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# Colleen Schmit

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608-333-8260 – 1724 Madison Street, Madison, WI, 53711

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**Objective:** To work on outreach, grant writing, management, and/or strategic planning for an organization.

## Education

*University of Wisconsin-Madison*

*May 2017*

- Bachelor of Science: Majors in Conservation Biology (Honors), Spanish, and Environmental Studies
- GPA: 3.97/4.0
- Senior Honors Thesis: “Perspectives on conserving the landscape: lessons learned from scenic easements along the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway”
- Tropical Ecology and Conservation Semester Study Abroad in Ecuador (January 2016 – May 2016)

## Relevant Work Experience

Madison, Wisconsin

*Coordinator for the Earth Science Women’s Network (ESWN)*

*June 2014 – Present*

- Managed a wide range of outreach, administrative, creative, and social media projects to support women in the Earth Sciences under the supervision of UW-Madison Professor Tracey Holloway
- Utilized Adobe InDesign and Adobe Illustrator to develop content for ESWN’s website
- Kept records of ESWN’s budget
- Secured a \$50,000 endowment matching grant from the Madison Community Foundation
- Designed a brochure and letterhead for ESWN and wrote content for ESWN’s newsletters
- Engaged with donors by sending thank-you letters
- Performed public outreach through managing ESWN’s Twitter account

*Native Plant Garden Assistant at UW-Madison Arboretum*

*May 2016 – August 2016*

- Planted, weeded, mulched, and watered the garden
- Learned to identify many species of plants native to Wisconsin
- Supervised groups of volunteers in the Native Plant Garden
- Performed routine photographic surveys of pollinators at the UW-Madison Arboretum and the Henry Vilas Zoo, especially focusing on bumblebees, and documented endangered rusty patched bumblebees
- Removed weeds and planted native plants at a pollinator garden at the Henry Vilas Zoo

*Muriqui Behavioral Ecology Database (MBED) Volunteer*

*September – December 2015*

- Supervisor: Dr. Karen B. Strier, Vilas Research Professor, Dept. of Anthropology, UW-Madison
- Digitized systematic behavioral data of wild muriqui monkeys using standardized codes in Microsoft Excel

*Madison Audubon Society Volunteer*

*October 2015*

- Helped lead a nature walk to teach middle school students how to use binoculars and locate and identify birds

*Horticulture Intern at Olbrich Botanical Gardens*

*May 2015 – August 2015*

- Planted, weeded, mulched, watered, and fertilized the gardens and removed invasive species
- Supervised teams of volunteers who assisted with the horticulture
- Learned to identify, name, and characterize many plant species

*Historic Renovation and Rehabilitation Worker*

*June 2014*

- Worked cooperatively to renovate a historic home, including using power tools

*Henry Vilas Zoo Volunteer*

*June 2013 – August 2013, June 2014*

- Managed the welcome booth, directing patrons to various zoo exhibits

## Research Experience

*Professor Adena Rissman (UW-Madison: Dept. of Forest and Wildlife Ecology) September 2016 – Present*

- Conducted a Senior Honors Thesis focused on easements held by the National Park Service along the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway using interviews with landowners and key informants

*Dr. Catherine Woodward (UW-Madison: Department of Botany)*

*February – March 2016*

- In the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest, examined correlations between the size of leaf cutter ants (*Atta* sp.), the size of the leaf fragments carried by the ants, and the distance of the forage tree from the leaf-cutter ant colony

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*Professor Warren Porter (UW-Madison: Department of Zoology)* January – May 2015

- Utilized a mechanistic model, Niche Mapper<sup>TM</sup>, to analyze heat stress levels and map possible future distribution of moose (*Alces alces*) populations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan

*Professor Ksenija Bilbija (UW-Madison: Department of Spanish & Portuguese)* July 2015

- Conducted research on Eloisa Cartonera (a cooperative that constructs book from recycled materials) by conducting interviews and participating in workshops in Buenos Aires, Argentina

*Dr. Catherine Woodward (UW-Madison: Department of Botany)* January 2014

- Determined the activity budgets of brown woolly monkeys (*Lagothrix lagotricha*) in the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest

### Honors and Awards

- Recipient of Jane Goddard Scholarship, 2016
  - \$1,500 for UW-Madison tuition
- Recipient of Trewartha Undergraduate Honors Research Grant, 2016
  - \$2,000 to fund research for senior honors thesis
- Recipient of I.A.P. Study Abroad Scholars Scholarship, 2016
  - \$3,000 to fund semester studying abroad in Ecuador
- Recipient of UW-Madison Sophomore Research Fellowship Scholarship, 2015
  - \$2,500 to fund research in Argentina

### Skills

#### *Research and field equipment*

- Qualitative research methods
- Plant diversity sampling methods
- Photographic surveys of pollinators
- GPS, compass, and maps
- Taxonomic keys
- Identification of plants and birds of Wisconsin and the Neotropics
- Mist nests for birds

#### *Languages*

- Highly proficient in both written and spoken Spanish

#### *Computer Skills*

- Geographic Information System
- Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Adobe InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop
- WordPress

### Involvement in Student Organizations at the University of Wisconsin–Madison

- Student Chapter of the Wisconsin Society for Conservation Biology
  - Member since September 2016, currently Grant Writing Officer
- Sierra Student Coalition
  - Member since September 2015, currently Fundraising/Financial Chair

### Relevant Coursework

- Anthropology 668: Primate Conservation
- Biology 375: Rainforests and Coral Reefs
- Botany 651: Conservation Biology
- Environmental Studies 339: Environmental Conservation
- Environmental Studies 375: Field Ecology Workshop
- Environmental Studies 600 (Capstone with Community Outreach): Last Child in the Park: How Kids and Birds Can Save the Planet
- Geography 377: Intro to Geographic Information System (GIS)
- Zoology 410: Evolutionary Biology
- Zoology 460: General Ecology
- Zoology 520: Ornithology
- Zoology 660: Climate Change Ecology