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## Juanita Garcia-Saqui

### Objective

- To work as manager of Stakeholder Engagements and in Capacity Building of Stakeholders to ensure proper management of Natural Resources through teaching, research and community service.
- To help in the distribution of knowledge through teaching and intercommunication with stakeholders and relevant scientific community.

### Experience

2007-2010                      University of Florida                      Gainesville, FL., U.S.A.

- Expected Graduation Date: July 2011

#### Professional Experience

- Adjunct Lecturer at Galen University, Belize (August - December 2010).  
Classes taught: Ecology of a Tropical Forest and General Biology.
- Editor of report “Rapid Assessment of the Upper Belize River Valley: Identification of Stakeholder Needs, Involvement Opportunities and Incentives for Landscape Restoration Focused on Riparian Reforestation and Land Use Policy Recommendations” submitted to CATIE (November – December 2010).
- Presented “Reaching for your star” to Parents and Students of St Augustine R.C School, Middlesex Village, Stann Creek District (April 2009).
- Participated in development of virtual Masters of Science Degree in Ethnobiology in Merida, Yucatan Mexico (March 2009).
- Obtained Candidacy status from the University of Florida, PhD Program (December 2009).
- Prepared and delivered course “Parks in Peril” at the University of Florida (Fall 2008, Fall 2009)
- Coordinated Tropical Conservation and Development Program seminar series (August – December 2008).

2004-2007                      University of Florida                      Gainesville, FL. U.S.A.

- Second PhD program field research season in Southern Africa (May-July 2008)
- First PhD program field research season in Southern Africa (May-July 2007)
- Obtained Masters of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Ecology with Concentration on Forest Resources Conservation 2007.
- Wrote Masters Degree thesis “Growth Rate of Hardwood Tree Species in Monoculture and Mixed-species Agroforestry Systems in Belize.
- Enrolled in Masters Degree Program at University of Florida 2004

#### OAS-Belize Agroforestry Project

- Technical Coordinator: OAS -Belize Agroforestry Project (January 2002-2006)
- Developed course material for OAS: Agro-forestry research project in Belize (2002 to 2007)
- Delivered Agro-forestry course at Galen University (July 2006)
- Delivered Agro-forestry course at St. John's College Junior College (May 2006)

2002-2004

University of Belize

Belmopan City, Belize C.A

#### **Micropropagation Laboratory Technician**

- Cultivated ornamental plants in-vitro.
- Cultivated orchid plants in vitro.
- Prepared media for sowing of orchid seeds and ornamental plants.
- Acclimatization of plants and got them ready for sale.
- Wrote a thesis “ Seed Germination and Callus Induction of *Spathoglottis plicata (L)*” 2002).

2001-2002

University of Belize

Belmopan City, Belize C.A

#### **Research Assistant Micro-propagation Laboratory**

- Assisted in the investigation of media used for the germination of orchid seeds.
- Pollinated orchid flowers manually for the procurement of seeds.
- Assisted in the preparation of different media used during the research.

1996-1998

Belize Food Products Ltd.

Stann Creek District, Belize C.A

#### **Inventory and Purchasing Clerk.**

- Controlled the inventory and purchasing database for the factory
- Purchased all necessary office essentials for the office and items for the factory.
- Took on other responsibilities from time to time (eg. payroll clerk, receptionist)

1993-1994

Citrus Research and Education Institute.

Stann Creek District

#### **Laboratory assistant (Tristeza Virus Survey)**

- Worked in the laboratory selecting testing material.
- Assisted in the fields whenever necessary collecting specimens.

1992-1993

Citrus Company of Belize Ltd.

Stann Creek District, Belize C.A.

#### **Payroll Clerk**

- Prepared payroll for the Groves Department.
- Prepared payments for the workers on the Groves Department Payroll.
- Prepared payments for Social Security and Income Tax Department (Government of Belize).

- Assisted in other areas whenever necessary.

## Education

2007 – Present                      University of Florida                      Gainesville, FL.                      USA

- PhD Student in Interdisciplinary Ecology
- PhD Candidate: Concentration in Tropical Conservation and Development (2009)

2004 – 2007                      University of Florida                      Gainesville, FL.                      USA

- Masters of Science Degree Majoring in Interdisciplinary Ecology with a Concentration in Forests Resources and Conservation

2001–2003                      University of Belize                      Belize City,                      Belize C.A.

- Bachelors of Science in Biology

1999 – 2001

- Associates Degree in Natural Resources Management
- Graduated with honor for academic excellence.

1988 – 1992

- Ecumenical High School, Dangriga                      Stann Creek
- Obtained High School Diploma

## Publications

- Saqui, Juanita G. (2008). Working Forests in the Tropics Conference poster presentation Entitled: Are Community Based Natural Resource Management Programs Influencing Attitudinal Changes Towards Wildlife and the National Parks in Namibia and Botswana?
- Saqui, Juanita G. 2008. Does community based conservation influence positive attitude towards wildlife conservation in the Wuparo Community in Namibia? Paper presented at the Annual Association of American Geographers conference in Boston (2008).
- Saqui, Juanita G. 2007. *Growth rates of Tectona grandis and Cedrela odorata in monoculture and mixed-species systems* in Belize C.A.
- Saqui, Juanita G. 2007. Poster Presentation at the Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Gainesville Florida Entitled: Can Community Based Natural Resources Management Programs influence attitudes and behavioral changes towards wildlife conservation in developing countries?
- Saqui, Juanita G. (2007) Opinion Paper in the Gainesville Sun Newspaper Entitled: **Have some pride, Gators, clean-up on game day.** <http://www.gainesville.com/article/2007>
- Saqui, Juanita G. (2002) Seed Germination and Callus Induction of *Spathoglottis plicata*. University Belize.
- Poster presentation “Seed Germination and Callus Induction of *Spathoglottis plicata*”; University of

Belize, Belmopan Campus.

#### **Awards and Recognitions**

- NSF Dissertation Field Research Grant (2007-2008)
- Tropical Conservation and Development Field research grant (2007)
- Institute of Food and Agriculture Travel Grant (2007)
- Graduate Student Council Travel Grant (2007)
- Geography Department Travel Grant (2007)
- Tropical Conservation and Development Travel Grant (2007)
- Certificate of Recognition for participating in the “Development of the Virtual Master’s Degree Program in Merida, Yucatan (2009)
- Certification in Teaching with Technology (2008)
- Master’s Certificate in tropical Conservation and Development (2007)
- Certificate of participation in the Maya Center Women’s Group (2006)
- Certificate of participation: The National Committee for Families and Children, Belize (2002)

#### **Interests**

- Conservation and development issues
- Community involvement in conservation
- Orchid collector, Scuba Diving (PADI Certified), organic farming, etc.