

## EMILY C. MELVIN

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### EDUCATION

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2023-Present	<b>Duke University</b> PhD (expected, 2027), Marine Science and Conservation (Nicholas School of the Environment)
2020-2022	<b>The University of Southern Mississippi</b> PhD Student, Coastal Sciences (School of Ocean Science and Engineering)
2020	<b>Duke University</b> Master of Environmental Management Concentration in Coastal Environmental Management Certificate in International Development Policy
2008	<b>University of Minnesota Law School</b> Juris Doctor, <i>magna cum laude</i> , Order of the Coif
2003	<b>University of Wisconsin-Madison</b> B.S., Zoology and Psychology

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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2025	Student Research Grant, Society of Wetland Scientists <b>(\$1,000)</b>
2025-2026	James B. Duke International Research Fellowship <b>(\$32,000)</b> (for research in spring-summer of 2026)
2025	Bass Instructional Fellowship: Instructor of Record <b>(\$15,750)</b>
2025	Summer Research Fellowship <b>(\$10,000)</b>
2025	Global Student Research Fund, Duke Office of Global Affairs <b>(\$2000)</b>
2024	Coastal and Marine Research Group Postgraduate Prize, Royal Geographical Society <b>(£100)</b>
2024	Ph.D Computational Fellowship Mentor, Duke Center for Computational Thinking <b>(\$8,500.00)</b>
2023	Global Student Research Fund, Duke University Office of Global Affairs <b>(\$1815)</b>
2023	Ph.D Computational Fellowship, Duke Center for Computational Thinking <b>(\$9,768.44)</b>
2023	Norbert P. Psuty Paper Merit Award, American Association of Geographers—Coastal and Marine Specialty Group <b>(\$300)</b>
2023	Conference Award for Pre-Candidacy Students, Duke University <b>(\$525)</b>
2020-2022	Graduate Fellowship in Coastal Sciences, University of Southern Mississippi <b>(full stipend and tuition)</b>
2022	Community Economies Institute scholarship to attend summer course <b>(\$500)</b>

2022	American Association of Geographers—Cultural and Political Ecology Student Research Grant <b>(\$1,000)</b>
2022	Coastal Sciences Student Travel Award, University of Southern Mississippi <b>(\$500)</b>
2021-2022	Nick Baron Memorial Marine Education Endowment, University of Southern Mississippi <b>(\$2505)</b>
2021	Graduate Competitive Travel Grant, University of Southern Mississippi <b>(\$500)</b>
2020	Graduate Competitive Travel Grant, University of Southern Mississippi <b>(\$99)</b>
2021	American Association of Geographers—Human Dimensions of Global Change Student Research Grant <b>(\$500)</b>
2018-2020	Safrit Scholarship, Duke University <b>\$20,000)</b>
2019	Duke University Center for International and Global Studies Graduate Award for Research and Training <b>(\$1,000)</b>
2019	Duke University Center for Caribbean and Latin American Studies Graduate Student Research Award <b>(\$2,000)</b>
2019	Nicholas School of the Environment, Kuzmier-Lee-Nikitine Fund Summer Enrichment Award <b>(\$1,000)</b>
2008	Burton Award for Outstanding Legal Writing (national writing award)
2008	Order of the Coif, University of Minnesota
2008	ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leadership Award, University of Minnesota
2005-2008	Dean’s List with an “A” Average, University of Minnesota
2005-2008	Book Award (for highest grade in class): Patents, Contracts, Taxation, Business Associations / Corporation, University of Minnesota
2003	Hilldale Undergraduate Research Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison <b>(\$4,000)</b>

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Political ecology; diverse and community economies; ocean and coastal geographies and governance; post-development and alternative futures; Caribbean and island geographies; Black geographies; environmental justice; science and technology studies; legal geographies

## PUBLICATIONS

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In prep	<b>Melvin, E.C.</b> , Fixing Ownership of Mobile Resources? How Intellectual Property Rights Could Complicate Access and Benefits Sharing Regimes for Marine Genetic Resources
In review	<b>Melvin, E.C.</b> , Zurita Posas, A.P., Carmine, G., Havice, E., and Campbell, L. Mapping Ocean Worlds Through the Data Revolution. <i>Political Geography</i> .
In review	<b>Melvin, E.C.</b> , Marine Genetic Resources, Patents, and the Commodification of Knowledge on the High Seas (and beyond). <i>Commodity Frontiers</i> . (solicited for “Conservation Frontiers” special issue).
2023	<b>Melvin, E.C.</b> , Acton, L. and Campbell, L.M. (Un)claiming rights, resources, and ocean spaces: Marine genetic resources and area-based management tools in high seas governance negotiations. <i>Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space</i> . 6(3): 1661-1681. doi: 10.1177/25148486221132832

- 2022 Campbell, L., Fail, R., Horan, R., Acton, L., Blackwatters, J., Garcia Lozano, A., Gray, N., Gruby, R., **Melvin, E.**, Murray, G., & Wiehe, E. Architecture and agency for equity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. 13:100144. *Earth System Governance*. Doi: 10.1016/j.esg.2022.100144
- 2020 Schmaltz, E.\*, **Melvin, E.C.\***, Diana, Z.\*, Gunady, E.F., Rittschof, D., Somarelli, J.A., Virdin, J., & Dunphy-Daly, M.M. Plastic pollution solutions: Emerging technologies to prevent and collect marine plastic pollution. *Environment International*. 144:106067 doi: 10.1016/j.envint.2020.106067 \*Co-Lead Authors
- 2020 Smith, C., Rudd, M., Gittman, R.K., **Melvin, E.C.**, Patterson, V., Renzi, J., Wellman, E., & Silliman, B. Coming to terms with living shorelines: A scoping review of novel restoration strategies for shoreline protection. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. 7:434. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2020.00434
- 2007 **Melvin, E.C.** An unacceptable exception: The ramifications of physician immunity from medical procedure patent infringement liability, *Minnesota Law Review*, 91(4), 1088-1112. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=982228>

### Datasets

- 2025 **Melvin, E.**, Havice, E., Drakopoulos, L., Zurita Posas, A., Crisp, K., Gulino, J., Kingery, Z., Patel, S., Sajewski, A., Walsh, H., & Campbell, L. *Catalog of Ocean Data Science Initiatives (v. 2)* [Dataset]. Carolina Digital Repository. [https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/data\\_sets/9593v914h?locale=en](https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/data_sets/9593v914h?locale=en)
- 2025 **Melvin, E.**, Zurita-Posas, A., Havice, E., Campbell, L.M. *Analysis of Ocean Data Science Initiatives' Geospatial Data Visualizations* [Dataset]. Carolina Digital Repository. [https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/data\\_sets/v405sr32m?locale=en](https://cdr.lib.unc.edu/concern/data_sets/v405sr32m?locale=en)

### Podcasts and Recorded Content

- 2021 **Melvin, E.** Landscape as Concept. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4nKIgj8WGo&t=48s>
- 2020 **Melvin, E.** and Rosing, K. Tourism in the Bahamas, *Seas the Day*. Episode 10. <https://sites.nicholas.duke.edu/seastheday/2021/01/20/episode-10-tourism-in-the-bahamas/>

### Thesis

- 2020 **Melvin, E.C.** Tourism, environmental stewardship, and community engagement on Andros, Island, Bahamas. Master's Thesis, Duke University. Available at <https://dukespace.lib.duke.edu/dspace/handle/10161/20472>

### Published Abstracts

- 2025 **Melvin, E.** Fixing Ownership of Mobile Resources? How Intellectual Property Rights Could Complicate Access and Benefits Sharing Regimes for Marine Genetic Resources. One Ocean Science Congress. <https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/OOS2025/OOS2025-841.html>
- 2024 **Melvin, E.C.**, Zurita Posas, A., Carmine, G., Havice, E., Campbell, LM. Visualizing Digital Data and Ocean World-Making. Coastal and Marine Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers. <https://coastalmarineresearchgroup.wordpress.com/conferences-events/past-events/annual-cmrg-postgraduate-researcher-presentation-competition/2024-2-2/>

- 2021 **Melvin, E.C.**, Acton, L., Campbell, L.M. 2021. Complicating Conservation: How Marine Genetic Resources Challenge High Seas Biodiversity Negotiations. Proceedings of the Seventy-Fourth Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, 74(13-14).  
<https://proceedings.gcfi.org/proceedings/complicating-conservation-how-marine-genetic-resources-challenge-high-seas-biodiversity-negotiations/>

#### CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025 “Fixing Ownership of Mobile Resources? How Intellectual Property Rights Could Complicate Access and Benefits Sharing Regimes for Marine Genetic Resources.” One Ocean Science Congress, Nice France.
- 2025 “Visualizing Digital Data: Possibilities for Making Ocean Worlds.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit Michigan. Session: Cartographies for a Changing Planet.
- 2024 “Visualizing Ocean Data and Ocean Worldmaking.” Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers, London, England. (Coastal and Marine Specialty Group Postgraduate Prize for best student paper)
- 2023 “Rethinking the Blue Economy: A Community Economies Approach to Post-Disaster Development.” Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Nassau, The Bahamas. Session: Governance.
- 2023 “How Maps Make Oceans: Digital Data and Ocean World-Making.” Digital Oceans Governance Lab Workshop, Beaufort, North Carolina.
- 2023 “Blue Possibilities: Reading for Diversity within Grand Bahama’s Blue Economy.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver Colorado. Session: Blue Economy (Norbert P. Psuty Paper Merit Award for best graduate student paper presentation, Coastal and Marine Specialty Group)
- 2022 “Re-inventing the Blue Economy: Ocean Innovation as a Strategy for Recovery in Grand Bahama.” Liviana Conference, Community Economies Research Network, Virtual. Session: Reimagining the Blue Economy, Enacting other Marine Futures.
- 2022 “The Blue Economy as a Strategy for Re-Imagining Post-Disaster Development in Grand Bahama.” Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers Annual International Meeting, Newcastle England (attended virtually). Session: Emerging Research in Political Geography.
- 2022 “Management Beyond Boundaries: How Marine Genetic Resources Reveal the Limitations of Territorial Forms of Governance.” Graduate Student Symposium, Ocean Springs Mississippi.
- 2022 “Blue economy and the (re)production of ocean space in the Bahamas.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New York New York (converted to virtual). Session: “Engaged” Perspectives: Assessing the Spatiality and Performance of “Blue” Markets
- 2021 “Complicating conservation: How marine genetic resources challenge high seas biodiversity negotiations.” Gulf & Caribbean Fisheries Institute Conference (converted to virtual).
- 2021 “(Un)claiming rights, resources, and ocean spaces: Marine genetic resources and area-based management tools in high seas governance negotiations.”

- Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers Annual International Meeting, London England (attended virtually). Session: Ocean Governance Beyond (and Against) Borders
  - American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle Washington (converted to virtual). Session: The Institutional Production of Territory: State Expansion in a ‘Nationalist’ Age
  - University of Southern Mississippi Graduate Student Symposium. Virtual.
- 2020 “Tourism, environmental stewardship, and community engagement on Andros Island, Bahamas.” Duke University, Nicholas School of the Environment Masters Symposium. Virtual.

## RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

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- Ongoing **Fragments of Possibility: Blue Economies and the Production of Ocean Space.** Doctoral dissertation research. Advised by Dr. Lisa Campbell.
- Ongoing **Making Ocean Worlds: The Big Data Revolution and Oceans Governance.** PIs: Dr. Lisa Campbell and Dr. Elizabeth Havice. Project of the Digital Oceans Governance Lab. Funded by National Science Foundation Human-Environment and Geographical Sciences Program.
- 2020-2023 **Marine Genetic Resources and Area-Based Management Tools in High Seas Governance Negotiations.** PI: Dr. Leslie Acton. Funded by the University of Southern Mississippi.
- 2019-2020 **Connecting for Resilience: Understanding Community Networks and Their Role in Disaster Preparedness and Response.** PI: Dr. Lisa Campbell. Funded by NC Sea Grant.
- 2019-2020 **Tourism, Environmental Stewardship, and Community Engagement on Andros Island, Bahamas.** Master’s Research advised by Dr. Lisa Campbell. Funded by Duke University.
- 2019-2020 **Bioremediation of Plastic Pollution to Conserve Marine Biodiversity.** PI: Dr. Meagan Dunphy-Daly. Funded by Duke University and Bass Connections.

## RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT

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- 2023-Present **Research Assistant**, Duke University Marine Lab. PI: Dr. Lisa M. Campbell
- 2020-2022 **Graduate Assistant**, University of Southern Mississippi. PI: Dr. Leslie Acton
- 2019-2020 **Research Assistant**, Duke University Marine Lab. PI: Dr. Lisa M. Campbell

## TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

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### Teaching and Mentorship Experience

- Ongoing **Mentor/Supervisor**, Masters and REU Students, Duke University
- Fall 2025 **Instructor of Record**, MARSCI 303SA, Ocean Justice
- Spring 2025 **Teaching Assistant**, ENVIRON 551DA, International Conservation and Development (Inst: Dr. Lisa Campbell)

Spring 2023	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , ENVIRON 335A, Drones in Marine Biology, Ecology, and Conservation (Inst: Dr. David Johnston), Duke University (guest lecture: Emerging Technologies and Governance: Considering Stakeholders in Using Technology for Science)
2023	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , Sustainable Tourism (Inst: Tarran Simms), University of the Bahamas (guest lecture: Tourism and the Blue Economy)
Fall 2022	<b>Adjunct Faculty</b> , MAR 417, Ocean Policy and Management, University of Southern Mississippi (sole instructor of record for writing-intensive undergraduate course required for marine science degree; developed curriculum and re-designed course)
2020-2022	Informal Mentor, Master's Students, University of Southern Mississippi (provide informal mentorship to multiple master's students, including providing substantive feedback on proposals and other written products)
2022	<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , COA 690-4981, Aquatic Ecosystem Management (Inst: Dr. Leila Hamdan and Dr. Leslie Acton, University of Southern Mississippi (guest lecture: International Oceans Governance)
2021	<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , COA 443/543 and COA 443L/543L, Marine Mammals (Inst: Dr. Christiana Wittmaack), University of Southern Mississippi (guest lecture: Marine Mammal Management and Governance)
2006-2007	<b>Student Instructor</b> , Structured Study Group program, University of Minnesota Law School (led study sessions on property, contracts; developed individual tutoring program)

### Research Project Advising

2024	Gulino, J. Ocean Data Science Initiatives Engage in the Ocean Science-Policy Interface by Positioning their Data and Services as Policy Relevant [Duke University]. <a href="https://hdl.handle.net/10161/30570">https://hdl.handle.net/10161/30570</a>
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### Pedagogical Training

Fall 2025	Facilitating Student Learning and Teaching Innovation (Duke University), Professor Jennie De Gagne
Fall 2023	Teaching Diverse Learners (Duke University), Professor Courtney Rainey
Spring 2023	Inclusive STEM Teaching Project ( <a href="https://www.inclusivestemteaching.org">https://www.inclusivestemteaching.org</a> ), Certified Participant

### SELECTED SERVICE

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**Peer Reviewer:** Environmental Politics; Progress in Environmental Geography

### University Service

2025-present	First Year Liaison and PhD Resource Coordinator, Duke Marine Lab
2024-present	Member, Ocean Diplomacy Working Group, Duke University
2024-2025	Graduate Student Representative, Marine Science and Conservation, Duke Marine Lab
2023-2024	PhD Liaison to Coastal Environmental Management Masters Students, Duke Marine Lab
2023	Member, PhD Advisory Committee for faculty search, Duke Marine Lab
2021-2022	President, Marine and Estuarine Graduate Student Association. University of Southern Mississippi
2021-2022	Student Representative, School of Ocean Science and Engineering Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. University of Southern Mississippi

2019 Volunteer, Marine Debris Program, Community Science Initiative, Duke Marine Lab  
2018-2019 Administrative Coordinator, Ocean Policy Working Group, Duke University

### **Community Service**

2019-Present Secretary, Board of Directors, Small Hope Bay Foundation, Andros Island, Bahamas  
2023-Present Volunteer, Misplaced Mutts Dog Rescue, Beaufort NC

### **SKILLS**

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Qualitative data analysis (nVivo), Collaborative event ethnography, Survey design (Qualtrics), Statistical analysis (r, Excel), Data Visualization (r, Adobe InDesign/Illustrator), Global information systems / geospatial analysis (ArcGIS Pro), Video/Audio editing (Adobe Audition, Wondershare Filmora), Photo editing (Adobe Lightroom/Photoshop Elements), German (Intermediate)

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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2022-Present Community Economies Research Network (North American co-lead, 2025-present)  
2022-Present Royal Geographical Society  
2021-Present International Studies Association  
2021-Present Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute  
2020-Present Association of American Geographers

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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2017-Present Professional Association of Dive Instructors, Open Water SCUBA Instructor  
2013-2017 Senior Litigation Associate, Latham & Watkins LLP, Chicago IL  
2009-2013 Intellectual Property Associate, Mayer Brown LLP, Chicago IL  
2008-2009 Judicial Law Clerk to Hon. Michael S. Kanne, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Lafayette, IN