

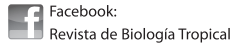
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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE 36<sup>TH</sup> SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE MEMORIAS DE LA 36<sup>TA</sup> REUNIÓN CIENTÍFICA DE LA ASSOCIATION OF MARINE LABORATORIES OF THE CARIBBEAN (AMLC) ASOCIACIÓN DE LABORATORIOS MARINOS DEL CARIBE (ALMC)

Sunset Jamaica Grande Hotel • Ocho Rios, Jamaica • 17-21, June, 2013

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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE 36<sup>TH</sup> SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MARINE LABORATORIES OF THE CARIBBEAN (AMLC)

## PROGRAMME

Day 1: Monday June 17, 2013		
Time	Presenters	Author & Title
8:00	Registration	
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>		
9:00	Chair: <b>Professor Ishenkumba Kahwa</b> , Dean, Faculty of Science & Technology, UWI, Mona Campus	
	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks. Mr. Peter Gayle</b> , President, AMLC	
9:30	<b>Plenary 1</b> <i>Why are some Caribbean coral reefs much healthier than others?</i> Prof Jeremy Jackson, Smithsonian Institution and Scripps Institution of Oceanography	
10:10	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
<b>Session 1: Global and Regional Issues — Chair: James Crabbe</b>		
11:00	Sandeman, I.	Using a torsion microbalance in a closed system, weight changes of <i>Agaricia agaricites</i> and concomitant changes of pH confirm that carbon dioxide is the substrate for calcification in living corals and points to problems with the alkalinity anomaly technique. <i>Ian Sandeman</i>
11:20	Pratte, Z.	The potential impact of global climate change on an essential component of coral innate immunity. <i>Zoe A. Pratte, Laurie L. Richardson</i>
11:40	Wieters, E.	Temperature anomaly trends correlate with coral reef trajectory. <i>E. Wieters, B. Riegl, A. Bruckner, S. Purkis</i>
12:00	Vardi, T.	Regional analysis of <i>Acropora palmata</i> population dynamics using Matrix Modeling with stochasticity. <i>Tali Vardi, Dana Williams, Stuart Sandin</i>
12:20	Announcements and Housekeeping	
12:30-1:30	Lunch	
<b>Session 2: Oceanography and Coastal Processes (1) — Chair: Jorge Cortés Núñez</b>		
1:30	Sherman, C.	Terrigenous sedimentation patterns at reefs adjacent to the Guanica Bay Watershed, Southwest Puerto Rico. <i>Clark Sherman, Yahaira Hutchinson, Raquel Hernández</i>
1:50	Small, H.	The planktonic communities of the Jamaican south eastern coastal shelf; a comparison of harbor, coastal shelf and offshore oceanic bank areas. <i>Hugh Small, Kristoffer Lue, Dale Webber, Mona Webber</i>
2:10	Chamberland, V.	Direct and indirect effects of nutrients on pre- and post-settlement performance of Caribbean corals. <i>Valérie F. Chamberland, Mark J. A. Vermeij</i>
2:30	Mitchell, A.	Sampling and analysis of ballast water in the Jamaican scenario. <i>Achshah A. Mitchell, Mona Webber, Dayne Buddo, Dale Webber</i>
2:50	Hutchinson, Y.	Composition of lithic substrates from mesophotic habitats in Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands. <i>Yahaira Hutchinson, Clark Sherman</i>
<b>Session 3: Oceanography and Coastal Processes (2) — Chair: Chris Corbin</b>		
3:30	Tussenbroek, B.	CARICOMP seagrass monitoring: stability and change of seagrass communities throughout the Greater Caribbean. <i>Brigitta I. van Tussenbroek, Jorge Cortés, Ana C. Fonseca, Peter Gayle, Hector M. Guzmán, Gabriel E. Jácome, Rahanna Juman, Karen H. Koltes, Hazel A. Oxenford, Alberto Rodríguez Ramirez, Jimena Samper-Villarreal, Struan R. Smith, John J. Tschirky, Ernesto Weil</i>
3:50	Soler Figueroa, B.	Bioluminescent levels at Bahía Fosforescente: myth vs reality. <i>Brenda M. Soler Figueroa, Ernesto Otero</i>
4:10	Aldana Moreno, A.	Variación espacio-temporal de la estructura comunitaria de peces en el Parque Ecoturístico Xel-Há. <i>Alejandro Aldana Moreno, Jorge Montero Muñoz, Dalila Aldana Aranda</i>
4:30	Collado-Vides, L.	Halimeda dynamics relative to nutrients availability in the Florida Keys and Florida Bay: a good indicator of C production. <i>Ligia Collado-Vides, Alex Perez, James Fourqurean</i>
4:50	Announcements and Housekeeping	
5:00	Set up Poster Session 1	
5:30-7:30	Presentation and Judging of Posters	

**Day 2: Tuesday June 18, 2013**

Time	Presenters	Author & Title
<b>Session 4: Coral Reef Ecology and Biology (Macroalgae, Gastropod) — Chair: Tyler Smith</b>		
8:30	Larson, E.	Characterization of acropora palmata populations within the Veracruz reef system, Gulf of Mexico. <i>Elizabeth A. Larson, David S. Gilliam, Brian K. Walker, Jacobo Santander Monsalvo, Israel López Huerta</i>
8:50	Dou, N.	Evaluation of bioactive metabolites from <i>Anadyomene linkiana</i> , a bloom-forming green macroalgae in Biscayne Bay, Florida. <i>Natalie Dou, John Berry, Ligia Collado, Asha Jaja-Chimedza</i>
9:10	Duran, A.	Magnitude effect of major ecological drivers on succession of a coral reef macroalgal community. <i>Alain Duran, Ligia Collado-Vides, Deron Burkepile</i>
9:30	Narváez, M.	Evaluacion espacio temporal de los principales grupos funcionales de algas en un arrecife del Parque Nacional Archipiélago de Los Roques, Venezuela. <i>Narváez Mariju, Villamizar Estrella, Moreno Maria G.</i>
9:50	Noguez Núñez, M.	Ecoetología del caracol rosa <i>Strombus gigas</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) en un ciclo anual en la Caleta de Xel-Há, Mexico. <i>Mariana Noguez Núñez, Manuel Sánchez Crespo, Francisco Gámeros Escoto, Luis Alfonso Ascencio Aguirre, José Francisco Chávez Villegas, Nuria Estrada Saldivar, Irma Pérez García, Wendy González López, Alejandro Aldana Moreno, Dalila Aldana Aranda</i>
10:10	Aranda, D.	Queen conch, <i>Strombus gigas</i> a species with allele effect? <i>Dalila Aldana Aranda, Javier Bello, Manuel Sánchez Crespo, José Francisco Chávez, Jorge Monter</i>
10:30-11:00		Coffee Break
<b>Session 5: Coral Reef Ecology and Biology (Reproduction) — Chair: James Crabbe</b>		
11:00	D'Antonio, N.	Phenotypic plasticity in <i>Acropora cervicornis</i> on two southeast Florida near-shore substrate types. <i>Nicole L. D'Antonio, David S. Gilliam</i>
11:20	Vermeij, M.	Counterintuitive responses of brooding and spawning coral species to environmental stress. <i>Mark J. A. Vermeij</i>
11:40	Marhaver, K.	Cultured microbial isolates, antibiotics, and parental identity affect movement and settlement behavior of coral larvae. <i>Kristen L. Marhaver, Aaron C. Hartmann, Mark J.A. Vermeij, Valerie F. Chamberland, Stuart A. Sandin, Monica M. Medina</i>
12:00	Villegas, J.	Abundancia y composición de larvas de gasterópodos en el Caribe Mexicano. <i>José Francisco Chávez Villegas, Martha Enriquez Diaz, Dalila Aldana Aranda</i>
12:20		Announcements and Housekeeping
12:30-1:30		Lunch
<b>Session 6: Coral Reef Ecology and Biology (Fisheries) — Chair: Bob Anderson</b>		
1:30	Herrera-Reveles, A.	Population connectivity in <i>Abudefduf saxatilis</i> (Pomacentridae) using otolith natal elements as natural fingerprints in some Venezuelan coral reefs, South Caribbean. <i>Ana Teresa Herrera-Reveles, Baumar Marín, Mairin Lemus, Maria-Josefina Hernandez</i>
1:50	Alemu, J.	Fish assemblages on fringe coral reefs of Tobago. <i>Jahson B. Alemu I, Sherron Barker</i>
2:10	Aiken, K.	The spearfishing sub-sector in Jamaica: a large and growing threat. <i>Zahra Ennis, Karl Aiken</i>
2:30	López-Ordaz, A.	Variación espacio-temporal de la estructura comunitaria de peces arrecifales en zonas de la región oriental de Venezuela, Caribe sur. <i>Adriana López-Ordaz, Ana Teresa Herrera-Reveles, Maria Fernanda González-Rivero, Jose Gregorio Núñez, Luis Ariza, Alan Martínez</i>
2:50	Bolda, E., Musser, K.	Reef composition and fish population trends inside and outside Grenada's recently established marine protected area. <i>Emily Bolda, Katie Musser, Clare Morrall, Jon Jossart, Robert Anderson</i>
3:10-3:30		Coffee Break
<b>Session 7: Coral Reef Ecology and Biology (Crinoids, Sponges, Birds, Turtles) — Chair: Heidi Hertler</b>		
3:30	Meyer, D.	Changes in population density of shallow-water Crinoids on coral reefs of the Caribbean and Bahamas since the late 1960s. <i>David L. Meyer</i>
3:50	Halperin, A.	Comparing excavating sponge, <i>Cliona delitrix</i> , growth rates across three different reef habitats offshore southeast Florida. <i>Ariel A. Halperin, Andia Chaves-Fonnegra, David S. Gilliam</i>
4:10	Ainsworth, P.	The determination of the breeding success of the masked booby, <i>Sula dactylatra dactylatra</i> at Middle Cay, Pedro Bank, Jamaica. <i>Peter J. Ainsworth, Dale Webber</i>
4:30	Thompson, N.	Sea turtles in US Atlantic waters. <i>Nancy B. Thompson</i>
4:50		Announcements and Housekeeping
5:00		Set up Poster Session 2
5:30-7:30		Presentation and Judging of Posters

**Day 3: Wednesday June 19, 2013**

Field Trips

1. Diving at Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory
2. Rafting on the Martha Brae River
3. Tour of the Port Royal Biodiversity Centre & UWI Mona Campus



**Day 4: Thursday June 20, 2013**

Time	Presenters	Author & Title
8:30	<b>Plenary 2</b>	
	Chair: Prof Dale Webber, Director, Centre for Marine Sciences, UWI, Mona Campus	
	<b>Managing the resilience of coral reefs to reverse phase shifts.</b>	
	Prof. Terry Hughes, Director of ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, Australia	
9:10	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
	<b>Session 8: Monitoring and Assessment — Chair: Nancy Thompson</b>	
9:30	Lopez Padierna, M.	Trends in coral cover in the Veracruz reef system, Gulf of Mexico. <i>Mauricio López Padierna, David S. Gilliam, Brian K. Walker, Israel López Huerta, Jacobo Santander Monsalvo, Marcos A. Rangel Avalos</i>
9:50	Creary Ford, M.	Results of long term coral reef monitoring at three locations in Jamaica. <i>Marcia Creary Ford, Sean Green, Loureene Jones Smith</i>
10:10	McField, M.	Report cards and eco-audits track essential components of reef condition and management response. <i>Melanie Mcfield, Lorenzo Alvarez Filip, Ian Drysdale, Marisol Rueda, Roberto Pott, Ana Giro</i>
10:30	Chin, D.	Spatial variation of the coral reefs in Foul and Folly Bays, St. Thomas, Jamaica. <i>Denise Chin, Mona Webber, Dale Webber</i>
	Williams, D.	Regional Analysis of <i>Acropora palmate</i> population dynamics using matrix modeling with stochasticity <i>Tali Vardi, Dana Williams, Stuart Sandin</i>
10:50-11:10		Coffee Break
	<b>Session 9: Coral Reef Restoration — Chair: Hazel Oxenford</b>	
11:10	Ross, A.	Genet and reef position effects in out-planting of nursery-grown <i>Acropora cervicornis</i> . <i>Andrew Ross</i>
11:30	Mercado-Molina, A.	A comparison of survivorship, growth, and branch production between stabilized and un-stabilized fragments of the branching coral <i>Acropora</i> . <i>Alex E. Mercado-Molina, Claudia P. Ruiz-Diaz, Alberto Sabat</i>
11:50	Suleiman, S.	Participación voluntaria como estrategia de manejo en el cultivo de corales para la restauración de habitat. <i>Samuel E. Suleiman-Ramos</i>
12:10	Bliss, C.	Translocation of <i>Acropora cervicornis</i> across geographic regions: investigating species recovery and restoration. <i>Bliss, Cody, Gilliam, David, Ken Nedimyer</i>
12:30		Announcements and Housekeeping
12:30-1:30		Lunch
	<b>Session 10: Coral Diseases — Chair: Marilyn Brandt</b>	
1:30	Brownell, A.	Sulfate reducing bacteria as secondary and necessary pathogens in black band disease of coral. <i>Abigail Brownell, Laurie L. Richardson</i>
1:50	Walton, C.	Bacterial communities associated with rapid tissue loss in <i>Acropora cervicornis</i> . <i>Charles J. Walton, Jose V. Lopez, David S. Gilliam</i>
2:10	Richardson, L.	How does the black band disease microbial community organize itself? <i>Laurie L. Richardson, Beth Zimmer, Chinmayee Behdi</i>
2:30	Brandt, M.	Spatial and temporal variability of white plague disease in Caribbean reef systems. <i>Marilyn Brandt, Elizabeth Clemens, Tyler B. Smith</i>
2:50-3:10		Coffee Break
	<b>Session 11: Reef Resilience — Chair: Brian Beck</b>	
3:10	Brown, D.	Long-term changes in the population dynamics of the Caribbean hydrocoral <i>Millepora spp.</i> <i>D. Brown, P.J. Edmunds</i>
3:30	Smith, T.	Recent trends in mesophotic ecosystems of the US Virgin Islands. <i>Smith, Tyler B., Brandt, Marilyn E., Gyory, Joanna</i>
3:50	Henderson, L.	Sedimentation patterns and coral health across large gradients of human pressure in the US Virgin Islands. <i>Leslie M. Henderson, Tyler B. Smith, Marcia Taylor, Richard S. Nemeth</i>
4:10	Williams, S.	Spatial heterogeneity of species richness and composition of sponges, octocorals, and corals on shallow-water reefs in the Greater Caribbean region. <i>Stacey M. Williams, Jorge Cortés</i>
4:30	Beck, B.	The health and resilience of Pedro Bank coral reefs. <i>Andrew Bruckner, Brian Beck, Phil Renaud</i>
5: 00		Living Oceans Foundation Film

**Day 5: Friday June 21, 2013**

Time	Presenters	Author & Title
<b>Panel Discussion</b>		
8:30		<i>The challenge of translating scientific knowledge into effective management practices</i>
		Chair: Mrs. Alessandra Vanzella-Khoury, Programme Officer (SPAW), United Nations Environment Programme
		Panelists: <b>Mr. Anthony McKenzie</b> , Director, Environmental Management and Conservation, National Environment and Planning Agency, Jamaica. <b>Dr. Leonard Nurse</b> , Senior Lecturer, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. <b>Prof. Brian LaPointe</b> , Research Professor, Florida Atlantic University. <b>Dr. Judith Lang</b> , Scientific Coordinator of AGRRA and Chief curator of “Our Reefs-The Caribbean Connection” Travelling Exhibit, USA. <b>Dr. Peter Edwards</b> , Natural Resource Economist and Social Science Coordinator, Coral Reef Conservation Program, NOAA, USA. <b>Prof. James Crabbe</b> , Dean, Faculty of Creative Arts, Technologies and Science, University of Bedfordshire, U.K.
10:00	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
10:30-11:30		Coffee Break
<b>Session 12: Conservation, Policy, Socio Economics and Public Awareness (1) — Chair: Chris Corbin</b>		
11:00	González, R.	Scientific research and enhancement permits for corals proposed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. <i>González Marrero, Rosa L.</i>
11:20	Hernández, E.	Recent trajectories of coral reef communities in Puerto Rico: a call for novel participatory management approaches. <i>Edwin A. Hernández Delgado, Raisa Hernández Pacheco, Alberto M. Sabat</i>
11:40	Villamizar, E	Biodiversidad y estructura de las comunidades de esponjas en los fondos coralinos del refugio de fauna de Isla de Aves. <i>Estrella Villamizar, Anaurora Yranzo, Marco Romero, Hazael Boadas</i>
12:00	Grey, O.	Application of the soil and water assessment tool (SWAT MODEL) on a small tropical island state (Great River Watershed, Jamaica) as a tool in integrated watershed and coastal zone management. <i>Orville P. Grey, Dale Webber</i>
	Rodríguez-Barreras, R.	Food resources of the three littoral echinoids in Puerto Rico: a stable isotope approach <i>Ruber Rodríguez-Barreras, Elvira Cuevas, Nancy Cabanillas-Terán</i>
12:20		Announcements and Housekeeping
12:30-1:30		Lunch
<b>Session 13: Conservation, Policy, Socio Economics and Public Awareness (2) — Chair: James Crabbe</b>		
1:30	Crabbe, J.	Science, capacity building and policy development - a case for improved reef protection. <i>James Crabbe</i>
1:50	Lang, J.	Bahamian reefs: a case for conserving novel diversity of form and function. <i>Judith Lang</i>
2:10	Coyolxauhqui Pérez García, I.	Pesca del recurso caracol en Isla Arena, Campeche, México caracterización social y económica <i>Irma Coyolxauhqui Pérez García, Dalila Aldana Aranda</i>
2:30	Buddo, D.	The use of biology, oceanography and geographic information systems to manage the release of ballast water in Kingston Harbour, Jamaica. <i>Dayne Buddo, Ava Maxam</i>
2:50	Allen, R.	The fishers of the Pedro Bank, Jamaica: a livelihood analysis. <i>Rachel Allen, Dale Webber</i>
3:10-3:30		Coffee Break
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>		
3:30-5:00		Closing Ceremony and Presentation of Awards

**POSTER SESSION**  
Session 1. Monday, June 17, 2013

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**Managing lionfish in the Florida Keys: evaluating effectiveness of removals for an invasive reef predator.** *Adam Nardelli*, David Kestetter, Richard Spieler, Benjamin Ruttenberg & Stephanie Green

**Endoparasite fauna of the invasive lionfish complex (*Pterois volitans* and *Pterois miles*) in the Western Atlantic and Caribbean.** *Kayelyn Simmons*, Chris A. Blonar & David W. Kerstetter

**Interactions between root-fouling epibionts and the abundance and richness of fish in the mangroves of Lac Bay Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.** *Rachael Vietheer BS*, Maria C. Uyarra PhD & Rita Peachey PhD

**A preliminary assessment of the relationship between zooxanthellae density and coral growth.** *Alex E. Mercado-Molina*, P. Ruiz-Dia & Alberto Sabat

**Rapid reassessment of zooplankton communities for the resource management of Kingston Harbour, Jamaica.** *Patrice A. Francis*, Stacy A. Maxam & Mona K. Webber

**The fishy and untold stories of bomb-cratered coral reefs in Culebra Island, Puerto Rico: from massive destruction to community-based ecological rehabilitation.** *Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado*, Julio Oms-Hernández, Mary Ann Lucking & Samuel E. Suleimán-Ramos

**Ecosystem-level cascade impacts of low-tech community-based coral reef rehabilitation: a before-after-control-impact (BACI) approach.** *Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado*, Nicole M. Resto, Laura Bimbela, Iván Olivo-Maldonado & Samuel E. Suleimán-Ramos

**Effectiveness of different low-tech, low-cost staghorn coral nurseries.** *Iván Olivo-Maldonado*, Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado, Alex Mercado-Molina, Jaime Fonseca-Miranda, Pedro Alejandro-Camis, Carmen González-Ramos, Samuel E. Suleimán-Ramos

**Preliminary findings of low-tech staghorn coral outplanting efforts in Culebra Island, Puerto Rico.** *Alfredo A. Montañez-Acuña*, Abimarie Otaño-Cruz, Lee Vaasjo-Muñoz, Alex Mercado-Molina, Samuel E. Suleimán-Ramos & Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado

**Composición y variación estacional del ensamble larvas de gasterópodos en Xel-Há, Quintana Roo.** *José Francisco Chávez Villegas*, Francisco José Gameros Escoto & Dalila Aldana Aranda

**Branching dynamics of the staghorn coral *Acropora cervicornis*.** *Jaime Fonseca-Miranda* & Alex E. Mercado-Molina

**Population assessment of *Acropora palmata*: relationship between habitat and reef associated species.** *Kimberly Martínez*, David Bone, Aldo Cróquer & Adriana López-Ordaz

**Estrategias reproductivas de dos gasterópodos del Banco de Campeche: *Busycon perversum* y *Strombus pugilis*.** *Martha Enriquez Diaz*, Josefina Santos Valencia & Dalila Aldana Aranda

**Preliminary ecology study of *Millepora spp* under contrasting hydrodynamic regime: abundance and population size- structure.** *Juan David Murcia Eslava*

**Rackham's Cay cut face coral succession study.** *Camilo Trench*, Hugh Small, Lydia Morrison, Dale Webber & Mona Webber

**Comunidad de corales y octocorales de Los Fondos Coralinos del Refugio de Fauna Silvestre Isla de Aves, Venezuelan Letters.** *Anaaura Yranzo Duque*, Estrella Villamizar, Marco Romero & Hazael Boadas

**Large-scale coral recruitment patterns in Mona Island, Puerto Rico: evidence of shifting coral community trajectory after massive bleaching and mortality.** *Carmen González-Ramos*, Pedro Alejandro-Camis & Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado

**Elkhorn coral (*Acropora palmata*) rehabilitation under high wave energy conditions in Puerto Rico: a novel community-based coral reef conservation and management approach.** *Ricardo Laureano*, *Pedro Alejandro-Camis*, Alberto Archilla, Ernesto Vélez Joel Díaz, Salvador Laureano, Samuel E. Suleimán-Ramos & Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado

**POSTER SESSION**  
Session 2. Tuesday, June 18, 2013

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**Spatial patterns in post-bleaching benthic biodiversity in Mona Island, Puerto Rico.** *Abimarie Otaño & Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado*

**Variación del ciclo gonádico del ostión americano, *Crassostrea virginica* (Gmelin, 1791) en función de la talla en la Laguna de Tamiahua, Veracruz, Mexico.** *Luis Alfonso Ascencio Aguirre, Martha Enríquez Díaz, Imelda Martínez Morales & Dalila Aldana Aranda*

**Estructura y composición de comunidades de peces en ecosistemas de praderas de *Thalassia testudinum* en las costas del nororiente Venezolano.** *José Gregorio Núñez, Luis Alejandro Ariza, Lilia Ruiz & Elizabeth Elguezabal*

**Distribución, densidad y biomasa del caracol *Strombus pugilis*, en aguas insulares del nororiente Venezolano.** *Luis Alejandro Ariza, Jeremy Mendoza, Luis Freites, Natividad García & Vásquez Abel*

**Fish communities on artificial reefs in the nearshore waters of St. Kitts, West Indies.** *Emma K. Grigg, Lewis B. Bogdanovic, Sarah Turner & Rachel E. Palis*

**Harvesting mangrove land crabs in Trinidad: how, where and by whom?** *Marie Ella Maynard & Hazel A. Oxenford*

**A participatory marine resource and space-use information system for the transboundary Grenadine Islands.** *Kimberly Baldwin, Hazel Oxenford & Robin Mahon*

**Actividad microbiana de sedimentos superficiales de Río Caribe, Sucre, Venezuela.** *Mary Isabel Segnini de Bravo, Irma Gómez, Leonor Brito & Vanessa Acosta*

**Field and laboratory approaches to ocean acidification and carbonate chemistry at the Smithsonian's Bocas del Toro Research Station.** *Remy Okazaki & Rachel Collin*

**From chaos to reef-friendly enjoyment: a multidisciplinary, participatory and sustainable management effort using self-guided snorkeling trails in Arrecifes La Cordillera Natural Reserve, Northeastern Puerto Rico.** *Jeiger Medina-Muñiz, Humberto Figueroa, Marcos Ramos & Edwin A. Hernández-Delgado*

**Variaciones temporales de la biomasa foliar de una pradera de *Thalassia testudinum* (Banks ex König, 1805) en los Cachicatos, Golfo de CarCaco, Venezuela.** *M.I. Segnini*

**Macroinvertebrados asociados a comunidades coralinas frangeantes en el Golfo De Cariaco, Venezuela.** *Luis Alejandro Ariza, Sioliz Villafranca, Mayré Jiménez & José Gregorio Núñez*

**Efecto de la temperatura en el desarrollo larval de *Strombus gigas*.** *José Francisco Chávez Villegas, Martha Enríquez Díaz & Dalila Aldana Aranda*

**The role of colony size in the resistance and tolerance of Scleratinian corals to temperature-induced bleaching on Jamaica's north shore reefs.** *Bernadette Charpentier & Peter Gayle*

**Sediment PAH Contamination in Curaçao: Potential Impacts from the Isla Refinery.** *Dana L. Wetzel & Erin L. Pulster*

**A survey of phytoplankton and water quality of Kingston Harbour and the north east Hellshire coastline, Jamaica.** *Helen Liu, Sheree Broomfield, Anya Duncan, Leon Grant, Dale Webber & Mona Webber*

**Preliminary assessments of the sessile-benthic assemblages at a mesophotic reef, Lang Bank, St. Croix, USVI.** *Stacey M. Williams, Jorge R. Garcia-Sais, Jorge Sabater, Rene Esteves & Milton Carlo*

**Are our marine protected areas protecting our juvenile stocks? A three month survey of Ichthyoplankton in Jamaican waters.** *Nasheika Guyah, Mona Webber, Gale Persad & Patrice Francis*

**Biodiversity, ecological structure, and change in the sponge community of different geomorphological zones of the barrier fore reef at Carrie Bow Cay, Belize.** *Estrella Villamizar, María Cristina Díaz, Klaus Rützel & Renato De Nóbrega*

**Abundance and distribution of lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*) along the Venezuelan coast.** *Esteban Aguido, Juan Jose Cruz-Motta & Eduardo Klein*