Alejandra C. Ortiz

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Appointments

Assistant Professor, Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, North Carolina State University. 2017-Present

National Center for Earth Surface Dynamics 2 Synthesis Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Geological Sciences at Indiana University. 2015 – 2016. Adviser: Dr. Doug Edmonds

Education

- Ph.D. MIT-WHOI Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science & Engineering. 2010 2015. Marine Geology & Geophysics Department. Investigating the Evolution and Formation of Coastlines and the Response to Sea-Level Rise. Dr. Andrew D. Ashton.
- M.S. **MIT**. 2011 2012. Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. Investigation of the Effect of a Circular Patch of Vegetation on Turbulence Generation & Sediment Deposition Using 4 Case Studies. Dr. Heidi M. Nepf.
- B.A. Wellesley College. 2006 2010. Geosciences & Classical Civilizations. Honors in Geosciences & cum laude. Sigma Psi. Senior Thesis in Geosciences. Investigating the Effect of Wave Energy on Coastal Morphology & Beach Sedimentology Using Real and Modeled Wave Data. Dr. Britt Argow.

Research Interests

- Coastal Geomorphology
- Numerical Modeling
- · Coastal Response to Climate Change
- Fluvial Ecogeomorphology
- Coastal Engineering

Teaching Experience

and Experience	
• Professor. NCSU – CE 583. Coastal Processes with Engineering Applications. Graduate	2017
Seminar and student-led journal paper discussion.	
 Professor. NCSU – CE 487. Introduction to Coastal and Ocean Engineering. 79 	2017
undergraduate students. Senior elective course.	
• Co-Taught Software Bootcamp – Summer Institute of Earth Surface Dynamics, co-taught	2016
seminar on introduction to python and git-bash computing. Graduate students	
• Teaching Assistant. MIT – 12.717. Coastal Geomorphology. Planned class field trip, planed	2015
and graded homework assignments. Graduate students.	
• Teaching Assistant. MIT – 1.69. Transport Processes in the Environment. Planned and	2013
prepped 1 lab and 2 lectures. Undergraduates.	
• Teaching Assistant. MIT – 12.747. Modeling, Data Analysis, and Numerical Techniques for	2012
Geochemistry. MatLab Programming. Graduate students.	
• Teaching Assistant. Wellesley College – CS 112. Computation for the Sciences. MatLab	2009-2010
Programming. Undergraduates.	

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Ortiz, A. C., S. Roy, and D. A. Edmonds (2017), Land loss by pond expansion on the Mississippi River Delta Plain, Geophysical Research Letters, 44, 3635–3642, doi:10.1002/2017GL073079.
- Cuvelier, M. L., Guo, J., Ortiz, A. C., Van Baren, M. J., Tariq, M. A., Partensky, F., & Worden, A. Z. (2017). Responses of the picoprasinophyte Micromonas commoda to light and ultraviolet stress. *PloS one*, 12(3), e0172135.
- Ortiz, A. C., and A. D. Ashton (2016), Exploring shoreface dynamics and a mechanistic explanation for a morphodynamic depth of closure, Journal of Geophysical Research: Earth Surface, 121(2), 442–462, doi:10.1002/2015JF003699.
- Ortiz, A. C., A. Ashton, H. Nepf. Mean and Turbulent Velocity Fields Near Rigid and Flexible Plants, and the Implications for Deposition. Journal of Geophysical Research: Earth Surface. *118*(4). 2013
- Chen, Z., **Ortiz, A. C.**, Zong, L., & Nepf, H. (2012), The wake structure behind a porous obstruction and its implications for deposition near a finite patch of emergent vegetation, WRR.

• Cuvelier, M. L., Ortiz, A. C., Kim, E., Moehlig, H., Richardson, D. E., Heidelberg, J. F., Archibald, J. M. & Worden, A. Z. (2008), Widespread distribution of a unique marine protistan lineage, Environmental microbiology, 10(6), 1621-1634.

Submitted Publications

- Ferdowsi, B., Gartner, J.D., Johnson, K.N., Kasprak, A., Limaye, A.B., Miller, K.L., Nardin, W., Ortiz, A.C., Perignon, M., and Tejedor, A., 2017, Earthcasting: Geomorphic Prediction for Society: Earth's Future, (Submitted).
- Ortiz, A. C. and A. D. Ashton, Understanding the Timescales of Morphologic Evolution in the Cross-shore and Long-shore of Sandy Wave-Dominated Coast, Geology. (Submitted).
- Ortiz, A. C. and A. D. Ashton, Exploring Carbonate Reef Flat Hydrodynamics and Formation Mechanisms of Sub-Aerial Land, Marine Geology. (Submitted).
- Roy, S., Edmonds, D.A., Ortiz, A.C., and Robeson, S. Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Wetland Morphology in a Degrading Delta. (In Prep).

Students Supervised

• Ph.D.: Hanieh Moghadam

Masters: Faith Johnson	Current
Grants and Other Funding	
 NC Renewable Ocean Energy Program (NCROEP). MHK Structure-Sloping Seabed: Response, Instability and Sediment Transport. \$75,000, 3 Co-PIs, \$32,000 to Ortiz. 	2017
 NC Space Grant Early Career Award. Quantifying Interior Coastal Marsh Loss along North Carolin at Mackay Island and Roanoke Marsh. \$25,000 to Ortiz. 	a 2017
 SEN funding to attend SEN-CSDMS annual meeting & conference. 	2017
 Sediment Experimentalist Network (SEN) funding to attend Community Surface Dynamics Modeling (CSDMS) annual meeting & conference. 	2016
 Indiana University Bloomington Provost Travel Award for Women in Science. 	2016
 National Center for Earth Surface Dynamics 2 (NCED2) Synthesis Postdoctoral Fellow. Earthcastin deltaic land area change in the Mississippi River Deltaic Plain. 	ng 2016
 Indiana University Bloomington Provost Travel Award for Women in Science. 	2015
 Geological Society of America (GSA) Research Grant. Investigating the Evolution and Morphology of Atolls across a range of scales. 	
 Ocean Ventures Fund, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Motu Formation and Evolution with Sea-Level Rise: Investigating Rangiroa and Maupiti. 	2013
 Coastal Ocean Institute, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Motu Formation and Evolution wi Sea-Level Rise: Investigating Atolls in French Polynesia. 	th 2013
 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Grant. Wellesley College. 	2009
 Dean of Wellesley College Student Research Travel Grant. Wellesley College. 	2009
 Annabel Boyce James Fund. Wellesley College. 	2009
 Northeastern Geological Society of America Undergraduate Student Research Grant. 	2009
 Moore Foundation Fellowship. Dr. Alexandra Worden. Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute 	. 2008

Mentoring Activities

- Mentored IU graduate student resulting in 2 papers (1 first-authored by the student) and 2016-Present several poster presentations. Supervised & mentored Carleton student over Spring & Summer for senior capstone project – 2016 resulted in poster presented at GSA. MIT Undergraduate Research Opportunity. Supervised MIT undergrad for 4 weeks of GIS. 2015 • MIT Graduate Women Mentoring Committee. 2014-2015
- Mentoring MIT undergraduate in Geosciences. 2014
- Mentoring MIT undergraduate in Civil and Environmental Engineering. 2013

Invited Talks

• Ortiz, A.C. (2018), Reef Island Self-Organization: Conceptual Model & Analysis. Duke Marine Lab.

Current

- Ortiz, A.C. (2018), Ecogeomorphology: Tools to analyze largescale landscape changes from remote sensing to numerical modeling. University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.
- Ortiz, A.C. (2017), Why do Atolls Look the Way they do?. Science Saturday, Dec. 2. N.C. Space Grant. North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.
- Ortiz, A.C., Roy, S., and Edmonds, D.A. (2017), Marsh Collapse by Pond Expansion on the Mississippi River Delta Plain, Abstract 303557 presented at 2017 Annual Meeting, GSA, Seattle, WA 24 Oct.
- Ortiz, A.C. (2017). Atoll Morphometrics: Why do Atolls and Reef Islands Look the Way they Do, Duke University. Sept. 8.
- Ortiz, A.C. and Edmonds, D.A. (2016). Potential Marsh collapse by Edge Erosion in the Mississippi River Deltaic Plain. University of Central Florida. Oct. 28.

Professional Development

 National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) 12 week Faculty Success Bootcamp. 	2018
 Strategies for a Gender Inclusive Classroom. Reflective Teaching: Student-Centered Learning Environment. NCSU Office of Faculty Development. 	2017
• MentorRings. NCSU wide group-mentoring for early-career faculty.	2017
 New Faculty Orientation. College of Engineering and College of Sciences NCSU. Four Day intensive orientation for new faculty with 2 days focused on teaching led by Dr. Richard Felder. 	2017
 American Geophysical Union (AGU) Annual Meeting: Ecogeomorphology: Sediment-Biota Feedbacks that Shape Land and Seascape. Session Convener and Outstanding Student Presentation Award (OSPA) Liaison and Judge. I co-convened the session and found and organized judges for students presenting oral and poster presentation. 	2016
 National Center Earth Surface Dynamics 2 (NCED2): Summer Institute Earth Surface Dynamics (SIESD) Coupled hydro-eco-geomorphologic processes in human dominated landscapes. I helped teach sections as Postdoctoral researcher for a 2 week summer workshop geared towards graduate students in Earth Surface research. 	2016
• Delft Software Days 2015: Training by Deltares in using Delft3D Modeling software	2015
• Building Future Faculty Program: Hosted by North Carolina State University to prepare students for academia and successful faculty jobs.	2015
 Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI): Coastal Field Methods Course. 2 week course including fieldwork for graduate students. 	2014
 National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) & Cutting Edge: Preparing for an 	2014
 Academic Career in the Geosciences. 3 day workshop. Frameworks Institute & National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation (NNOCCI): Communicating Climate Change. Several workshops and meetings geared towards helping docents communicate climate change to visitors. 	2013
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT): Teaching College-level Engineering & Science. Semester long course for graduate students. 	2012
 National Center Earth Surface Dynamics (NCED): Summer Institute Earth Surface Dynamics (SIESD) Coastal Processes and the Dynamics of Deltaic Systems. 2 week summer workshop geared toward graduate students. 	2011
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT): Path to Professorship. 3 day workshop geared towards helping women in academia.	2011
• Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT): Teaching Certificate. 2 week workshop.	2011
 Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG): Writing Workshop. 5 day writing intensive workshop geared to help women in geosciences. 	2010
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Awards

 American Geophysical Union (AGU) Outstanding Student Presentation Award (OSPA). 2012 Turbulence & Mean Velocity near Rigid & Flexible Plants, and Implications for deposition.

• National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF-GRF). Honorable	2011
Mention. Investigating Barrier Island Evolution with Accelerated Sea Level Rise using an	
Alongshore-Coupled Morphodynamic Model.	
• Sigma Xi.	2010
Cum Laude. Wellesley College.	2010
Geoscience Department Honors. Wellesley College.	2010
Sara F. Langer Memorial Award in Geosciences. Wellesley College	2009
Academic Achievement Award Wellesley College	2009 & 2010

Professional Service

• Steering Committee to plan River Coastal Estuarine Morphodynamics (RCEM 2019)	2017-Present
Conference in Auckland, NZ.	
• Faculty Liaison to Student Groups and Advisory Board in CCEE Department at NCSU.	2017
• Undergraduate Programs Committee – helping to plan curricula for undergraduate majors in	2017
Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering (CCEE) Department at NCSU.	
• Reviewer for national Science Foundation, American Chemical Society, Bioinspiration and	2015-Present
Biomimetics, Elementa Science of the Anthropocene, JGR: Earth Surface, Environmental	
Fluid Mechanics	
Graduate Applications Committee, CCEE Department at NCSU.	2017

Other Publications

- Ortiz, A. C. (2015), Investigating the Evolution and Formation of Coastlines and Response to Sea-Level Rise, MIT-WHOI.
- Ortiz, A. C., Ashton, A. D., and Donnelly, J. P. (2015), Modeling Motu Profile Response to Varying Wave Climate, Coastal Sediments '15.
- Ortiz, A. C. (2012), Investigating the Effect of a Circular Patch of Vegetation on Turbulence Generation and Sediment Deposition Using Four Case Studies, 116 pp, MIT, Cambridge.
- Ortiz, A. C. (2010), Investigating the Effect of Wave Energy on Coastal Morphology and Beach Sedimentology Using Real and Modeled Wave Data, Honors Thesis, Wellesley College, Wellesley.

Published Abstracts

- Roy, S., Edmonds, D.A., Robeson, S.M., Ortiz, A.C., and Nienhuis, J., 2017, Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Land Loss in Mississippi River Delta, presented at 2017 Fall Meeting, AGU, New Orleans, LA.
- Edmonds, D.A., Ortiz, A.C., and Roy, S., (2017), Land Loss by Pond Expansion on the Mississippi River Delta Plain, Abstract EP13D-08, presented at 2017 Fall Meeting, AGU, New Orleans, LA.
- Ortiz, A.C., (2017), Understanding the Primary Drivers of Atoll Morphometrics on a Global Scale, Abstract F7400, poster presented at 2017 River Coastal Estuarine Morphodyanmics Conference, Padua, Italy.
- Ortiz, A.C. (2017), Atoll Morphometrics: Why do Atolls and Reef Islands Look the Way they Do?, poster presented at annual Community Surface Dynamics Modeling System (CSDMS) meeting, Boulder, CO.
- Ortiz, A. C., and D. A. Edmonds (2016), Impact of Wind Driven Pond Expansion on Landloss in the Mississippi River Delta Plain, Abstract GC23D-1277 presented at 2016 Fall Meeting, AGU, San Francisco, Calif. 12-16 Dec. Poster.
- Ashton, A.D., Ortiz, A.C., and Lorenzo-Trueba, J., 2016, Modeling Reef Island Morphodynamics in Profile and Plan View, presented at 2016 Fall Meeting, AGU, San Francisco, CA.
- Arcuri, J.L., Ortiz, A.C., and Edmonds, D.A. (2016), Remote Sensing Analysis of Land Loss Processes in the Mississippi Delta Plain, presented at Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, in Denver, CO.
- Ortiz, A. C., A. D. Ashton, J. P. Donnelly (2015), Modeling Motu Profile Response to Varying Wave Climate, paper presented at Coastal Sediments, San Diego, CA.
- Ortiz, A. C., A. D. Ashton, and J. P. Donnelly (2014), Modeling Motu Profile Response to Varying Wave and Storm Climate, Abstract EP31B-3537 presented at 2014 Fall Meeting, AGU, San Francisco, Calif. 15-19 Dec. Poster.
- Ortiz, A. C., and A. D. Ashton (2013), A Morphodynamic Explanation for the Shoreface Depth of Closure, paper presented at River, Coastal, and Estuarine Morphodynamics, Santander, Spain.
- Ortiz, A. C., A. D. Ashton, and H. M. Nepf (2012), Turbulence and Mean Velocity Near Rigid and Flexible Plants, and the Implications for Deposition, Abstract EP43C-08 presented at 2012 Fall Meeting, AGU, San Francisco, Calif. 3-7 Dec. Oral Presentation.

- Ashton, A. D., A. Ortiz, P. Lane, and J. P. Donnelly (2011), Characteristic Timescales of Shoreface Response to Sea-Level Rise, Abstract OS43D-05 presented at 2011 Fall Meeting, AGU.
- Ashton, A. D., and A. C. Ortiz (2011), Overwash controls coastal barrier response to sea-level rise, paper presented at Coastal Sediments, ASCE, Miami, FL, Oral Presentation
- Ortiz, A. C., et al. (2009), Investigating the Effect of Wave Energy on Sediment Characteristics of Vieques, Puerto Rico Using Real and Modeled Wave Data, abstract presented at GSA.
- Ortiz, A. C. (2008), Fast Repetition Rate Fluorometry measuring effects of light quantity and quality on Micromonas, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Aquarium, 22 Aug 2008. Oral Presentation.
- Cuvelier, M. L., et al. (2006), Ecology of Picoeukaryotes in Open Ocean Environments, paper presented at Gorden Research Conference: Marine Microbes, Biddeford, ME. Poster

Fieldwork & Cruises

• Rangiroa, French Polynesia. Investigating atolls & motu response to sea-level rise. Primary	March 2014
Investigator for self-led data collection of sediment data, GPR, GPS, and bathymetric data.	
• Tour of French Polynesia (Tahiti, Fakarava, Nuku Hiva, Hiva Oa, Tahuata, Mangareva, Hao)	February
collaborating with Semester at Sea (SEA). Self-led investigation of atolls and motu collecting	2014
sedimentological data, GPR, GPS, bathymetric data, and fluvial samples.	
• Marshall Islands. Investigation of Atolls (Kwajalein & Majuro). Data collection of	January 2014
bathymetry, GPS, GPR, and sedimentological data.	
• Ebro Delta, Spain. Collection of sediment samples for OSL Dating.	June 2013
• Destin, Florida. Collection of sediment traps.	April 2013
• Destin, Florida. Collection of sediment samples of Santa Rosa Island using Geoprobe MC5	January 2011
system. Also collected GPR and GPS surveys, marsh cores, bathymetry, and lake cores.	•
• Vieques, Puerto Rico. Collection of sediment samples, cores, and wave data.	July 2008
• Plum Island LTER Saltwater Marsh, Massachusetts. Collection of sediment data, current and	January 2008
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Tutoring

Tutoring Geosciences Courses. Undergraduates.	2007-2010
Tutoring Latin & Classical Civilizations. Undergraduates.	2008-2010

Additional Work Experience

wave data, and ice-rafting events.

 Linux System Administrator. Wellesley College. 	2009-2010
 Student Manager IT Help Desk. Wellesley College. 	2007-2010

Skills

- · Computer: Proficient in MatLab, Java Programming, and Microsoft Office. Experience in Google Earth Engine, GIS, Adobe CS5, Ftp, Terminal, and Stella. Proficient in Mac, Windows, and Linux OS.
- Languages: Proficient in Spanish, Italian, and Latin.
- Broader Impacts: Blog of fieldwork (http://extd160cukoo.blogspot.com/). Mentoring of lab interns.
- Other: International residency, extensive travel, and fieldwork experience.

Affiliations/Memberships

American Geophysical Union (AGU).	2012-Present
• Geological Society of America (GSA).	2009-Present
 Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG). 	2009-Present
Earth Science Women's Network	2011-Present