

EDELI TUREYGUA *(THEY/ELLO)*

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Passionate nonprofit leader with 8+ years of training and experience in ecological field and lab research (wildlife, plants, soils), community surveying, conservation, wildlife rehabilitation and husbandry, remote sensing, GIS, and urban socio-ecological data analysis. Experienced in leading field crews, facilitating educational instruction, managing research projects, and communicating findings to both scientific and public audiences. Deeply interested in using holistic frameworks that integrate wellness, community development, and science to create healthy and resilient communities in Miami, FL and urban areas of Puerto Rico.

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University (JHU) , Baltimore, MD <i>Master of Arts</i> Program: Earth and Planetary Sciences (<i>Doctoral</i>)	Dec 2022
California State University – Los Angeles , CA <i>Master of Science</i> Program: Environmental Science, Biology Track	May 2021
Tufts University , Medford, MA <i>Bachelor of Science</i> Majors: Biopsychology & Environmental Studies, Science Track	May 2018
Miami-Dade College – North , Miami, FL <i>Associate of Arts</i> Major: Biology	May 2014

HONORS & AWARDS

The Joan Ehrenfeld Award for Best Student Presentation in Urban Ecology (ESA)	2021
Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) MS-to-PhD Training Fellowship	2019 – 2020
Emeriti Fellowship Fund	2019
Graduate Equity Fellowship	2019
The 50th Class Reunion Scholarship	2019
Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship	2017

RESEARCH GRANTS

JHU Earth & Planetary Sciences Graduate Summer Field Grant	2021, 2023
Society for Conservation Biology Graduate Research Grant	2019
Santa Monica Audubon Society Research Grant	2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Nonprofit Management Training, 2025
NonprofitReady

- Nonprofit Essentials
- Nonprofit Board Member Essentials
- Financial Management Essentials
- Marketing Essentials
- Grant Seeking Essentials
- Leadership Essentials
- Fundraising Essentials

Statistical & Data Analysis: Advanced biostatistical analysis, data visualization, GIS, spatial analysis, remote sensing, habitat assessment using image classification analysis

Lab Techniques: PCR, DNA extraction & quantification, gel electrophoresis, soil physicochemical analysis

Field Methods: Soil coring, plant identification, plant and bird community surveys, vegetation sampling, soil macrofauna collection, wildlife observations

Computer & Software: R, ArcGIS Pro, Microsoft

Office, Python (basic), GIMP, Audacity, HTML, CSS,
Zotero

Languages: English & Spanish (native)

RESEARCH & FIELD EXPERIENCE

Johns Hopkins University, *Graduate Research Assistant* (2 labs), Baltimore, MD Aug 2020 – Jun 2023

- Led interdisciplinary research on urban plant and soil ecology, integrating field surveys, remote sensing analysis, and molecular techniques to understand socio-ecological patterns in Baltimore.
- Coordinated small field teams, homeowner outreach and surveys, and vegetation sampling campaigns in residential yards.
- Led and instructed small group to conduct plant surveys in Baltimore residential yards, including: lawn quadrats, tree ID and DBH measurements, and shrub and flowering plant ID.
- Used remote sensing and classification analysis to quantify vegetation and impervious cover in Baltimore city.
- Collected soil macrofauna samples and helped conduct grassland plant ID at Konza Prairie LTER.
- Extracted and quantified soil microbial DNA from Konza Prairie soil samples.
- Took soil cores in Baltimore vacant lots and parks.
- Analyzed plant community and soil property data using R.
- Planned and developed various project ideas related to site- and landscape-level socio-ecological patterns in the urban environment.

California State University – Los Angeles, *Graduate Research Assistant* (2 labs) Aug 2018 – May 2020

- Performed and troubleshoot Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR) and electrophoresis for sex determination of moss.
- Extracted DNA from moss and soil samples for analysis.
- Assisted lab graduate students with GIS applications for their research.
- Created and managed laboratory website, and completed other general lab management tasks.
- Led and trained small undergraduate field teams for multi-year bird and vegetation surveys across 60 parks in Los Angeles County.
- Recorded and transcribed bird foraging observations in parks.
- Identified, measured (diameter at breast height), and mapped all trees in parks within initial bird survey path.
- Analyzed survey data using R and used ArcGIS for spatial and remote sensing analysis.
- Connected findings on urban parks and bird diversity to implications for equitable access to green space and community well-being.
- Produced a thesis research paper and presented work at a national conference.

Tufts University, *Research Assistant*, Medford, MA Jan 2017 – May 2018

- Studied occluded action discrimination in pigeons using operant conditioning.
- Analyzed and interpreted data using R.
- Presented research in the form of a poster at conferences and symposia.
- Provided daily care of birds, including daily weighing, feeding, cleaning, and

enrichment.

- Completed general lab maintenance tasks.

School for Field Studies, *Student Researcher*, Karatu, Tanzania

Jun 2017 – Aug 2017

- Completed coursework in ‘Wildlife Management and Conservation’ and ‘Field Research Techniques’.
- Conducted vegetation and wildlife identification and sampling.
- Studied density and habitat preferences of wildlife species.
- Studied bird diversity and carnivore/ungulate behavior in Serengeti National Park.
- Gathered community insights, experiences, and perspectives to inform data analysis related to local wildlife and resource management.
- Gained skills in experimental design, hypothesis testing, and data gathering and analysis.

WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE

Museum of Science, *Live Animal Center Intern*, Boston, MA

Oct 2016 – Dec 2016

Cleaned and maintained animal enclosures and exhibits, prepared diets and fed animals, assisted with record keeping and monitoring, and provided enrichment while learning proper handling techniques for a variety of species.

South Florida Wildlife Center, *Nursery Intern*, Fort Lauderdale, FL

May 2015 – Aug 2015

Cleaned and set up habitats for orphaned wildlife, prepared diets and formulas and hand-fed animals, handled small mammals and birds for weighing and transfers, documented care and observations, assisted with routine exams (including overnight care for newborns), and supported general housekeeping.

Stone Zoo, *Zoo-Keeper Aide*, Stoneham, MA

Jan 2015 – May 2015

Prepared diets and enrichment items, cleaned enclosures and exhibits, engaged visitors in conversations about wildlife conservation, and assisted with general animal care, safety, and housekeeping tasks.

Zoo Miami, *Conservation Teen Scientist*, Miami, FL

Jan 2013 – Mar 2014

Engaged ~100 visitors per day using animal models and artifacts to promote awareness of endangered species and wildlife conservation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Instruction

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, *Teaching Assistant* (Aug 2021 – May 2023)

California State University – Los Angeles, *Graduate Assistant* (Aug 2018 – Jun 2019)

K-12 Education

Kelly Education, Miami-Dade County, FL, *K-12 Substitute Teacher* (Aug 2024 – Present)

Los Angeles Department of Parks & Recreation, CA, *ESTEAM Curriculum Instructor* (Jun – Aug 2019)

PUBLICATIONS

Vasquez AV and Wood EM. 2022. Urban parks are a refuge for birds in park-poor areas of cities. *Front. Ecol. Evol.* 10:958572. doi: [10.3389/fevo.2022.958572](https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.958572)

PRESENTATIONS

Department Talk, **JHU Earth & Planetary Sciences Journal Club**, Baltimore, MD (March 2023)

Light, not Blight: An investigation into the microbial communities of Baltimore vacant lots

Department Talk, **JHU Earth & Planetary Sciences Journal Club**, Baltimore, MD (February 2022)

Planting Resilient Cities: The ecological effects of race and wealth disparities in Baltimore

Conference Talk, **Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting**, Long Beach, CA (August 2021)

The influence of urban park features and the surrounding cityscape on birds across a socioeconomic gradient

Poster Presentation, **International Conference on Comparative Cognition**, Melbourne Beach, FL (April 2018)

Partially Occluded Action Discrimination in Pigeons

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Angelic Musings y Virtudes (nonprofit in development), Miami, FL & Puerto Rico

Founder & Director (Aug 2023 – Present)

Leading the development of a community-based organization that weaves holistic healing, collective empowerment, and socio-ecological research into programs that promote wellness, connection, and socio-environmental regeneration for BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and diffabled (disabled) communities.

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Baltimore, MD

Graduate Student Co-President (Aug 2021 – Jul 2022)

Led and organized 50+ graduate students; mediated between students and faculty/administration; coordinated committees and departmental events.

Women of Color in Ecology, Evolution, & Biology, Virtual

Mentor (Jan 2022 – May 2022)

Provided monthly mentorship and professional guidance to Master's student in ecology.

Johns Hopkins University, Graduate Representative Organization, Baltimore, MD

Department General Council Representative (Aug 2020 – May 2021)

Represented department's graduate students in general council meetings; voted on initiatives to benefit students; participated in bi-weekly meetings to advocate for funding and student interests.

California State University – Los Angeles, Environmental Policy Committee

Committee Member (Aug 2019 – May 2020)

Collaborated with administrators to develop and implement campus sustainability policies; educated campus community on environmental justice and stewardship.

California State University – Los Angeles, Naturalist Club

Treasurer (Apr 2019 – Dec 2019)

Led funding approvals and planning for club events, including monthly field trips to California's native ecosystems and a faculty/graduate student panel on ecological careers and research.