

## **Caryn Self-Sullivan, Ph.D.**

Temporary Assistant Professor  
Department of Biology

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### **Education**

- Ph. D. 2008: Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, GPA 3.86/4.00  
B. S. 1997: Coastal Carolina University, Conway, Department of Marine Science, minors in Biology and Mathematics, Magna cum Laud, GPA 3.91/4.00  
2000: Pennsylvania State University, Graduate Program in Acoustics, Non-degree seeking student taking summer courses in underwater acoustics  
1996: Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, Australia, Exchange Student

### **Professional Positions**

- 2008-Present: Temporary Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern University  
1998-Present: Principal Investigator, Ecology and Behavior of Antillean Manatees and Bottlenose Dolphins in the Drowned Cayes Area of Belize (funded by the Earthwatch Institute and other small grants)  
2000-Present: President & Co-founder, Sirenian International, Inc.  
2005-Present: Principal Advisor, NCRC Community Conservation of West African Manatees in Volta Lake, Ghana  
2004-2007: Director of Research & Education, Spanish Bay Conservation & Research Center and the Hugh Parkey Foundation for Marine Awareness and Education, Belize  
2007-Present: Marine Science Advisor, Hugh Parkey Foundation for Marine Awareness & Education  
2005-Present: Member, IUCN Species Survival Commission Sirenia Specialist Group  
2004-Present: Member, Belize National Manatee Working Group  
2004-Present: Member, Belize Marine Mammal Stranding Network

### **Teaching Experience**

- 2008-Present: General, Environmental, Principals, and Behavioral Biology, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern University (15-18 contact hours per semester; class sizes 25-225 students)  
2006-Present: Ecology & Behavior of Marine Mammals Field Course, Spanish Bay Conservation & Research Center, Belize (audience: undergraduates; 70 contact hours per summer field course; class sizes 6-25 students)  
2007-Present: EW/NCRC West African Fellows Manatee Conservation Workshop, Ghana (audience: graduate students and practicing scientists; 40 contact hours per workshop; class size 8-10 students)  
2004-Present: Marine Science for Primary & Secondary Teachers Workshops, Spanish Bay Conservation & Research Center & the Belize Ministry of Education, Belize (audience: teachers (continuing education course credits); 24 contact hours per workshop; class size 15-25 students)  
1998-2008: Invited speaker to primary & secondary classrooms in the USA and Belize; substitute high school science teacher in Stafford, Spotsylvania, and Fredericksburg, VA (audience: primary & secondary students; 1-3 hour presentations; class size 10-35 students)  
1993-1997: Tutor for Marine Science, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Scientific Writing at Coastal Carolina University  
1988-1993: Principals of Real Estate, Real Estate Brokerage, Real Estate Finance, Fair Housing, and Continuing Education Courses (certified to teach by the Virginia Real Estate Commission; audience: adults taking courses for licensure and continuing education)

### **Most Recent Teaching Training**

2008-2009: To improve my effectiveness as an instructor in a university setting, I have taken full advantage of GSU technology and the GSU Center for Excellence in Teaching (CET). During this academic year, I have participated in the following seminars, workshops, Reading Roundtables (RR), and Faculty Learning Communities (FLC):

- August 2008: New Faculty Orientation Workshops: VISTA/WebCT/Blackboard; Service-Learning (Participatory Learning); CPS Classroom System (Clicker Pads); WINGS (GSU Student Tracking System)
- September-November 2008: Reading Roundtable: The Art of Changing the Brain by James Zull
- October 4, 2008, 9-4: POGIL Workshop: Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning
- September 2008 - Present: Teaching Large Classes FLC
- October 16, 2008: CET Seminar - Active Learning in Large Classes
- November 6, 2008: CET Seminar - Active Learning for Students

- January 8, 2009: CET Seminar - Creating a Safe Learning Environment by Dr. Russ Hubbard (Professor Emeritus, Eastern Washington University)
- February 10, 2009: CET Seminar - Service-Learning: "All for One and One for All: Integrating Service with Teaching and Scholarship for Maximum Impact"
- February 13, 2009: Successful Grant Writing Workshop (University System of Georgia)
- February 2009 - Present: CET Reading Roundtable: Team-Based Learning, A Transformational Use of Small Groups in College Teaching, Edited by Larry K. Michaelsen, Arletta Bauman Knight, and L. Dee Fink. Stylus Publishing (2004).
- February 24, 2009: CET Seminar: Inertia vs. Critical Mass: Engaging Students in Active Discussions
- March 10-12, 2009: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Commons (SoTL Conference at GSU)

### Graduate Students

Marie-Lys Bacchus, Loma Linda University. MS Thesis: Characterization of Resting Holes and Use by the Antillean Manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*), 2007. Mentor, Field Advisor, Committee Member from 2006-2008.

Andrea Tanny, Georgia Southern University, MS Student. MS Proposal: Foraging Behavior in West Indian Manatees, in progress. Mentor, Field Advisor 2008.

### Publications

Bacchus, M-L, S. G. Dunbar, C. Self-Sullivan. 2009. Characterization of resting holes and their use by the Antillean manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) in the Drowned Cayes of Belize. *Aquatic Mammals* 35(1):62-71.

Deutsch, C. J., C. Self-Sullivan, and A. A. Mignucci-Giannoni. 2007. *Trichechus manatus*. In: 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)).

LaCommare, K. S., C. Self-Sullivan, and S. Brault. 2008. Distribution and Habitat Use of Antillean Manatees (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) in the Drowned Cays Area of Belize, Central America. *Aquatic Mammals* 34(1):34-43.

Schipper, J., et al. 2008. The status of the world's land and marine mammals: diversity, threat, and knowledge. *Science* 322:225-230, 10 October 2008. DOI: 10.1126/science.1165115.

Self-Sullivan, C. 2004. Manatee and mangrove special topics in the 6th, 7th, & 8th editions of Moon Handbooks Belize by Joshua Berman and Chicki Mallan, Avalon Travel Publishing, Emeryville, CA.

Self-Sullivan, C. 2008. Conservation of Antillean Manatees in the Drowned Cayes Areas of Belize. Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University (3 publications in prep for 2009, target journals: *Conservation Biology*, *International Journal of Wildlife Law*, *Oryx*, *American Midland Naturalist*).

Self-Sullivan, C. (*in prep*). West Indian Manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) in the Wider Caribbean Region. Chapter in *Sirenian conservation: Issues and strategies in developing countries*. Edited by Ellen Hines. John Reynolds, Lemuel Aragones, Antonio A. Mignucci-Giannoni, Miriam Marmontel. Proposed Publisher: University of Florida Press.

Self-Sullivan, C. and A. A. Mignucci-Giannoni. 2007. *Trichechus manatus manatus*. In: 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)).

Self-Sullivan, C., and L. Bird. 2007. *Marine Science for Students Workbook*. BRC Publishers, Benque, Belize.

Self-Sullivan, C., Smith, G. W., Packard, J. M., and LaCommare, K. S. 2003. Seasonal occurrence of male Antillean manatees (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) on the Belize Barrier Reef. *Aquatic Mammals* 29(3):342-354.

Williams, Jr., E. H., Mignucci-Giannoni, A. A., Bunkley-Williams, L., Bonde, R. K., Self-Sullivan, C., Preen, A., and Cockcroft, V. G. 2003. Echeneid-sirenian associations, with information on sharksucker diet. *Journal of Fish Biology* 63:1176-1183.

### Unpublished Reports

Self-Sullivan, C., and K. S. LaCommare. 1998-2008. Annual Progress Reports to Belize Forestry Department, Belize Fisheries Department, Belize Coastal Zone Management Authority & Institute, Friends of Swallow Caye, Earthwatch Institute.

Self-Sullivan, C., M. Fogel, and M. J. Wooller. 2005. Carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analyses of Antillean manatees from three distinct ecosystems in Belize: inference about relative differences in diets and habitats. Preliminary Report to Wildlife Trust Belize, 30 October 2005.

### Conference Presentations & Posters

Bonde, R. K., P. Lewis, D. A. Samuelson, C. Self-Sullivan, N. E. Auil, and J. A. Powell. 2006. Belize manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) epibionts SEM viewing techniques. Poster Presentation at SMM 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, San Diego, 12-16 December 2005.

LaCommare, K. S., C. Self-Sullivan, and S. Brault. 2005. Distribution, habitat use and seasonal occurrence of Antillean manatees in the Drowned Cayes area of Belize, Central America. Oral Presentation at the SMM 16th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, San Diego, 12-16 December 2005.

- LaCommare, K. S., Sullivan, C. S., Brault, S. 2001. Distribution and Foraging Ecology of Antillean Manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) in the Drowned Cays Area of Belize, Central America. Poster Presentation at the SMM 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Vancouver, British Columbia, 28 November - 3 December 2001.
- Mignucci-Giannoni, A. A., and C. Self-Sullivan. 2005. Conservation Status of the Antillean Manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) in the Wider Caribbean Region. Oral Presentation at the International Sirenian Workshop, SMM 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, San Diego, 12-16 December 2005.
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2009. Conservation of Antillean manatees in Belize 1998-2008. Oral presentation at the 2009 International Sirenian Conservation Conference, 23-24 March 2009.
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2009. Triumph on the commons in Belize: the importance of traditional knowledge and stakeholder input to successful MPAs. Oral Presentation at the Sirenian Workshop: Improving the Contribution of Marine Protected Areas to the Conservation of Sirenians. Society for Conservation Biology Marine Section, International Marine Conservation Congress, May 21-24, 2009, Johnson Center, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA.
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2008. Conservation of Antillean manatees in Belize. Seminar (3 hours) at Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute, Belize City, Belize.
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2006. Non-lethal boat scars on manatees in Belize as a tool for evaluation of a Marine Protected Area. Oral Presentation at the 59th Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Conference, Belize City, 6-11 November 2006 (Science and Management of Marine Protected Areas Session).
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2007. Community Conservation of West African Manatees in the Upper Afram Arm of Volta Lake, Ghana. Oral Presentation, Marine Mammals & Indigenous Communities Workshop, SMM 17th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Cape Town, November 2007.
- Self-Sullivan, C. 2007. Conservation and Status of West African Manatees in Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Sierra Leone. Oral Presentation, Marine Mammals in Africa Workshop, SMM 17th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Cape Town, November 2007.
- Self-Sullivan, C. LaCommare, K.S. 2003. One Issue Related to Research and Conservation: Cruise Ship Tourism in Belize. Oral Presentation at the International Sirenian Workshop, SMM 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Greensboro, North Carolina, 14 December 2003.
- Self-Sullivan, C., and A. A. Mignucci-Giannoni. 2006. Conservation Status of the Antillean Manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) in the Wider Caribbean Region. Oral Presentation at IMC9, Sapporo, Japan, 31 July 2005.
- Self-Sullivan, Caryn. 1996. A Survey of Macroalgae in Discovery Bay, Jamaica: Species Diversity and Zonation Differences in the Lagoon. Senior Thesis, Coastal Carolina University, SC: Oral presentation to Discovery Bay Lab, Jamaica.
- Self-Sullivan, Caryn. 1996. The Effects of Benthos on *Acartia tonsa* Population Dynamics. National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Ashville, NC: POSTER - Results of NSF-REU Fellowship research. Oral presentation to Horn Point Environmental Lab and Coastal Carolina University.
- Sullivan, C. S., LaCommare, K. S., Packard, J. M., and Evans, W. E. 2001. Seasonal Occurrence of Male Antillean Manatees (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) on the Belize Barrier Reef and the Effect of Scale on Seasonal Distribution Studies. Poster Presentation at the SMM 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Vancouver, British Columbia, 28 November - 3 December 2001.
- Sullivan, C. S., Packard, J. M., and Evans, W. E. 1999. Spring distribution and behavior of Antillean manatees in the Drowned Cayes, Belize. Poster Presentation at the SMM 13th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, Maui, Hawaii, November 28 - December 3, 1999.

### **Achievements, Awards, Honors**

- 2003 Earthwatch Young Scientist Award
- 1998-2001 NSF Graduate Fellowship
- 1997 Outstanding Marine Science Senior
- 1997 President's Excellence Nominee
- 1996 Exchange student to Deakin University
- 1995 NSF-REU Fellowship
- 1994-1997 Nelson Scholarship
- 1993 Freshman Essay Contest
- 1993-1997 President's Honor List
- 1993-1997 Dean's Honor List
- Sigma Zeta Beta Mu Honor Society
- Omicron Delta Kappa Society
- Pi Mu Epsilon Honor Society

### **Grants and Fellowships**

- Marine Mammal Commission 2009. Sirenian/MPA Workshop. Amount funded: \$12,105.
- Earthwatch Institute, Center for Research 2001-2007. Field Research. Amount funded: ~ \$56,000/year
- Project AWARE Small Grant Program 2004. Field Research. Amount Funded \$1,000
- Earthwatch Institute, Center for Research 2003 Young Scientist Award. Amount funded \$2,500
- Conservation Action Fund, New England Aquarium 2001. Capacity Building Grant. Amount funded: \$5,000

- American Museum of Natural History Lerner-Grey Fund for Marine Research 2000. Field Research. Amount funded: \$2,000.
- Oceanic Society 1998-1999. Field Research. Amount funded: undisclosed (9 months of field research in Belize)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship 1998-2001. Tuition & Stipend. Amount funded: \$75,000

### Other Service Projects

- Workshop Organizer: Society for Conservation Biology, 2009 IMCC Conference, Sirenians and MPAs
- Peer reviewer: Aquatic Mammals, Behaviour, Journal of Wildlife Management, USGS Sirenia Project
- Scientific Advisor: field scientists from Guatemala, Ghana, and Dominican Republic regarding techniques for evaluating manatee populations in remote areas, with an emphasis on the incorporation of manatee behavior
- Mentor: young people (especially women) entering the sciences (2 MS Students and 30+ Field Interns)
- Science Judge: National Oceans Science Bowl Regional Competition, Texas A&M, 2006
- Coordinator: National Marine Science Symposium, Belize City, Belize 2006
- Coordinator: National Marine Science Quiz Bowl, Belize City, Belize 2006-2007.
- Committee Member: Society for Marine Mammalogy Conference Committee, 2003

### Educational Outreach Publications and Presentation

I have given over 100 public presentations on topics related to marine and environmental science through NGO and academic organizations including public schools & dive clubs, the Sierra Club, Green Drinks, New England Aquarium, Coastal Carolina University, Mary Washington University, Texas A&M University, Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo, Rutgers University, Georgian Court University, Brookdale Community College, The Wetlands Institute, and at community festivals, etc.

### Additional Related Experiences

I have participated in over 20 multidisciplinary marine and environmental science projects through academic, governmental, and NGO organizations including NOAA/NMFS, Mystic Aquarium, University of Sydney, Baruch Marine Lab, Coastal Carolina University, UMD Horn Point Lab, FL FWCC, USFWS, CCU Center for Marine Studies, Sea Grant, SC Coastal Council, etc. Details available in long version of CV.

### Current Professional Memberships

National Science Teachers Association, Society for Marine Mammalogy, Society for Conservation Biology

### Computer Program Experience

- Proficient: MS Office Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point, Outlook, HTML coding, Adobe Acrobat, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Endnote, CPS, WebCT/VISTA/Blackboard
- Novice: Stella, Matlab, Canary, Raven, ArcView 9.2

### References

Bruce A. Schulte, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, [bruce.schulte@wku.edu](mailto:bruce.schulte@wku.edu), 270.745.5999.

Robert F. Young, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Marine Sciences, Coastal Carolina University, [ryoung@coastal.edu](mailto:ryoung@coastal.edu), 843.349.2277.

Paul C. Camp, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Physics, Spelman College, [pjcamp@gmail.com](mailto:pjcamp@gmail.com), 404. 270.5864.

Stephen P. Vives, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Biology, Georgia Southern University, [svives@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:svives@georgiasouthern.edu), 912.478.5487.

William E. Evans, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Departments of Oceanography and Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, Editor, American Midland Naturalist, [evans1930@sbcglobal.net](mailto:evans1930@sbcglobal.net), 574.271.2273.

Daniel C. Abel, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Marine Science, Coastal Carolina University, [dabel@coastal.edu](mailto:dabel@coastal.edu), 843.349.2257.

Wyndylyn von Zharen, Ed. D., J.D., Professor, Departments of Oceanography and Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, [dr\\_vonzharen@msn.com](mailto:dr_vonzharen@msn.com), 409.740.4485.

Jane M. Packard, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, [j-packard@tamu.edu](mailto:j-packard@tamu.edu), 979.845.1465.