

# Nuri Teresa Pierce

## Graduate Research Fellow

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego

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## EDUCATION

**UCSD Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego, CA** Ph.D. Fall 2010-ongoing  
Marine Biology Research Division  
Emphasis on functional genomics and response to climate change  
Advisors: Ron Burton, Terry Gaasterland

**Stanford University, Stanford, CA** Cumulative GPA  
**MS in Biology**, June 2009 3.9/4.0  
Advisor: Fiorenza Micheli

Emphasis on Marine Protected Areas

**BS with Honors in Biological Sciences**, June 2009 3.5/4.0

Advisor: William Gilly

**Honors Thesis:** Venom Synthesis and Gene Expression Analysis of Toxins  
in the Venom Ducts of *Conus californicus* Maintained in Tissue Culture

Including study and research at:

**Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station, Monterey, CA**

Field and lab marine biology program

AAUS Certification 2008

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## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

### Fellowships:

2010-2013 National Science Foundation **Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT): Global Change, Marine Ecosystems and Society**

2010-2012 San Diego Diversity Fellowship, UCSD

2010-2012 Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation Diversity Fellowship

2013-2016 National Science Foundation **Graduate Research Fellowship**

### Research Grants:

2012 Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation IGERT Mini-Grant \$11,532

2008 Stanford University VPUE Summer Research Grant, \$5200

2007 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Grant, \$5200

### Awards:

2008, 09 El Centro Chicano Community Awards for Honors, Academic Achievement

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Adaptation, genomics, genetic response to climate change stressors, ocean acidification, evolution, bioinformatics, marine conservation biology

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Burton Lab, PhD Student** Fall 2010 - present  
*Doryteuthis (Loligo) opalescens*, transcriptome response to high-CO<sub>2</sub> and low-O<sub>2</sub> conditions during development  
Bioinformatics pipeline development for both *D. opalescens* and *T. californicus* analyses
- UCSD Genome Information Sciences, Frazer Lab, visiting student** June 2011 - January 2012  
Developed a pipeline for analyzing microRNA expression in time course samples from patients with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, with the goal of developing biomarkers of disease progression (<http://frazer.ucsd.edu>)
- Hopkins Marine Station, Micheli Lab, Student Researcher** 2008-2009  
Extensive field work deploying, maintaining, and gathering data from Relative Swell Kinetics Instruments; conducted fish surveys  
Used population genetic methods to study abalone connectivity near a marine reserve in Baja California
- Hopkins Marine Station, Gilly Lab, Honors Research** 2006-2008  
Conducted gene expression analysis of peptide toxins in *Conus californicus* for an Honors thesis (completed June 2008)
- Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Volunteer Docent** 2005-2009  
Give tours to students, faculty, community members interested in learning about the purpose and importance of the preserve and the research being conducted, particularly the Jasper Ridge Global Change Experiment
- Wildlife Research Institute, Golden Eagle Monitoring, Team Leader** 2002-2005  
Monitored two Golden Eagle pairs in San Diego County, coordinated team meetings and organized Eagle data  
Participated in two tagging expeditions of Golden Eagle chicks
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## LEADERSHIP AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- UCSD, Biology, "Principles of Genomics"** January - June 2011  
Designed and led a seminar course evaluating seminal papers in genomics and the methods that have come to define the field
- Stanford University, Biology, Ecology Lab Course Assistant** January - June 2008  
Reorganized and taught an independent research projects course designed to teach students laboratory principles; focused on grassland woody encroachment at Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
- Stanford University, Center For Teaching and Learning, Peer Tutor** 2006-2009  
Provided one-on-one tutoring to Stanford undergraduates in the introductory biology core courses, introductory psychology, and some upper-division biology courses

**Stanford University, Toyon Hall, Head Peer Academic Counselor**

2006-2007

Directed academic events and aided students with academic issues, including declaring a major, finding research opportunities or jobs. Organized Faculty-student dinners and a Majors night involving faculty from 30 departments and 500+ undergraduate students

**Stanford Pre-Orientation Trip, Leader**

September 2005

Co-led 12 incoming freshmen on a backpacking trip in Desolation Wilderness, CA

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## PUBLICATIONS

C. A. Elliger, T. A. Richmond, Z.N. Lebaric, **N. T. Pierce**, J. V. Sweedler and W. F. Gilly. (2011) Diversity of conotoxin types from *Conus californicus* reflects a diversity of prey types and a novel evolutionary history. *Toxicon*. 57 (2): 311-322

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2012 **Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)**. Seattle, WA. N.T Pierce, M.N. Navarro, E. Bockmon, and R.S. Burton. "Gene Expression Response of California Market Squid, *Doryteuthis opalescens*, to high-CO<sub>2</sub>/low-pH, low O<sub>2</sub> conditions"

2012: **Evolution**. Ottawa, Canada. N.T. Pierce and R.S. Burton. "Variation-Aware Transcriptome Alignment Improves Gene Expression Analyses in *Tigriopus californicus*" (Poster)

2011 **Evolution**. Norman, Oklahoma. N.T Pierce and R.S. Burton. "High Resolution Melting (HRM) Genotyping in *Tigriopus californicus*: An Application to Heat Stress Response" (Poster)

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## ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

2013 **Scripps Institution of Oceanography Fellowship Donor Brunch**

"Gene Expression Response of California Market Squid to Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Conditions"

2012 **CSU Fullerton, Marine Science Symposium for 'English as a Second Language' Students**

"Global Change Impacts to Marine Organisms"

2011 **Wrote and directed "Old Spice," an ocean acidification outreach short**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nd9FZPj1SRU>

2009-present **Birch Aquarium, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Volunteer**

Volunteer naturalist and marine science instructor

2009 **Bike and Build, Ride from Boston to Santa Barbara**

Raised \$5,000 for affordable housing issues in America

Cycled 4,000 miles, built at affordable housing sites, gave presentations on sustainable housing