

## Curriculum Vitae

PAUL R. GAGNON

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### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**Bruna Laboratory, *Post-Doctoral Researcher***, University of Florida. Apr 2008-present  
Used stochastic demographic models and mixed-model statistics to explore effects of ecological stressors on populations of an Amazonian understory herb (*Heliconia acuminata*).

**Harms Laboratory, *Post-Doctoral Researcher***, Louisiana State University. Feb 2007-Apr 2008  
Designed, researched and analyzed study of fire intensity effects on large-statured bunchgrasses in longleaf pine savanna pertaining to diversity and assembly of the understory community.

**Peace Corps of the U.S., *Recruiter***, Southwest Regional Office, Dallas, TX. 1994-1996  
Led and organized recruitment activities at universities and career fairs. Spoke to large and small audiences about Peace Corps service. Interviewed and evaluated applicants.

**Peace Corps of the U.S., *Volunteer***, Togo, West Africa. 1991-1993  
Trained farmers in pond construction and fish farming as a rural extension agent. Sought and received development grant funding construction of elementary school in home village.

### EDUCATION

**Louisiana State University**, Department of Biological Sciences. 1999-2006  
Ph.D. in Biological Sciences, minor in Applied Statistics. Dissertation: Population biology and disturbance ecology of a native North American bamboo (*Arundinaria gigantea*).

**Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies**. 1996-1998  
Master of Forest Science. Thesis: Ethnobotanical lore among the Esmeraldeños of the Cayapas-Mataje National Mangrove Reserve of northwest Ecuador.

**Baylor University**, Texas. 1986-1990 B.A. in Economics and Business (double major).

### AWARDS AND GRANTS

US EPA STAR Fellowship # U916181. 2003-2006: Population structure and process in a woody bamboo: genet-based life table response experiments in *Arundinaria gigantea* (Fam. Poaceae, Tribe Bambusoideae). \$108,000.

J. Bennett Johnston Science Foundation. 2002-2003: Exploring clonal biology in Louisiana cane stands using life table response experiments. \$5000.

American Bamboo Society. 2001: Genetic analysis of populations of two new world woody bamboos. \$3300.

Sigma Xi Grant in Aid. 2000: Patch structure and natural biological invasions in southwestern Amazonian bamboo stands \$600.

Louisiana Board of Regents Fellowship. 1999-2003: \$106,000.

Tropical Resources Institute. 1997: Non-timber resources in the world's tallest mangrove forest. \$2500.

Yale Program in Agrarian Studies. 1997: Ethnobotanical lore and cultural identity of Afro-Ecuadorians of the Cayapas-Mataje Mangrove Reserve. \$2500.

Yale Forestry and Environmental Studies Scholarship. 1996-1998: \$16,000.

Baylor University Presidential Scholarship. 1986-1990: \$20,000.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Gagnon, P.R.**, Bruna, E.M., Rubim P., Darrigo, M.R., Littel, R.C., Uriarte, M., Kress, W.J. 2011. Growth of an understory herb is chronically reduced in Amazonian forest fragments. *Biological Conservation* 144: 830-835 (doi:10.1016/j.biocon.2010.11.015).

**Gagnon, P.R.**, Passmore, H.A., Platt, W.J., Paine, C.E.T., Myers, J.A. and Harms, K.E. 2010. Does pyrogenicity protect burning plants? *Ecology* 91: 3481-3486 (cover article).

**Gagnon, P.R.** 2009a. Fire in floodplain forests in the southeastern USA: Insights from disturbance ecology of native bamboo. *Wetlands* 29: 520-526.

**Gagnon, P.R.** 2009b. Did River Bottoms Burn? Bamboo, Wind & Fire in Bottomland Hardwood Forests. *Society of Wetland Scientists Research Brief* no. 2009-0008.

**Gagnon, P.R.** and Platt, W.J. 2008a. Multiple disturbances accelerate clonal growth in a potentially monodominant bamboo. *Ecology* 89:612-618. (Report)

**Gagnon, P.R.** and Platt, W.J. 2008b. Reproductive and seedling ecology of a semelparous native bamboo (*Arundinaria gigantea* [Walt.] Muhl., Poaceae). *Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society* 135:309-316.

**Gagnon, P.R.**, Platt, W.J. and Moser, E.B. 2007. Response of a native bamboo [*Arundinaria gigantea* (Walt.) Muhl.] in a wind-disturbed forest. *Forest Ecology and Management* 241:288-294.

**Gagnon, P.R.** 2007. Overview of cane ecology and management. Appendix 2 in *Restoration, Management, and Monitoring of Forest Resources in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley: Recommendations for Enhancing Wildlife Habitat*. Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture, Forest Resource Conservation Working Group. edited by R. Wilson, K. Ribbeck, S. King, and D. Twedt.

**Gagnon, P.R.** 1998. Local knowledge and degrees of indigenesness: Ethnobotanical lore among the Esmeraldeños of the Cayapas-Mataje National Mangrove Reserve of northwestern Ecuador. Tropical Resources Institute Working Paper No. 104.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW OR IN PREPARATION

**Gagnon, P.R.**, Harms, K.E., Platt, W.J., Passmore, H.A. and Myers, J.A. Small-scale variation in fuel loads drives dynamics of two co-dominant bunchgrasses in a species-rich pine savanna. In review, *PLoS ONE*.

**Gagnon, P.R.**, Bruna, E.M., Uriarte, M., Rubim P., and Darrigo, M.R. Consequences of among-site variation in populations of an Amazonian understory herb using vital rate-based stochastic matrix models. In preparation for *Ecosphere*.

Lucas, C.M., Sheikh, P. and **Gagnon, P.R.**, The effects of cattle disturbance and flooding on regeneration, recruitment and rates of change in Amazonian floodplain forests. In preparation for *Journal of Applied Ecology* (completed dissertation chapter).

## COURSES TAUGHT

Hurricane Ecology, upper-level undergraduate course at the University of Florida, Fall 2010.  
Mean student evaluations: instructor overall = 4.75; departmental avg. = 4.17 out of 5.0.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Gagnon, P.R. 2010. Bamboo, wind and fire in a southeastern riparian forest. Invited speaker, Department of Biological Sciences, East Carolina University.

Gagnon, P.R. 2009. Bamboo, wind and fire in bottomland hardwood forests. Invited speaker, Ecology and Evolution Fall Seminar Series. Department of Biological Science, Florida State University.

Gagnon, P.R. 2009. Bamboo, wind and fire in bottomland hardwood forests. Invited speaker, Spring Seminar Series. Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation, Univ. of Florida.

Gagnon, P.R. 2007. Fire in the bottomlands and the disturbance ecology of cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*). Invited speaker, Fall Seminar Series at the LSU Museum of Natural Science.

## SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS

Gagnon, P.R. 2009. Flammability for plant self-protection *in* Special Session: Advancing Flammability Research. 4th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress: Fire as a global process in Savannah, GA.

Gagnon, P.R. 2008. Disturbance ecology and population biology of giant cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) *in* Symposium: Them's the brakes: The past and future of North American bamboo. 69th Annual Meeting of Association of Southeastern Biologists in Spartanburg, SC.

Gagnon, P.R. and W.J. Platt. 2008. Fire in bottomland forests: Insights from disturbance ecology of *Arundinaria*. Floodplain Ecosystem Symposium, March 4-6 in Little Rock, AR.

Gagnon, P.R.\* and W.J. Platt. 2006. Razing cane: multiple disturbances and bamboo ramet demography *in* Symposium: Plant clonal growth - ecological implications. 91st Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Memphis, TN. \*Co-organized this symposium.

## CONTRIBUTED SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Gagnon, P.R., Bruna, E.M., Rubim P., Darrigo, M.R., Littel, R.C., Uriarte, M., Kress, W.J. 2010. The growth of an understory herb is chronically reduced in Amazonian forest fragments *in* Contributed oral session at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Pittsburgh, PA.

Gagnon, P.R. and W.J. Platt. 2007. Reproductive and seedling ecology of cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*), a native North American bamboo *in* Poster session at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, San Jose, CA.

Gagnon, P.R. and W.J. Platt. 2005. Razing cane: The effect of fire on a native North American bamboo *in* Poster session at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Montreal, Quebec.

Gagnon, P.R. and W.J. Platt. 2004. Bamboo demography and wind disturbance in an alluvial forest *in* Contributed oral session at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Portland, OR.

Gagnon, P.R. and W.J. Platt. 2003. Clonal demography & multiple disturbances in Louisiana cane stands *in* Poster session at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Savannah, GA.

## MANUSCRIPT AND PROPOSAL REVIEWS

*Biological Conservation, Castanea, Ecological Restoration, Forest Ecology and Management, Journal of Ecology, Journal of Tropical Ecology, Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society, National Science Foundation, Plant Ecology, Population Ecology*

## RECENT COLLABORATORS

Emilio Bruna, Jane E. Carlson, Saara DeWalt, Kyle Harms, Ramon Littell, Christine Lucas, Jonathan A. Myers, C. E. Timothy Paine, Heather Passmore, Bill Platt, Maria Uriarte

## SELECTED TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS

**Forest Trust, *Research Associate***, Santa Fe, NM – 1999  
Compiled extensive annotated bibliography on ecology of ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*).

**Pioneer Forest / Forest Trust, *Alternative Forestry Intern***, Salem, MO – 1998  
Assisted in forest regeneration census, learned tree-marking under single-tree selection forestry.

**Vogt Soils Laboratory, *Field and Laboratory Technician***, Yale Forestry & E.S. – 1996-1998  
Collected, prepared and analyzed root-core, soil-core, leaf-litter and twig samples.

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

**Experimental design** of natural and manipulated experiments, including variations of split-plot, split-block and repeated measures designs among others.

**Statistical analysis** using general and generalized linear mixed model frameworks in the SAS environment with GLIMMIX, LOGISTIC, MIXED, and REG procedures.

**Statistical and analytical programming** in the R environment for demographic matrix-modeling, randomization tests, bootstrapping, data curation, figure generation, etc.

**Mentored graduate students** in the Bruna and Harms Laboratories with questions of experimental design and analysis, manuscript- and application-writing, committee selection, etc.

**Supervised undergraduate students** preparing plant leaf samples for DNA extraction in project funded by grant to P.R. Gagnon from the American Bamboo Society.

**Mentored high school students** in the Bruna Lab with summer research projects for the University of Florida Student Science Training Program (SSTP).

**Proficient in Spanish and French.** Three years of international experience working and studying in West and East Africa, Central and South America, South and Southeast Asia.

**Garden District Community Garden, *President*,** Baton Rouge, LA (2001-2006). Managed memberships and plot assignments, organized and oversaw regular garden workdays.

**Advanced Openwater SCUBA Certification from P.A.D.I.**