

# JODI-ANN N. BURTON

Graduate Research Assistant

Texas A&M University at Galveston

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## EDUCATION

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Texas A&M University at Galveston	Marine & Coastal Management and Sciences	<b>Ph.D. (current)</b>
University of the West Indies (Jamaica)	Marine Biology	<b>B.Sc. 2018</b>

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Graduate Research Assistant**, Texas A&M University at Galveston (Texas, United States of America)  
(January 2024 - present)

- Currently working with Dr. Ashley Ross and The Center of Excellence in Climate Resilient and Equitable Housing (CECREH) team on housing recovery and disaster resilience in Texas

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Texas A&M University at Galveston (Texas, United States of America)  
(August 2023 - December 2023)

- Instructed three of the undergraduate lab sessions for Biostatistics under the professor Dr. Philip Matich
- Explained the theoretical functions of the data analysis software R, and what coding language to use for different analysis functions
- Worked with the students through coding to ensure they understood it well to do their assignments and lab examinations

**Junior Laboratory Technician**, UWI Port Royal Marine Laboratory & Biodiversity Centre (Kingston, Jamaica)  
(January 2020 - December 2021)

- Co-authored a research article on *Sargassum sp.* in Jamaica • see *Publication section*
- Co-wrote a proposal for funding of an aquaponics project at the lab
- Created a virtual boat tour for outreach due to visitors not being able to physically tour the lab
- Manage and maintain lab equipment for use when necessary
- Assist supervisor with field exercises for final year Marine Biology classes from the University
- Assist post-graduate students with data collection in the field (mangrove rehabilitation • coral reef restoration)
- Help with preventative maintenance of the saltwater system
- Collection of organisms/fish for laboratory purposes at the university and for display purposes in the tanks at the lab
- Keep display area (tanks housing organisms) clean for visitors touring the lab

**Interim Outreach Officer**, UWI Port Royal Marine Laboratory & Biodiversity Centre (Kingston, Jamaica)  
(November 2019 – December 2019)

- Gave presentations on the marine ecosystem (functions & threats) and took visitors on a boat tour of the Kingston Harbor so that they can see them (mangroves, sea grasses) up close

- Gave guided tours of the facility to visitors so that they can see the animals that live in Jamaican waters
- Scheduled tours of the lab after communicating with potential customers via emails and phone calls

**Intern, UWI Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory & Field Station (St. Ann, Jamaica)**  
(January 2019 – June 2019)

- Assisted supervisor in coral reef surveys and mangrove monitoring activities, specifically data collection, entry, and analysis
- Assisted supervisor with outreach activities: giving tours and presentations to student and/or adult groups that visit the lab
- Assisted supervisor in planning the 2019 Western Regional Health Authority Hyperbaric Chamber workshop, which was held at the lab
- Prepared monthly reports on tasks accomplished

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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- Environmental Policy
- (Marine & Coastal) Ecosystem Management
- Environmental Conservation

## **PUBLICATION**

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Machado, C. B., Maddix, G.-M., Francis, P., Thomas, S.-L., **Burton, J.-A.**, Langer, S., Larson, T. R., Marsh, R., Webber, M., Tonon, T. (2022). Pelagic Sargassum events in Jamaica: Provenance, morphotype abundance, and influence of sample processing on biochemical composition of the biomass. *Science of the Total Environment*, 817, 152761. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.152761>

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

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- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Certificate of Completion for SDG Academy's Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience Course • **March 2022**
- The Nature Conservancy Wastewater Pollution Mentored Course Certificate of Completion • **November 2021**
- PADI Certified Advanced Open Water Diver • **June 2019**

## **SKILLS**

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- Data and Spatial analysis (R, STATA, ArcGIS Pro)
- Document Processing and Organization
- Mangrove & GCRMN Monitoring
- Task Prioritization
- Proficient use of Microsoft Office