# Caitlin R. Etri

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# **EDUCATION**

**Ithaca College,** Ithaca NY, Master of Arts in Teaching, Expected date of graduation June 2015; GPA 4.0 Secondary Science Adolescence Education, Biology

**Ithaca College Graduate Courses**: Inquiry and Nature of Science, Educational Technology, Practice and Pedagogy Across the Disciplines, Literacy Development and Secondary Language Acquisition, The Exceptional Child, Science Pedagogy and Practice, Professional Development Seminar

**Cornell University**, Ithaca NY, Bachelor of Science, May 2014; GPA 3.30, Dean's List Spring 2014 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Major, Education Minor

**Selected Cornell University Undergraduate Courses:** Shoal's Marine Laboratory: Vertebrate Anatomy and Function, Marine Biology and Sustainability, Naturalist Science Outreach Program, Educational Psychology, Multicultural Education, Social and Political Context of Education, Macroevolution, Engaging Students in Learning, Principles of Biochemistry: Molecular Biology, Introductory Plant Diversity, Genetics and Genomics.

Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden, Spring 2013, Department of Education

### NEW YORK STATE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

NYSED Examinations/Biology Certification: Passed, ALST (August 2014); EAS (January 2015); EdTPA, Mastery Level (April 2015); Expected, Biology CST (May 2015); Anticipated certification: July, 2015.

NYSED Chemistry Certification: Anticipated September, 2015

**NYS Mandatory Workshops:** Passed, Harassment, Bullying, and Discrimination in Schools: Prevention and Intervention (July 2014), Child Abuse Identification and Prevention (September 2014), Drug and Alcohol Abuse: Identification and Prevention (October 2014), and School Violence Prevention (October 2014).

# PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

## Student Teaching, Ithaca High School, Ithaca, NY

Spring 2015

100 hours of observation during Fall 2014. Courses included Living Environment, Honors Biology and Forensics (Grades 9-12). This classroom was co-taught by cooperating teachers Leslie Zolnik and Nicole Denissoff. Units included human reproduction and development, plants, ecology, and handwriting (forensics) with a focus on inquiry based learning and enhancement of critical thinking skills.

# Student Teaching, Groton Jr./Sr. High School, Groton, NY

Winter 2015

Cooperating teacher, Chad DeVoe, 7<sup>th</sup> grade life science. Assumed full responsibility for the class. Designed a project-based learning unit plan regarding the effects of marine pollution on albatross birds. Students were engaged in inquiry style learning environments and used authentic research resources provided by NOAA. All unit plans incorporated standards from NSES, NYSS, NGSS and Common Core. This placement focused primarily on inquiry-based learning, research-based strategies designed to address common student preconceptions regarding unit topics as well as whole-class formative assessment strategies (through the active use of individual white boards).

# Cornell Community Engagement Showcase, Cornell University, Ithaca NY

April 2015

Presented education undergraduate service-learning course at a poster session. This presentation competed for a monetary prize to support the development of Cornell University's "Engaging Students in Learning" course (taken Spring 2014).

Course implemented a middle school afterschool program, similar to "Odyssey of the Mind," which allowed middle school students to engage in creative problem-solving opportunities, facilitated by undergraduate students.

# Cornell Institute of Biology Teachers (CIBT), Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Winter 2015

Attended new and pre-service teacher workshop. Received 12 in-service credit hours.

#### Education Intern, Sciencenter, Ithaca NY

Summer 2014- Winter 2014

Engaged community members and children in hands-on interactive science programs. Floor programs included a variety of topics from electricity to neuroscience and biodiversity. Assisted in summer camp programming for grades 2-8. Presented a "Showtime!" interactive experience to the public on white-tailed deer. Created teacher resources for Sciencenter's Discovery Space.

#### Frederick Douglass Academy Teaching, Harlem, NY

October 2014

Visiting teacher/academic outreach through Ithaca College M.A.T. Program. Observed and taught Living Environment course during Ithaca College extended visitation.

Science Education Intern, Long Island Aquarium and Exhibition Center, Riverhead, NY

Summer 2013
Involved both children and adults in hands-on exhibitions, thereby piquing their collective interest in science. Presented lectures to the public on variety of marine biology topics and encouraged children (through salt marsh, touch tank, and beachfront experiences) to explore their natural world. Assisted lecturer on a tour boat that took visitors to a shorefront where guests could experience ancillary subject matter regarding marine topics.

# Naturalist Outreach Program, Cornell University, NY

Fall 2012

Presented program intended to broaden awareness about white-tailed deer to children in various school districts throughout Upstate NY and Long Island. Created original lesson plans with interactive, child-centered activities involving hands-on materials to pique children's scientific curiosity and engage them in the natural world. Presentation was featured in an Internet classroom video (produced by 4-H Youth Development) used by educators to enhance student understanding of said topic.

#### Camp Counselor, Camp Alvernia, Centerport, NY

Summers 2011, 2012

Responsible for supervising groups of ten to twelve campers (ranging in age from 8 to 10 years per session) for eight weeks each summer. Developed activities that were both enjoyable and educationally enlightening. Created an engagingly "fun," safe environment where campers could grow as individuals, all the while maintaining an appropriate level respect from them.

**Student Director/Assistant,** Huntington School District, Musical Productions (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade) 2007-2014 Directed intermediate-level students in choreography, music direction, and vocal coaching. Resumed this position every winter since high school graduation so as to support youngsters and to provide them with an appreciation for (and subsequent enjoyment of) theater.

# **LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

# Educational Psychology Teaching Assistant, Cornell University

Fall 2013

Taught my own section of ten Cornell students weekly. Graded papers, met with students one-on-one, and creatively incorporated interactive activities that reinforced lecture topics into each session.

Ambassador, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University.

2012-2014

Acted as a liaison between College and prospective students. Served on a panel during information sessions, gave tours, assisted with Cornell days (parent/student orientation, etc.).

**Girl Scouts of America Chair**, Kappa Delta Sorority, Omega Chi Chapter, Cornell University

2011-2012
Engaged local troops in philanthropic events, organized programs to promote self-confidence in young girls, planned and hosted special events (International Girls Day), served as liaison between sorority and Girl Scouts.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

#### Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Tutor, Ithaca High School, Ithaca, NY

Fall 2014

Facilitated problem-solving sessions for 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade college-bound students. Averaged 4 hours a week of tutoring in the Ithaca City School District. Worked with students to improve study skills and ask higher-level questions in all content areas. Formed positive relationships and respect among the students.

# English Tutor, Gottsundaskolan, Sweden

Spring 2013

Assisted at a multicultural school while on CALS International Exchange Program. (Children from all over the world attend this school when they first arrive in Sweden.) Assisted in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade English classrooms.

#### **Cornell University BIGS Program**

2011-2012

Participated in a bi-weekly program where Cornell students team up with the Ithaca Youth Bureau in providing educationally gratifying activities for underprivileged children.

2012

**Cornell University EYES,** (Encouraging Young Engineers and Scientists)

Created lesson plans for after-school activities (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) to engage children in science. Responsible for lessons on a weekly basis through continual interaction with students.

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society (Ithaca College 2015)

Cornell University Dean's List (2014)

Sciencenter Graduate Assistantship (2014)

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Ambassador (2012-2014)

Cornell University Symphonic Winds, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair Flute (2010-2011)