

Ilonka Zlatar

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Education

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, School of Natural Resources

Master's of Science in Natural Resources Science, Applied Ecology

May 2014

- Focus on functional plant community ecology, minor in biology. **Research tasks:** Literature review; proposal development and budgeting; training and management of workers; experimental design and execution; maintenance of materials and equipment; data collection, entry, management, and analysis; and presentation of findings in posters, lectures, and reports.
- **Grants awarded:** The Nature Conservancy J.E. Weaver Grant 2012; School of Biological Sciences Special Funds awards 2011 and 2012. **Posters & Presentations:** Zlatar, I., & Knops, J., (2013). Specific leaf area variability across a natural gradient of soil texture and fertility. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. Zlatar, I. (2012). Prairie plant diversity along the Platte River. The Whooping Crane Trust Research Symposium (*Invited Speaker*). Wood River, NE.
- National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Trainee (NSF IGERT): Interdisciplinary team of researchers in adaptive management and resilience of stressed watersheds, including an international experience in Europe.
- Teaching Assistant, BIOS 101 and 103. Social Chair and Vice President, Biology Graduate Student Assoc.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences

June 2010

- Focus on ecology and evolution, environmental studies minor
- President of environmental student organization, Sierra Student Coalition
- Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship; Dean's Honors List

Experience

WasteCap Nebraska

May 2014 – Present

Research Assistant, Zero Waste Community Roadmap;

Project Manager, Zero Waste Events, Composting Training

- **Educational Outreach:** Develop presentations, reports, flyers and web content. Educate public and officials about ZW initiatives at meetings and events.
- **Research:** Data collection, synthesis of community waste profiles and recommendations.
- **Organizational Development:** New program design, grant writing, management and reporting.
- **Grants Awarded:** 1. CAN'd Aid, Ball Foundation and Zero Hero, for Zero Waste Events. 2. Public Information and Education grant, for Community-Level Composting Training Program.

University of Nebraska State Museum

Educational Coordinator

January 2014 – June 2014

- Created activities and educational materials for middle-school age children in informal science education, specifically microbiology topics.
- Translated microbiology educational materials into Spanish.
- Assisted with after-school science program planning, execution, management and evaluation.
- Coordinated activities, supplies, shipping and set up of booths for expositions and exhibits.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Urban Sustainability Initiative

Sustainability Research Intern

August 2008 - May 2010

- **Greenhouse Gas Inventory report:** Compiled an inventory of carbon emissions related to university operations as a baseline for future improvements and to gauge success of existing programs. (online at <http://urban21.unlv.edu/pdf/UNLVGreenGasInventory.pdf>)

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- **Waste Management Assessment:** Collected waste stream data and made recommendations (which were adopted) for increasing diversion of recyclables while cutting operational costs.

Sierra Student Coalition, UNLV

President (previously: Vice President, board member)

2007-2010

- Organizational development, fundraising, petitioning, awareness event organizing, outreach.
 - Received formal training in grassroots organizing from the Sierra Club, including membership recruitment, fundraising, event organizing, political messaging, etc. Trained others the following year.
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Other Experience and Skills

- Native Speaker: Spanish, English
- Board of Directors, Lincoln Green by Design *February 2015 – Present*
- Radio Programmer for KZUM, Earth to Lincoln *January 2015 – Present*
- Substitute teacher, Clark County School District, Las Vegas NV *August 2010 – May 2011*
- Software: Experienced with MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access) and Mac OS equivalents. Experienced in Internet navigating and social media. Intermediate experience with ArcGIS, R and JMP statistical software.

Hobbies and Activities

- Professional dance instructor and performer, singing and musical performance, yoga, vegetarian cooking, travel and the outdoors.
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