

# Meghan Collins, M.Sc.

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## Education

**2012. Masters of Science in Environmental Studies.** Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand  
*How is science used in policy to address spatial conflict in the marine area for New Zealand aquaculture?* Research examined the barriers to effective use and communication of scientific information for planning decisions to address challenges in conflict over marine spatial allocation.

**2007. Bachelors of Arts and Science** (interdisciplinary dual major). McGill University; Montréal, Québec, Canada.  
Major: Environmental Science. Minor: International Development Studies.

## Publications and Reports

Lambrecht, K. B. Hatchett, L. Walsh, **M. Collins**, Z. Tolby. 2018. Improving Visual Communication of Weather Forecasts with Rhetoric. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. BAMS-D-18-0186

**Collins, M. 2018.** An evaluation of the Tribal College Faculty-Faculty Research Partnerships. Desert Research Institute Published Report.

**McGinnis, M. and M. Collins. 2013.** A race for space: Science, values, and aquaculture planning in New Zealand. Coastal Management, 41: 5, 401-419.

**M. Collins. 2011.** The role of marine science and scientists. Section 3.2 in M. McGinnis, 2011. Oceans Governance: The New Zealand Dimension. Emerging Issues Report. Wellington, New Zealand.

## Academic Experience

**Desert Research Institute.** June 2015 – Present. Assistant Research Scientist, STEM Education. Reno, NV.  
Led the formation of Northern Nevada's first science café series, called Science Distilled. Led *Stories in the Snow*, the first citizen science project to engage students and residents in collecting images of freshly-fallen snow crystals. Coordinated and evaluated Faculty-Faculty Research Partnerships with Tribal Colleges. Developed and led workshops on Science Communication to graduate students throughout the state. Developed and mentored internships for college students. Assisted faculty in a multitude of broader impacts projects.

**Great Basin College.** August 2017 – present. Adjunct Faculty. Elko, NV (online).  
Leading Integrated Seminar course (online) in environmental and social aspects of natural hazards (INT 369). Curriculum preparation, lecture, and assess a diverse student body following GBC learning objectives.

**Nevada State College.** June - August 2017 – present. Adjunct Faculty. Henderson, NV (online).  
Led Research Internship course (online) for professional development and coordinated research internships for Nevada State College students at the Desert Research Institute. Curriculum preparation, lecture, and assess a diverse student body following NSC learning objectives.

**Truckee Meadows Community College.** Jan 2014 – June 2016. Adjunct Faculty. Reno, NV.  
Led ENV 100, NRES 100, and GEOG 200 courses, in online and face-to-face classrooms. Curriculum preparation, lecture, and assess a diverse student body following TMCC learning objectives.

**EDANZ Editing.** Sept 2011 – Sept 2013. Scientific manuscript editor (part-time, working remotely). Fukuoka, Japan.  
Language polishing for scientific manuscripts authored by scientists in Japan and China to prepare the manuscript for submission to international scientific journals.

**OpenPolytechnic University.** Feb 2012 – July 2013. Online Adjunct Faculty. Wellington, New Zealand.  
Taught environmental science online at the post-secondary level.  
Courses taught: Sustainable Development in NZ, Environmental Management.

**Victoria University of Wellington.** July 2010 – Nov 2011. Teaching Assistant. Wellington, New Zealand.  
School of Geography, Environment & Earth Sciences course Sustainable Development in New Zealand.  
Facilitated labs and assignment planning, essay marking and feedback, presentation marking and feedback.  
Head teaching assistant: July 2011 – November 2011.

**Institute of Policy Studies.** Nov 2010 – June 2011. Research Assistant. Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.  
Project name: Emerging Issues Programme Oceans Governance Project.  
Constructed historical timeline of aquaculture development in New Zealand to analyze for the drivers of agenda development in aquaculture policy.

**New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities.** Nov 2010 - March 2011. Research Assistant. Wellington, New Zealand.  
Project name: Benchmarking for the Model Communities Programme.  
Developed conceptual framework for study on the social and physical environment determinants of walking and cycling.

**Department of Resource Economics.** Aug 2009 - Jan 2010. Research Assistant. University of Nevada, Reno.  
Project name: The SageSteppe Project.  
Photoshop and Survey Technician to support contingent valuation survey in the Sagebrush Steppe ecosystem.

**Great Basin Landscape Ecology Lab.** May 2008 – Dec 2008. Ecological Science Technician. University of Nevada, Reno.  
Field research on vegetative and tree communities, lithologies, and geomorphology, with emphasis on botany.

**Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre.** Jan 2008 - March 2008. Ecological Science Technician. British Columbia, Canada.  
Project name: Sanak Island Biocomplexity Project.  
Maintained intertidal field experiments for theoretical ecology research. Field methods included biodiversity indicators of intertidal species, removal experiments, and succession experiments for algal and invertebrate species.

## **Professional Experience**

**Great Basin Community Food Cooperative.** Mar 2014 – Mar 2015. Human Resources and Outreach Coordinator. Reno, NV.  
Human Resources advising, hiring, skills development and training, skills development strategies.  
Outreach coordination, staff and member education, event planning, intern supervision, lead Low-Income Access team, social media, graphic design.

**Adaptations English Education.** July 2013 – July 2014. Editor and English Instructor (self-employed, part-time). Sao Paulo, Brazil and Buffalo, NY.  
English language editing for academics, English language training for business professionals and academics.

**PlusOne English Consulting.** May 2013 – Oct 2013. English Language Instructor. Sao Paulo, Brazil.  
Prepared curriculum to innovate in English language instruction for business in the greater Sao Paulo area.

**New Zealand Ministry for the Environment.** Aug 2011 – Jan 2013. Policy Analyst. Wellington, New Zealand.  
Project team: Environmental Risk and Innovation. Established a framework for monitoring the effectiveness of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996. Lead team strategic planning and regulatory analysis on Ministry-wide Regulatory Planning and Scanning.  
Project team (intern): Marine Environmental Governance. Helped develop Exclusive Economic Zone and Extended Continental Shelf Bill 2011. Strategic policy planning for marine sector, including gap analysis of current regulation and marine information-sharing. Planning for stakeholder engagement and media monitoring.

**Great Basin Community Food Cooperative.** May 2009 – Feb 2010. Volunteer Coordinator. Reno, NV.  
Oversaw outreach team of volunteers. Launched innovative volunteer program to cumulatively have managed over 1,000 volunteer hours.  
Lead marketing campaigns through social media. Graphic design, brochure and newsletter creation and layout.

**Sierra Nevada Journeys.** School Outreach Coordinator. Dec 2008 – June 2009. Reno, NV.

Coordination of organizational collaborations, event planning, and conducted community needs assessment survey.  
Grant writing and funding proposals.

**Deckhand, purse seine commercial fishing vessel.** Cordova, Alaska.

July - September 2005, 2006. M/V Prince William. (Pink salmon).

September 2007. M/V Raven's Child (Coho salmon).

**Silviculture Technician.**

May – August 2007. Wildwoods Reforestation, Inc. High Level, Alberta, Canada.

May – July 2004, 2005, 2006. ELF Reforestation, Ltd. Telkwa, British Columbia, Canada.

Reforestation of northern temperate and boreal forest ecosystems. Experience working in remote places under difficult work and weather conditions.

## **Teaching Experience (Adjunct Faculty)**

Natural Hazards (Special Topics INT 369) – Great Basin College, Elko NV, online (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018)

Internship Elective Course Coordinator BIOL 399/NRES 469– Nevada State College, Las Vegas NV (Summer 2017, Summer 2018)

Biology 100 Laboratory – Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV (Spring 2016)

Environmental Science 100 – Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV (Spring 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2015)

Natural Resources and Environmental Science 100 – Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV (Fall 2014)

World Regional Geography 200 – Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV (Spring 2014)

Environmental Management 100 – OpenPolytechnic University, Wellington NZ (Summer 2012)

Sustainable Development Issues in New Zealand 101 - OpenPolytechnic University, Wellington NZ (Spring 2012)

*Teaching Assistantship:*

Sustainable Development in New Zealand, Victoria University of Wellington, NZ (Spring 2010, Spring 2011)

## **Awards and Honors**

**Service Excellence Award.** Spring 2015. Presented by Truckee Meadows Community College for outstanding service to the college.

**Part-Time Faculty of the Month.** March 2015. Truckee Meadows Community College award for teaching contribution.

**Award for Best Student Paper.** February 2012. Asia-Pacific Science and Technology Studies Conference, Wellington, NZ. \$750.

## **Grants and Scholarships**

2017. Collins, PI. **Tahoe-Truckee Community Foundation.** \$6635. "Stories in the Snow" school support.

2017. McDonough, PI, Collins, co-I. **Nevada Space Grant Consortium – Research Infrastructure.** "Stories in the Snow": Can citizen science methods be used to advance snow science research? \$30,000.

2017. Collins, PI. **Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium – Hands-on-Training**. DRI SciComm: Science Communication skill-building for UNR and UNLV graduate students. \$18,066.
2017. Hatchett, PI, Collins, co-I. **Nevada Space Grant Consortium – Research Infrastructure**. Advancing and communicating rain shadow science in Nevada. \$30,000.
2015. Collins, PI. **Nevada Division of Environmental Protection**. Force of Water educational programming to raise awareness about nonpoint source pollution. \$52,000.
2015. Collins, PI. **Nevada Space Grant**. EcoNauts and Habitat Earth partnership with the Challenger Learning Center. \$16,000.
2015. Collins, PI. **University of Nevada-Reno Pack Internship Program**. Two interns funded for the DRI GreenPower program. \$2800.
2014. Cook, PI. **Grant to support Camp Grow Food Access Program**. Great Basin Community Food Cooperative. \$6000.
2012. Collins, PI. **Strategic Research Grant. Victoria University of Wellington**. Grant to enable recent graduates to publish the results of their research. \$4000.
2010. **Victoria University of Wellington Summer Scholars Scheme**. Scholarship to support research collaboration at VUW. \$7000.
2010. **Kathryn Stewart Postgraduate Scholarship**. Award to encourage women at VUW in postgraduate studies. \$2000.

## **Conference Activity**

- Collins, M. B. Grebliunas, R. Jasoni, and J. Phillips. 2017. STEM research as a means to a different end. How can research partnerships at TCUs serve as a channel for career readiness and community capacity building? Conference Presentation to the American Indian Society for Engineering and Science. Denver, CO.
2016. Lead coordinator, Organized Oral Session. **Ecology and cyberlearning: Inherent paradox or rich with potential?** Ecological Society of America. Fort Lauderdale, FL.
2016. **Broadening Access? K-12 teacher perceptions of virtual learning and how we consider access when resources are scarce**. Oral Presentation. Ecological Society of America, Organized Oral Session on Cyber-learning and Ecology. Fort Lauderdale, FL.
2015. **DRI and Diversity along the STEM Pipeline**. Nevada System of Higher Education Diversity Summit. Las Vegas, Nevada.
2015. **High-Impact STEM education: What we can learn from the DRI GreenPower program**. Poster presentation. Ecological Society of America Conference. Baltimore, MD.
2012. **Politicization of science, misinformation and mistrust. How might science contribute to mitigating environmental conflict?** Oral Presentation. Asia-Pacific Science and Technology Studies Conference, Wellington, NZ.
2011. **New Zealand aquaculture, environmental controversy and science**. Oral Presentation. International Congress for Conservation Biology. Auckland, NZ.

## **Campus and Departmental Talks**

2016. **Out of the Box Educational Programs – The Centros Etievan model.** Presentation to DRI Faculty, Reno, NV and Las Vegas, NV.

2015. **GreenPower and Broader Impacts.** Presentation to DRI Faculty. Reno, NV.

2011. **Questions of social learning and resilience in Cordova, Alaska, USA.** Seminar Series Presentation to the School of Geography, Environment and Earth Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

## **Professional Development**

2015. **Delivering Effective Online Courses.** 20 hours. Truckee Meadows Community College.

2014. **Part-time Faculty Professional Development Teaching Certificate.** 50 hours. Truckee Meadows Community College. Sponsored by National Science Foundation.

## **Service and Community Work**

2014-2015. **Founder of the Truckee Meadows Network of Part-Time Faculty.**

Aims to foster stronger community and workplace culture among adjunct faculty at TMCC. Conducted a survey of 134 Adjunct Faculty members for the Part-Time Issues Committee.

2015. **TMCC Foundation Scholarship Review Board.** Truckee Meadows Community College.

2013-2014. **Blog contributor and curriculum coordinator.** Centros Etievan. Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The organization aims to address social problems among adolescents by increasing self-confidence and willpower. Blog on cross-cultural education providing insights to educators and parents looking to expand their children's strengths in the areas of intelligence, emotional maturity, and physical acuity.

2010-2012. **Juvenate Dance and Arts Organization.** Wellington, New Zealand.

I was a co-founder of Juvenate, a not-for-profit organization that seeks to use the disciplines of dance, art, music, public speaking and public presentation to provide positive and authentic experiences to young people in New Zealand.

2009. **Founding Board member of Urban Roots Garden Classrooms.** Reno, Nevada.

I sat on the founding board of Urban Roots in 2009, which uses farm-to-school education to help students understand sustainability through knowledge of where their food comes from.

2002. **Volunteer Biological Science Technician.** Playa Hermosa, Costa Rica.

Asociación de Voluntarios de Áreas Silvestres Protegidas working with the tortuga lora (Ridley's turtle).

## **Media coverage**

DRI Cybersecurity Internship program.

<https://www.reviewjournal.com/news/education/cybersecurity-education-growing-in-nevada-as-threats-increase/>

Stories in the Snow: citizen science at DRI. News Channel 4 Reno.

<http://mynews4.com/weather/weather-on-your-side/stories-in-the-snow-reading-a-snowflakes-fingerprint>

Native Waters on Arid Lands - Youth Day. News Channel 4 Reno.

<http://mynews4.com/news/local/kids-learning-about-stem-careers-at-desert-research-institute-youth-day>

Science Distilled: DRI's science café series. News Channel 4 Reno.

- <http://foxreno.com/news/mornings-on-fox-11/science-distilled-hosts-sculpting-the-earth>
- <http://foxreno.com/news/mornings-on-fox-11/science-distilled-the-birds-and-the-bees>
- <http://foxreno.com/news/mornings-on-fox-11/science-distilled-batteries-included>

2016. DRI names Meghan Collins as STEM Research Scientist. Nevada Business. August 3, 2016.  
<http://www.nevadabusiness.com/2016/08/dri-names-meghan-collins-as-stem-research-scientist/>

2014. Home Grown for the Holidays. Reno News and Review. <https://www.newsreview.com/reno/home-grown-for-the-holidays/content?oid=15531951>

2014. Fun Food Facts. Reno News and Review. <https://www.newsreview.com/reno/fun-food-facts/content?oid=15222435>

2011. Wellington Indoor Sports Opening, Radio New Zealand Asian Report.

- <http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/asianreport/galleries/juvenate>
- <http://www.juvenate.org.nz/Juvenate/Media/News.aspx?story=2011.9.22:+Radio+New+Zealand+Asian+Report>

## **Languages**

English (native speaker)

Spanish (fluent)

Portuguese (advanced spoken)

French (intermediate spoken)