

PAOLA MARIE SANTINI DOSAL

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An undergraduate junior pursuing a major in Marine and Aquatic Biology and a minor in Political Science.
My focus lies particularly in marine mammal behavior and acoustics, alongside conservation efforts.

EDUCATION

B.S. University of Central Florida, Biology 2024 – Present
Marine and Aquatic, GPA: 4.00

A.A. Valencia College, General Studies 2022 – 2024
Biology, GPA: 3.83

HONORS AND AWARDS

McNair Scholar 2024 - Present
Awarded a spot in the McNair TRIO Scholars program for continuing education in graduate school programs.

NOAA EPP/MSI Scholar 2024 - Present
Awarded one of 15 spots on the scholarship and internship opportunity with NOAA as an undergraduate.

Puma of the Year Award 2023 - 2024
Collegewide Student of the Year award for exhibiting outstanding leadership and commitment to Valencia.

LSAMP Scholar 2022 - 2024
Awarded all 3 LSAMP medallion distinctions for becoming a research scholar, intern, and mentor.

Seneff Honors College Scholar 2022 - 2024
Completed 30+ honor credits in the Valencia College Senneff Honors College.

VECTOR NSF STEM Scholar 2022 - 2024
One of ten scholars selected for the National Science Foundation Valencia College paid research program.

PHI THETA KAPPA – President 2022 - 2024
Accepted and awarded a president position at the prestigious society for two-year college students.
Developed a project to build and give sensory toys to non-verbal elementary students at Boggy Creek.
Facilitated a project to educate students on VCentials and mitigate food pantry stigmas around Valencia.

STEM Club - President 2022 - 2024
Honored with the role of president at Osceola STEM Club, allowing me to encourage other students in STEM.
Implemented a STEM Club at Valencia Osceola campus open to any major and GPA.
Led presentations and field trips as well as mentored students to increase their STEM interests.

Global Distinction at Valencia College Scholar 2022 - 2024
Obtained the global citizen distinction medallion for my commitment to a multicultural perspective in research.

Career Action Distinction 2022
Obtained the (CAD) distinction by participating in a semester of workshops and job discovery.
Distinction lasting up to 2 semesters that was achieved after 2 weeks.
Obtained knowledge that allowed both educational and career growth.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Marine Ecology and Conservation Lab (MEC LAB), UCF Orlando, FL	2024
Advisor: Ph.D. Geoffrey Cook	
“Tracking Coastal Habitat Transitions in the Guana Tolomato Matanzas Natural Estuarine Research Reserve”	
NOAA EPP/MSI Research Project, NOAA Headquarters, Silver Springs, MD	2024
Advisor: M.A. Audra Luscher	
“Establishing Data Use Cases of Coastal Ocean Reanalysis (CORA) using GIS StoryMaps”	
LSAMP Research Project, Valencia College, Kissimmee, FL	2023
Advisor: Ph.D. James Adamski	
“Assessing the Spatial and Temporal Variability of Nitrate and Phosphate Levels in Springs and Streams within the Wekiva River Basin: Implications for Water Quality Management and Ecosystem Health”	
LMRCSC, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD	2023
Advisor: Ph.D. Stephanie Stotts	
“Influence of Salinity on Loblolly Pines (<i>Pinus t.</i>): Study of High and Low Elevation Coastal Forest Wood Density on the Delmarva Peninsula”	
Honors Research Project, Valencia College, Kissimmee, FL	2023
Advisor: Ph.D. Marie Trone	
“Amazon River Dolphin (<i>Inia g.</i>) Population Demographics Using Drone Videos from the Peruvian Amazon”	
LSAMP Research Project, Valencia College, Orlando, FL	2023
Advisor: Ph.D. James Adamski	
“Effects of Daily, Monthly and Annual Rainfall Fluctuations in Central Florida From 1950-2022”	
Honors Process Research class, Valencia College, Kissimmee, FL	2022
Advisor: Ph.D. Rita Luther	
“Effects of Ocean Deoxygenation in the Physical Development of Gorgonian Corals”	
Summer STEM Institute, Valencia College, Orlando, FL	2022
Advisor: Ph.D. Rita Luther	
“Harvesting Energy from Whale Soundwaves”	

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

American Heart Association

First Aid, CPR, AED Certification	2024
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CITI Program

Research Investigator	2023
Researchers – Information Privacy and Security (IPS)	2022
Students and Instructors – Information Privacy and Security (IPS)	2022
Conflicts of Interest / IRB Chair	2022
Institutional/Signatory Official: Human Subject Research	2022
Social-Behavioral-Educational (SBE) Comprehensive	2022

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Speak/Read/Write

English: Speak/Read/Write

Portuguese: Understand

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Conexiones, University of Central Florida
Work-Study Clerk

Sep 2024 to Present

- Assist with student mentoring and guidance.
- Provide workshops and educational growth learning for students.
- Expand student engagement and sign-ups for the program.

International English Program, Valencia College
Work-Study Clerk

Aug 2022 to Jan 2024

- Assist with C2K in performing tasks including addressing student book distribution.
- Administer level change tests made for students' academic success.
- Pre-register new and current students for level selection.

PRESENTATIONS

EPIC Research Project, Jackson, MS

2024

- “Establishing Data Use Cases of Coastal Ocean Reanalysis (CORA) using GIS StoryMaps”

Global Distinction Workshop, Valencia College, Orlando, FL

2024

- “Idea to Impact: The Art and Necessity of Research”

ERN Conference, Washington, D.C.

2024

- “Effects of Daily, Monthly and Annual Rainfall Fluctuations in Central Florida from 1950-2022”

FCHC Honors Conference, Tampa, FL.

2024

- “Amazon River Dolphin (*Inia g.*) Population Demographics Using Drone Videos from the Peruvian Amazon”

AAAS-STEM Conference, Washington, D.C.

2023

- “Amazon River Dolphin (*Inia g.*) Population Demographics Using Drone Videos from the Peruvian Amazon”

LMRCSC Conference, UMES, Princess Anne, MD

2023

- “Assessing the Influence of Salinity on Loblolly Pines (*Pinus taeda*): A Comparative Study of High and Low Elevation Coastal Forest Wood Density on the Delmarva Peninsula”

LSAMP Symposium, Valencia College, Orlando, FL

2023

- “Effects of Daily, Monthly and Annual Rainfall Fluctuations in Central Florida from 1950-2022”

Summer STEM Institute, Valencia College, Orlando, FL

2022

- “Harvesting Energy from Whale Soundwaves”

The CLEO Institute, online, Orlando, FL

2022

- “What is Climate Change?”

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Adult Literacy League , Kissimmee, FL Role: Tutor Intermediate ESOL students.	2023 - present Community Hours: 100+
Service Learning , Kissimmee, FL Role: Learning Assessment Interviewer/Assistant	2023 - 2024 Community Hours: 100
Valencia Volunteers , Kissimmee, FL Role: College Development Volunteer	2022 - 2024 Community Hours: 100+
The CLEO Institute , Orlando, FL Role: Climate Advocate Speaker/Presenter	2022 Community Hours: 50+
Key Club , Lakeland Senior High School Role: Club President/Lead Volunteer	2019 – 2022 Community Hours: 1,000+