

# Laura Stieghorst

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## Summary

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**Startup founder** with experience leading a team on complex scientific projects for commercial, governmental and academic partners closing critical knowledge gaps in emerging carbon removal technology. Highly collaborative with a strong ability to cultivate and nurture relationships to build an extensive network. Developed deep industry knowledge of carbon removal and marine science, having worked on projects across lab and field science, policy, and industry. Highly sought-after public speaker, project manager, and event organizer.

## Experience

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### **Básico | Founder**

August 2021 – Present

Miami, Florida

Consulting and project management for scientists and practitioners in marine carbon dioxide removal including academic and commercial research collaboration.

Fundraising:

- Raised \$200,000 in non-dilutive funding in the first 6 months since founding.
- Delivered research well within budget allowing for an expanded research plan.

Research:

- Coordinating research to study the efficacy and environmental impact of ocean alkalinity enhancement in partnership with a leading mCDR company.
- Developed deep industry and subject matter expertise.
- Now planning the next stage of research investigating OAE impacts on corals.

Partnership and Networks:

- Engaging with a wide network of professionals in carbon and marine science and developing a reputation in thought leadership and networking.

### **RiveroMestre LLP | Receptionist and Intern**

May 2018 – March 2020

Miami, Florida

- Scheduled appointments and maintained calendar system, directed communications to correspond between lawyers and clients, and greeted office guests.
- Assisted lawyers in drafting witness questions, by conducting background searches, reviewing public records, and tracking media appearances of high-profile clients.
- Worked with a suite of organizational software to manage schedules and contacts, research, and digitize files.

### **University of Miami Wellness Center | Administrative Assistant**

February 2019 – January 2020

Miami, Florida

- Supported the administrative office staff by processing payments, digitizing files, and answering calls and questions from current and prospective members.
- Developed customer service, maintain records, and conflict resolution skills.

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## Education

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**University of Miami** August 2017 – December 2021  
Miami, FL

B.A. Ecosystems Science and Policy, minor in Spanish

Relevant Coursework: Environmental Decision Making, Public Speaking, Climatology and Extreme Weather, Public Policy, Environmental Economics.

**Universidad de Sevilla** August 2019 – December 2019  
Sevilla, Spain

Completed four months of coursework towards a Spanish minor while integrating with a Spanish-speaking host family.

## Leadership Roles

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**Ocean Carbon and Biogeochemistry (OCB)** Miami, Florida  
**Gulf Regional Node Co-Leader** **Current**

- Charged with engaging experts and stakeholders from the Gulf of Mexico region in discussions around location-specific problems and solutions.
- Event planning for one in-person event as well as monthly virtual meetings.

**Aspen Institute** Miami, Florida  
**Future Climate Leader** April 2022 – March 2023

- Participated in a cohort of 100 Future Climate Leaders at Aspen Ideas: Climate Summit.
- Returned in 2023 as an organizer to host workshops, facilitate networking, and share information with the group.
- Recruited members to Básico and secured partnerships with other young leaders.

**Leadership UMiami** Miami, FL  
**Cohort participant** August 2018 – December 2018

- Collaborated across a cohort of 30 students to explore equitable change within the university and Miami government. Met with local government officials, NGO and non-profit representatives, and activists to discuss the causes of inequality and avenues for progress.
- Program culminated in a meeting with the university's Dean of Student Affairs to propose an initiative to promote equality on campus.

## Research & Field Work

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### 2023

- Yang, B., Leonard, J., Langdon, C. (2023) Seawater alkalinity enhancement with magnesium hydroxide and its implication for carbon dioxide removal, journal, *Marine Chemistry*, contributed funding and design.
- 4/13/23- 5/9/23 NOAA GO-SHIP Ronald H. Brown A16N -lab technician pH.

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## Certifications

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### 2023

- Project Management Professional (PMP), Project Management Institute.

## Grants & Fellowships

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### 2022

- Fellowship, 776 Foundation, awarded to Laura Stieghorst (\$100,00).

### 2021

- Principal Investigator with the University of Miami, XPRIZE Carbon Removal Competition MRV Category, awarded to Básico (\$100,000).

## Conferences

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### 2024

- Ocean Sciences Meeting, Workshop facilitator, March February 19-22.

### 2023

- Aspen Ideas: Climate Summit, Future Climate Leader, press, workshop facilitator, March 3-9.
- NACP/US Carbon Cycle Science Program Workshop: Measuring, Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MMRV) for Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR). February 21-23.

### 2022

- NYC Climate Week, UN Youth for Climate forum, September 19-21.
- Future of Water Conference, August 8-10.
- Aspen Ideas: Climate Summit, Future Climate Leader and panelist speaker, May 9-12.
- Climate Resilience Academy Symposium, poster presenter, April 26.

## Interviews & Press

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### 2022

- The Miami Herald, newspaper, Can adding minerals to ocean curb climate change? November 15.
- The Miami Herald, newspaper, Deploy variety of carbon-removal methods to make Florida more resilient to climate change, Opinion, August 27.
- Important, Not Important, podcast, Fellowship of the Climate, August 15.
- Aspen Ideas: Climate Summit, closing ceremony speaker, Miami: An Ocean Innovation Hub, May 12.
- House on Fire, podcast, The power of Young Minds: Laura Stieghorst and the XPRIZE, April 30.
- Cafecito Talk with Mayor Francis Suarez, interview, Cafecito Talk with Laura Stieghorst, February 9

### 2021

- WLRN, public radio, UM Student Wins \$100,000 Elon Musk Prize to Study Capturing Planet Warming Carbon, December 9.
- News @ the U, newspaper, Students Win \$100,000 Prize from Elon Musk's Carbon-Removal Competition, November 10.