

Kyle Lough

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biological diversity, communication, digitization, imaging, management, natural history collections

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Ecosystem Science & Management

April 2021

University of Michigan | Ann Arbor, Michigan
School for Environment & Sustainability
3.737/4.0 GPA

Bachelor of Science in Conservation Ecology

May 2019

University of Michigan | Ann Arbor, Michigan
School for Environment & Sustainability, College of Literature, Science, and Arts
3.803/4.0 GPA

EXPERIENCE

Project Manager & Research Lab Technician

October 2021 – Present

University of Michigan Herbarium | Ann Arbor, Michigan
Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

Curatorial assistant for vascular plants, bryophytes, algae, fungi, and lichens, and manager of NSF-funded project to digitize over 100 thousand natural history research specimens.

- Supervision and coordination of digitization technicians (5–10 per semester)
- Training and assistance to museum personnel
- Recruiting, interviewing, and hiring employees
- Processing digital images using Adobe Lightroom Classic
- Archiving digital images using Perl and Python scripts
- Editing and uploading datasets
- Updating and correcting records in relational database
- Tracking and reporting progress with quantitative and descriptive metrics
- Contributing to strategic planning, budgeting, and project planning
- Engaging visitors with educational tours and other outreach opportunities
- Writing technical documentation
- Contributing to synthesis of research publications and presentations
- Curation, preparation, inventory, and maintenance of specimens
- Maintaining facilities, technology, and equipment
- Packing and processing shipments (loans, gifts, exchanges)
- *Promoted to Project Manager in October 2022*
- *All tasks and responsibilities from prior position at UM Herbarium (see below)*

Digitization Technician (Part Time)

University of Michigan Herbarium | Ann Arbor, Michigan
Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

January 2019 – October 2021

Part time digitization technician for vascular plants.

- Barcoding and imaging specimens
- Transcription of specimen data into relational database
- Updating specimen records in database
- Georeferencing specimens
- *Hired full time in October 2021 (see above)*

Research Assistant (Seasonal)

NatureWrite LLC | Ann Arbor, Michigan

March 2018 – October 2021

Assistant to Dr. Courteau in field research to monitor plant communities and assess impacts of deer herbivory in municipal parks and natural areas.

- Assisted in conducting floristic surveys
- Created and maintained research plots of both natural and planted vegetation
- Contributed to writing and analysis involved in synthesizing research reports
- Trained and supervised assistants and interns

Intern (Part Time)

Mid-Michigan Land Conservancy | Ann Arbor, Michigan (remote)

February 2020 – February 2021

Completed an individual project for a non-profit land trust for an internship. Aided MMLC in strategic conservation planning through gathering GIS data, reviewing literature, and designing methods for a geographic analysis of seven Michigan counties.

President of Vail Cooperative House (Part Time)

Inter-Cooperative Council | Ann Arbor, Michigan

May 2018 – May 2019

Served in an elected administrative role for a non-profit student housing cooperative consisting of over 20 members. Fulfilled a variety of duties including planning and facilitating meetings, coordinating membership turnover, mediation of conflicts, and training other house admins.

SKILLS

- Written communication, editing, and publishing (Microsoft, Google, and Adobe)
- Project management and strategic planning
- Problem solving and critical thinking
- Training, supervision, and instruction
- Collaboration and promoting a supportive work environment
- Designing engaging education and outreach experiences
- Scientific photography and archival imaging
- Curation, digitization, and management of museum collections
- Taxonomic identification and biological nomenclature
- Sampling and collection of data in both field and lab contexts
- Management of complex datasets using spreadsheets, scripts, and databases
- Analysis and interpretation of biological and geographic data