

*Curriculum Vitae*

(July 2023)

**Georgia G. Hernández**

Telephone: +1 (959) 232 0387, +506 8919 4935

E-Mail: [georgiahernandezc@gmail.com](mailto:georgiahernandezc@gmail.com); [georgia.hernandez-corrales@uconn.edu](mailto:georgia.hernandez-corrales@uconn.edu)

Languages: Spanish (native language), English (fluent: speaking, reading, writing), Italian (high: listening; intermediate: reading; basic: writing, speaking)

ORCID 0000-0002-1076-7200

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Candidate (2018 – 2024)

University of Connecticut, USA

B.Sc. Biology (2013 – 2017), Thesis: “Evaluation of the Net Primary Productivity in high altitude pastures for livestock purposes”

Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, Costa Rica

**RESEARCH INTEREST**

I am interested in understanding the effects of climate change on plants, from the leaf level to communities. Combining physiological and demographic techniques I will be able to identify potential species’ capacity to tolerate climate stresses and how communities will eventually fluctuate on time and space.

**PUBLICATIONS**

6. **Hernández G G**, Seemann J S, Godoy L d C, García-Robledo C. Heat tolerance and thermal safety margins of tropical herbaceous plants increase with elevation. *Journal of Ecology* (submitted)
5. **Hernández G G**, Perez T, Vargas O M, Kress W J, Molina R, Cordero R, Seemann J R, García-Robledo C. (2022). Evolutionary history constrains heat tolerance of native and exotic tropical Zingiberales. *Journal of Functional Ecology*. DOI: 10.1111/1365-2435.14191
4. Slot M, Nardwattanawong T, **Hernández G G**, Bueno A, Riederer M, Winter K. (2021). Large differences in leaf cuticle conductance and its temperature response among 24 tropical tree species from across a rainfall gradient. *New Phytologist*, 232(4), 1618-1631. DOI: 10.1111/nph.17626

3. García-Robledo C, Kuprewicz E K, Baer C, Clifton E, **Hernández G G**, Wagner D L. (2020). The Erwin Equation of Biodiversity: From little steps to quantum leaps in the discovery of tropical diversity. *Biotropica*, 52(4), 590-597. DOI: 10.1111/btp.12811
2. **Hernández G G**, Slot M and Winter K. (2020). Similar temperature dependence of photosynthetic parameters in sun and shade leaves of three tropical tree species. *Tree Physiology*, 40(5), 637-651. DOI: 10.1093/treephys/tpaa015
1. Slot M, Krause G H, Krause B, **Hernández G G**, Winter K. (2019). Photosynthetic heat tolerance of shade and sun leaves of three tropical tree species. *Photosynthesis Research*, 141:119-130. DOI: 10.1007/s11120-018-0563-3

#### CONTRIBUTED ORAL PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

**2022. Hernández G G**, Castro R, Pérez-Enriquez A, García-Robledo C. “Heat tolerance on two extreme life stages of the Zingiberales community of a tropical lowland wet forest” ATBC Meeting 2022, Invited speaker at the Symposium Plant ecophysiology in a changing world: from theory to application.

**2022.** García-Robledo C, **Hernández G G**, Kuprewicz E. “Thermal mismatches between host plants and insect herbivores along elevational gradients: Implications for global warming” ATBC Meeting 2022

**2021. Hernández G G**, Seemann J R, García-Robledo. C. “Heat tolerance and thermal safety margins of tropical plants increase with elevation: Are lowland plant communities at higher risk to global warming?” ATBC Virtual Meeting 2021, Invited speaker at the Symposium: Emerging Frontiers in Tropical Ecology: voices from the Next Generation.

**2019. Hernández G G**, Perez T, Vargas O, Kress W J, Molina R, Cordero R, Seemann J R & García-Robledo C. Poster: “Phylogenetic constraints or convergent adaptation? Leaf thermal tolerance of native and exotic Zingiberales in a tropical lowland forest” 43<sup>rd</sup> New Phytologist Symposium Interaction networks and trait evolution

**2018. Hernández G G**, Slot M & Winter K. Poster: “Temperature dependence of photosynthetic parameters in tropical trees; comparing mechanisms in sun and shade leaves” Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting 2018 (ESA)

**2016.** Hernández R & **Hernández G G**. “Leaf crown position determines heat and light stress in *Dipterix panamensis*” IV Cuban Tropical Biodiversity and Ecology Conference

#### AWARDS

**2023.** Honorable mention, Tree Physiology Best Graduate Student Paper Award. For the paper "Similar temperature dependence of photosynthetic parameters in sun and shade leaves of three tropical tree species (2020)".

**2019.** Environmental Leadership Award. Office of Environmental Policy and the Environmental Policy Advisory Council, University of Connecticut – for my contribution to education, commitment to environmental literacy of Costa Rican students (BRENESII).

## FELLOWSHIPS

**2023.** American Philosophical Society – Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research (\$5000)

**2023.** Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship. Glaxo Centro America Fellowship – Organization for Tropical Studies (\$4500)

**2019 – 2023.** Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department – Botany Award. University of Connecticut (total of \$7500)

**2022.** Conference Participation Award – Graduate School. University of Connecticut (\$750)

**2022.** Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship. Glaxo Centro America Fellowship – Organization for Tropical Studies (\$5600)

**2020.** Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship. David and Deborah Clark & Rudy Ruggles Research Fellowship – Organization for Tropical Studies (\$5440)

**2020.** ATBC Seed Research Grant. Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation Award (\$1000)

**2019.** UCONN@COP25 Fellowship. Fellowship to attend the *United Nations Climate Change Conference* (formally known as the Conference of Parties, COP25-Chile) in Madrid, Spain

**2019.** Heliconia Society International Award for Botanical and Horticultural Research Projects on the Zingiberales (\$1000)

**2019.** New Phytologist Trust Student Award (€1220)

**2019.** The Explorers Club – Mamont Scholar Grant (\$3000)

**2019.** Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship. Glaxo Centro America Fellowship – Organization for Tropical Studies (\$5200)

**2018.** Tropical Ecology and Conservation (\$1000): Organization for Tropical Studies & Universidad de Costa Rica

**2018.** Smithsonian Tropical Research Institution: Travel Award Program (\$1000)

**2018.** El Instituto – Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies. University of Connecticut (\$500): Whetten Fund Grant- UCONN

**2017.** Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship (\$2370): Rudy Ruggles Research Fellowship – Organization for Tropical Studies

**2016.** Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica: Travel Award (\$500)

**2016.** Dry Forest Ecology Course (\$600): Universidad de Costa Rica

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**2023.** Resource faculty

Course: Tropical Biology, Graduate Course

Organization for Tropical Studies

**2018 – 2023.** Teaching assistant

Course: General Biology 1102 & 1108

University of Connecticut

**2021.** Research mentor

Course: Research Experience for Undergraduates, Costa Rica

NSF/LSAMP – Organization for Tropical Studies

Coordinator: Dr. Carissa Ganong

**2018.** Co-coordinator and Teaching assistant

Course: Research Experience for Undergraduates, Costa Rica

NSF/LSAMP – Organization for Tropical Studies

Coordinator: Dr. Carissa Ganong

**2015 – 2017.** Teaching assistant

Course: Plant Anatomy & Physiology Laboratory

Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica

Professor: Dr. Roberto Cordero

## **STUDENT RESEARCH MENTORED**

### *Undergraduate Students*

Kayla Dubbs (UConn undergraduate senior project 2022)

Raquel Castro (Universidad Nacional Costa Rica, NSF-REU Project 2021)

Alejandra Pérez (Universidad Nacional Costa Rica, NSF-REU Project 2021)

Julian Batista Lugo (Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, NSF-REU Project 2021)

## **PROFESSIONAL, UNIVERSITY, & DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

*Peer reviewer for: Oecologia*

## INTERNSHIPS

**2018.** Smithsonian Internship (\$3000): Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

Mentors: Drs. Martijn Slot and Klaus Winter

Project: “Ecophysiology of Tropical Plants”

**2018.** Smithsonian Internship (\$2400): Hollister-Smith Endowment Program- Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

Mentors: Drs. Martijn Slot and Klaus Winter

Project: “Ecophysiology of Tropical Plants”

**2017.** Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR): Research Center for Environmental Contamination.

Thesis program for undergraduates

Mentor: Dr. Christina Chinchilla

Project: “Limitations to primary production of pastures under low radiance and nutrients”

**2016.** Research Experience for Undergraduates NSF- Organization for Tropical Studies (\$2480):

Mentors: Drs. Roberto Cordero & Ned Fetcher

Coordinator: Dr. Carissa Ganong

Project: “Long-term photosynthetic acclimation of tropical tree seedlings to gradual increase of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>”

## OUTREACH

**2019 – 2020.** Outreach Committee Coordinator. Graduate Student Association, EEB University of Connecticut

**2015 – 2019.** Co-founder of a start-up BRENESII, Costa Rica. A science communication program focused on latino young people in Costa Rica. [www.brenesii.com](http://www.brenesii.com), [video](#)

BRENESII Awards:

UNA INCUBA, Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (2014).

Premio Yo Creo, Universidad Latina (2015)

Member of Youth Action Network (2015)

Mention of BRENESII in the local press:

[La República \(2015\)](#)

[El Financiero \(2015\)](#)

## COURSES & WORKSHOPS

**2018.** Tropical Ecology and Conservation: Organization for Tropical Studies & Universidad de Costa Rica (OTS funded: \$1000).

**2016.** Dry Forest Ecology: Universidad de Costa Rica & UNAM (UCR funded: \$600).  
Professors: Drs. Mauricio Quesada, Silvana Martén, Jorge Lobo & Ariel Fuchs  
Santa Rosa National Park, Costa Rica

**2016.** Modeling of Fundamental Processes in Ecology: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica  
Professor: Dr. Esteban Acevedo

**2015.** Introductory course in Meta-analysis for Ecology: Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica & UNAM  
Professor: Dr. Romeo Saldaña

## SKILLS

R, field work, sewing skills

## REFERENCES

Carlos García-Robledo, University of Connecticut USA, [carlos.garcia-robledo@uconn.edu](mailto:carlos.garcia-robledo@uconn.edu)

Roberto Cordero, Universidad Nacional Costa Rica, [ticolamb@gmail.com](mailto:ticolamb@gmail.com)

Martijn Slot, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, [martijnslot78@gmail.com](mailto:martijnslot78@gmail.com)