

# Leslie Townsell

Department of Marine Sciences,  
University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30606  
[leslie.townsell@uga.edu](mailto:leslie.townsell@uga.edu)

## EDUCATION

- 2018-Present Master of Science, Marine Sciences. University of Georgia (UGA), Athens, Georgia.  
Major professor: P.L. Yager
- 2013-2016 Master of Science, Biology. Clark Atlanta University (CAU), Atlanta, Georgia.  
Major professor: Z. Wang
- 2007-2012 Bachelor of Science, Biology, minor in French. Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2020 Graduate Trainee, UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, Athens, Georgia.  
Supervisor: P.L. Yager
- 2019 Graduate Fellow, Department of Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2014-2016 Graduate Research Assistant, Georgia Institute of Technology (GT), Atlanta, Georgia.  
Supervisor: W. Ratcliff
- 2012 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.  
Supervisor: Y. Tekle
- 2012 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.  
Supervisor: Y. Tekle

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2020 Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Principles of Biology II Lab*, UGA, Athens, Georgia
- 2018 Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Principles of Biology II Lab*, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2013-2014 Instructor (K-5), Program coordinator, Jump Start Gym, Sandy Springs, Georgia.
- 2012-2013 Instructor (K-5), Big Thinkers Science Exploration, Clarkston, Georgia.
- 2011 Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, *Biological Communities, Evolution, and Biodiversity*  
Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Top Presenter, Department of Marine Sciences, UGA Marine Sciences Student Research Symposium, Athens, Georgia.
- 2019 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Sea Grant Traineeship, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2019 Osborne Fellowship, Graduate School, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2007 Alpha Pearl Debutant Scholarship, awarded by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Phi Phi Omega Chapter, Roswell, Georgia.
- 2007 Richard B. Gross Scholarship, Roswell, Georgia.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 Townsell, L.C. *Ocean Acidification and its potential impacts on oyster aquaculture for Georgia*. UGA Marine Sciences Student Research Symposium. Oral.
- 2020 Townsell, L.C. *Ocean Acidification and its potential impacts on oyster aquaculture for Georgia*. Xavier University Health Disparities Conference. Poster. (Cancelled due to Covid-19)
- 2016 Townsell, L.C. *Exploring the Effect of Sexual Recombination on Nascent Multicellular Organisms*. M.S. Thesis. CAU. Oral.
- 2012 Townsell, L.C. Description of a new amoeboid reticulate stramenopile, *Leukarachnion reticulate* sp. nov. Spelman College Annual Research Day. Poster.
- 2011 Townsell, L.C. Understanding the diversity of amoeboid movement in Amoebozoa using confocal microscopy. Spelman College Annual Research Day. Poster.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Graduate Assistant, Georgia Climate Project, UGA Coordinating Group, Athens, Georgia.
- 2019 Graduate Fellow, Department of Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, Georgia.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2020-Present Curriculum Sub-Committee Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEI), Department of Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2020-Present Member, DEI Committee, Department of Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2018-Present Member, Marine Science Graduate Student Association (MSGSA), Department of Marine Sciences, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2018-Present Member, Graduate and Professional Scholars (GAPS), UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2019-2020 Vice President, GAPS, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2018-2020 Corresponding Secretary, GAPS, UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2018-Present Member, Graduate Research Assistants Diversifying Science (GRADS), UGA, Athens, Georgia.
- 2020 Organizer, #BlackInMarineScienceWeek
- 2010-2012 Volunteer, Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2007-2010 Member, Spelman College Health Careers Club, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2008-2009 Volunteer, Grady Health System [Grady Memorial Hospital], Atlanta Georgia.
- 2007-2009 Member, Spelman College Biology Club, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2007 Member, Spelman College Health Careers Opportunities Program/Pre-Freshman Summer Science Program, Atlanta, Georgia.

## RESEARCH CRUISES

- 2019 R/V Savannah, (2 days), CTD casts, bottle carbonate chemistry, and plankton tows, Savannah, Georgia.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

- 2020 Black In Marine Science
- 2020 Minorities in Shark Science (MISS)
- 2020 Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)
- 2019 Scuba Schools International (SSI) certified Open Water Diver
- 2012 Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) certified Open Water Diver

## **OUTREACH AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION**

- 2020 Day Coordinator, #BIMSRollCall, #BlackInMarineScienceWeek
- 2020 Video Participant, #IAmNotMyHair, #BlackInMarineScienceWeek
- 2020 Panel Moderator, #SinkorSwim: Experiences Being Black in Marine Science panel, #BlackInMarineScienceWeek
- 2020 Day Coordinator, Georgia Aquarium Takeover, #BlackInMarineScienceWeek

## **MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

- 2020 WBTV-QC Life, <https://qclife.wbtv.com/what-to-know-about-blackinmarinescienceweek/>

## **ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2014-Present Sales Associate, Athleta, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2018 Scheduling and Supply Coordinator, Georgia Eye Bank, Sandy Springs, Georgia.
- 2017-2018 Universal Banker, Fidelity Bank, Marietta, Georgia.
- 2016-2017 Customer Service Representative, Bank of America, Marietta, Georgia.

## **RELEVANT SKILLS**

Microsoft Office Suite, Mac OS, Windows OS, Social Media, Website Design, Graphic Design, Video Editing, French proficiency