

Timothy M. Perez

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Department of Biology
University of Miami
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Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
11935 Old Cutler Road
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EDUCATION

PhD Candidate. Dept. of Biology, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida. Committee: Dr. Kenneth Feeley (chair), Dr. Carol Horvitz, Dr. Steve Oberbauer (FIU), Dr. Leonel Sternberg. Winter 2017-Present

PhD Student. Dept. of Biological Sciences, Florida International University, Miami, FL. Fall 2014 – Fall 2016. Lab transferred to the University of Miami.

B.Sc. Botany, with a concentration in Ecology. University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont. 2010.

APPOINTMENTS

Curator, Gifford Arboretum, University of Miami. Fall 2018- Present.

Mentor, Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden High School Internship Program, Coral Gables, FL. Summer 2018.

Secretary of the Board Alliance for a Sustainable Amazon (ASA), Inc, a 501(c)3 charity. Fall 2016-Present.

Teaching Assistant, Ecology, Florida International University. Summer A, 2016.

Teaching Assistant, General Biology II, Florida International University. Spring, 2015.

Teaching Assistant, Wildlands Field Studies, Peru Project. Multiple sites, Peru.
Jan. – Mar. 2014

OUTREACH

Tropical Amphistomy and Leaf Morphology Citizen Science Project with Fairchild Botanic Garden. Highschool students learn about the physiological importance of stomata and leaf morphology while contributing to a garden-based traits library. Fall 2018-Present.

Fairchild Challenge Volunteer Mentor, Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden. Fall 2014-Present

Feria Cultural y Ambiental, La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica. Presented a poster with an overview of my research taking place in La Selva. Nov. 14th, 2016.

Graduate Student Panel, Florida International University. Participated in an undergraduate-led Q&A panel on attending graduate school. Oct. 6th 2015

Functional Trait Workshop, Universidad Nacional de Colombia: Sede Medellín, Colombia. Led a workshop on plant functional trait measurements for Colombian graduate students. Mar. 16th 2015.

Plant Ecology Workshop, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami. Led a workshop on measurement of plant functional traits for FIU's Growth of Leadership Academics and Diversity in Ecological Science (GLADES) Club. Feb. 8th 2015.

Fairchild Graduate Student Journal Discussions, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miami. Organized monthly inter-organizational journal discussions hosted at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Fall 2014 - Fall 2015.

AmeriCorps/Maine Conservation Corps Environmental Educator. Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance, Belgrade Lakes, Maine. May – Nov. 2011.

PUBLICATIONS †peer-reviewed, *popular, not peer-reviewed

Perez T.M. and K.J. Feeley. Photosynthetic heat tolerances are correlated to extreme leaf temperatures. (*in prep*).†

S.C. Subedi, K.R. Bhattarai, **T.M. Perez**, J.P. Sah Gymnosperm species richness patterns along the elevation gradient and its comparison with other groups of the plant in the Himalayas. (*in prep*).†

Perez, T.M. *et al.*, Botanic gardens are an untapped resource for studying the functional ecology of tropical plants. *Philos. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B. Biol. Sci.* **374** (2019), doi:10.1098/rstb.2017.0390.

Perez, T.M. and K. J. Feeley, Increasing humidity threatens tropical forests. *Front. Ecol. Evol.* **6**, 1–2 (2018).

Perez, T. M. and J. A. Hogan, The changing nature of collaboration in tropical ecology and conservation. *Biot.* **50**, 563–567 (2018).

Feeley, K.J., J.T. Stroud, **T.M. Perez**. 2017. Global climate change reviews Aren't truly global. *Diversity and Distributions*. DOI: 10.1111/ddi.12517†

Perez, T.M., J.T. Stroud, K.J. Feeley. 2016. Thermal trouble in the tropics. *Science*. 351: 1392-1393.†

Perez, T.M. 2015. A hyper-interesting hyperdominant: *Maurita flexuosa*. *The Tropical Garden*: 70:59-63.*

GRANTS & AWARDS

Li-COR prize awarded for “Photosynthetic heat tolerances are correlated to maximum operational leaf temperature” at the BSA to acknowledge the best presentation made by any student, regardless of subdiscipline. Awarded \$300. Year 2018

Garden Club of America, Tropical Botany Award: “Predicting tropical plant’s susceptibility to climate change using Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden’s living collections” Amount Awarded: \$5,500. Year 2018.

NIMBioS Workshop. Applications of Spatial Data: Ecological Niche Modeling May 16-18, 2018.

Kushlan Graduate Research Support Fund, University of Miami Department of Biology: “Are long-term declines in growth rates of tropical trees due to thermal stress?” Amount Awarded: \$1,500. Summer 2017.

UMIA Field Research Grant, University of Miami Institute for Advanced Studies of the Americas: “Are long-term declines in growth rates of tropical trees due to thermal stress?” Amount Awarded: \$2,000. Summer 2017

Organization for Tropical Studies Fellowship: “Using thermal tolerances to predict geographic range, and vulnerability to climate change in tropical plants” Award Amount: \$2,625. Summer 2016.

International Center for Tropical Botany Graduate Student Fellowship: “The effect of climate, microclimate, and ontogeny on plant thermal tolerance with implications for species distribution modeling” Amount awarded: Tuition. Fall 2016.

International Center for Tropical Botany Graduate Student Research Support: “Thermal adaptation in tropical canopy and understory plants” Amount awarded: \$2,000. Fall 2016.

The Tinker Foundation Field Research Grants Program for Student Travel Funds. Amount awarded: \$1,018. Spring 2016.

Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) Fellowship. Amount awarded: \$15,000 stipend, \$18,000 in tuition and course fees. Fall 2015- Spring 2016.

The Tinker Foundation Field Research Grants Program for Student Travel Funds. Amount awarded: \$1,350. Spring 2015.

Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) Fellowship. Amount awarded: \$7,500 stipend; \$9,000 in tuition and course fees. Spring 2015.

Iniciativa para la Conservación en la Amazonía Andina (ICAA): “Correlation between phenotypic plasticity and microhabitat distribution in a Colombian rainforest.” Amount awarded: \$2,000. Fall 2014.

PRESENTATIONS †oral, *poster

T.M. Perez and K.J. Feeley. Photosynthetic heat tolerances are correlated to maximum Operational leaf temperature. Contributed talk at the University of Miami Biology Graduate Student Symposium January 11, 2019. †

T.M. Perez and K.J. Feeley. Photosynthetic heat tolerances and their ability to predict annual growth in tropical trees. Pine Rockland and Tropical Botany Conference Oct. 31-Nov 4th, 2018. †

A. Socha, **T.M. Perez**, and K.J. Feeley. Effects of temperature on the physiology of tropical plants species. Pine Rockland and Tropical Botany Conference Oct. 31-Nov 4th, 2018.

T.M. Perez and K.J. Feeley. Photosynthetic heat tolerances do not explain the decelerating growth rates of tropical trees. Contributed talk at the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America. August 6-10, 2018. †

T.M. Perez and K.J. Feeley. Photosynthetic heat tolerances are correlated to maximum Operational leaf temperature. Contributed talk at the annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America.

July 21-25, 2018. †

T.M. Perez. October, 2017 Photosynthetic heat tolerances reflect adaptations to maximum operational leaf temperature. Friday Graduate Student Seminar, University of Miami. †

T.M. Perez. February, 2017. The coordinated responses of photosynthetic heat tolerance and leaf traits to microclimate. Plant Talk at Florida International University. †

T.M. Perez. March, 2016. Intraspecific variability, niche breadth, and geographic distributions of the tropical understory. Plant Talk at Florida International University. †

T.M. Perez. April, 2016. Climate Change and Thermal Adaptation in Tropical Plants. Invited Lecture for Undergraduate Plant Life Histories course at Florida International University. †

T.M. Perez and K. J. Feeley. Using Intraspecific Variability to Evaluate Filters on Community Assembly Along an Elevational Gradient. Contributed poster at the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America August 7th-12th, 2016.*

T.M. Perez. Mar. 2016. Using Intraspecific Variability to Evaluate Filters on Community Assembly. Graduate Student Appreciation Week, Florida International University.*

T.M. Perez. Feb. 2016. Using Intraspecific Variability to Evaluate Filters on Community Assembly. Graduate Biosymposium, Florida International University.*

REFEREED JOURNALS

Biotropica; Ecography; Functional Ecology; Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics
LANGUAGES

English: Native

French: Basic reading and speaking

Portuguese: Basic reading, writing, and speaking

Spanish: Intermediate reading, writing, speaking

PRESS

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-09/uom-est091018.php

<http://news.fiu.edu/2016/03/thermal-trouble-in-the-tropics/98547>

<https://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2016/07/climate-change-impacts-tropical-species/>