

Curriculum Vitae
Barbara Balestra
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Education:

PhD in Earth Sciences, Earth Science Department, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy. Thesis: "Irminger Current Dynamics during the last 30.000 years, Southeastern Greenland Margin." Advisor: Prof. S. Monechi, Co-advisors: Dr. P. Ziveri and Dr. S. Troelstra.

Laurea, (B.A. and M.A.), Earth Science Department, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy. Thesis: "Paleoceanografia e Paleoecologia del Quaternario nel mare della Groenlandia basata sullo studio dei coccolitoforidi: dal vivente al fossile." (Paleoceanography and Paleoecology in the Greenland Sea using coccolithophorids as proxies: from the living to fossils). Thesis advisor: Prof. S. Monechi.

Professional experience

2023- to present Senior Professorial Lecturer and Director of the Teaching Laboratories in continuous appointment, Department of Environmental Science, American University, Washington DC, District of Columbia, USA.

2018- 2022, Professorial Lecturer and Director of the teaching Laboratories
Department of Environmental Science, American University, Washington DC, District of Columbia, USA.

2021- to present, Research Associate
Paleobiology Department at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, District of Columbia, USA

2023- 2025, Research Associate (WOS).
Earth and Planetary Sciences Department, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, USA

2022- 2023, Research Associate
Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, USA.

2013- 2022, Assistant Project Scientist, step 4
Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, USA.

2016- 2021, Research Fellow
Paleobiology Department at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, District of Columbia, USA.

2017- 2018, Research Assistant Professor
Department of Environmental Science, American University, Washington DC, District of Columbia, USA.

May-August 2015, Program Coordinator CC-Rise
(Community College Research Internship for Scientific Engagement), Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, USA.

2010–2012, Senior College Laboratory Technician and Associate Researcher
School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (SEES), Queens College, Flushing, NY, USA.

2011, Adjunct Professor, Geophysical Geology 101
School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Queens College, Flushing, NY, USA.

2007-2008, Contract
CoNISMa, Italy. IMAGES (The International Marine Past Global Change Study).

2009- 2010, Research Fellow
Earth Science Department, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy.

2007, Visiting Associate Research Scientist
Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO), Columbia University, New York, USA.

Awards and Research projects

- Mellon AU grant, PI Balestra, “Spatial distribution of microplastics (MPs) and microbeads (MBs) in road dust samples in the American University neighborhood.” (2025-2026) \$ 3000.
- Mini Grant AU PI Parker, Co-PI Balestra, Co-PI Katju (2024-2025), \$ 500.
- PI, Balestra, WRRRI Grant, “Spatial distribution and chemical characterization of microplastic and microbeads in river sediments in the DC area.”, (2024-2025), \$30.000.
- PI, Balestra, IODP Grant, “Integrated biochronology, paleoproductivity and paleoceanography at Site U1385 the Shackleton Site, IODP Exp 401”, (2024-2025), \$19.993.
- College Dean’s Award for Exceptional Impact, May 2024, American University.
- PI, Balestra, WRRRI Grant, “Microplastic and microbead spatial distributions, concentrations, and characterizations, in sediment samples from the Potomac and Anacostia River in the District of Columbia, (2023-2024), \$30.000.
- Invited to participate as a Micropaleontologist (nannofossils) on International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Mediterranean-Atlantic Gateway Exchange, Expedition 401 (IMMAGE Project 2023-2025), \$36.675.
- Co-Principal, Balestra, Parker, Jardine, Uscinski, NSF Grant, “New to IUSE: EHR DCL: Enhanced Teaching and Learning Through Problem-Based Pedagogy (AU, ETL)” (2021-2025).
- AU Deputy Provost & Dean of Faculty’s Pilot Grant Award for the proposal “Effects of biofilm biodiversity and biomass on microplastics in the Potomac River”, (Spring 2022).
- Goddard Fellows Innovative Challenge (GFIC) proposal, NASA, "Predicting Changes in Ocean Habitability on Earth and Other Ocean Worlds" (Summer 2021).
- Microplastic Research in the Anacostia River Watershed, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, (October 2020- February 2022).
- Microplastics and Synthetic Fibers in an Urban Freshwater System. CAS Faculty Mellon Fund, American University, DC (November 2020-November 2021).
- Dynamique de la Mediterranean Outflow Water (MOW) au Quaternaire dans le Golfe de Cadix (MOWCA), project in collaboration with the University of Bordeaux, UMR-CNRS 5805 EPOC, (September 2018- August 2020).
- Ocean Acidification in Coastal California over the Last 13,000 years, Los Alamos National Labs – LDRD, (September 2014- October 2017).
- UCSC Silicon Valley Initiatives (SVI) Research Award (March 2012- September 2014).
- Post-Expedition Activity (PEA) IODP Awards, (June 2012- November 2014).
- Invited to participate at IODP Expedition 339, as nannofossil biostratigrapher (Nov 2011- Jan 2012).
- PSC-CUNY 42 Research Award, “Coccolithophores as proxy to determine marine biotic imprint of periodic climate oscillations during the Late Quaternary: an example from the North Atlantic”, (July 2011- December 2012).
- MIUR (Ministero dell’Istruzione dell’Università della Ricerca) Project 2005, 2007-2009. “Maastrichtian to Eocene short and medium-term climatic event and biotic crises: paleoceanographic implications and modeling I and II” in collaboration with Prof. S. Monechi, Earth Sciences Department, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy.
- Core IMAGES MD95-2033 (Laurentian Fan): a comparison between coccoliths and dinoflagellate assemblages, 2008. Project in collaboration with Dr. Anne de Vernal (GEOTOP) and Dr. Adele Bertini (Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy). Contract CoNISMa.
- Study of the coccolithophore assemblages for validating the alkenone PCO_2 proxy from Pleistocene sediments. 2007. Comparison of different proxies. In collaboration with Prof. Bärbel Hönisch, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University, New York, USA.

List of Publications, Geological maps and illustrated notes.

- Trotta, S., Duque-Castaño, M., Rodrigues, T., Voelker, A., Maiorano, P., **Balestra, B.**, Flores, J-A, Siniscalchi, A., Addante, M., Marino, M., (accepted). High-Frequency Glacial Climate Instability During the Early Pleistocene: Insights from IODP Site U1387 (Gulf of Cadiz) . *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*.
- Balestra, B.**, Huber, B., Chen, J., Farfan, G.A., MacLeod, K.G., Rose, T., Paytan, A. and Gooding, T., (2025). Benthic foraminiferal Mg/Ca response across the Aptian-Albian Boundary Interval at DSDP Site 511 (Falkland Plateau). *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, p.112769.
- Ventresca, O., Acevedo, A., Nicholas, K., Craig, J., Carpenter, S., Fisher, C., Danzberger, M., Williams, C., **Balestra, B.** and MacAvoy, S., (2024). Concentration and Distribution of Specific Siloxanes (D5 and D6) and PAHs in the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, USA. *Water*, 16(14), p.2059.
- Flecker, R., Ducassou, E., Williams, T., and the Expedition 401 Scientists, (2024). Expedition 401 Preliminary Report: Mediterranean–Atlantic Gateway Exchange. International Ocean Discovery Program. <https://doi.org/10.14379/iodp.pr.401.2024>
- Barnes, J., **Balestra, B.**, Knee, K. L., Frederick, J. A., Landaverde, N., & Meiller, J. (2024). Freshwater algal biofilm assemblages are more effective than invertebrate assemblages at aggregating microplastics. *Heliyon*, 10(1).
- Argenio, C., Flores, J. A., **Balestra, B.**, Cerulo, L., Cachão, M., & Amore, F. O. (2024). Surface water mass dynamics at IODP Site U1313 through Principal Component Analysis: Evidence from coccolith assemblages in the ~ 25–7 kyr interval. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 635, 111960.
- Davey, E., Meiller, J., MacAvoy, S., Fox, D., Fontana, K., Landaverde, N., & **Balestra, B.** (2023). Microplastics and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons: Abundance, Distribution, and Chemical Analyses in the Nash Run, an Urban Tributary to the Anacostia River (Washington, DC, USA). *Water, Air, & Soil Pollution*, 234(8), 493
- Maiorano, P., Flores, J.A., Marino, M., Ducassou, E., Trotta, S. and **Balestra, B.** (2023). Surface water dynamics of the last 20 kyr documented by coccolithophores in the Gulf of Cadiz. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 617, p.111498.
- Argenio, C., Flores, J. A., Fuertes, M. A., **Balestra, B.**, & Amore, F. O. (2023). Coccolithophore paleoproductivity since the Last Glacial Maximum in the Atlantic Ocean: Relationship with calcification and preservation variability. *Quaternary International*, 643, 34-45.
- Trotta, S., Marino, M., Voelker, A.H.L., Rodrigues, T., Maiorano, P., Flores, J.A., Girona, A., Addante, M. and **Balestra, B.** (2022). Early Pleistocene calcareous nannofossil assemblages from the Gulf of Cadiz reveal glacial-interglacial and millennial-scale variability. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, p.111304
- Argenio, C., Flores, J-A, **Balestra, B.**, and Amore, O. (2021). Reconstructing ocean surface dynamics over the last ~25 ka at “Shackleton Site” IODP - U1385. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, vol. 579, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.palaeo.2021.110587>.
- Gonzales-Lanchas, A., Flores, J-A, Sierro, F.J., Sanchez Goni, M.F., Rodrigues, T., Ausin, B., Oliveira, D., Naughton, F., Marino, M., Maiorano, P., **Balestra, B.** (2021). Control mechanisms of Primary Productivity revealed by coccolithophores from Marine Isotope Stage (MIS) 12 to 9 at the Shackleton Site U1385. *Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology. Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology*, 36(6), e2021PA004246.
- Balestra, B.**, Rose, T., Fehrenbacher, J., Knobelspiesse, K., Huber, B, Godding, T., Paytan, A. (2021). In situ Mg/Ca measurements on foraminifera: comparison between Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) and Wavelength-Dispersive X-Ray Spectroscopy by electron probe microanalyzer (EPMA). *Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems*, 22, e2020GC009449. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GC009449>

- Balestra, B.**, Orland, I.J., Fessenden-Rahn, J., Gorski, G., Franks, R., Rahn, T., Paytan, A. (2020). Paired analyses of oxygen isotope and elemental ratios within individual shells of benthic foraminifera genus *Uvigerina*. *Chemical geology*, vol. 533, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2019.119377>
- Balestra, B.**, Voelker, A., and Flores, J.-A. (2019). Data report: early Pleistocene calcareous nannofossils, IODP Expedition 339, Site U1387. *In* Stow, D.A.V., Hernández-Molina, F.J., Alvarez Zarikian, C.A., and the Expedition 339 Scientists, *Proceedings of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program*, 339: Tokyo (Integrated Ocean Drilling Program Management International, Inc.). doi:10.2204/iodp.proc.339.205.2019
- Thomas, E., Boscolo-Galazzo, F., **Balestra, B.**, Monechi, S., Donner, B., Röhl, U. Early Eocene Thermal Maximum 3: biotic response at Walvis Ridge (SE Atlantic Ocean). (2018). *Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology*, 33. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2018PA003375>.
- Balestra, B.**, Quintana Krupinski, N.B., Erohina, T., Fessenden-Rahn, J., Rahn, T., and Paytan, A. Bottom water oxygenation and environmental change in Santa Monica Basin, Southern California during the last 23 kyr. (2018). *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, vol. 490, 17-37.
- Grunert P., **Balestra, B.**, Richter, C., Flores, J.-A., Auer, G., García Gallardo, A., Piller, W.E. Revised and refined age model for the upper Pliocene of IODP Site U1389 (IODP Expedition 339, Gulf of Cádiz). (2017). *Newsletters on Stratigraphy*, <https://doi.org/10.1127/nos/2017/0396>
- Balestra, B.**, Grunert, P., Ausin, B., Hodell, D., Flores, J.-A., Alvarez-Zarikian, C.A., Hernandez-Molina, F.J., Stow, D., Piller, W.E., Paytan, A. Coccolithophore and benthic foraminifera distribution in the Gulf of Cadiz and West Iberian Margin during Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) Expedition 339. (2017). *Journal of Marine Systems*, Volume 170, Pages 50-67, ISSN 0924-7963, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jmarsys.2017.01.005>.
- Balestra, B.**, Flores J.-A. Hodell, D., Hernández-Molina, F. J., Stow, D.A.V. (2015). Pleistocene calcareous nannofossil biochronology at IODP Site U1385 (Exp 339). *Global and Planetary Change*, vol 135, 57-65.
- P. Maiorano, M., Marino, **B. Balestra**, J.-A., Flores, D.A., Hodell, T. Rodrigues. (2015). Coccolithophore variability from the Shackleton Site (IODP Site U1385) through MIS 16-10. *Global and Planetary Change*, vol 133, 35-48.
- D. Hodell, L. Lourens, S. Crowhurst, T. Konijnendijk, R. Tjallingii, F. Jimenez-Espejo, L. Skinner, P.C., Tzedakis, Alvarez Zarikian, C.A., F. Abrantes, G. D. Acton, A. Bahr, **B. Balestra**, E. Llave Barranco, G. Carrara, S. Crowhurst, E. Ducassou, R. D. Flood, J.-A. Flores, S. Furota, J. Grimalt, P. Grunert, J. Hernández-Molina, D.A Hodell, F.J. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, T. Konijnendijk, L. A. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, J. Lofi, L. Lourens, V. Margari, B. Martrat, M.D. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, T. Rodrigues, A.C. Freixo Roque, M. F. Sanchez Goni, F. J. Sierro Sánchez, A. D. Singh, L. Skinner, C. R. Sloss, D.A.V Stow, Y. Takashimizu, R. Tjallingii, A. Tzanova, C. Tzedakis, A. Voelker, T. Williams and C. Xuan. (2015). A reference time scale for Site U1385 (Shackleton Site) on the SW Iberian Margin, *Global and Planetary Change*, vol. 133, 49-64.
- F. J. Hernández-Molina, D. A.V. Stow, C. A. Alvarez-Zarikian, G. Acton, A. Bahr, **B. Balestra**, E. Ducassou, R. Flood, J.-A. Flores, S. Furota, P. Grunert, D. Hodell, F. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, L. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, E. Llave, J. Lofi, L. Lourens, M. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, C. Roque, H. Pereira, M. F. Sanchez Goñi, F. J. Sierro, A. D. Singh, C. Sloss, Y. Takashimizu, A. Tzanova, A. Voelker, T. Williams and C. Xuan. (2014). Onset of Mediterranean Outflow into the North Atlantic. *Science*, vol 344, issue 6189, 1244-1250.
- Dorador, J., Rodríguez-Tovar, F.J., and the IODP Expedition 339 Scientists, Alvarez Zarikian, C.A., F. Abrantes, G. D. Acton, A. Bahr, **B. Balestra**, E. Llave Barranco, G. Carrara, S. Crowhurst, E. Ducassou, R. D. Flood, J.-A. Flores, S. Furota, J. Grimalt, P. Grunert, J. Hernández-Molina, D.A Hodell, F.J. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, T. Konijnendijk, L. A. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, J. Lofi, L. Lourens, V. Margari, B. Martrat, M.D. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, T. Rodrigues, A.C. Freixo Roque, M. F. Sanchez Goni, F. J. Sierro Sánchez, A. D. Singh, L. Skinner, C. R. Sloss, D.A.V Stow, Y. Takashimizu, R. Tjallingii, A. Tzanova,

- C. Tzedakis, A. Voelker, T. Williams and C. Xuan. (2014). Quantitative estimation of bioturbation based on digital image analysis. *Marine Geology*, 349, 55– 60.
- Dorador, J., Rodríguez-Tovar, F.J., IODP Expedition 339 Scientists, Alvarez Zarikian, C.A., F. Abrantes, G. D. Acton, A. Bahr, **B. Balestra**, E. Llave Barranco, G. Carrara, S. Crowhurst, E. Ducassou, R. D. Flood, J.-A. Flores, S. Furota, J. Grimalt, P. Grunert, J. Hernández-Molina, D.A. Hodell, F.J. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, T. Konijnendijk, L. A. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, J. Lofi, L. Lourens, V. Margari, B. Martrat, M.D. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, T. Rodrigues, A.C. Freixo Roque, M. F. Sanchez Goni, F. J. Sierro Sánchez, A. D. Singh, L. Skinner, C. R. Sloss, D.A.V Stow, Y. Takashimizu, R. Tjallingii, A. Tzanova, C. Tzedakis, A. Voelker, T. Williams, and C. Xuan. (2014). Digital image treatment applied to ichnological analysis of marine core sediments. *Facies*, 60, 39– 44.
- Hodell, D.A., Lourens, L., Stow, D.A.V., Hernández-Molina, J., Alvarez Zarikian, C.A., F. Abrantes, G. D. Acton, A. Bahr, **B. Balestra**, E. Llave Barranco, G. Carrara, S. Crowhurst, E. Ducassou, R. D. Flood, J.-A. Flores, S. Furota, J. Grimalt, P. Grunert, F. J. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, T. Konijnendijk, L. A. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, J. Lofi, V. Margari, B. Martrat, M. D. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, T. Rodrigues, F. J. Rodríguez-Tovar, A. C. Freixo Roque, M. F. Sanchez Goni, F. J. Sierro Sánchez, A. D. Singh, L. Skinner, C. R. Sloss, Y. Takashimizu, R. Tjallingii, A. Tzanova, C. Tzedakis, A. Voelker, C. Xuan, and T. Williams. The "Shackleton Site" (IODP Site U1385) on the Iberian Margin. (2013). *Sci. Dril.* 16, 13-19. www.sci-dril.net/16/13/2013/doi:10.5194/sd-16-13-2013.
- Hernández-Molina, F.J., Stow, D., Alvarez-Zarikian, C., G. Acton, A. Bahr, **Balestra B.**, E. Ducassou, R. Flood, J-A. Flores, S. Furota, P. Grunert, D. Hodell, F. Jimenez-Espejo, J. Kyoung Kim, L. Krissek, J. Kuroda, B. Li, E. Llave, J. Lofi, L. Lourens, M. Miller, F. Nanayama, N. Nishida, C. Richter, C. Roque, H. Pereira, M. F. Sanchez Goñi, F. J. Sierro, A. D. Singh, C. Sloss, Y. Takashimizu, A. Tzanova, A. Voelker, T. Williams and C. Xuan. (2013). IODP Expedition 339 in the Gulf of Cadiz and off West Iberia: decoding the environmental significance of the Mediterranean outflow water and its global influence. *SCIENTIFIC DRILLING*, ISSN: 1816-8957, doi:10.5194/sd-16-1-2013
- Palmiotto, C., Corda, L., Ligi, M., Cipriani, A., Dick, H., Douville, E., Gasperini, L., Montagna, P., Thil, F., Borsetti, A.M., **Balestra, B.**, Bonatti, E. (2013). Non-volcanic tectonic islands in ancient and modern oceans. *Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems*, vol. 14, Issue 10, 4698-4717.
- Balestra, B.**, Bertini, A., de Vernal, A., Monechi, S., and Reale, V. (2013). Surface current variability in the Laurentian Fan in the late Quaternary: evidence from coccolith and dinocyst assemblages. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, vol. 387, pg. 200- 210.
- Monechi, S., Reale, V., Bernaola, G. and **Balestra, B.** The Danian- Selandian boundary at Site 1262 (South Atlantic) and Tethyan region: high-resolution biomagnetostratigraphy, evolutionary trends in *Fasciculithus*, and environmental effects of the Latest Danian Event. (2012). *Marine Micropaleontology*, vol. 98, pg. 28-40.
- Monechi, S., Reale, V., Bernaola, G. and **Balestra, B.** (2012). Taxonomic review of early Paleocene *Fasciculithus*. *Micropaleontology*, vol 58, n. 4, pg. 351-366.
- Expedition 339 Scientists. (2012). Mediterranean Outflow: environmental significance of the Mediterranean Outflow Water and its global implications. Published by Integrated Ocean Drilling Program Management International, Inc., for the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, *IODP Prel. Rept.*, 339. doi:10.2204/iodp.pr.339.2012.
- Dominici, S., Bartalini, M., Benvenuti, M., and **Balestra, B.** (2011). Large kings with small crowns: a Mediterranean Pleistocene whale barnacle. *Bollettino della Societa' Paleontologica Italiana*, 50, pg. 95-101.
- Rosell-Melé, A., **Balestra, B.**, Kornilova, O., McClymont, E.L, Russell, M., Monechi, S., Troelstra, S. and Ziveri, P. (2011). Alkenones and coccoliths in ice rafted debris during the Last Glacial Maximum in the North Atlantic: implications for the use of U^{K}_{37} as a SST proxy. *Journal of Quaternary Science*, Vol. 26, Issue 6, pg. 657-664.

- Balestra, B.**, Ziveri, P., Baumann, K-H., Troelstra, S., and Monechi, S. (2010). Surface water dynamics in the Reykjanes Ridge area during the Holocene as revealed by coccolith assemblages. *Marine Micropaleontology*, vol. 76, pg. 1-10.
- Balestra, B.**, Marino, M., Monechi, S., Marano, C. and Locaiono, F. (2008). Coccolithophore communities in the Gulf of Manfredonia (Southern Adriatic Sea): data from water and surface sediments. *Micropaleontology*, Vol 54, no.5, pg. 377-396.
- Balestra B.**, biostratigraphic analyst In Massironi, M., Moratti, G. (Coord.) (2007). Carte Géologique du Maroc au 1/50.000, feuille Boumalne. *Notes et Mémoires, Serv. Géol. Maroc*, N° 521.
- Balestra, B.**, biostratigraphic analyst In Massironi M., Moratti G., Algouti Ah., Benvenuti M., Dal Piaz G.V., Eddebbi A., El Boukhari A., Laftouhi N., Ouanaimi H., Schiavo A., Taj Eddine K., Visonà D. (2007). Carte Géologique du Maroc au 1/50.000, feuille Boumalne - Notice explicative. *Notes et Mémoires, Serv. Géol. Maroc*, N° 521bis.
- Balestra, B.**, biostratigraphic analyst In Schiavo A., Taj Eddine K. (Coord.) (2007). Carte Géologique du Maroc au 1/50.000, feuille Imtir. *Notes et Mémoires, Serv. Géol. Maroc*, N° 518.
- Balestra, B.**, biostratigraphic analyst In Schiavo A., Taj Eddine K., Algouti Ah., Benvenuti M., Dal Piaz G.V., Eddebbi A., El Boukhari A., Laftouhi N., Massironi M., Moratti G., Ouanaimi H., Pasquarè G., Visonà D. (2007). Carte Géologique du Maroc au 1/50.000, feuille Imtir - Notice explicative. *Notes et Mémoires, Serv. Géol. Maroc*, N° 518bis.
- Balestra, B.**, Ziveri, P., Monechi, S. & Troelstra, S. (2004). Coccolithophorids from the Southeast Greenland Margin (Northern North Atlantic): production, ecology and surface sediment record. *Micropaleontology*, Vol 50, suppl. 1, pg. 23-34.

Professional and synergistic activities (last 5 years)

- 2025-2026 Committee member ENVS Master's student thesis Anna Kilguss and Krystalyn Super
- 2025 Visiting Science Professor, summer position, University of Bari, Italy.
- 2025 PhD reviewer of two thesis: "Microparticles investigation in fluvial and lagoon systems: environmental impact and development of sampling and analytical protocols" University of Florence Italy and "High-resolution climatostratigraphy during the Plio-Pleistocene transition in the Monte San Nicola type section (Sicily): a multiproxy study" University of Bari, Italy.
- 2024 Organizer Workshop EXP 401, American University, December, Washington DC.
- 2024-to present TIMESERIES member
- 2023-2024 Invited as micropaleontologist on IODP EXP 401, "Mediterranean-Atlantic Gateway Exchange
- 2023 Invited Talk at the Plastic Pollution Action Team Fall Meeting
- 2023 Invited to participate to the Mid-Atlantic Marine debris Action Plan, Workshop, Stockon University, Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- 2023 Invited to participate to the IMAGE Workshop (Bristol, England), Mediterranean-Atlantic Gateway Exchange.
- 2023 Mentor Jonathan Craig, Summer Internship, Jug Bay, in collaboration with Dr. Delgado.
- 2023 Reviewer for Mason's Office of Research Innovation and Economic Impact Seed Funding initiative.
- 2022 Invited seminar, The Earth Commons, Georgetown's Institute for Envs and Sustain.
- 2022 Development of the course OCEANOGRAPHY (ENVS312); course co-taught In 2022-2023.
- 2022-to present Member of the science subgroup of the Science Evaluation Panel (SEP), for the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP).
- 2022 Center for Environment, Community, and Equity (CECE), Research design and ideas generation workshop, AU, Washington DC, October.
- 2022 Scientific Ocean Drilling IMPACT Workshop, (IODP) Washington DC, June.

- 2022 Invited as Research faculty Panelist, Mathias Student Research Conference, AU, Washington DC, March.
- 2022 SEP, Panel reviewer, IODP, Jan. (invited as substitute).
- 2019-2021 AGU, Outstanding Student Presentation Award (OSPA) coordinator for the Global Environmental Change (GEC) section, AGU.
- 2021 Reviewer for the Travel Grant Opportunities (students and early career scientists), Fall meeting AGU, (GEC) section.
- 2019-2020 Coordinator in the organization of the foraminifera collection by Allan Bé, Paleobiology Department, National Museum of Natural History, (NMNH).

Former students

- 2025 Mentor Lauren Gigax, Sidney Moss, Hayes Johnston, (undergrads, ENVS, AU)
- 2024 Mentor Lauren Gigax, Sidney Moss, Elise Wilson, Paige Craig, Hayes Johnston, (undergrads, ENVS, AU)
- 2023 Mentor Lauren Gigax, Cristina Piparo, Nolan Menanno, Elise Wilson, Paige Craig, Hayes Johnston, (undergrads, ENVS, AU)
- 2022-2024 Scientific Committee member of Master thesis Jonathan Craig, ENVS, AU
- 2022 Mentor Christia Fisher, Emma Beganovic, Paige Craine. Natalie Landaverde (undergrads, ENVS, AU)
- 2021-2022 Mentor for PhD student Carmen Argenio, Universita' del Salento (Italy)
- 2021 Mentor for undergraduate student Emma Joy, ENVS, AU
- 2021-2023 Scientific Committee member of Master thesis Joseph Barnes, ENVS, AU
- 2020 Mentor for research projects of Master students, Sofia Perkins and Melanie Yao, ENVS, AU
- 2020-2022 Scientific Committee member of Master thesis Elisa Davey ENVS, AU
- 2019-2020 Mentor for undergraduate student Kira Fontana, ENVS, AU.

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