

ISABEL C. ROMERO

Research Assistant Professor

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Education

- 2009 Doctor of Philosophy, Ocean Sciences, Earth Science Department, University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles (Advisors: Dr. D. Capone, Dr. M. Jacobson)
- 1998 Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology, Department of Biology, Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia (Advisor: Dr. J. Cantera-Kintz)

Work Experience

- 2022 Research Assistant Professor, College of Marine Science, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL
- 2021 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Division of Natural Sciences, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL
- 2015-2022 Research Associate, College of Marine Science, USF, St. Petersburg, FL
- 2011-2014 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, College of Marine Science, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL.: *Sedimentary biogeochemical indicators of ecosystem change resulting from the Deepwater Horizon blowout*. C-IMAGE Consortium (RFP-I, RFP-IV, RFP-VI), DEEP-C Consortium (RFP-I)
- 2010-2011 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern California-NSF, Los Angeles, CA: *The Importance of Molybdenum Speciation to Nitrogen Fixation and Assimilation in Lakes*
- 2009-2010 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Southern California-SeaGrant, Los Angeles, CA: *Project: Biomarker isotopic signals of ecological responses to environmental change at the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve (Santa Barbara County)*
- 2003-2009 Graduate Research Assistant, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA: *Biogeochemical indicators of environmental Biocomplexity of Mangroves*
- 1999-2002 Assistant Research Scientist, Universidad del Valle-COLCIENCIAS. Cali, Colombia: *Energy transfer and matter circulation in the Dagua estuary, Colombian Pacific coast*. Field coordinator and data analysis of mangrove litter dynamics and nutrient variability in the water column.
- 1996-1998 Laboratory and Field Assistant, Universidad del Valle (COLCIENCIAS, C.V.C) Cali, Colombia. Several projects: *human impacts in the rivers of Cali; Environmental Impact of Sewage in the Buenaventura Bay; mollusks consumption inventory in the Colombian Pacific Coast*

Awards and Fellowships

- 2019 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine - Gulf Research Program, Early Career Research Fellowship, Washington D.C.
- 2008 Final-year Dissertation Fellowship, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
- 2008 WiSE Travel Grant 14th Ocean Science Meeting, Orlando, FL, \$2,500: *Interaction between diazotrophic bacteria and mangrove roots under different nutrient conditions*. University Southern California, USA.
- 2008 Wrigley Institute Summer Fellowship, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
- 2008 The Carnegie Institute for Science, Washington D.C. Travel and Research Assistantship (*Bulk isotopic analysis of mangrove trees and sediments*), supervisor Dr. Marilyn Fogel.
- 2007 Oakley Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
- 2007 Rose Hill Fellowship, Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
- 2007-2011 WiSE Fellowship “Childcare subsidy”, University of Southern California, LA
- 2005 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Molecular Biology, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.
- 2004 Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), Washington D.C. (Dr. Feller), \$12,000 to Romero: *Carbon sources in Belize mangrove sediments*. The Smithsonian Institute Fellowship Program, Environmental Research Center, Washington D.C.
- 2003 Ten-week Graduate student Fellowship, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Bocas del Toro, Panama. “*Tropical Marine Ecology Graduate Course*”
- 1998 Outstanding distinction Bachelor of Science Thesis “Mangrove leaf herbivory in the Dagua river Estuary, Buenaventura Bay”, Universidad del Valle, Colombia.
- 1997 Summer Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Bermuda, “*Hazardous Assessment of Marine Contaminants Course*”
- 1996-1997 Academic merit award, Department of Biology, Universidad del Valle, Colombia.

Teaching Experience

- 2022 Deep-pelagic research in the Gulf of Mexico: Understanding ecosystem variability and trends (guest lecturer) to undergraduate students at Eckerd College (January 21, 2022).
- 2021 Marine Pollution course (full course instructor, 10 students). Division of Natural Sciences, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL
- 2019 The Deep-pelagic Ocean (guest lecturer) to undergraduate students at the New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL.
- 2015 Organic Geochemistry section in Chemical Oceanography course (co-taught, 21 students), Graduate School, College of Marine Sciences, University of South Florida, St Petersburg, FL
- 2007 Marine Pollution laboratory to undergraduate students (teaching assistant, 10 students), Wrigley Institute, Catalina Island Semester, USC, Los Angeles.
- 2007 Benthic Ecology laboratory to undergraduate students (teaching assistant, 10 students), Wrigley Institute, Catalina Island Semester, USC, Los Angeles.
- 2005-2006 Molecular Biology laboratory to undergraduate students, Fall semester (teaching assistant, 45 students), USC, Los Angeles.
- 2005-2006 Island Ecology and Natural History laboratory to undergraduate students (teaching assistant, 10 students), Wrigley Institute, Catalina Island Semester, USC, Los Angeles.

- 2003 Humans and their Environment laboratory to undergraduate students, Spring semester (teaching assistant, 54 students), USC, Los Angeles.
- 2002-2003 General Biology laboratory to undergraduate students, Fall semester (teaching assistant, 30 students), University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles.
- 1999-2000 General Biology Course for undergraduate students in Engineering and Economics (full course instructor, 35 students), Spring and Fall semester, University ICESI, Colombia.
- 1996-1997 Marine Invertebrates Zoology laboratory assistant and field work coordinator (teaching assistant, 12-15 students), Marine Biology Section, Universidad del Valle, Colombia.
- 1996 General Invertebrates Zoology laboratory assistant (teaching assistant, 30 students), Biological Science Department, Universidad del Valle, Colombia.

Advising experience (thesis committee member, research mentor)

- 2021-present. Master thesis: Andrea Murray. Visual and Chemical Analysis of Eastern Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) Microplastic Ingestion in Tampa Bay. Department of Integrative Biology, College of Arts and Sciences, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg.
- 2020-present. Master thesis: Lisa Rose-Mann. Trophic Transfer of Contaminants between Cephalopods and Pelagic Fish species in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. CMS, USF.
- 2018-present. Master thesis: Thea Bartlett. Organic molecules preserved in marine sediments to understand historical inputs of land-derived contaminants. CMS, USF.
- 2020-2022. Master thesis: Martina Plafcan. Chronological Accumulation of Microplastics in the Gulf of Mexico and their Acute Effects on Coral Bleaching, CMS, USF.
- 2018-2019. Master Thesis: Jong Jin Lee. Elevated Rates of Biogenic Silica deposition in sediments from the Northern GoM during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. CMS, USF.
- 2012-2013. Master Thesis: Kathleen Murray Watson. Spatial and Temporal Extent of a Subsurface Hydrocarbon Intrusion Following the Deepwater Horizon Blowout. CMS, USF.
- 2011-2012. Undergraduate Senior Thesis: Nicola Zenzola. Carbon elemental and stable isotopic compositions of sediment cores from the Desoto Canyon, Gulf of Mexico: Evidence for petroleum traces from the Deepwater Horizon Blowout. Eckerd College, St. Pete., FL.

Laboratory training

- Devon Firesinger. Technician at the MECLAB-USF.
- Thea Bartlett (Graduated from Eckerd College). Technician USF (2016-2018), 2019-2022 USF Master student
- Hannah Hamontree (Graduated from Eckerd College). Technician USF (2018-2020). 2021- PhD student at Old Dominion University.
- Olivia Traenkle (Graduated Eckerd College). Intern (2018), then technician (2019-February 2020). 2021- PhD student at Oregon University.
- Leah Kunins (undergraduate student Brandeis University). Intern (volunteer), summer 2018
- Brigid Carr (Graduated from Eckerd College). Technician USF (2016-2017). Graduated Master Program at CMS-USF.
- Xiaoxu Sun (PhD student from Georgia Tech). Visiting student, March 2017
- Gregg Ellis, Postdoctoral fellow USF (2014-2016)
- Macie Hanneken (Eckerd College Student). Intern, summer 2014
- Emily Makowics (Eckerd College Student). Intern, summer 2014
- Kathleen Watson (Master Student USF). 2013-2014

- Quentin Miller (Graduated from Eckerd College). Technician USF (2012-2015)
- Nicola Zenzola, (Graduated from Eckerd College). Technician USF (2012-2016)

Research Grants

Total Funding: \$17,702,465 (Total Awards)
\$890,792 (to Romero)

- 2022-2023 NSF-RAPID: Mass Mortality of the Keystone Herbivore *Diadema antillarum* Underway around the Caribbean Sea (\$199,928 total; PI D. Behringer, University of Florida; plus-nine investigators) (\$20,000 to Romero, co-PI)
- 2022 Florida Department Environmental Protection: Piney Point incident (\$418,790 total, PI K. Buck, USF; plus-eight co-PIs) (\$102,016 to Romero, co-PI; organic geochemical analyses of archived fish, sediment, and zooplankton samples).
- 2019-2024 NOAA RESTORE Science Program: Trends and drivers of faunal abundance of the offshore Gulf of Mexico: narrowing the data gap in the Gulf's largest ecosystem component (\$2,794,147 Total; PI Tracey Sutton, Nova Southeastern University; plus-six other Institutions) (\$131,851 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2019-2021 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS): Biogeochemical Indicators of environmental change in the Gulf of Mexico (\$75,000 to Romero, PI).
- 2020-2021 Collaborative work with Dr. A. Puspa FGCU (\$3,500 to Romero, PI; Organic geochemical analysis of sediments from lakes in Naples, Florida).
- 2019-2020 Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI): Additional Sample Analysis Funds, Consortium Deep-Pelagic Nekton studies of the GoM (\$94,453 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2019 DMR-1644779 NSF/National High Magnetic Field Laboratory: Unlimited analysis of sediment samples (cost not available) and travel stipend (\$500 to Romero, PI).
- 2018-2020 RFP VI Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI): Resuspension, Redistribution and Deposition of DwH Recalcitrant Hydrocarbons to offshore Depocenters (\$922,784 total; PI Arne Dierks, UM, plus-two other institutions) (\$198,188 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2018-2019 Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI): Synthesis Contributions Deep-Pelagic Nekton studies of the Gulf of Mexico (DEEPEND) (\$62,138 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2018 Collaborative work to support sample analysis: Evaluating reef fish temporal data trends (2015-2017); Dr. W. Patterson (UF) (\$5,625 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2016-2017 Collaborative work to support sample analysis: Evaluating analytical methods; Dr. H. Judkins (USFSP) (\$7,200 to Romero, co-PI).
- 2015-2017 RFP IV Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GoMRI): Deep-Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico - DEEPEND (\$13,112,400 total; PI Tracey Sutton, Nova Southeastern University; plus-14 co-PIs) (\$190,321 to Romero, co-PI)
- 2009-2010 SeaGrant Los Angeles, California Research support: Isotopic signals (leaf wax D/H) of ecological responses to environmental change, Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve. (\$6,000 Total; PI: Sarah Feakins, University Southern California).

Field research and Oceanographic cruises

- 2021 Mesopelagic fauna sampling Northern Gulf of Mexico. R/V Point Sur. USF-DEEPEND / NOAA Restore
- 2018 Mesopelagic fauna sampling Northern GoM. R/V Point Sur. USF-DEEPEND/GOMRI
- 2018 Depocenters sampling Northern Gulf of Mexico. R/V Point Sur. USF-Mississippi Univ./GOMRI
- 2017 Sedimentary sampling North-South Gulf of Mexico. R/V Weatherbird II. USF, CIMAGE IV/GOMRI
- 2016 Mexican coastal sampling. UNAM-USF collaboration, CIMAGE II/GOMRI
- 2015 Mexican offshore sedimentary sampling. R/V Justo Sierra. UNAM-USF, CIMAGE IV/GOMRI
- 2015 Sedimentary sampling Northern GoM. R/V Weatherbird II. USF/CIMAGE IV/GOMRI
- 2014 Sedimentary and fish sampling - Northern Gulf of Mexico. R/V Weatherbird II. USF, CIMAGE I /GOMRI
- 2013 Sedimentary and fish sampling - Northern Gulf of Mexico. R/V Weatherbird II. USF, CIMAGE I/GOMRI
- 2012 Sedimentary and microbial sampling Orca Basin, Gulf of Mexico. R/V Pelican. USF/Harvard Univ./NSF
- 2010 Microbial sampling and activity in Lake Tahoe, CA. USC/NSF
- 2009 Salt Marshes sampling, Santa Barbara, CA. USC/Sea-Grant Los Angeles
- 2002–2007 Mangrove ecosystem sampling, Belize (5 campaigns). USC/NSF-Biocomplexity
- 1998–2000 Colombian Pacific Coast mangrove ecosystem sampling, Colombia. Univalle/Colciencias.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Google Scholar: H-index = 20; Citations = 1483 (37 peer-reviewed publications)

37. Sutton T.T., Milligan R.J., Daly K., Boswell K.M., Cook A.B., Cornic M., Frank T., Frasier K., Hahn D., Hernandez F., Hildebrand J., Hu C., Johnston M.W., Joye S.B., Judkins H., Moore J.A., Murawski S.A., Pruzinsky N.M., Quinlan J.A., Remsen A., Robinson K.L., **Romero I.C.**, Rooker J.R., Vecchione M., Wells R.J.D. 2022. The Open-Ocean Gulf of Mexico After Deepwater Horizon: Synthesis of a Decade of Research. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, Vol 9, number 753391. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2022.753391>.
36. Woodyard M., Polidoro B.A., Matson C.W., McManamay R.A., Saul S., Carpenter K.E., Collier T.K., Di Giulio R., Grubbs D., Linardich C., Moore J.A., **Romero I.C.**, Schlenk D., Strongin, K.. 2022. A comprehensive petrochemical vulnerability index for marine fishes in the Gulf of Mexico. *Science of The Total Environment*, Volume 820, No. 152892. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.152892>
35. **Romero I.C.**, Chanton J.P., Brooks G., Bosman S., Larson R.A., Harris A., Schwing P., Diercks A. 2021. Molecular markers of biogenic and oil-derived hydrocarbons in deep-sea sediments following the Deepwater Horizon spill. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, Vol 8, number 637970. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.637970>
34. Diercks A., **Romero I.C.**, Schwing P., Larson R.A., Harris A., Bosman S., Chanton J.P., Brooks G. 2021. Resuspension, Redistribution, and Deposition of Oil-Residues to Offshore Depocenters After the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, Vol 8, number 630183. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.630183>

33. Polidoro B., Matson C.W., Ottinger M.A., Renegar D.A., **Romero I.C.**, Schlenk D., Wise J.P., Beltrán González J., Bruns P., Carpenter K., Cobián Rojas D., Collier T.K., Duda T.F., González-Díaz P., Di Giulio R., Grubbs D., Haney C., Incardona J.P., Horta-Puga G., Linardich C., Moore J.A., Pech D., Perera Valderrama S., Ralph G.M., Strongin K., Ringwood A.H., Würsig B. 2021. A Multi- taxonomic Framework for Assessing Relative Petrochemical Vulnerability of Marine Biodiversity in the Gulf of Mexico. *Science of the Total Environment*, Vol 763, No. 142986 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.142986>
32. Cook, A., Bernard A.M., Boswell K.M., Bracken-Grissom H., D'Elia M., deRada S., English D., Eytan R.I., Frank T., Hu C., Johnston M.W., Judkins H., Lembke C., Milligan R.J., Moore J., Penta B., Pruzinsky N.M., Quinlan J.A., Richards T., **Romero I.C.**, Shivji M.S., Vecchione M., Weber M.D., Wells R.J.D., Sutton T.T. 2020. A Multidisciplinary Approach to Investigate Deep-Pelagic Ecosystem Dynamics in the Gulf of Mexico following Deepwater Horizon. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, Vol 7, number 548880. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.548880>
31. Rohal M., Barrera N., Escobar-Briones E., Brooks G., Hollander D., Larson R., Montagna P.A., Pryor M., **Romero I.C.**, Schwing P. 2020. How quickly will the offshore ecosystem recover from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill ? Lessons learned from the 1979 Ixtoc-1 oil well blowout. *Ecological Indicators*, Vol 117:106593. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2020.106593>
30. Bosman S.H., Schwing P.T., Larson R.A., Wildermann N.E., Brooks G.R., **Romero I.C.**, Sanchez-Cabeza J.A., Ruiz-Fernández A.C., Machain-Castillo M.L, Gracia A., Escobar-Briones E., Murawski S.A., Hollander D.J., Chanton J.P. 2020. The southern Gulf of Mexico: A baseline radiocarbon isoscape of surface sediments and isotopic excursions at depth. *PLoS ONE* 15(4): e0231678. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0231678>
29. **Romero I.C.**, Judkins H., Vecchione M. 2020. Temporal variability of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in deep-sea cephalopods of the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, Vol 7, number 54. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.00054>
28. Rohal M., Barrera N., van Eenennaam J.S., Foekema E.M., Montagna P.A., Murk A.J., Pryor M., and **Romero I.C.** 2020. The effects of experimental oil-contaminated marine snow on meiofauna in a microcosm. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 150: 110656. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2019.110656>
27. Xiaoxu S., Chu L., Mercado E., Prince R., **Romero I.**, Hollander D., Kostka J. 2019. Dispersant enhances hydrocarbon degradation and alters the structure of metabolically active microbial communities in shallow seawater from the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, Vol 10: 2387. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2019.02387>
26. Eenennaam J.S., Rohal M., Montagna P.A., Radović J.R., Oldenburg T.B.P., **Romero I.C.**, Murk A.J., Foekema E.M.. 2019. Ecotoxicological benthic impacts of experimental oil-contaminated marine snow deposition. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* (141): 164-175. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2019.02.025>
25. **Romero I.C.**, Sutton T., Carr B., Quintana-Rizzo E., Ross S.W., Hollander D.J., Torres J.J.: 2018. Decadal assessment of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in mesopelagic fishes from the Gulf of Mexico reveals exposure to oil-derived sources. *Environmental Science & Technology* 52 (19) 10985-10996. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.8b02243>
24. Schwing P.T., Chanton J.P., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D.J., Goddard E.A., Brooks G.R., and Larson R.A. 2018. Tracing the Incorporation of Carbon into Benthic Foraminiferal Calcite

- Following the Deepwater Horizon Event. *Environmental Pollution* 237: 424–29.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2018.02.066>.
23. Ainsworth C., Paris C., Perlin N., Dornberger L., Patterson W., Chancellor E., Murawski S., Hollander D., Daly K., **Romero I.C.**, Coleman F., Perryman H. 2018. Impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill evaluated using an end-to-end ecosystem model. *PLoS ONE*, 13(1): e0190840. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0190840>
 22. **Romero I.C.**, Toro-Farmer G., Diercks A.R., Schwing P., Muller-Karger F., Murawski S., Hollander, D.J. 2017. Large-scale deposition and redistribution of hydrocarbons following a deepwater oil spill. *Environmental Pollution*, 228: 179-189.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2017.05.019>
 21. Schwing P.T., O'Malley B.J., **Romero I.C.**, Martínez-Colón M., Hastings D.W., Glabach M.A., Hladky E.M., Greco, A., Hollander D.J. 2017. Characterizing the variability of benthic foraminifera in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico following the Deepwater Horizon event (2010-2012). *Environ. Science and Pollution Research*, Vol 24: 2754-2769.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-016-7996-z>
 20. **Romero I.C.**, Özgökmen T., Snyder S., Schwing P., O'Malley B.J., Beron-Vera F.J., Olascoaga M.J., Zhu P., Ryan E., Chen S., Wetzel D.L., Hollander D., Murawski S.A. 2016. Tracking the Hercules 265 marine gas well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico. *J. Geophys. Res. Oceans*, 121, 706-724. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2015JC011037>
 19. Murawski S.A., Fleeger J., Patterson W., Hu C., Daly K., **Romero I.C.**, Toro-Farmer, G. 2016. How Did the *Deepwater Horizon* Spill Affect Coastal and Continental Shelf Ecosystems. *Oceanography* 29(3):161-173. <https://doi.org/10.5670/oceanog.2016.80>
 18. Schwing P., **Romero I.C.**, Larson R., O'Malley B., Fridrik E., Goddard E.A., Brooks G., Hastings D., Rosenheim B., Hollander B., Grant G., Mulhollan J. 2016. Sediment core extrusion method at millimeter resolution using a calibrated, treaded-rod. *Journal of Visualized Experiments* (114), e54363. <http://www.jove.com/video/54363>
 17. Moss J.A., McCurry C., Schwing P., Jeffrey W.H., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D.J., Snyder R.A. 2016. Molecular characterization of benthic foraminifera communities from the Northeastern Gulf of Mexico shelf and slope following the Deepwater Horizon event. *Deep-Sea Research Part I* 115: 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr.2016.04.010>
 16. Moss J., McCurry C., Tominack S., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D., Jeffrey D.H., Snyder R.A.. 2016. Ciliate protists from the sediment-water interface in the Northeastern Gulf of Mexico. *Deep-Sea Research Part I* 106: 85-96. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr.2015.10.001>
 15. Overholta W.A., Marksa K.P., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D., Snella T.W., Kostka J.E. 2016. Hydrocarbon Degrading Bacteria Exhibit a Species Specific Response to Dispersed Oil while Moderating Ecotoxicity. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, Vol 82, No. 2.
<https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.02379-15>
 14. Hastings D.W., Schwing P.T., Brooks G.R., Larson R.A., Morford J.L., Roeder T., Quinn K.D., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D. J. 2016. Changes in sediment redox conditions following the BP DWH Blowout event. *Deep Sea Research II*, Vol 129: 167-178.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr2.2014.12.009>
 13. **Romero I.C.**, Schwing P.T., Brooks G.R., Larson R.A., Hastings D.W., Flower B.P., Goddard E.A., Hollander D.J. 2015. Hydrocarbons in deep-sea sediments following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Blowout in the Northeast Gulf of Mexico. *PLoS ONE* 10 (5): e0128371.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0128371>.

12. Brooks G.R., Larson R.A., Flower B.P., Hollander D.J., Schwing P.T., **Romero I.C.**, Moore C., Reichart G.J., Jilbert T., Hastings D.W. 2015. Sediment Pulse in the NE Gulf of Mexico Following the 2010 DWH Blowout. PLoS ONE 10 (7): e0132341. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0132341>.
11. Scharler U.M., Ulanowicz R.E., Fogel M.L., Wooller M.J., Jacobson-Meyers M.E., Lovelock C.E., Feller I.C., Frischer M., Lee R., McKee K., **Romero I.C.**, Schmit J.P., Shearer C. 2015. Variable nutrient stoichiometry (C:N:P) across trophic levels determines community and ecosystem properties in an oligotrophic mangrove system. *Oecologia*, 179(3):863-76 . [DOI 10.1007/s00442-015-3379-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-015-3379-2)
10. **Romero I.C.**, Jacobson-Meyers M.E., Fuhrman J.A. and Capone D.G. 2015. Phylogenetic Diversity of Diazotrophs along an Experimental Nutrient Gradient in Mangrove Sediments. *J. Mar. Sci. Eng.*, Vol 3: 699-719. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jmse3030699>
9. Schwing P.T., Flower B.P., **Romero I.C.**, Brooks G.R., Larson R.A., Hollander D.J., Hastings D.W. 2015. A decline in benthic foraminifera following the Deepwater Horizon oil blowout, Gulf of Mexico. PLoS One 10(3): e0120565. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0120565>
8. Quintana-Rizzo E., Torres J.J., Ross S.W., **Romero I.C.**, Watson K., Goddard E. and Hollander D. 2015. Changes in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in deep-living fishes and shrimps after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Gulf of Mexico. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 94(1-2): 241–250. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2015.02.002>
7. **Romero I.C.**, Klein N.J., Sañudo-Wilhelmy S.A., Capone D.G. 2013. Potential trace metal co-limitation controls on N_2 fixation and NO_3 uptake in lakes with varying trophic status. *Frontiers in Aquatic Microbiology*, Vol 4, number 54. [doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2013.00054](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2013.00054)
6. **Romero I.C.** and Feakins S.J. 2011. Spatial gradients in plant leaf wax D/H cross a coastal salt marsh in Southern California. *Organic Geochemistry* 42: 618-629. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.orggeochem.2011.04.001>
5. **Romero I.C.**, Jacobson Meyers M., Fuhrman J.A., Fogel M., Capone D.G. 2011. Long-term nitrogen and phosphorus fertilization effects on N_2 fixation rates and *nifH* gene community patterns in mangrove sediments. *Marine Ecology*: 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1439-0485.2011.00465.x>
4. Fogel M.L., Wooller M.J., Cheeseman J., Smallwood B.J., Roberts Q., **Romero I.C.**, Jacobsen Meyers M. 2008. Unusually negative nitrogen isotopic compositions ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) of mangroves and lichens in an oligotrophic, microbially-influenced ecosystem. *Biogeosciences* 5: 1704-2008. <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-5-1693-2008>
3. Lucero C.H., Cantera J.R., **Romero I.C.** 2006. Variability of macrobenthic assemblages under abnormal climatic conditions in a small scale tropical estuary. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 68: 17-26. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2005.11.037>
2. **Romero I.C.**, J.R. Cantera and E. Pena. 2006. Leaf consumption by herbivores in mangroves, Dagua River Estuary, Pacific Coast of Colombia. *Rev.Biol.Trop.*, Vol.54(4):1205-1214. [ISSN-0034-7744](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rbt.2006.04.001)
1. **Romero I.C.**, Toro-Farmer G., Cantera J.R. 1997. Primer registro para el Pacifico colombiano de *Patelloida semirubida* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Acmaeidae). *Boletin Ecotropica: Ecosistemas Tropicales* No. 31 (ISSN: 0122-3313).

Other publications (Books, technical papers)

8. **Romero I.C.**, Chanton J., Roseheim B., Radović J.R., Schwing P., Hollander D., Larter S., Oldenburg T.B.P. 2020. Long-term preservation of oil spill events in sediments: the case for the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. In “Deep Oil Spills: Facts, Fate, Effects”, 285-300 p. doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-11605-7_17
7. Sutton T., Frank T., Judkins H., **Romero I.C.** 2020. As Gulf Oil Extraction Goes Deeper, Who Is at Risk? Community Structure, Distribution, and Connectivity of the Deep-Pelagic Fauna. In “Scenarios and Responses to Future Deep Oil Spills”, 403-418 p. doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-12963-7_24
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- 2014 Hastings D.W., Schwing P.T., Brooks G.R., Barlett R.A., Larson R.A., Roeder T., Quinn

- K.D., **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D.J. Changes in sediment redox conditions following the BP DWH Blowout event. GoM Oil Spill & Ecosys. Science Conference. Mobile, Alabama, January 26-29.
- 2013 **Romero I.C.**; Toro-Farmer G.A., Watson K., Brooks G.R., Larson R.A., Schwing P., Hastings D., Muller-Karger F., Hollander D.J. Levels, sources and transport pathways of hydrocarbons in deep-sea sediments after the DWH blowout in the Gulf of Mexico. MOSSFA working group meeting, Tallahassee, Florida, October 22-23 2013.
- 2013 **Romero I.C.**, Hollander D.J., Patterson W., Ross S.W., Kane A.S., Murawski S., Quintana-Rizzo E., Peebles E.B., Goddard E.A., Torres J.J. Spatio-Temporal Concentrations and Composition of PAHs in Fish: Mesopelagic and outer Shelf-Reef Fishes in the Gulf of Mexico. In Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference. New Orleans, LA, January 21-23
- 2013 **Romero I.C.**, David J. Hollander, Gregg R. Brooks, Patrick Schwing, Rebekka. A. Larson, Ethan A. Goddard, Nicola Zenzola. Event Stratigraphy of the Deepwater Horizon Blowout and its Record in the Deep-Sea: A Sedimentological and Geochemical Perspective. In Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference. New Orleans, LA, January 21-23, 2013.
- 2013 Patterson, W., Tarnecki, J., Jagoe, C., **Romero, I.C.**, Hollander, D., Kane, A., et al. Shifts in Reef Fish Community and Trophic Structure Following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. In Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference. New Orleans, LA, January 21-23, 2013.
- 2013 Watson, K., **Romero I.C.**, S. Murawski, D. Hollander. Large-scale tracking of oil-derived hydrocarbons in the water column of the Gulf of Mexico after the Deepwater Horizon blowout. In GoM Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference. New Orleans, LA, January 21-23, 2013.
- 2012 **Romero, I.C.**, Hollander D.J., Patterson W., Quintana-Rizzo E., Kane A.S., Murawski S., Ross S.W., Peebles E., Ellis, G., Goddard E., Zenzola N., Means Z., Torres J.J. Organic geochemical evidence for oil spill impacts on fish in the Gulf of Mexico: comparative and quantitative analyses of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Ocean Sciences Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 2012 Larson R.A, Brooks, G.R., Flower B.P., Hollander D., Hastings D., **Romero I.C.**, Valente A., Hill K., Moore C. Assessing the fate and impact of BP oil on deep-sea sedimentary environments and benthic communities: NE Gulf of Mexico. *Ocean Sciences Meeting*, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 2011 **Romero I.C.**, Klein N.J., Barada L., Vo J., Liss A.M., Cutter L., Gunderson T., Tiahlo M., Glass J.B., Sañudo-Wilhelmy S.A., Capone D.G. *ASLO Aquatic Sciences Meeting*, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Trace metal co-limitation controls on nitrogen fixation in lakes with varying trophic status.
- 2010 **Romero I.C.** and Feakins S. J. *7th Annual Southern California Geobiology Symposium*, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena. Plant leaf wax D/H fractionation in a hypersaline Coastal Marsh.
- 2009 **Romero I.C.**, S. Ziegler, M. Fogel, M. Jacobson, J.A. Fuhrman, D.G. Capone. Molecular Insights into Plant-Microbial Processes and Carbon Storage in Mangrove Ecosystems. *AGU Fall Meeting*, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 **Romero I.C.**, Fuhrman J. A., Jacobson M., Fogel M. L., Steele J. A. and Capone D. G. Interaction between diazotrophic bacteria and mangrove roots under different nutrient conditions. *14th Ocean Sciences Meeting*, Orlando, Florida.

- 2008 **Romero I.C.**, Fuhrman J. A., Jacobson M., and Capone D. G. Ecology of nitrogen-fixing microbial populations in the rhizosphere of mangrove sediments. *12th International Symposium on Microbial Ecology (ISME12)*, Cairns, Australia.
- 2003 **Romero I.C.**, Thornton D., Smallwood B.J., Jensen H., Jacobson M.E. Distribution of nutrients associated with natural tree height gradient of nutrient limited trees in Belize. *17th Biennial Conference of the Estuarine Research Federation (ERF)*, Seattle, Washington.

Invited Talks (workshops, universities, report meetings)

- 2022 Annual project report DEEPEND / RESTORE Meeting (07/5-6/2022 Virtual). “Oceanic Chemical Tracers”
- 2021 Invited talk at the Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities (MDBC) Restoration Portfolio - Ground-truthing section, NOAA Restoration (December 9, 2021 Virtual). “Analysing sediment samples: Organic chemical indicators of ecosystem change and recovery”.
- 2021 All-hands DEEPEND/RESTORE Meeting (07/19-20/2021 Virtual). “Trends and drivers of deep-sea biota contamination, GoM”.
- 2019 Invited talk, University of South Florida – College of Marine Science, “Organic molecular tracers of processes at depth in the Gulf of Mexico” (Oct 25, 2019).
- 2019 Sea Grant Workshop “How does Science Guide Oil Spill Response? Collaborating before, during, and after the spill. FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Center, St Peter, FL (04/24/2019).
- 2019 Research summary “Remember the Horizon: How USF Research set a standard after the 2010 Gulf oil spill” Poynter Library, St Petersburg, University of South Florida (April 18, 2019).
- 2018 MOSSFA Workshop (Marine oil snow sedimen. and flocculent accumulation), Galveston, Texas (Nov 26-28). “Sedimentation of hydrocarbon mixtures after the DWH: Spatial extent and fate”.
- 2018 Synthesis Workshop, DEEPEND Consortium (May 14-15). “Time-series assessment of PAHs in deep-pelagic fauna of the Gulf of Mexico”.
- 2017 GOMRI Board Members visit for research outline of contaminants in mesopelagic fauna – DEEPEND Consortium, Nova Southeastern University, DEEPEND Consortium (June 13-14, 2017). “PAHs in tissues of mesopelagic fishes in the Gulf of Mexico”
- 2017 All-hands DEEPEND Consortium Meeting (02/10/2017 New Orleans). “A time-series analysis PAHs in GoM deep-pelagic fauna”
- 2015 Sea Grant Seminar Where did the oil go? (04/14/2015)NOAA’s Gulf of Mexico Disaster Response Center, Mobile, Alabama. “Spatial Extent of Contamination in the GoM after the DWH spill”
- 2015 All-hands DEEPEND Consortium Meeting (02/05/2015 Tampa, Florida). “A time-series analysis of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in GoM deep-pelagic fauna”
- 2013 Research outline to GOMRI Board Members visit to the University of South Florida. C-IMAGE Consortium, St Petersburg, FL
- 2009 Invited talk, Earth Science Department, University of Southern California. “Sediment geochemistry and ecological patterns in bacteria from Belizean mangroves”
- 2009 Invited talk, University California, Irvine. “Plant-microbial interactions in mangrove sediments under long-term nutrient enrichment experiments: An exploratory study”

- 2005 Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama. “Biogeochemistry of sediments associated with mangroves in Belize”

Professional Service

- 2022 Reviewer National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) – Gulf Research Program, environmental Protection and Stewardship
- 2022 Conference session organizer: Sedimentation and redistribution of natural sediments and the introduction of anthropogenic contaminants into the deep sea. Ocean Sciences Meeting (Dierks, Romero, Larson, Schwing), 02/24/22-03/04/22
- 2021-22 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI), College of Marine Science, USF
- 2021 Reviewer National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS) – Early Career Fellowship, Gulf Research Program.
- 2020 Conference session Lead: Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference Tampa, FL: 02/3/20-02/6/20. Session: The deep Gulf of Mexico: Knowns and unknowns after the DWH
- 2019 Conference session chaired: GoM Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conf. New Orleans (02/4-7). Session: Environmental settings, stressors, and their influence on resilience of benthic fauna.
- 2019 Conference session chaired for 2018 GoM Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conf. New Orleans (02/4-7). Session: fate and Transport of Oil in the Open Ocean: Water-Sediment Connectivity.
- 2019 Program organizer, Ecology team for 2019 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosys Science Confer.
- 2018 Program organizer, Ecology team for 2018 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosys Science Confer.
- 2018 Conference session chaired (leader): GoM Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Confer. New Orleans (02/6-9). Session: fate and Transport of Oil in the Open Ocean: Water-Sediment Connectivity.
- 2007-08 Department Graduate Student representative, Marine Environmental Biology Department, University of Southern California.
- 2007 Collaboration in setting a mentoring program for new Graduate Students in Marine Environmental Biology Department, University of Southern California.

Service to Extramural Community (committees, interviews, highlighted publications)

- 2021 Invited workshop: Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities (MDBC): Habitat assessment and evaluation, benthic invertebrates, NOAA Restoration (December 1-2, 2021-Virtual).
- 2021 Invited workshop: Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities (MDBC) Restoration Portfolio-Mapping, Ground-truthing & Predictive Habitat Modelling, NOAA Restoration (12/7-9 Virtual).
- 2021 Interview by Kristen Kusek, University of South Florida CMS 06/30/2021 – “Alarming declines in the Gulf’s deepest dwellers” <https://www.usf.edu/marine-science/news/2021/alarmed-declines-in-the-gulfs-deepest-dwellers.aspx>
- 2021 Interview by Chris D’Angelo, Washington Post 04/22/2021 – “There are massive chemical dumps in the Gulf we know almost nothing about” https://www.huffpost.com/entry/toxic-waste-dumps-gulf-of-mexico_n_6080551be4b03fc5b217aba9.

- 2020 Interview by University of South Florida “USF Marine Scientists conclude 10 years of unprecedented studies on the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill” (April 13, 2020). <https://www.usf.edu/news/2020/10-year-deepwater-horizon-oil-spill-research-concludes.aspx>
- 2019 Orientation and Professional Development Meeting, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Gulf Research Program Fellowship, Washington D.C. (Sept 4-5).
- 2019 Invited to Synthesis workshop “Ecosystem Impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Event: Assembling the Record of Species and Community Change” Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative’s Synthesis and Legacy Effort (Core Area 3). St. Petersburg, FL, July 23-25.
- 2019 Interview by Kristen Coyne at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. “Getting to the bottom of the Deepwater Horizon’s impact (April 17, 2019), Tallahassee, FL. <https://nationalmaglab.org/news-events/feature-stories/deepwater-horizon-impact-2>
- 2019 Invited to the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOMRI) workshop “Petrochemical Vulnerability Ranking Methodology Index for ~2,000 marine species”. Cuba June 16-22.
- 2019 Invited to participate in the Synthesis workshop “Fate of Oil” Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative’s Synthesis and Legacy Effort (Core Area 2). Washington, D.C., June 12-14.
- 2019 Publication highlighted in “GOMRI eNews” on Feb 4th 2019: Decadal assessment of PAHs in mesopelagic fishes from the GoM reveals exposure to oil-derived sources. ES&T.
- 2018 Deep-sea fish research highlighted by the Marine Diaries, Rita Steyn “When is a fish like a canary? <https://www.themarinediaries.com/tmd-blog/when-is-a-fish-like-a-canary>
- 2017 Publication highlighted in “GOMRI eNews” on August 26, 2016: Characterizing the variability of benthic foraminifera in the northeastern GoM following the Deepwater Horizon event (2010–2012). *Environ. Sci. Pollut. Res.* 2017, 24 (3), 2754–2769, DOI: 10.1007/s11356-016-7996-z
- 2016 Publication highlighted in “Publication highlights – GOMRI” on August 26, 2016: Geochemical signatures of a Marine Gas Well Blowout in the Gulf of Mexico. *J. Geophys. Res. Oceans*, 121, DOI: 10.1002/2015JC011037
- 2016 Research in Mexico coastal environments highlighted in the short documentary “The Ixtoc Blowout” by filmmaker Jake Price (<http://jakeprice.com>).
- 2016 Deep-sea sediment research in the C-IMAGE Consortium featured in the documentary “Dispatches from the Gulf” produced by filmmakers Marylin and Hal Weiner. www.youtube.com/watch?v=gcU7uIXNYig, and www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4U9ZkcGpy0
- 2016 Bay News 9 featured field campaigns in Mexico (August 4, 2016). www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vhPnZ4WHhw
- 2013 Contamination research on mesopelagic fishes highlighted in the newspaper Tampa Bay Times (April 5).

Manuscripts and Grant reviewer

- 2021-22 Journal reviewer: *Frontiers in Marine Sciences*, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, and *Environmental Pollution*
- 2019-20 Journal reviewer: *Deepsea Research I*, *Anthropocene*, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*
- 2018 Journal reviewer: *Continental Shelf Research*, *Anthropocene*, *Deepsea Research I*, *Marine Pollution Bulletin*

- 2017 Journal reviewer: Marine Pollution Bulletin, Journal of Environmental Science & Technology Letters
- 2017 Proposal reviewer for the Environmental and Conservation Fund (ECF), Hong Kong (<http://www.ecf.gov.hk/en/home/index.html>) for the topic mangrove-bacterial interactions
- 2011 Journal reviewer: Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology
- 2010 Grant reviewer: National Science Foundation (Program: Geobiology and Low-temperature Geochemistry)

Community Engagement

- 2021-22 Interviews by High Schoolers, Oceanography Camp for Girls – USF, College of Marine Science (07/15-16/2021)
- 2019 Podcast “Panel Discussion (Episode 16): What we have learned about the Gulf for the past seven years” by David Levin, WUSF studios, Tampa, FL (November 19, 2019). <https://www.marine.usf.edu/c-image/media-player/>
- 2019 USF Vembu Cup, Mangrove Bay Golf Course, St Petersburg, FL.
- 2018 Congressional Earth and Space Science Caucus Exhibition, June 20, Washington D.C.
- 2017 Podcast “Isabel Romero: One Hundred Years of Solitude” highlighted by GulfCast (Dispatches from the Gulf, filmmakers Marilyn and Hal Weiner). https://soundcloud.com/gulfdispatches/gulfcast_027_isabelromero_storycollider
- 2016 St Petersburg Science Festival, Science in the Sun. DEEPEND Consortium, College of Marine Science, October 21-22.
- 2016 Marine Science Career Interviews in Summer’s Oceanography Camp for teen-aged girls in Pinellas County. USF
- 2016 The story collider, stories about science: Oil spills and Ecosystems. Tampa, Stageworks Theater. Youtube StoryColliderRomero: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQPASbgjfO4>
- 2016 Oceanography talk at INDI-ED School (elementary and middle school), St Petersburg, FL.
- 2015 Radio interview at WUSF Public Media by Florida Matters, Carson Cooper. Interview available at https://www.wusf.usf.edu/news/program/florida_matters/5_years_later_bp_oil_spill#
- 2015-16 Oceanography talk at Great American Tech, 4th and 6th graders, Shore Acres Elementary, St Petersburg, FL.
- 2015 St Petersburg Science Festival, Science in the Sun. C-Image Consortium, College of Marine Science, October 18.
- 2015 Podcast “Return to Ixtoc” Mind Open producer David Levin talks about the RV Justo Sierra research cruise experience in the Southern Gulf of Mexico – August 2015 (<https://beta.prx.org/stories/170804>).
- 2014 Documentary “Dispatches from the Gulf” Journal to Planet Earth Series. Produced by Screenscope (<http://dispatchesfromthegulf.com/journey/>)
- 2014 St Petersburg Science Festival, Science in the Sun. Paleolab, CMS, October 20.
- 2007-08 Outreach Education (Saturdays at the Lab and lab tours), Catalina Island-Wrigley Institute, University of Southern California.
- 2007 Judge in Edison challenge, Wrigley Institute – University of Southern California

References

1. Dr. Douglas G. Capone

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Web site: <https://dornsife.usc.edu/cf/faculty-and-staff/faculty.cfm?pid=1003151>

2. Dr. Jeff Chanton

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Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Science
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Web site: <https://news.fsu.edu/experts/jeff-chanton/>

3. Dr. Tracey T. Sutton

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Web site: <https://hcas.nova.edu/research/faculty-labs/oceanic-ecology/index.html>

4. Dr. Steve Murawski

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5. Dr. Gregg R. Brooks

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