

# Paulina Elizabeth Kolic

**Graduate Institution:** Louisiana State University

**Graduate Discipline:** Analytical Chemistry

**Hometown:** San Diego, CA

**Relevant SC Research:** Biological and Environmental Research



## Research Interest:

Soils are complex, heterogeneous entities that play a valuable role in our ecosystem. Chemically they are responsible for determining the bioavailability, fate and transport of pollutants in the ecosystem. Due to their complexity, it is difficult to predict the interactions that take place between soils and pollutants. My current research involves the development of a model soil surrogate system to study these interactions.

Additionally, I have been involved in various field projects to study the

changes to dissolved organic matter after environmental disasters. The two most recent being the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River flooding of 2011.

## About Me:

In 2010, I graduated from California State University at Channel Islands with a B.S. in chemistry. Currently, I am beginning my third year as a graduate student in the chemistry program at Louisiana State University. The research I conduct involves the use of synthetic soils to develop our understanding of

the interactions between pesticides and soils. My career goal is to perform environmental research at a national laboratory and become involved in environmental policy.

Beyond work, I enjoy music, the theater, photography, hiking, traveling, and being outdoors. I pursue my passion for preserving the environment by serving as an active member of the Student Wetland Society at LSU and volunteering at a tree farm for a local environmental organization.



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