

Elsita Maria Kiekebusch

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Education

2015-2019	PhD Biology , North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
2010-2012	MS Ecology of Drylands , Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
2003-2007	BA Biology , Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

Work and Research Experience

Fall 2019	Teaching Assistant , Introductory Biology, NC State University Raleigh NC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taught 2 undergraduate lab sections on ecology, evolution and biodiversity
Spring 2013, Fall 2014	Technician , Michigan State University / USDA Forest Service, Aiken SC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built seed traps, collected seeds, identified insects and plants for landscape conservation research project
Summer 2014	Contract Ecologist , Saguaro National Park, Tucson AZ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assisted project examining effectiveness of aerial herbicide to control invasive buffelgrass. Collected plant NDVI and size measurements.
Spring 2014	Field Biologist , Genesis Laboratories Inc., Wellington CO / Patna, India <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted research on use of insecticides to control the sandfly (<i>Phlebotomus argentipes</i>), the vector of visceral leishmaniasis
Summer 2013	Field Crew Leader , North Carolina State University, Fort Bragg NC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led field-crew effort to monitor populations and restore habitat for project on research and conservation of endangered butterfly
2009-2010	Research Technician , Gobabeb Training and Research Centre, Namibia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assisted long-term ecological research projects, environmental impact assessments and led survey of cyanobacteria along rainfall gradient

Publications

- Louthan, A., Keighron, M., **Kiekebusch, E.**, Cayton, H., Terando, A. & W. Morris. In Review at Ecology. *Climate change modifies the impact of disturbance interval on the growth rate of natural populations of Venus flytrap.*
- Guckian, M., Markowitz, E., Tucker, C., **Kiekebusch, E.**, Klemm, T., Middleton, L., Wootten, A. & M Staudinger. In Review at Environmental Communication. *Assessing the impact of an online climate science community: The Early Career Climate Forum.*
- **Kiekebusch, E.**, Louthan, A., Hudgens, B., Morris, W. & N. Haddad. In Prep. *Tipping points in vital rate responses to temperature across the annual lifecycle of a butterfly.* To be submitted to Ecology.
- **Kiekebusch, E.** and B. Kotler. 2016. *Effects of plant defenses and water availability on seasonal foraging preferences of the Nubian Ibex (Capra nubiana).* Israel J Ecology and Evolution 62(3-4):128-137
- Berger-Tal, R., **Kiekebusch, E.**, Sandomirsky, I. & S. Pilosof. 2013. *Forward by the guest editors: Evolution of Culture.* Israel J Ecology and Evolution 59(2): 43-44
- Warren-Rhodes, K., McKay, C., Boyle, L., Wing, M., **Kiekebusch, E.**, et al. 2013. *Physical ecology of hypolithic communities in the Namib Desert: the role of fog, rain, rock habitat and light.* Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences 118:1-10

Honors, Awards and Fellowships

2015-present	Graduate Research Assistantship, Institute for Wildlife Studies (tuition and student stipend over 5-year period during PhD)
2018	Porter Graduate Fellowship for summer research, Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University (\$1600)
2016-2017	Global Change Fellowship, DOI Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center , NC State University (\$18,000 over three semesters)
2016	People's Choice Award for Lightning Talk, National Climate Science Center Student and Early-Career Training, Amherst, MA
2016	Bouskila Award for Best Student Publication, Israel J Ecology & Evolution
2010-2012	Research scholarship, Albert Katz International School for Desert Studies (tuition and student stipend over 2-year period during MS)
2008	World Partners Fellowship, American Jewish World Service
2005	Lande Field Research Award, Dept. Biology, Swarthmore College (\$2000)

Service and Outreach

2018-19	Seminar Coordinator, Graduate Student Association of Biology, NCSU
2018-19	President, Science Communication Graduate Student Organization, NCSU
2017-18	Editorial Board Member, Early Career Climate Forum (www.eccforum.org)
2017-18	Vice-President, Science Communication Graduate Student Organization, NCSU
2017	Presenter, "Teen Science Cafe", NC Museum of Natural Sciences
2016-17	Treasurer, Science Communication Graduate Student Organization, NCSU
2015, 2016	Booth, Speaker, "Bugfest", NC Museum of Natural Sciences
2012	Symposium Organizer, Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental Research

Conference Presentations

- **Kiekebusch, E.**, Louthan, A., Morris, W., Hudgens, B. and N. Haddad. 2019. Measuring population responses to temperature across the annual lifecycle of a butterfly. 2019. Oral Presentation. International Congress for Conservation Biology, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- **Kiekebusch, E.**, Louthan, A., Morris, W., Hudgens, B. and N. Haddad. 2018. Measuring demographic rates and phenology at cryptic life stages of a locally rare wetland butterfly. Poster. Ecological Society of America, New Orleans LA
- **Kiekebusch, E.**, Henry, E. and N. Haddad. 2017. Using host-plant interactions to guide habitat restoration for the conservation of an endangered butterfly. Invited Talk. Entomological Society of America, Denver, CO
- **Kiekebusch, E.**, Hudgens, B. and N. Haddad. 2017. Population dynamics of Appalachian Brown butterflies under increased temperatures. Poster. Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR
- **Kiekebusch, E.** 2017. Novel Environments. Student Lightning Talk. Earth Optimism Summit, Washington, DC
- **Kiekebusch, E.** 2016. Novel Environments. Lightning Talk. National Climate Science Center Student and Early-Career Training, Amherst, MA

Additional Information

Languages: fluent English, highly proficient Spanish, conversational German

Organizational Memberships: Ecological Society of America, Society for Conservation Biology, American Association for the Advancement of Science