

CURRICULUM VITAE
Michael D. Behrens, Ph.D

CONTACT:

Biology Department
Pacific Lutheran University
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara.
2005. Advisors: Steve Gaines and Kevin Lafferty
Certificate in College and University Teaching. University of California, Santa Barbara. 2005
M.A. Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology. University of California, Santa Barbara. 2003
B.S. Biological Sciences; Concentration in Fisheries and Marine Biology. California
Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. 1996

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Professor, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA. 2019 – Present
Director – Environmental Studies Program, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma WA. 2023
– 2025
Chair – Biology Department, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA 2015 – 2018; 2021 -
2022
Associate Professor, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA. 2011 – 2019
Affiliate Associate Professor, University of Washington, Tacoma, WA. 2012 – 2017
Acting Director – International Honors Program, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma WA.
2012 - 2013
Affiliate Assistant Professor, University of Washington, Tacoma, WA. 2010 – 2012
Assistant Professor, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA. 2007 – 2011
Visiting Assistant Professor, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA. 2005 – 2007
Lecturer/Teaching Associate, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA. 2005
Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA. 2000 – 2005
Staff Marine Biologist, TENERA Environmental, LLC., Avila Beach, CA. 1993 – 2000

COURSE EXPERIENCE:

Pacific Lutheran University
Biology Senior Capstone. Spring 2014 - Present
Genes, Evolution, Diversity and Ecology. Spring 2010 – Present
Ecology. Fall 2007 – Present
Marine Biology. Spring 2006 – Present
Conservation in Trinidad and Tobago. J-term 2024 and 2026
Environmental Studies Capstone Prospectus. Fall 2023, 2024
Tropical Marine Ecology (Bahamas). J-Term 2017, 2019, 2023, 2025
Environmental Methods. Spring 2008 – Present (Contributor)
Ecological Methods and Data Analysis. Fall 2022
Introductory Ecology (for non-majors). Spring 2018, Summer 2019
Biodiversity and Conservation Biology. Fall 2018
Invertebrate Zoology. Spring 2011 – 2014
Principles of Biology III: Ecology, Evolution, and Diversity. Fall 2005 – 2009

Evolution. Fall 2005 – 2006

Comparative Ecology of Latin America (Ecuador). J-Term 2008 (Faculty Assistant)

University of California, Santa Barbara

Invertebrate Zoology: Higher Invertebrates. Spring and Summer 2005

CURRENT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:

Research projects studying community ecology of south Puget Sound beaches, larval ecology of bivalve mollusks, and ecology of forage fish egg laying.

GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF RESEARCH/TEACHING:

Puget Sound National Estuary Program Grant (Olympia oyster restoration – to M. Behrens and B. Becker (UWT) – administered through Harbor WildWatch). 2020. \$18,800 (partial pass-through from WA State Department of Health – GVL 24698)

Coastal Conservation Association Research Grant (Olympia oyster restoration – to M. Behrens and B. Becker (UWT) – administered through Harbor WildWatch). 2020. \$15,000

Coastal Conservation Association Research Grant (Olympia oyster restoration – to M. Behrens and B. Becker (UWT) – administered through Harbor WildWatch). 2019. \$10,000

Wang Center Study Away Curricular Development Grant. 2015. \$2,500

PLU Natural Sciences Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship. 2013. \$16,400

Canada Programme Enhancement Grant (Sea urchin disease surveys of Southern Vancouver Island). 2009. \$750

Murdock Charitable Trust Life Sciences Grant (Temperature effects on digestive physiology and growth of herbivorous and omnivorous prickleback fishes). 2009. \$36,000

WA Sea Grant Program Development Grant (Spatial and temporal patterns of sea urchin disease on the Olympic Peninsula, WA). 2009. \$3,722

PLU Natural Sciences Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship. 2008. \$9,200

PLU Environmental Studies Research Grant. 2008. \$8,000

PLU Natural Sciences Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship. 2007. \$16,400

PLU Natural Sciences Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship. 2006. \$16,400

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

Harbor WildWatch, Steward of the Year, 2018

PLU K.T. Tang Faculty Excellence Award in Research, 2013. \$2,500

Fletcher Jones Fellowship, 2004-2005. \$15,000

UC Marine Council, Graduate Fellowship, 2001-2003. \$50,000

SERVICE:

University Service:

Director, PLU Gateway Program in Trinidad and Tobago. 2022 - Present

Member, PLU Wang Center Review Team. 2024

Chair, PLU Conciliation Committee. 2023

Chair, PLU Rank and Tenure Committee. 2022 - 2023

Member, PLU Faculty Executive Committee. 2022 - 2023

Member, PLU Rank and Tenure Committee. 2020 - 2023
Member, PLU Faculty Joint Committee on the Reduction and Reallocation of Force. 2020 - 2021
Director, PLU Gateway Program at University of Southeast Norway. 2017 - 2021
Member, PLU Assessment Steering Committee. 2018 - 2022
Chair, PLU Formal Dismissal Hearing Committee. 2018 - 2019
Member, PLU Wang Center QUIP Review Committee. 2018
Member, Environmental Studies Committee. 2007 - 2016
Vice Chair, PLU Long-Range Planning Committee. 2013 – 2015
Member, PLU International Honors Program Steering Committee. 2009 – 2011, 2013 - 2015
Member, PLU Long-Range Planning Committee. 2012 – 2013
Acting Director, PLU International Honors Program. 2012 – 2013
Member, PLU General Education Council. 2012 – 2013
Member, PLU Interdisciplinary Chairs Council. 2012 – 2013
Member, PLU Hong Hall Task Force. 2012 – 2013
Member, PLU Campus Life Committee. 2008 – 2011
Member, PLU University Media Board. 2008 – 2011
Chair, PLU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. 2007 – 2011, 2013-2014
Member, PLU Safety Committee. 2008 – 2009
Member, Environmental Studies Wiancko Research Retreat Planning Committee. 2008
Member, Environmental Studies Wiancko Mini-Grant Selection Committee. 2008
Member, PLU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. 2006 - 2007
Mentor, Resident Hall Outings, Point Defiance Zoo and Nature Walks. 2006 - 2007
Facilitator, “Reconciling biblical text and the theory of evolution” PLU residence halls. 2006

College/Division Service:

Member, Natural Sciences Chairs Council. 2015 – 2018, 2021 – 2022, 2023 - Present
Director, Environmental Studies Program, 2023 – 2025
Member, Greenhouse Committee. 2015 - 2017
Member, Rieke Science Center Planning Task Force. 2008 - 2010
Co-PI, National Science Foundation Grant Proposal for Rieke renovation. 2009
Member, Geosciences Department Petrology Tenure-track Search Committee. 2007
Contributor, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Grant Proposal. 2007
Member, Leraas Lecture Hall Remodel, Instructional Technology Committee. 2006 - 2007

Department Service:

Academic Advisor, Biology/Environmental Studies majors/minors. 2006 - Present
Chair, Biology Department. 2015 – 2018, 2021 - 2022
Member, Biology Department Assessment Committee. 2013 - 2019
Chair, Biology Department Microbiology Tenure-track Search Committee. 2014
Member, Biology Department Behavioral Ecology Search Committee. 2013
Member, Biology Department Senior Capstone Revision Committee. 2012 - 2013
Member, Curriculum Subcommittee, PLU Biology Self Study. 2007 - 2010
Member, Biology Department Plant Biology Tenure-track Search Committee. 2007
Member, Biology Department Lab Manager Search Committee. 2007

Faculty Advisor, PLU Biology Club. 2006 - 2010
Library Liaison, PLU Biology Department. 2005 - 2008
Member, Alumni Survey Subcommittee, PLU Biology Self Study. 2005 - 2006

Community Service:

Board of Directors - Member, Great Peninsula Conservancy. 2024 - Present
Advisory Board Member, Gig Harbor / Key Peninsula Land Fund Subcommittee. 2022 - Present
Science Advisory Committee / Volunteer, Harbor WildWatch Environmental Education. 2013 – Present
Member, Camp Huston (Episcopal Summer Camp and Conference Center) Operations Committee. 2015 - 2025
Member, Search Committee for Camp Executive Director, Camp Huston. 2019 - 2021
Volunteer Naturalist Trainer, YMCA Camp Seymour Outdoor Education Program. 2011-2019
Assistant Coach, Peninsula Lacrosse Association (Assistant Coach for 5/6 and 7/8 grade boys lacrosse). 2015 - 2020
Volunteer, St. John's Episcopal Church, Gig Harbor (Youth and Children's education and outreach). 2006 – 2017
Board of Directors / Science Advisory Committee Chair / Volunteer, Harbor WildWatch Environmental Education. 2008 – 2013
Member, Gig Harbor Maritime PlayZone Planning Committee. 2012
Vestry Member, St. John's Episcopal Church, Gig Harbor. 2011 – 2013
Guest Teacher, Marine Life Touch Tank, Chapel Hill Preschool. 2009
Guest Teacher, Marine Life Touch Tank, Peninsula Lutheran School. 2007
Advisor / Volunteer, Harbor WildWatch Environmental Education. 2005 – 2008
Research Representative, Sanctuary Education Team, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. 2003 – 2005

Professional Service:

External Review Committee Member, California Polytechnic State University, Department of Biology. 2018
Judge, Best Student Paper Awards at the annual meetings of the Western Society of Naturalists. 2006, 2008 – 2011, 2013 – 2014, 2016, 2018, 2024.
Volunteer Consultant, Channel Islands National Park. 2007

Journal Reviews

Aquatic Biology
Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences
Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Ecology
Ecology of Freshwater Fish
Environmental Biology of Fishes
Global Ecology and Biogeography

Journal of Fish Biology
Limnology and Oceanography
Marine Ecology Progress Series
New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research
Northwest Science

Proposal Reviews

Maine Sea Grant
United States Department of Agriculture

Organizations and Professional Memberships:

Western Society of Naturalists

Faculty Development:

Peoples Gathering. February 2017
NAC&U's Summer Institute 2015: Convergence: Developing the Holistic University. Hamline University. June 2015
International Honors Program Workshop. 2009, 2010, 2013, 2015
Learn R In-Depth Online Course. Summer 2011
Academic Advising Workshop – Academic Integrity at PLU. July 2008
ENVT 350 Workshop. May 2008
Faculty Development Academic Advising Workshop. August 2007
Lilly Endowment Academic Advising Summer Workshop. Summer 2006 & 2007

Workshops Facilitated:

Co-facilitator. *Writing Effective Faculty Reviews*. Pacific Lutheran University. April 20, 2023.
Co-facilitator. *Biology Department Assessment Retreat*. Pacific Lutheran University. 2015 - 2017.
Facilitator. *EXPLORE! Retreat for first-year students*. Pacific Lutheran University. January 3-4, 2014.
Facilitator. *International Honors Program, Fall Workshop*. Pacific Lutheran University. August 27, 2012.
Co-facilitator (with members of the PLU Campus life Committee). *Academic Integrity Workshop*. Center for Teaching and Learning, Pacific Lutheran University. March 10, 2009.
Co-facilitator (with members of the PLU Campus life Committee). *Academic Integrity Workshop*. Faculty Fall Conference, Pacific Lutheran University. Sept. 2, 2009.
Todd, C., B. Naasz, M. Behrens, J. Whitman & R. McKenney. *Using Your Local Watershed as a Living Laboratory for Environmental Investigation*. Curriculum for the Bioregion – Works in Progress, Tacoma WA. March 6, 2009.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE:

Research Mentoring

Natalie Story (Pacific Lutheran University, 2025 - 2026)
Kellen Gonsalves (Pacific Lutheran University, 2024 - 2026)
Madeline Cline (Pacific Lutheran University, 2023 - 2025)
Shan'tel Beegle (Pacific Lutheran University, 2023)
Liz Racine (Pacific Lutheran University, 2022)
Hayden Cross-Schroeder (Pacific Lutheran University, 2021)
Abbie Denn (Pacific Lutheran University, 2021)
Mackenzie Davidson (Pacific Lutheran University, 2019-2020)
Katie Powers (Pacific Lutheran University, 2019)
Allison Hakanson (Pacific Lutheran University, 2015)
Breanna Young (Pacific Lutheran University, 2015)
Kristin Neunecker (Pacific Lutheran University, 2013)
Katherine Holt (Pacific Lutheran University, 2013)
Shannon Fouts (Pacific Lutheran University, 2010)
Melina Maltese (Pacific Lutheran University, 2010)
Stena Troyer (Pacific Lutheran University, 2010)
Yvonne Shevalier (University of Washington, Tacoma MS student, 2009-11)
Allison Lansverk (Pacific Lutheran University, 2009)
Brett Monson (Pacific Lutheran University, 2009)
Erika Dornfeld (Pacific Lutheran University, 2008)
Melissa Youngquist (Pacific Lutheran University, 2007-2008)
Stephanie Agoncillo (Pacific Lutheran University, 2007)
Rebecca Gooding (Pacific Lutheran University, 2006)
Amy Podurgiel (Pacific Lutheran University, 2006)
Katherine Kunkel (UC Santa Barbara, 2004 – 2005)
Elizabeth Tobin (UC Santa Barbara, 2004 – 2005)

PUBLICATIONS: († indicates undergraduate coauthor)

Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Beck, E.L.†, J. Ruesink, S. Troyer, M. Behrens. (2024) Wild populations of Pacific oysters (*Magallana gigas*) emerge during the Blob heatwave in south Puget Sound, Washington USA. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. 11:1292062.
- Becker, B., M. Behrens, B. Allen, M. Hintz, H. Parker, M. McCartha, S. White†. (2020) Spatial and Temporal Distribution of the Early Life History Stages of the Native Olympia Oyster *Ostrea lurida* (Carpenter, 1864) in a Restoration Site in Northern Puget Sound, WA. *Journal of Shellfish Research*. 39(1): 43-58.
- Behrens, M.D. & K.D. Lafferty (2012) Temperature and food availability associations with geographic variation in the diet of opaleye (*Girella nigricans*). *PLOS One* 7(9):e45901.
- Becker, B., M. Behrens, B. Lemay†, Y. Shevalier, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund, S. Stagers† & J. Brokenshire†. (2012). Novel tracking technique indicates importance of rare events driving larval connectivity of geoduck clams in Puget Sound, WA. *Journal of Shellfish Research*. 31(3):711-723.
- Smith, K.F., M.J. Yabsley, S. Sanchez, C.L Casey, M.D. Behrens, P. Daszak, S.M. Hernandez & P. Foulsham. (2012) *Salmonella* isolates from wild caught Tokay Geckos (*Gekko gecko*)

- imported to the U.S. from Indonesia. *Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases* 12(7):575-581.
- Smith, K.F., M.D. Behrens & D.F. Sax (2010) Local scale effects of disease on biodiversity. *EcoHealth* 6(2):287-295.
- Smith, K.F., M.D. Behrens, L. Schloegel, N. Marano, S. Burgiel & P. Daszak (2009) Reducing the risks of the wildlife trade. *Science* 324:594-595.
- Smith, K.F., M.D. Behrens & L. Max. (2008) U.S. drowning in unidentified fishes: scope, implications and regulation of live fish imports. *Conservation Letters* 1(2):103-109.
- Behrens, M.D. & K.D. Lafferty (2007) Temperature and diet effects on omnivorous fish performance: implications for the latitudinal diversity gradient in herbivorous fishes. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 64:867-873.
- Lester, S.L., E.D. Tobin† & M.D. Behrens (2007) Disease dynamics in the sea urchin, *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 64:314-323.
- Behrens, M.D. (2005) Evidence for physiological drivers of herbivorous fish diversity, PhD dissertation, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA.
- Floeter, S.R., M.D. Behrens, C.E.L. Ferreira, M.J. Paddock, & M.H. Horn (2005) Geographical gradients of marine herbivorous fishes: patterns and processes. *Marine Biology* 147:1435-1447
- Behrens, M.D. & K.D. Lafferty (2005) Size frequency measures of white abalone, implication for conservation. In: Garcelon DK, Schwemm CA (eds) Sixth California Islands Symposium. Institute for Wildlife Studies, Ventura, CA, p 427-432.
- Lafferty, K. D. & M. D. Behrens (2005). Temporal variation in the state of rocky reefs: does fishing increase the vulnerability of kelp forests to disturbance? In: Garcelon DK, Schwemm CA (eds) Sixth California Islands Symposium. Institute for Wildlife Studies, Ventura, CA, p 511-520.
- Behrens, M.D. & K.D. Lafferty (2004) Effects of marine reserves and urchin disease on southern California rocky reef communities. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 279:129-139.
- Lafferty, K.D., M.D. Behrens, G.E. Davis, P.L. Haaker, D. Kushner, D.V. Richards, I.K. Taniguchi & M.J. Tegner (2004). Habitat of endangered white abalone, *Haliotis sorenseni*. *Biological Conservation* 116: 191-194.
- Wicksten, M.K. & M.D. Behrens (2000). New Record of the Pelagic Crab *Planes cyaneus* in California (Brachyura: Grapsidae). *SCAMIT newsletter* 19(5): 7.

Other Publications (Not Peer-Reviewed)

- Mikitik, K., C. Watson & M. Behrens (Technical Editor) (2009). Puget Sound's Wildside: A natural history of Puget Sound's marine environment. Harbor WildWatch. 88 pp.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS: (* - presenter, † - indicates undergraduate coauthor)

- Beck, E.L.†, J. Ruesink, S. Troyer, M. Behrens. (2024) *Wild populations of Pacific oysters (Magallana gigas) emerge during the Blob heatwave in south Puget Sound, Washington USA*. Pacific Estuarine Research Society Annual Meeting, Nanaimo, BC, Canada.
- Troyer S., Behrens, M.* , Matheson-Margullis, H.†, Tuttle, L., Davidson, K., Cross-Schroeder, H.†, Buxel, S, Becker, B. 2023. *Experimental Olympia Oyster Restoration in the Salish Sea; South Puget Sound*. Joint Meeting of the National Marine Educators Association and Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators, Bellingham, WA.

- Troyer S., Behrens, M.*, Matheson-Margullis, H.†, Tuttle, L., Davidson, K., Cross-Schroeder, H.†, Buxel, S, Becker, B. 2022. *Experimental Olympia Oyster Restoration in the Puget Sound*. Coastal and Estuarine Summit, New Orleans, LA.
- Troyer S., Behrens, M.*, Becker, B., Matheson-Margullis, H.†, Davidson, K.†, Benson, A., Cross-Schroeder, H.†, Marvin, F.†, Buxel, S. 2022. *Experimental Olympia Oyster Restoration at Penrose Point State Park*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Virtual.
- Behrens, M.*, Becker, B., Troyer S., Parker, H., Davidson, K.†, Benson, A.†, Matheson-Margullis, H.† 2021. *Experimental Olympia Oyster Restoration at Penrose Point State Park*. South Sound Science Symposium Project Summary, Virtual.
- Behrens, M.D.*, S.M. Troyer, S. 2018. *Population size structure and patterns of recruitment in novel South Puget Sound Pacific Oyster Populations*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Tacoma, WA.
- Behrens, M.D.*, S.M. Troyer, S. 2018. *Changes in population structure and patterns of recruitment in novel South Puget Sound Pacific oyster populations*. South Sound Science Symposium, Shelton, WA.
- Kim, S.*†, B.J. Becker, M. McCartha†, M. Hintz, M.D. Behrens, B Allen, S. White†, D. Mullins†, H. Matheson-Margullis†, R. Centurion†. 2018. *Tracking the spatial distribution of Ostrea lurida (Olympia Oysters) in Fidalgo Bay, WA*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle WA.
- White, S.*†, B.J. Becker, M. McCartha†, S. Kim†, D. Mullins†, H. Matheson-Margullis†, R. Centurion†, M. Hintz, M.D. Behrens, B Allen. 2018. *Quantifying larvae to aid restoration efforts of the Olympia oyster (Ostrea lurida) in Fidalgo Bay, WA*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle WA.
- Behrens, M.D.*, S.M. Troyer, S. 2016. *Oh My Oysters: detecting an anomalous recruitment event of Pacific Oysters using citizen science*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA.
- Troyer, S., M. Behrens*. 2016. *Oh My Oysters: detecting an anomalous recruitment event of Pacific Oysters using citizen science*. South Sound Science Symposium, Shelton, WA.
- Becker, B. *, M. Behrens, B. Allen, B. Vadopalas, M. Hintz, H. Parker. 2014. *What early life history tells us about restoration success in Olympia oysters*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Tacoma, WA.
- Becker, B. *, M. Behrens, B. Allen, B. Vadopalas, H. Parker, K. Neuneker, K. Holt, M. Stutz, M. Hintz, J. Young, E. McDonald. 2014. *What early life history tells us about restoration success in Olympia oysters*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle WA.
- Holt, K.A. *†, K.R. Neuneker†, M.D. Behrens. 2014. *Patterns of disease of the purple sea urchin, Strongylocentrotus purpuratus, on the Olympic Peninsula, WA*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle WA.
- Neuneker, K.R. *†, K.A. Holt†, M.D. Behrens, H.C. Parker†, B.J. Becker, B. Vadopalas, B. Allen. 2014. *Temporal and spatial patterns of Olympia oyster settlement in Fidalgo Bay, WA*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle WA.
- Holt, K.A.*†, K.R. Neuneker†, M.D. Behrens. 2013. *Disease of the purple sea urchin, Strongylocentrotus purpuratus, on the Olympic Peninsula, WA*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Oxnard CA.
- Neuneker, K.R. *†, K.A. Holt†, M.D. Behrens, H.C. Parker†, B.J. Becker, B. Vadopalas, B. Allen. 2013. *Olympia oyster settlement in Fidalgo Bay, WA*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Oxnard CA.

- Parker, H.C. *, B.J. Becker, B. Vadopalas, B. Allen, M.D. Behrens. 2013. *Olympia oyster larval distribution in a small restored bay in Puget Sound: a pilot study using passive tube traps and qPCR*. 11th Annual UWaTERS Student Research Symposium, Tacoma, WA.
- Becker, B. *, M. Behrens, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund, Y. Shevalier, B. Lemay†, A. Moore†, E.J. Rauschl†. 2012. *Determining distribution and size of larval Pacific geoduck clams (Panopea generosa) in Puget Sound (Washington, USA) using a novel tracking approach*. 10th International Larval Biology Symposium, Berkeley, CA.
- Becker, B. *, M. Behrens, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund, Y. Shevalier, B. Lemay†, S. Staggers†, J. Brokenshire†. 2012. *Novel tracking technique indicates importance of rare events driving larval connectivity of geoduck clams in Puget Sound, WA*. National Shellfisheries Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- Becker, B. *, M. Behrens, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund, Y. Shevalier, B. Lemay†, S. Staggers†, J. Brokenshire†. 2011. *Novel tracking technique indicates importance of rare events driving larval connectivity of geoduck clams in Puget Sound, WA*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Vancouver, WA.
- Behrens, M.D*. 2011. *Resource partitioning by intertidal Stichaeid fishes on the Olympic Peninsula, WA*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, Vancouver, WA.
- Brokenshire, J. *†, B.J. Becker, M. Behrens, J. Sloan†. 2011. *Determining flow bias in the use of passive tube traps to study Geoduck larval transport in situ*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Maltese, M.M.* †, S.M. Fouts†, S.M. Troyer†, M.D. Behrens. 2011. *Effects Diet and Temperature on the Performance and Gut Morphology of Prickleback Fishes*. 36th Annual West Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference, Parkland, WA.
- McKenney, R.* , W. Teska, M. Behrens, R. Mergenthal, K. O'Brien, B. Naasz, P. St. Clair, C. Todd, J. Whitman. 2011. *Bridging the Human-Nature Gap by Teaching Environmental Methodology in an Urban Watershed*. Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Burlington, VT.
- Shevalier, Y.* , B. Lemay†, B. Becker, M. Behrens, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund. 2011. *Determining geoduck larval distribution relative to oceanographic physical parameters in Quartermaster Harbor, Puget Sound, Washington (QMH)*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Staggers, S. *†, B.J. Becker, M. Behrens, C. Henzler, E. Hoaglund, Y. Shevalier. 2011. *Size frequency distribution of Geoduck in Quartermaster Harbor*. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Troyer, S.M.* †, M.M. Maltese†, M.D. Behrens. 2011. *Examining Disease Prevalence in the Sea Urchin, Strongylocentrotus purpuratus Along the Olympic Peninsula*. 36th Annual West Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference, Parkland, WA.
- Fouts, S.M.* †, M.M. Maltese†, S.M. Troyer†, M.D. Behrens 2010. *Effects Diet and Temperature on the Performance and Gut Morphology of Prickleback Fishes*. 19th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. McMinnville, OR.
- Maltese, M.M.* †, S.M. Fouts†, S.M. Troyer†, M.D. Behrens. 2010. *Effects Diet and Temperature on the Performance and Gut Morphology of Prickleback Fishes*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

- Shevalier, Y.R.*, B.J. Becker, M.D. Behrens, B. Lemay†, J. Eccles†, S. Stagers†, K. Baird†, S.M Troyer†, M.M. Maltese†, C.M. Henzler, E. Hoaglund. 2010. *Determining Geoduck Larval Distribution in Quartermaster Harbor using Adaptive Trapping and a Novel Molecular Tool*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Shevalier, Y.R.*, B.J. Becker, M.D. Behrens, B. Lemay†, J. Eccles†, S. Stagers†, K. Baird†, S.M Troyer†, M.M. Maltese†, C.M. Henzler, E. Hoaglund. 2010. *Distribution of Pacific Geoduck Larvae in Quartermaster Harbor, WA*. South Sound Science Symposium, Shelton, WA.
- Troyer, S.M.* †, M.M. Maltese†, M.D. Behrens. 2010. *Examining Disease Prevalence in the Sea Urchin, Strongylocentrotus purpuratus Along the Olympic Peninsula*. Western Society of Naturalists, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Becker, B.J.*, J. Gruber†, M.D. Behrens, C.M. Henzler, E. Hoaglund & Y. Shevalier. 2009. *Determining geoduck larval distribution in Quartermaster Harbor, Washington using adaptive trapping and FISH-CS*. Western Society of Naturalists. Monterey, CA.
- Behrens, M.D.*, A.L. Lansverk† & B.T. Monson†. 2009. *Temperature and diet effects on the growth of Xiphister mucosus: implications for diversity gradients in herbivorous fishes*. Western Society of Naturalists. Monterey, CA.
- Lansverk, A.L.*†, B.T. Monson† & M.D. Behrens. 2009. *Disease dynamics: a study of sea urchin disease in the Olympic Peninsula, Washington*. 18th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Spokane, WA.
- Monson, B.T. *†, A.L. Lansverk†, & M.D. Behrens. 2009. *Effects of diet and temperature on the growth rates of prickleback fish*. 18th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Spokane, WA.
- Smith, K.F.*, M.D. Behrens, L. Schloegel, N. Marano, S. Burgiel & P. Daszak. 2009. *Scope, Scale and Implications of U.S. Wildlife Trade*. International Biogeography Society. Merida, Mexico
- Behrens, M.D*. 2008. *Spatial and temporal variation in sea urchin disease on the Olympic Peninsula, Washington*. Western Society of Naturalists. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- Dornfeld, E.*†, M. Youngquist† & M.D. Behrens. 2008. *SARS to Salmonella: Human Infectious Diseases and their Emergence*. 17th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Tacoma, WA.
- Youngquist, M.*†, E. Dornfeld† & M.D. Behrens. 2008. *Diet Shifts of Pricklebacks: a case for paired field and laboratory studies*. 17th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Tacoma, WA.
- Moss, M.*, M.D. Behrens, S. Hamilton, D. Kushner & D. Schroeder. 2008. *Long Term Patterns in Blackeye Gobies, Rhinogobiops nicholosii, at the Northern Channel Islands*. 7th California Islands Symposium. Oxnard, CA.
- Agoncillo, S. *†, M. Youngquist†, & M.D. Behrens. 2007. *Disease prevalence of sea urchins on the Olympic Peninsula*. 16th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Salem, OR.
- Youngquist, M.*†, S. Agoncillo† & M.D. Behrens. 2007. *Habitat partitioning by three prickleback fishes*. 16th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Salem, OR.

- Gooding, R.A.*† & M.D. Behrens. 2007. *Effects of latitude, altitude and temperature on patterns of species richness in herbivorous freshwater fishes*. Pacific Ecology and Evolution Conference. Eatonville, WA.
- Behrens, M.D.* & R.A. Gooding†. 2006. *Geographic patterns of diversity in freshwater herbivorous fishes: latitude, altitude and temperature effects*. Western Society of Naturalists. Redmond, WA.
- Behrens, D.W.*, J.S. Steinbeck, M.D. Behrens & J. Goddard. 2006. *Opisthobranch Mollusks from Diablo Canyon, California: a 25 year, quantitative record*. Joint Meeting of the American Malacological Society and Western Society of Malacologists. Seattle, WA.
- Gooding, R.A.*†, A.M. Podurgiel† & M.D. Behrens. 2006. *Patterns of species richness in herbivorous freshwater fishes: effects of latitude, altitude and temperature*. 15th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Portland, OR.
- Gooding, R.A.*†, A.M. Podurgiel† & M.D. Behrens. 2006. *Variation in diet, gut morphology, and resource partitioning in three prickleback fishes across a geographic gradient*. Western Society of Naturalists. Redmond, WA.
- Podurgiel, A.M.*†, R.A. Gooding† & M.D. Behrens. 2006. *Geographic variation in diet and gut morphology in three prickleback fishes*. 15th Regional Conference on Undergraduate Research of the Murdock College Science Research Program. Portland, OR.
- Behrens, M. D.* 2005. *Temperature and diet effects on nutritional condition in herbivorous fish*. EEMB Graduate Student Symposium. Santa Barbara, CA.
- Behrens, M.D. & K.D. Lafferty* 2004. *The effect of temperature and substrate on fermentation rates of herbivorous fish intestinal microflora: implications for the latitudinal diversity gradient in herbivorous fishes*. Western Society of Naturalists. Rohnert Park, CA.
- Floeter, S.R.*, M.D. Behrens, C.E.L. Ferreira, M.J. Paddock, & M.H. Horn 2004. *Geographical gradients of marine herbivorous fishes*. 10th International Coral Reefs Symposium. Okinawa, Japan.
- Behrens, M. D.* 2003. *Kelp Forest – Barrens Dichotomy: Multivariate Description, Community Patterns, and the Effects of Marine Reserves and Urchin Disease*. SBC-LTER Review. Santa Barbara, CA.
- Behrens, M.D.* & K.D. Lafferty 2003. *Size frequency measures of white abalone, implication for conservation*. 6th California Islands Symposium. Ventura, CA
- Behrens, M. D*. & K. D. Lafferty 2003. *The kelp forest barrens dichotomy: multivariate description, community patterns, and the effects of reserves*. International Temperate Reefs Symposium. Christchurch, NZ.
- Behrens, M.D.* & K.F. Smith 2003. *Beyond diversity and geographic range size: surveying biogeographic patterns of body size, range boundaries, and trophic level among Northeast Pacific fishes*. Western Society of Naturalists. Long Beach, CA.
- Lafferty, K.D. & M.D. Behrens* 2003 *Temporal variation in the state of rocky reefs: does fishing increase the vulnerability of kelp forests to disturbance?* 6th California Islands Symposium. Ventura, CA.
- Smith, K.F.* and M.D. Behrens. 2003. *Biogeography of marine fishes: a preliminary survey of the Northeast Pacific*. International Biogeography Society. Mesquite, NV.
- Behrens, M. D.* & K. D. Lafferty 2002. *Feeding ecology of the opaleye (Girella nigricans): comparison to past studies and the effects of habitat, body size, and temperature*. Western Society of Naturalists. Monterey, CA. (Session Chair)

Behrens, M. D.* & K. D. Lafferty 2001. *The kelp forest barrens dichotomy: multivariate description, community patterns, and the effects of reserves*. Western Society of Naturalists. Ventura, CA. (Session Chair)

INVITED LECTURES:

Land Conservation in the Watershed. Invited Speaker, KGI Watershed Council – State of the Watershed Forum. Gig Harbor, WA. October 2024.

Olympia Oyster Restoration Study at Penrose State Park – What’s Next. Invited Speaker, KGI Watershed Council – State of the Watershed Forum. Gig Harbor, WA. October 2021.

Native Oysters in Puget Sound: Decline, Recovery and Community Science. Invited Speaker, Franke Tobey Jones Lecture Series. Tacoma, WA. April 2021.

Wasting Sea Stars and Bald Sea Urchins: Marine Disease in the Pacific Northwest. Invited Speaker, Franke Tobey Jones Lecture Series. Tacoma, WA. March 2021.

Oysters in Puget Sound: Patterns, Restoration and the Role of HWW Beach Monitoring. Invited Speaker, Harbor WildWatch Cocktails & Fishtales. Gig Harbor, WA. June 2020.

Community Science Beach Monitoring. Invited Speaker, KGI Watershed Council – State of the Watershed Forum. Gig Harbor, WA. October 2019.

Native Oysters in Puget Sound: Decline, Recovery and the Value of Citizen Science. Invited Speaker, Harbor WildWatch Cocktails & Fishtales. Gig Harbor, WA. June 2017.

Wasting Sea Stars and Bald Sea Urchins: Marine Disease in the Pacific Northwest. Invited Speaker, Harbor WildWatch Cocktails & Fishtales. Gig Harbor, WA. July 2016.

Human Impacts on the Ocean and The Need for Place-Based Environmental Education. Keynote Speaker, Harbor WildWatch Donor Dinner. Gig Harbor, WA. October 2015.

An Increasingly Human-Altered Ocean: Key Impacts and How to Use Them in Lutheran Higher Education. Plenary Address, Association of Lutheran College Faculty Meeting. Tacoma, WA. September 2015.

Where did they go? Tracking movements of larval clams and oysters. Board of Regents, Pacific Lutheran University. Tacoma, WA. February 2014.

How Did I Get Here?: Temperature, Diet and Ecology of Marine Organisms. Biology Department Seminar Series, Pacific Lutheran University. Tacoma, WA. September 2013.

Predator, Disease, and Oceanographic Effects on Sea Urchin – Kelp Interactions. Pacific Lutheran University. Tacoma, WA. November 2006.

Evolutionary Constraints on Herbivorous Fish Distributions. Pacific Lutheran University. Tacoma, WA. March 2005.

The Effects of Marine Reserves on Nearshore Rocky Communities: The Anacapa Island Reserve. CINMS, Sanctuary Education Team. Santa Barbara, CA. May 2002.

Conserving Marine Communities in the California Channel Islands. USGS Menlo Park, CA. Aug. 2001.

An Introduced Species of Sea Slug in Morro Bay and Its Native Relatives. Central Coast Biological Society, Quarterly Meeting. San Luis Obispo, CA. April 1999.