

## Kayla A. Cranston

[kac@kaylacranston.com](mailto:kac@kaylacranston.com)

Bozeman, MT, USA

---

**Career Goal:** To work with conservation organizations and other researchers to develop and evaluate strategies that build upon existing regional capacity for durable biodiversity conservation.

### Education:

May 2017

Antioch University New England, Keene, NH

Ph.D. in Environmental Studies

**Focus on fostering capacity building and human motivation for biodiversity conservation**

Advisor: Carol D. Saunders, Ph.D.

Committee: Beth Kaplin, Ph.D.; Raymond DeYoung, Ph.D.

May 2009

Prescott College for Liberal Arts & the Environment, Prescott, AZ

M.A. in Environmental Studies

**Focus on sustainable community development**

Advisors: Andres Edwards, M.A., M.P.S.; Terril Shorb, M.A.; James Pittman, M.Sc., M.A.

May 2005

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Magna cum Laude

### Professional Directions and Development:

August 2015- present

Instructor

University of San Diego Extension

San Diego, CA

I co-developed and facilitate an online Conservation Psychology course with Wesley Schultz as a part of a certificate program through UCSD Extension.

December 2014- present

Program Evaluation Consultant

Trout Unlimited (TU)

Asheville, NC

I coordinate and facilitate focus groups and interviews with TU staff nationwide, create psychometric instruments, and develop empirically rigorous evaluation plans for many TU projects.

December 2014- May 2015

Research and Manuscript Writing Assistant

[Karen Peterman Consulting](#)

Asheville, NC

I conducted literature reviews to support Karen's research and wrote and edited manuscripts based on our findings for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

May 2013-March 2015

Capacity Building Consultant

Human Wildlife Conflict Collaboration (HWCC)

Bethesda, MD

I worked with HWCC Executive Director to design strategy for HWCC's capacity building trainings in California and Utah. I also lead

a team to formulate, conduct, and analyze results to produce a formative evaluation of trainings.

- August 2013-August 2014  
Conservation Psychology Fellow  
Antioch University New England, Keene, NH  
I directed the management, outreach efforts, registration, curriculum development, and evaluation of the [Conservation Psychology Institute \(CPI\)](#). Managed the Conservation Psychology Listserv; coordinated visioning process and budgets for future CPIs; designed and managed 2 websites for conservation psychology; directed the development of a CPI alumni network, a CP conference, and the development of associated journal articles. I worked with Antioch staff to secure funding to evaluate the effectiveness of the CPI.
- January 2012- December 2013  
Administrative Coordinator  
Center for Academic Innovation (CAI)  
Antioch University New England (AUNE), Keene, NH  
I supported the start-up operations of AUNE's Center for Academic Innovation, reporting to the Center's director. I assisted in the development and management of Center systems, the planning and implementation of Center outreach meetings and events, and the logistical support for academic program offerings supported by the Center.
- January 2011-August 2012  
**Community-based Conservation Consultant**  
American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), New York, NY  
Center for Biodiversity and Conservation  
Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP)  
I worked with NCEP's Executive Director to formulate logic models and produce evaluation matrix for AMNH's community-based conservation programs in East Africa and Latin America.
- January 2010- May 2013  
Adjunct Faculty  
Environmental Studies Master of Arts Program  
Antioch University New England, Keene, NH  
I taught *Conservation Psychology Theory & Application; Social Science Research Methods for Environmental Practitioners*
- June 2012  
Faculty  
Conservation Psychology Institute  
Antioch University New England, Keene, NH  
I taught *Different Types of Nature Experience; Communicating for Change*
- September 2011- August 2012  
Adjunct Faculty  
Keene State College, Keene, NH  
Environmental Studies Department  
I taught ENST490: *Conservation Psychology Theory & Application*; IENST 152: *Principles of Sustainability*
- October 2005- June 2007  
Operant Behavioral Research Lab Manager  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
Peter Killeen, Ph.D.- Principal Investigator  
I kept inventory of lab equipment, managed undergraduate research assistants, and ensured the integrity of data collected for multiple concurrent experiments.

February 2003-September 2005 Behavioral Neuroscience Research Assistant  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
Edward Castaneda, Ph.D.- Principal Investigator

January 2002- January 2003 Social Psychology Research Assistant  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
Robert Cialdini, Ph.D.- Principal Investigator

### **Leadership & Service:**

August 2013 **Trainer & Facilitator**  
Regional Network for Conservation Educators in the Albertine Rift  
University of Burundi, Africa  
Bujumbura, Burundi  
I facilitated and co-taught a 3-day training on *Social Science Research Methods for Biodiversity Conservation in the Albertine Rift*

August 2012 **Symposium Co-Organizer**  
Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation  
49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: Ecology, Evolution, and Sustainable Use of Tropical Biology  
Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil  
I organized a symposium on *Capacity Building and Empowerment in Tropical Ecology and Conservation: How can we make tropical conservation research and practice more effective?*

July 2002 Community-based Conservation Field Staff  
International Student Volunteers (ISV), Gandoca, Costa Rica  
I worked with ISV to facilitate community outreach, beach debris removal, and turtle egg relocation to hatchery to conserve local sea turtle populations.

### **Manuscripts & Publications:**

Cranston, Kayla Ann. (2009). Theory in action: A sustainable community development framework from a psychological perspective. M.A. dissertation, Prescott College, United States -- Arizona. Retrieved May 27, 2009, from Dissertations & Theses @ Prescott College database. (Publication No. AAT 1462237).

Cranston, Kayla A. (in development). Willing & Able: Fostering Psychological Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation. *Conservation Biology*. Manuscript in development.

Mazur, Zoloto, Cranston & Sanabria. (in review). Environmental Discounting: using the ERBI to estimate the likelihood of engaging in environment-responsible behavior. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*. Manuscript in review.

Peterman, Cranston, & Kermish-Allen. (in review). Measuring K-5 Students' Ability to Read and Interpret Graphical Displays via Performance-Based Assessments. *International Journal of Science Education*. Manuscript in review.

### **Invited Presentations:**

June 2015 Conference of Environment & Human Well-being  
Claremont Graduate University  
Claremont, California  
Presentation: *Building & Evaluating Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation*

- October 2007                    ECOSA Institute of Sustainable Design, Prescott, AZ  
Lecture: *The Importance of Life Principles in Biomimicry-Based Ecological Design*
- Presentations:**
- August 2015                    27<sup>th</sup> International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB)  
Montpelier, France  
Presentation: *Fostering & Evaluating Durable Motivation in Capacity Building Programs*
- July 2012                        Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation  
49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: Ecology, Evolution, and Sustainable Use of Tropical Biology  
Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil  
Presentation: *The Role of Empowerment & Meaningful Action In Effective Biodiversity Conservation*
- June 2011                        Antioch University New England, Keene, NH  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Studies Student Research Symposium  
Presentation: *Capacity Building for Biodiversity Conservation in Eastern Africa*
- May 2008                        Prescott College, Prescott, AZ  
Thesis Presentation: *Less Talk More Action: Creating a Theory-Based Community Action Plan to Foster a Sustainable Future*
- January 2008                    Highlands Center for Natural History, Prescott, AZ  
Lecture Series: *Sustainability Theory and Applications*
- October 2005                    Society for Neuroscience Conference  
Washington, D.C.  
Presentation: *Gender differences in the neurotoxic effects of MDMA: effects of L-5-HTP treatment*. See abstract at: <http://www.sfn.org/Annual-Meeting/Past-and-Future-Annual-Meetings/Abstract-Archive/Abstract-Archive-Search>

**Professional Associations:**

- February 2011-present      The Center for Tropical Ecology and Conservation (CTEC)  
Member  
Department of Environmental Studies  
Antioch University New England  
CTEC is committed to supporting and promoting education and research in tropical ecology, conservation and the sustainable use of tropical ecosystems.
- February 2011-present      International Association for Society and Natural Resources  
Member  
IASNR is an interdisciplinary professional association open to individuals who bring a variety of social science and natural science backgrounds to bear on research pertaining to the environment and natural resource issues. Our official journal, *Society and Natural Resources*, publishes research articles and policy analyses pertaining to a broad range of topics addressing the relationships between social and biophysical systems. Our official meetings, the International Symposia on Society and Resource Management, are held annually.

**Professional References Available Upon Request**

