**Britni Livar, MS**

(623) 341-6267丨blivar@asu.edu丨LinkedIn.com/In/britni-livar

**EDUCATION**

**Environmental Life Sciences, PhD** Aug 2023 - Present

Arizona State University, Tempe

* Thesis: *The Role of Bacterioplankton in Aggregation in the Current and Future Ocean*

**Microbiology, MS** Aug 2021 - Dec 2022

Arizona State University, Tempe

* Thesis: *Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregate Formation in the Ocean*

**Microbiology, BS** Aug 2018 - May 2021

Arizona State University and Barrett, The Honors College, Tempe

* Thesis: *Qualitative Determination of Exopolymeric Substances in Particle-Associated Bacteria from the Sargasso Sea*

**RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Cawthorn Intern,** ASU BIOS May 2024

St. George’s, Bermuda

* Compose and conduct experiments relating to the effect of climate change on aggregation of natural microbial communities
* Learn to utilize new equipment and techniques, including qPCR and mesocosms

**Research Specialist,** ASU Neuer Lab Dec 2022 - Aug 2023

Tempe, AZ

* Conduct experiments on the aggregation of marine bacteria
* Expand research to explore future research directions in the lab

**Research Assistant,** ASU Neuer Lab Dec 2019 - Dec 2022

Tempe, AZ

* Conducted research concerning the potential for aggregation of heterotrophic bacteria isolated from the Sargasso Sea
* Maintained section of in-house phytoplankton cultures
* Established and updated protocols for future lab use

**Scientist,** ASU and Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences Nov 2022

St. George’s, Bermuda

* R/V Atlantic Explorer

**Research Interests***:* Heterotrophic Bacteria, Marine Ecosystems, Oligotrophic Marine Environments

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching Assistant**, ASU Aug 2021 - Present

Tempe, AZ

* MIC 206, Microbiology Laboratory, Fall 2021, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024
* BIO 181, General Biology I Lab, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

**EXTERNAL EDUCATION COURSES**

**Microbial Diversity 2024**, Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) Jun - Aug 2024

Woods Hole, MA

* *Cordgrass Rhizosphere Bacterial Communities Contribute to Salinity Tolerance through Indole-3-Acetic Acid Production*

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Livar, B**. and Neuer, S. The role of particle-associated bacteria in aggregation in the ocean. In preparation.

**PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS**

**ASU School of Life Sciences Graduate Research Symposium, Tempe, Arizona, Oct. 31, 2024.**

**Livar, B.** and Neuer, S. (2024). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Current and Future Ocean. Poster.

**Labroots Microbiology Week Virtual Event Series 2024**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2024). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregate Formation in the Current and Future Ocean. Talk (Recorded).

**ASU Fusion, Phoenix, Arizona, April 12, 2024.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2024). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Poster.

**ASU School of Life Sciences Graduate Research Symposium, Tempe, Arizona, Nov. 17, 2023.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2023). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Poster.

**ASU School of Ocean Futures Ocean Symposium, Tempe, Arizona, Oct. 9-10, 2023.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2023). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Poster.

**ASLO Aquatic Sciences Meeting, Palma de Mallorca, Spain, Jun. 4-9, 2023.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2023). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Talk.

**American Society for Microbiology - Arizona and S. Nevada, Tucson, Arizona, Apr. 22, 2023.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2023). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Talk.

**ASU Fusion, Phoenix, Arizona, April 14, 2023.**

**Livar, B.**, Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., and Neuer, S. (2023). Role of Particle-Associated Bacteria in Aggregation in the Ocean. Poster.

**American Society for Microbiology - Arizona and S. Nevada, Tempe, Arizona, Apr. 16, 2022.**

**Livar, B.**, Cruz, B. C., and Neuer, S. (2022). Characterization of Aggregation in Particle-Associated Bacteria from the Sargasso Sea. Poster.

**ASU Center of Fundamental and Applied Microbiomics Retreat, Scottsdale, Arizona, Dec. 7, 2021.**

**Livar, B.**, Cruz, B. C., and Neuer, S. (2021). Characterization of Growth Rates, TEP Production, and Aggregation in Particle-Associated Bacteria from the Sargasso Sea. Talk.

**ASU Celebrating Honors Thesis Symposium, Tempe, Arizona, Apr. 20, 2021.**

**Livar, B.**, Cruz, B. C., and Neuer, S. (2021). Qualitative Determination of Exopolymeric Substances in Particle-Associated Bacteria from the Sargasso Sea. Poster.

**CONTRIBUTED**

**ASLO Aquatic Sciences Meeting, Palma de Mallorca, Spain, Jun. 4-9, 2023.**

Shurtleff, C., **Livar, B.**, and Neuer, S. TEP Production, Aggregation, and Sinking Potential of the Smallest Marine Phytoplankton. Poster.

**ASU Open Door, Tempe, Arizona, Feb. 25, 2023.**

Brenner, A., Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., Estrada, A., Foster, A., Niimi, Y., **Livar, B**., Hynds, J., and Neuer, S. Microscopic Water Critters. Poster.

Brenner, A., Shurtleff, C., Tran, K., Estrada, A., Foster, A., Niimi, Y., **Livar, B**., Hynds, J., and Neuer, S. Marine Plastic Pollution: Big problems require smart solutions. Poster.

**ASLO Ocean Sciences Meeting, Online, Feb. 24-Mar. 4, 2022.**

Cruz, B. C., Shurtleff, C., **Livar, B.**, and Neuer, S. (2022).Particle-associated bacteria differentially influence the aggregation of the marine diatom *Minutocellus polymorphus*. Talk.

**GRANTS/AWARDS**

**2024 Labroots Summer Research Scholarship** ($1000) Jun 2024

**Honorable Mention** Fusion 2024 Apr 2024

**School of Life Sciences Q4 Travel Award** ($400) Apr 2024

**Career Development Award, Graduate and Professional Association** ($950) Mar 2024

**2023-24 Graduate College Travel Award Q4** ($300) Mar 2024

**Graduate College University Grant, ASU** ($5,000) Nov 2023

**Individual Travel Award, Graduate and Professional Association** ($950) May 2023

**Edwin Hubble Award for Best Science Research** Fusion 2023 Apr 2023

**School of Life Sciences Q4 Travel Award** ($400) Apr 2023

**2022-23 Graduate College Fellowship** ($10,000)Mar 2022

**VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**Microbiology Graduate Student Association (MGSA),** Treasurer Sept 2023 - Present

Tempe, AZ

* Managed the club's budget, ensuring accurate record-keeping and financial transparency
* Developed and implemented a financial plan to allocate funds effectively and sustainably
* Collaborated with the club's executive board to set financial goals and strategies

**Prison Biology Education Program,** SOLS, ASU Aug 2023 - Present

Tempe, AZ

* Provided one-on-one mentorship and academic support to incarcerated participants
* Assisted in gathering and analyzing data to measure the impact and effectiveness of the education program, helping to make data-driven improvements

**Brown Bag Coordinator,** SOLS Executive Board Jun 2023 - May 2024

Tempe, AZ

* Arranged speakers and catering for graduate students
* Coordinated with SOLS leadership to convey program updates

**Lab Safety Officer,** Neuer Lab, ASU Jun 2023 - Present

Tempe, AZ

* Developed emergency plans, enforced safety regulations, and ensured lab members were current with safety training

**Graduate Student Liaison,** School of Ocean Futures, ASUFeb 2023 - Present

Tempe, AZ

* Provide an environment for students to express their opinions and identify needs
* Reflect, interpret, and communicate the viewpoint of graduate students

**Judge,** 31st Annual Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium, ASU Apr 2024

Tempe, AZ

**Mentor**, STEM Investigations Mentor Day, Arredondo Elementary School Apr - May 2024

Tempe, AZ

**Organizer/Workshop Lead**, Panel Professionals, Arizona Science Center May 2024

Phoenix, AZ

**Guest Speaker**, First Lego League Explorer Team 29903 Oct 2024

**MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO)

American Society of Microbiology (ASM)

The Oceanography Society (TOS)

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

**SKILLS**

**Research**: Cell staining, PCR, qPCR, culture maintenance of bacteria and phytoplankton, epifluorescence microscopy, Coulter counter, FlowCam, mesocosms

**Programming**: R (proficient), Python (novice)