto Rico.
2001 – 2004	M.Sc. Biology. Major in Cell and Molecular Biology. Universidad de Costa Rica.
1997 – 2001	B.S. Biology. Universidad de Costa Rica.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019 – present	Assistant Research Professor. Institute of the Environment, University of Connecticut.
2017 – present	Research Associate. Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Washington, D.C.
2012 – 2017	Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Washington, D.C.
2010 – 2012	Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2012 – 2017	Postdoctoral Fellowship. Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. \$249,000.
2010 – 2012	Postdoctoral Fellowship. Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation, University of Puerto Rico. \$76,000.

- 2012 Costa Rican National Academy of Sciences. Award Outstanding Young Investigator.
- 2009 – 2010 Dissertation Fellowship Award. Dean for Graduate Studies and Research. University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. \$11,000.
- 2008 – 2009 Award for Exceptional Academics and Merit Executories for Graduate Students. Dean for Graduate Studies and Research. University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. \$13,000.
- 2002 Graduate Research Fellowship, Organization for Tropical Studies. Course: Ecology of Amazonian Ecosystems. OTS-02-13.
- 2001 Graduate Fellowship Award. Dean of Graduate Studies (Vicerrectoría de Investigación). Universidad de Costa Rica. \$1000.
- 2000 Research Undergraduate Fellowship. Research Experiences for Undergraduate Students. Universidad de Costa Rica. Summer School Research and Field Biology. Golfito, Costa Rica.

RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

- 2020 Monitoring grass invaded habitats on Mona Island. U.S. Wildlife Restoration Program. PR-W-F20AF00016. PI: Julissa Rojas-Sandoval and Elvia Meléndez-Ackerman. \$55,793.
- 2017 Caribbean Invasive Plant Species. USDA-APHIS. PI: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Collaborator: Julissa Rojas-Sandoval. \$233,000.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2017 – present Research Associate at the Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.
Projects: (1) Factors explaining the naturalization and invasion of alien plants in the West Indies. (2) Invasive plants in the West Indies: Compilation of datasheets for CABI-Invasive Species Compendium.
Collaboration with Dr. Pedro Acevedo (SI), Hilda Diaz-Soltero (USDA), Lucinda Charles and Gareth Richards (CABI), James Ackerman and Raymond Tremblay (University of Puerto Rico).
- 2012 – 2017 Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Botany, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.
Project: Invasive plants in the West Indies: Compilation of datasheets for CABI-Invasive Species Compendium.
Collaboration with Dr. Pedro Acevedo (SI), Hilda Diaz-Soltero (USDA), Lucinda Charles and Gareth Richards (CABI).

- 2010 – 2012 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation, University of Puerto Rico.
Projects: (1) Vegetation community dynamics of a tropical semiarid system following experimental removals of exotic grasses. (2) The impact of feral ungulates on Mona Island vegetation.
- 2005 – 2010 Graduate Student Researcher, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.
Advisor: Elvia Meléndez-Ackerman, Ph.D.
Dissertation title: Identification and evaluation of vulnerability factors affecting the Caribbean cactus species *Harrisia portoricensis*.
Field-work performed at Mona Island Reserve, Puerto Rico.
- 2005 – 2007 Graduate Research Assistant, Tropical Plant Ecology and Evolution Laboratory, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.
Project Director: Elvia Meléndez-Ackerman, Ph.D. Topic: Micro-morphological characterization of the vegetation of Mona Island Reserve, Puerto Rico.
- 2001 – 2004 Graduate Research Assistant, Escuela de Biología, Universidad de Costa Rica. Advisors: Jorge A. Lobo-Segura, Ph.D. and Mauricio Quesada, Ph.D. Topic: Reproductive biology and phenology of *Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae) in two life zones of Costa Rica. Field-work performed at Osa Peninsula and Guanacaste, Costa Rica.
- 2001 – 2002 Graduate Research Assistant, Escuela de Biología, Universidad de Costa Rica and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.
Project Directors: Mauricio Quesada and Jorge A. Lobo-Segura
Topic: Effects of fragmentation and spatial isolation on the reproductive success of trees in the Bombacaceae family.
- 1998 – 2000 Undergraduate Research Assistant, National Museum of Costa Rica
Department of Natural History, San José, Costa Rica.
Project Director: Bernal Rodríguez, Ph.D.
Activities performed: Museum curator (mammals and birds).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2007 – 2008 Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. Courses: Biology I and II and General Ecology.
- 2004 – 2005 Coordinator and Educator of the Environmental Education Program, Neotropica Foundation. Tropical Center, Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica.
- 2004 Teaching Assistant, Organization for Tropical Studies. Tropical Ecology and Conservation Course. OTS-ETC 04-2. Costa Rica.
- 2003 – 2004 Instructor of Biology and General Science at middle- and high-school levels. Public High-School of Puerto Jiménez, Península de Osa, Costa Rica.

PUBLICATIONS

27. Franklin J., Andrade R., Daniels M.L., Fairbairn P., Fandino M.C., Gillespie T.W., González G., Gonzalez O., Imbert D., Kapos V., Kelly D.L., Marcano-Vega H., Meléndez-Ackerman E.J., McLaren K.P., McDonald M.A., Ripplinger J., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Ross M.S., Ruiz J., Steadman D.W., Tanner E.V.J, Terrill I., Vennetier M. 2018. Geographical ecology of dry forest tree communities in the West Indies. *Journal of Biogeography*, 45(5):1168-81 doi.org/10.1111/jbi.13198
26. Seebens H., Blackburn T.M., Dyer E.E., Genovesi P., Hulme P.E., Jeschke J.M., Pagad S., Pyšek P., Winter M., Arianoutsou M., Bacher S., Brundu G., Capinha C., Celesti-Grapow L., Dawson W., Dullinger S., Fuentes N., Jäger H., Kartesz J., Kenis M., Kühn I., Liebhold A., Mosena A., Nishino M., Pearman D., Pergl J., Rabitsch W., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Roques A., Rorke S., Rossinelli S, Roy H.E., Scalera R., Schindler S., Štajerová K., Tokarska-Guzik B., van Kleunen M., Walker K., Yamanaka T. and Essl F, 2018. Global rise in emerging alien species results from increased accessibility of new source pools. *PNAS*, 115(10): 201719429 DOI:10.1073/pnas.1719429115
25. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Tremblay R.L., Acevedo-Rodríguez P., and Diaz-Soltero H. 2017. Invasive plant species in the West Indies: geographical, ecological and floristic insights. *Ecology and Evolution* 7: 4522–4533.
24. Seebens H., Blackburn T.M., Dyer E.E., Genovesi P., Hulme P.E., Jeschke J.M., Pagad S., Pyšek P., Winter M., Arianoutsou M., Bacher S., Brundu G., Capinha C., Celesti-Grapow L., Dawson W., Dullinger S., Fuentes N., Jäger H., Kartesz J., Kenis M., Kühn I., Liebhold A., Mosena A., Nishino M., Pearman D., Pergl J., Rabitsch W., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Roques A., Rorke S., Rossinelli S, Roy H.E., Scalera R., Schindler S., Štajerová K., Tokarska-Guzik B., van Kleunen M., Walker K., Yamanaka T. and Essl F. 2017. No saturation in the accumulation of alien species worldwide. *Nature Communications* 8:14435 | DOI: 10.1038/ncomms14435
23. Ackerman JD., Tremblay RL., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, and Hernández-Figueroa H. 2017. Biotic resistance in the tropics: patterns of seed plants invasions within an island. *Biological Invasions* 19: 315-328.
22. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Meléndez-Ackerman E., Anglés-Alcázar D. 2016. Assessing the impact of grass invasion on the population dynamics of a threatened Caribbean dry forest cactus. *Biological Conservation* 196: 156-164.
21. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Meléndez-Ackerman E., Fumero-Cabán J, García-Bermúdez M, Sustache J, Aragón S, Morales-Vargas M, Olivieri G, and Fernández DS. 2016. Long-term understory vegetation dynamics and responses to ungulate exclusion in the dry forest of Mona Island. *Caribbean Naturalist* 1:138–156.
20. Meléndez-Ackerman E., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Fernández D.S., González G., López H., Sustache J., Morales M., García-Bermúdez M., and Aragón S. 2016. Associations between soil variables and vegetation structure and composition of Caribbean dry forests. *Caribbean Naturalist* 1:176–198.
19. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Acevedo-Rodríguez P. 2015. Naturalization and invasion of alien plants in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. *Biological Invasion* 17: 149-163.

18. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Meléndez-Ackerman E., Fumero-Cabán J., García-Bermúdez M.A., Sustache, J., Aragón, S., Morales, M., and Fernández, D.S. 2014. Effects of hurricane disturbance and feral goat herbivory on the structure of a Caribbean dry forest. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 25: 1066-1077.
17. Moreno L.M., Meléndez-Ackerman E., Cheleuitte C., Lastra L., Rodríguez R., and **Rojas-Sandoval J.** 2014. Potential impacts of the invasive grass *Megathyrsus maximus* (Poaceae) on ground-dwelling arthropods in a Caribbean dry forest. *Caribbean Naturalist* 7: 1-15. *Lead by undergraduate students.
16. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2013. Population dynamics of a threatened cactus species: general assessment and effects of matrix dimensionality. *Population Ecology* 55: 479-491.
15. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2013. Spatial patterns of distribution and abundance of *Harrisia portoricensis*, an endangered Caribbean Cactus. *Journal of Plant Ecology*, doi: 10.1093/jpe/rtt014.
14. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2012. Effects of an invasive grass on the demography of the Caribbean cactus *Harrisia portoricensis*: implications for cacti conservation. *Acta Oecologica* 41: 30-38.
13. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2012. Factors affecting establishment success of the endangered Caribbean cactus *Harrisia portoricensis*. *Revista de Biología Tropical* 60: 867-879.
12. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Meléndez-Ackerman E., and Fernández D.S. 2012. Plan community dynamics of a tropical semi-arid system following experimental removals of an exotic grass. *Applied Vegetation Science* 15: 513-524, doi: 10.1111/j.1654-109X.2012.01199.x.
11. Curbelo-Rodríguez J., Meléndez-Ackerman E., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, and Segarra-Carmona A. 2012. New Record of *Cybocephalus kathrynae* (Coleoptera: Cybocephalidae) on Mona Island, Puerto Rico. *Revista Brasileira de Entomologia* 56: 119-121.
*Lead by undergraduate student.
10. Guerrero P.C., Carvallo G.O., Nassar J.M., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Sanz V., and Medel R. 2011. Ecology and evolution of negative and positive interactions in Cactaceae: lesson and pending tasks. *Plant Ecology and Diversity*, doi:10.1080/17550874.2011.630426.
9. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2011. Reproductive phenology of the Caribbean cactus *Harrisia portoricensis*: rainfall and temperature associations. *Botany* 89: 861-871.
8. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2011. Reproductive wind-facilitated self-pollination in *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae): A mechanism for reproductive assurance. *International Journal of Plant Reproductive Biology* 3: 1-5.
7. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2011. Notes on the natural history of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae): a general update including specific recommendations for management and conservation. *Caribbean Journal of Science* 47: 118-123.
6. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** 2010. Natural history of the threatened cactus species *Harrisia portoricensis*. *Kaktusy i Inne*. *Journal of Polish Cactus and Succulent Society* 7: 4-8.

5. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and Meléndez-Ackerman E. 2009. Pollination biology of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae), an endangered Caribbean species. *American Journal of Botany* 96: 2270-2278.
4. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Budde K., Fernández M., Chacón E., Quesada M. and Lobo J.A. 2008. Phenology and pollination biology of *Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae) in the wet forest of southeastern Costa Rica. *In: Weisserhofer A., W. Huber, V. Mayer, S. Pamperl, A. Weber and G. Aubrecht (Eds). Natural and Cultural History of the Golfo Dulce Region, Costa Rica*, pp 539-545. *Staphia* 88, Freistadt, Austria.
3. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Lobo J.A., and Quesada M. 2008. Phenological patterns and reproductive success of *Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae) in tropical dry and wet forests of Costa Rica. *Revista Chilena de Historia Natural* 81: 443-454.
2. Meléndez-Ackerman E., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, and Planas S. 2008. Self-compatibility of microgametophytes in *Heliconia bihaii* (Heliconiaceae) from St. Lucia. *Caribbean Journal of Science* 44: 145-149.
1. Lobo, J.A., Quesada M., Stoner K., Fuchs E., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, and Saborío G. 2003. Factors affecting phenological patterns of Bombacaceous trees in seasonal forest in Costa Rica and Mexico. *American Journal of Botany* 90: 1054-1063.

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED AND IN PREPARATION

4. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Ackerman J.D, and Tremblay, L.R. Island biogeography of native and alien plant species: contrasting drivers of diversity across the Lesser Antilles. Manuscript submitted to *Diversity and Distributions*.
 3. Meléndez-Ackerman E.J. and **Rojas-Sandoval J.** Profiling Native And Introduced Garden Plant In Puerto Rican Urban Residential Yards. Manuscript submitted to *Journal of Urban Ecology*.
 2. **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, et al. Plant invasion success across the Caribbean Islands: the role of habitat and species traits. Manuscript in preparation.
 1. Pérez M.E., Bonilla A.I., Meléndez-Ackerman E., Correa N., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Díaz G., Merced J., González S.V., Ledesma N., Suárez M., Torres A., Ruiz J., Méndez J.A., Sanfiorenzo C., and Torres-Santana C.W. Population assessment of *Eugenia fajardensis* (Myrtaceae), an endemic and rare Caribbean tree. Manuscript in preparation.
- *Lead by graduate students.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

Rojas-Sandoval J. 2012-2020. Invasive Plant Species in the West Indies: revision of the distribution, invasion status, history of introduction, habitat preferences, and management recommendations for 425 plant species behaving as invasive on Caribbean islands. Technical reports commissioned by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Smithsonian Institution, and the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI). Invasive species datasheets available online at the [CABI Invasive Species Compendium](http://www.cabi.org/isc/) (<http://www.cabi.org/isc/>).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES – WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS ATTENDED

- Sept 2012 Workshop title: Invasive Species Compendium and its use to support decision making in Invasive Alien Species management and reporting in the Caribbean. CABI -International. St. Georges, Grenada.
- Mar 2012 Workshop title: International Environmental Law and Legal Instruments for the Environmental Protection. Workshop headed by Dr. María Giménez, Universidad de Murcia, Spain. Sponsored by the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Jun 2011 Workshop title: Introduction to Multilevel Linear Models. Curran-Bauer Analytics, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA.
- Apr 2011 Workshop title: Conservation Ethics. Training workshop headed by Dr. Michael P. Nelson and Dr. John A. Vucetich. Sponsored by the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Oct 2009 Course in Presentation and Discussion Skills. Center for English as a Second Language. University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA.
- Sep 2009 MATLAB Basics for Graduate Students. A free series of introductory MATLAB workshops, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA.
- Apr 2009 Landscape Ecology: Theoretical and Practical Course. Museo de Historia Natural Noel Kempff, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.
- Feb 2009 Workshop title: Reproductive Biology and Population Genetics of Angiosperms in Neotropical Arid Ecosystems. Sponsored by the Institute for Tropical Ecosystem Studies, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Jul 2005 Summer Teaching and Mentoring Training. Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), University of Puerto Rico.
- Mar 2001 Workshop title: Topics in Biostatistics. Sponsored by the Escuela de Biología, Universidad de Costa Rica.

ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

- Aug 2019 Plant invasions on Caribbean islands: the role of habitat and species traits. Conference: Puerto Rico Honey Bees and Evolution of Invasive Organisms on Islands. August 13-15, 2019. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Invited talk.
https://prhb.cs.fiu.edu/Conference_Program.html
- Apr 2019 Plant Invasions in the West Indies: what, why, and where? Puerto Rico Invasive Species Awareness. San Juan, April 25-26. Invited talk.

- Jul 2017 Invasive Plants of the Caribbean: Application of Herbarium Collections to Protected a Regional Biodiversity Hotspot. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, P. Acevedo-Rodríguez, H. Diaz-Soltero, L. Charles, E. Ventosa-Febles, J.D. Ackerman, et al. Island Invasives Conference 2017. University of Dundee, Scotland. Poster.
- Oct 2016 Invasive Plant Species in the West Indies. H. Diaz-Soltero, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, P. Acevedo-Rodríguez. USDA/APHIS Project on Invasive Species. Washington DC. Oral presentation.
- Aug 2015 Population assessment of *Eugenia fajardensis* (Myrtaceae), an endemic and rare Caribbean tree. A.I. Bonilla Pizarro, J.C. Merced, M.E. Pérez, E.J. Meléndez-Ackerman, N. Correa, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, G. Díaz, S.V. González, N. Ledesma, M. Suárez, A. Torres, J. Ruiz, J.A. Méndez, C. Sanfiorenzo, C.W. Torres-Santana. AKKA-SEEDS Annual Meeting. University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Poster.
- Jun 2014 Ecology and conservation of semiarid ecosystems in the West Indies. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**. CICESE-Ensenada Center for Scientific Research and Higher Education. Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico. Invited talk.
- May 2014 Potential vulnerabilities of the threatened cactus, *Harrisia portoricensis* on Mona Island Reserve. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Invasive Species Symposium. US Fish and Wildlife Service, Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico. Oral presentation.
- Jun 2013 Assessing the influence of hurricane disturbance on Caribbean forest structure: a study case in the dry forest of Mona Island. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**. Annual Meeting of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, New Frontiers in Tropical Biology: The Next 50 Years (A Joint Meeting of ATBC and OTS) San Jose, Costa Rica. Oral Presentation.
- Mar 2013 The African grass, *Megathyrsus maximus* and its negative effects on, *Harrisia portoricensis*, a threatened cactus on Mona Island. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Invasive Species Awareness Week. University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Oral presentation.
- Aug 2011 Vegetation community dynamics of a tropical semi-arid system following experimental removals of an exotic grass. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, E. Meléndez-Ackerman and D.S. Fernández. Ecological Society of America (ESA) 96th Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas. Oral presentation.
- Oct 2010 Demographic parameters of the endemic cactus *Harrisia portoricensis* in areas invaded by the exotic grass *Megathyrsus maximus*. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Symposium: Ecology and evolution of mutualistic and antagonistic interactions in Cactaceae. X Latin-American Botanical Congress. La Serena, Chile. Invited talk.
- Nov 2009 Factors affecting seed germination and seedling establishment of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae) on Mona Island. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Annual Symposium of the Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Poster.

- Nov 2009 Pollination biology of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae), an endangered Caribbean species. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Annual Symposium of the Center for Applied Tropical Ecology and Conservation, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Poster.
- Aug 2009 Seed rain and phenology in an invasive removal experiment on Mona Island Reserve, Puerto Rico. X.A. Jaime-Davila, D.S. Fernández, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Ecological Society of America (ESA) 94th Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Poster.
- Mar 2008 Identification and evaluation of vulnerability factors in the endemic island cactus *Harrisia portoricensis*. **J. Rojas Sandoval** and E. Melendez-Ackerman. Institute for Tropical Ecosystems Studies: Monthly Meeting –University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Oral presentation.
- May 2008 Reproductive Biology of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cataceae): An endemic island cactus. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** AKKA-SEEDS Annual Meeting University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Invited talk.
- Oct 2007 Reproductive Biology and Population Dynamics of *Harrisia portoricensis* (Cactaceae). **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Symposium: Department of Natural Resources and Environment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Poster.
- Aug 2007 Pollination Biology of *Harrisia portoricensis*, a Rare Island Endemic Cactus. **Rojas-Sandoval J.** and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Simposium: Institute for Tropical Ecosystems Studies, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Poster.
- Jul 2007 Integrated Conservation and Development Projects (ICDPs): A new view for the future of biodiversity projects. Sanfiorenzo C. and **J. Rojas-Sandoval**. Annual Meeting of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Morelia, Michoacán, México. Poster.
- Mar 2007 Qualitative and quantitative micromorphological characteristics used to identify plant species in tropical dry forests. C. Sanfiorenzo, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, L.M. Báez, S. Sánchez, A. Noriega, and E. Melendez-Ackerman. 27th Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM) at Universidad Interamericana de Bayamón. Poster.
- Mar 2007 Analysis of vegetation structure of the dry Forests of Mona Island using hemispherical photographs. Rodríguez J, Sanchez G., Ortiz L., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Fumero J. 27th Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM) at Universidad Interamericana de Bayamón, Puerto Rico. Poster.
- Jun 2006 Phenological patterns and reproductive success of *Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae) in tropical dry and wet forests of Costa Rica. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, J. Lobo, M. Quesada. IX Latin-American Botanical Congress. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Poster.
- Jun 2006 Micro-morphological characterization of the vegetation of Mona Island. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, C. Sanfiorenzo, and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. IX Latin-American Botanical Congress. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Poster.
- Apr 2006 Using micromorphological characterization of vegetation to determining diet composition of feral goats at Mona Island Reserve. E. Meléndez-Ackerman, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, C.

Sanfiorenzo-Barnhard, A. Noriega, S. Rivera, and D.S. Fernández. 1st NSF-CATEC Symposium-UPR-Rio Piedras, San Juan. Poster.

- Mar 2006 Diet composition of feral goats introduced on Mona Island, Puerto Rico. A.M. Noriega, S. Rivera, C. Sanfiorenzo, C. Fuentes, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, E. Meléndez-Ackerman, and D. Fernández. Junior Technical Meeting/PRISM-2006 at University of Puerto Rico, Cayey. Oral presentation.
- Mar 2006 Using micromorphological characterization of vegetation to determining diet composition of feral goats at Mona Island Reserve. C. Sanfiorenzo, C. Fuentes, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, and E. Meléndez-Ackerman. Junior Technical Meeting/PRISM-2006, University of Puerto Rico, Cayey. Oral presentation.
- Mar 2006 Diet Composition of feral goats introduced on Mona Island, Puerto Rico. A.M. Noriega, S. Rivera, C. Sanfiorenzo, C. Fuentes, **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, E. Meléndez-Ackerman, and D. Fernández. Conference of the Western Alliance to Expand Student Opportunies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. Poster.
- Sep 2005 Phenological patterns and reproductive success of *Ceiba pentandra* trees in tropical dry forest of Costa Rica. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, J. Lobo and M. Quesada. Biolunch: Talk Series, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Oral presentation.
- Jul 2004 Phenological patterns and reproductive success of *Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae) in tropical dry and wet forests of Costa Rica. **J. Rojas-Sandoval** and J. Lobo. Simposio de Biología y Conservación. Universidad de Costa Rica. Oral presentation.
- May 2002 Effects of forest fragmentation in the reproductive biology of *Ceiba pentandra* trees (Bombacaceae) in two life zones of Costa Rica. **J. Rojas-Sandoval**, J. Lobo and M. Quesada. Conferences in Ecology: Conservation of Amazonian Ecosystems-OTS. Universidad de la Amazonía Peruana, Iquitos, Perú. Oral presentation.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (First language), English (Fluent).
Computer applications: SAS, JMP, PC-ORD, MATLAB, GS++, SigmaPlot.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS - MEMBERSHIPS

Ecological Society of America
Botanical Society of America
The Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation
The Society of Plant Reproductive Biologists
Asociación Latinoamericana de Botánica
Sociedad Latinoamericana de Cactáceas y Suculentas (regional delegate for Costa Rica)

INVITED PEER-REVIEWER

Allelopathy Journal
American Journal of Botany
Applied Ecology
Boletín de la Sociedad Latinoamericana de Cactáceas y Suculentas
Caribbean Journal of Science
Caribbean Naturalist
Guyana Botánica
Haseltonia
International Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation
Journal of Pollination Ecology
Neotropical Biodiversity
Plant Ecology
Plant Ecology and Diversity
Population Ecology
Revista de Biología Tropical
The Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society
The International Journal of Plant Reproductive Biology

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Volunteer: Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) at Mona Island Reserve. Southern Research Station and IITF US-Forest Service. April 2008.

Invited speaker: AKKA-SEEDS Monthly Conference. Talk title: Bat diversity and distribution in caves and the impacts of humans in bat behavior. February 2008. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Invited speaker: AKKA-SEEDS Monthly Conference. Talk title: Mona Island: Natural Research Laboratory in the Caribbean. March 2007. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Environmental Educator: Environmental Education Program for public elementary schools. Program sponsored by the non-profit organization Fundación Neotropica. January-December 2004. Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica.

Ecological Tourism Advisor. Osa Tropical Co. March 2003-June 2004. Puerto Jiménez, Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica.

Volunteer: Project of Environmental Education and Interpretation in Protected Zones of Costa Rica. Barra Honda National Park. Sistema de Áreas de Conservación de Costa Rica y Universidad de Costa Rica. June-July 2000.

Volunteer: Association of Volunteers for Service at Protected Areas of Costa Rica (ASVO Costa Rica). 1997-2005. San José, Costa Rica. Participation includes environmental law enforcement in natural protected areas and act as a facilitator in conservation and educational activities.

NON-INDEXED PUBLICATIONS

García-Rivas A., Mori G.M., González-Carcacia J., **Rojas-Sandoval J.**, Pereira de Souza A., Mavárez J., and Nassar J.M. 2012. Ensayos preliminares con microsatélites de *Kalanchoe daigremontiana* sugieren baja variabilidad genética en localidades colonizadas en la región del Caribe. Boletín de la Red Latinoamericana para el Estudio de Plantas Invasoras 2: 4-11.

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