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Education

Ph.D.: State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, August, 1997 (Advisor: Donald J. Stewart). Dissertation: Impact of the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) on the lower trophic levels of a large shallow eutrophic lake.

M.S.: Marine Science Centre, University of Basrah, Basrah, Iraq: Program in Marine Biology, 1989 (Advisor: Salman D. Salman). Thesis: Production and partial energy budget of the early ontogenetic stages of *Caridina babaulti basrensis* (Al-Adhub and Hamzah, 1987) (Decapoda, Atyidae) in the Shatt al-Arab river system.

B.S.: College of Science, University of Basrah: Department of Biology, Aquatic Biology (Specialization), 1984 (ranked 3rd overall at the College of Science).

Work Experience

Presently: Research Assistant Professor in Biological Oceanography at the University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.

July 2004-January 2005: Development of an environmental education program for Youth CO-OP, Inc. in Miami, FL for underprivileged young adults seeking to enter the workforce and with an interest in the environmental sciences.

Jan. 2004-January 2005: Consultant for the development of a bioenergetics laboratory at the University of Miami Aplysia Research Facility.

Nov. 2003: Instructed Arabic language and culture specific to Iraqi dialect to U.S. soldiers in the Headstart program of the Department of Defense.

May 2003: Consultant for the development of research plans for restoration of the southern Iraqi marshlands for the Center for Environmental Science and Policy/University of Miami.

2001-present : Committee member for Ph.D. student John E.M. Brown (supervised by Peter Minnett), Division of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography, RSMAS/Univ. of Miami.

2001-2002: Supervised M.Sc. exchange student from Spain, project: Oxygen consumption and ammonium excretion in young sea urchin, *Diadema antillarum* Philippi.

2000+2002: Instructor BIL511 Biometry. Instruct upper level Spring semester undergraduates in statistics and sampling and experimental design in the biological sciences as part of the Salt Water Semester for the Marine Science Program, UM.

2000-2002: Research Scientist, University of Miami, RSMAS. Research consisted of biological oceanography of the Indian Ocean developing coupled Eulerian and Lagrangian biological models integrated into a general ocean circulation model for the region. Part of my research included bioenergetics of juvenile billfish caught from the Gulf Stream off the southern coast of Florida.

1997-2000: Post-Doctoral Research Associate, University of Miami, RSMAS. Research included analysis of ADCP data from the U.S. Joint Global Ocean Flux Study for the Arabian Sea

sponsored by the National Science Foundation to develop zooplankton and micronekton biomass distribution within the region. Also developed theoretical bioenergetic budgets for large Arctic copepods for the National Science Foundation sponsored Shelf-Basin Interaction Program.

1991-1997: Ph.D. Fellowship, SUNY, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210. Dissertation: Impact of the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) on the lower trophic levels of a large shallow eutrophic lake.

Mar.-May 1991: Organized and administered refugee camps on the border between Iraq and Kuwait, post-war period.

1990-1991: Associate Research Scientist/Lecturer, Marine Science Centre, University of Basrah, Basrah, Iraq.

1989-1990: Military service, Naval Academy, Basrah, Iraq. Developed and taught a course in Oceanography for third and fourth year naval and merchant cadets.

1984-1987: Military service, laboratory supervisor, Central Military Blood Bank, Baghdad, Iraq. Supervised the screening of viral diseases in donated blood, performed compatibility tests (cross-matches) for blood transfusions, and prepared blood platelet extractions by cryocentrifugation. Received award for devising efficient method to extract Factor VIII from blood plasma for hemophiliacs by cryocentrifugation using locally available equipment and materials.

Area: Biological Oceanography

Abstract of Research: My research interests include the study of aquatic (freshwater, estuarine, and marine) food web dynamics within a whole system context, specifically, the interaction of biological systems with their environment. The goal of which is to understand how populations adapt to perturbations and to develop means to predict outcomes based on hypothesized scenarios. My strategy is to give equal importance to field observations, laboratory experiments and simulation modeling and integrating these elements in a complementary, interactive fashion. Concurrent with conducting research, I place high priority on the development and enrichment of students' learning experiences alongside formal classwork.

My research experience includes field data collection for nutrient-phytoplankton-zooplankton analysis and interaction studies, and laboratory studies on the bioenergetics of aquatic invertebrates and vertebrates that include oxygen consumption, excretion and growth experiments. Other experiences include coupled biological-physical modeling using general circulation ocean models (GCOM). The type of GCOM I have worked with is an isopycnal coordinate model: Miami Isopycnal Coordinate Ocean Model (MICOM). The biological models coupled to MICOM include simple nutrient-phytoplankton-zooplankton-detritus (NPZD) models with temperature-dependence for the physiological rates in the phytoplankton and zooplankton compartments, and Lagrangian particle model to simulate the dynamics of a diapausing species of copepods in the Arabian Sea. I am currently developing a research program in larval transport of coral reef organisms in the eastern Caribbean Sea as part of the Univ. of the Virgin Islands' EPSCoR-BCCR program.

Publications (Peer-reviewed): Right click on publication title and use the "save link as" to download a copy of the publication

- 2005 **Idrisi, N.**, and S.D. Salman. [Distribution, development, and metabolism of the larval stages of the warmwater shrimp, *Caridina babaulti basrensis*](#) (Decapoda; Atyidae). Mar. Freshwater Behav. Physiol. 38(1): 31-42.
- 2005 M.J. Olascoaga, **N. Idrisi**, A. Romanou. [Biophysical isopycnal-coordinate modelling of plankton dynamics in the Arabian Sea](#). Ocean Modelling 8(1-2): 55-80.
- 2004 **Idrisi, N.**, M.J. Olascoaga, Z.D. Garraffo, D.B. Olson, and S.L. Smith. [Mechanisms for emergence from diapause of *Calanoides carinatus* in the Somali Current](#). Limnol. Oceanogr. (Biocomplexity Special Issue) 49(4, Part 2): 1262-1268.
- 2003 **Idrisi, N.**, T.R. Capo, J.E. Serafy. [Postmetamorphic growth and metabolism of long-spined black sea urchin \(*Diadema antillarum*\) reared in the laboratory](#). Mar. Freshwater Behav. Physiol. 36(2): 87-95.
- 2003 **Idrisi, N.**, T.R. Capo, S. Luthy, J.E. Serafy. Behavior, oxygen consumption and survival of

stressed juvenile sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) in captivity. Mar. Freshwater Behav. Physiol. 36(1): 51-57.

- 2002 Ashjian, C.J., S.L. Smith, C.N. Flagg, and **N. Idrisi**. [Distribution, annual cycle, and vertical migration of acoustically derived biomass in the Arabian Sea during 1994-1995](#). Deep-Sea Res. II 49(12): 2377-2402.
- 2001 **Idrisi, N.**, L.G. Rudstam, E.L. Mills, and D.J. Stewart. [Impact of zebra mussels \(*Dreissena polymorpha*\) on the pelagic lower trophic levels of Oneida Lake, New York. 2001](#). Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 58(7): 1430-1441.
- 1996 Mitchell, M.J., E.L. Mills, **N. Idrisi**, and R. Michner. [Stable isotopes of nitrogen and carbon in an aquatic food web recently invaded by *Dreissena polymorpha* \(Pallas\). 1996](#). Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 53(6): 1445-1450.