

## ROSANA FERNANDES DA CUNHA, MSc

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Website: [www.rosanacunha.com](http://www.rosanacunha.com) Twitter: [@rosannafcunha](https://twitter.com/rosannafcunha)

Email: [rcunha@museum.vic.gov.au](mailto:rcunha@museum.vic.gov.au)

### APPOINTMENTS

**2024–present** **Collection Deaccession Officer**, Strategic Collection Management, Melbourne Museum  
**2024** **Collection Registration Officer**, Marine Invertebrates Department, Melbourne Museum  
**2022–2023** **Collections Technician**, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Field Museum  
**2021** **Research Assistant**, Marine Ecology and Conservation Laboratory, São Paulo Federal University (UNIFESP)  
**2019–2020** **Research Associate**, Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo (MZUSP)

### EDUCATION

**2019** **M.Sc.** Systematics, Animal Taxonomy and Biodiversity, **University of São Paulo**, Brazil (USP)  
Exchange period: **National Museum of Natural History - Smithsonian**, U.S.A (Aug 18 – Nov 18)  
Thesis: Review of the Genus *Narcissia* Gray, 1840 (Echinodermata, Asteroidea): from Morphology to Taxonomy  
Supervisor: Marcos Tavares, Ph.D.

**2016** **B.Sc.** and **Teacher Licensure** Biology, **Bahia Federal University**, Brazil (UFBA)  
Exchange period: **Fairleigh Dickinson University**, U.S.A (Aug 14 – Dec 15)  
Honors Thesis: Taxonomic Study of Sea Star Species (Echinodermata: Asteroidea) from Bahia, Brazil  
Supervisor: Carla Menegola, Ph.D.

### INTERESTS

Invertebrate Zoology; scientific collections; collections management; database; taxonomy; phylogenetic systematics; ecology and conservation.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Cunha, R.** & Tavares, M. (2021) A review of the genus *Narcissia* Gray, 1840 (Echinodermata: Asteroidea: Ophiasteridae). *Journal of the Marine Biological Association*, 1–23. [Here](#)
2. **Cunha, R.**; Martins, L.; Menegola, C. & Souto, C. (2021) Taxonomy of the sea stars (Echinodermata: Asteroidea) from the Bahia State, including ontogenetic variations and an illustrated key to the Brazilian species. *Zootaxa*, 4955 (1): 1–78. [Here](#)
3. **Cunha, R.**; Tavares, M. & Braga, J. (2020) Shallow-water Asteroidea (Echinodermata) of the remote oceanic archipelago Trindade and Martin Vaz, southeastern Atlantic, with taxonomic and zoogeographical notes. *Zootaxa*, 4742 (1): 31–56. [Here](#)

### CURATORIAL AND ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2024–2025** **Collection Deaccession Officer**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.  
Supervisor: Dr. Ursula Smith.  
**2024** **Collection Registration Officer**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.  
Supervisors: Joanne Taylor, Ph.D.; Melanie Mackenzie & Chris Rowley.  
**2022–2023** **Collections Technician**, Field Museum. Supervisors: Sean Keogh, Ph.D. & Kalina Griffin-Jakymec.

- 2021 **Monitoring Invertebrates in the Marine Environment of the Alcatrazes Archipelago Project**, São Paulo Federal University (UNIFESP), Santos, Brazil. Supervisor: Fabio Motta, Ph.D.
- 2019 **Collections Technician**, Swedish Museum of Natural History. Supervisor: Anna Persson.
- 2017–2019 **Assistant Collections Manager**, Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo. Supervisor: Luciana Martins, Ph. D & Marcos Tavares, Ph.D.
- 2015 **Collections Technician**, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University. Supervisor: Adam Baldinger & Gonzalo Giribet, Ph.D.
- 2013 **Molecular Analysis of Asteroidea Species for the Integrative Taxonomy Project**, São Carlos Federal University (UFSCar), São Carlos, Brazil. Supervisor: Patricia Freitas, Ph.D.
- 2009–2013 **Assistant Collections Manager**, Museum of Zoology of the Bahia Federal University. Supervisors: Camilla Souto, Ph.D.; Luciana Martins, Ph.D. & Carla Menegola, Ph.D.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor of Record

- 2014 High School Teacher, State Center for Vocational Education in Health and Management. **Courses:** Environmental Control, Environmental Impact Management – 1 semester

### Guest Lectures

- 2021 “Unraveling the beauty of the sea stars: new tools and discoveries”, for undergraduate/graduate students, Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP), Santos, Brazil.
- 2021 “Phylum Echinodermata”, for undergraduate students, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Porto Alegre, Brazil.
- 2021 “Review of the Genus *Narcissia* Gray, 1840 (Echinodermata, Asteroidea): from Morphology to Taxonomy”, for undergraduate students, Feira de Santana State University (UEFS), Feira de Santana, Brazil.

## RESEARCH AT NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS - SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS

(Abbreviation: IZ, Invertebrate Zoology)

- 2018 Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (IZ), 10 days
- 2018 National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C., U.S.A. (IZ), 3 months
- 2017 National Museum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (IZ), 10 days
- 2017–2019 Museum of Zoology, University of São Paulo, Brazil (IZ), 2 years
- 2012 National Museum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (IZ), 5 days
- 2009–2013 Museum of Zoology, Bahia Federal University, Brazil (IZ), 4 years

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- 2025 **Respect at Work Training**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.
- 2025 **Museum Management Seminar Series: Session 1 - Building a Strong Foundation (Legal and Ethical Frameworks)**, Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) Victoria.
- 2025 **MV Recordings**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.
- 2024 **Museum Deaccession Short Course**, Institute of Art and Law, United Kingdom.
- 2024 **Cultural Competency Program**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.
- 2024 **Working Safely with Collections Containing Hazardous Substances**, Melbourne Museum Research Institute, Museums Victoria.
- 2024 **Content Creation for Immersive Media focused on Biodiversity**, Integrated Digitized Biocollections - iDigBio.
- 2023 **Educator Workshop: Scientific Discovery & Natural History Collections**, Marine Biodiversity Center, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

- 2022 **Public Participation in Digitization of Biodiversity Collections**, Integrated Digitized Biocollections - iDigBio.
- 2022 **DigIn (Digitization of Invertebrates) Workshop**, Marine Biodiversity Center, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.
- 2022 **Training on EMu Database**, Information Technology Department, Field Museum.
- 2022 **Introduction to Biodiversity Specimen Digitization Course**, Integrated Digitized Biocollections - iDigBio.
- 2022 **Introduction to Programming Course - Tech Academy**, StarSe University.
- 2022 **Preliminary Results of the Diagnosis of Brazilian Zoological Collections**, Information System on Brazilian Biodiversity, Brazilian Society of Zoology.
- 2021 **Actions, Strategies and Techniques to Create and Maintain Scientific Zoo Collections**, Institute of Biology, University of Campinas.
- 2021 **Museums and Marine Biodiversity at Schools**, Group of studies on Museum and Scientific Education.
- 2020 **Managing and Mobilizing Collection Data with Specify Software**, The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections Virtual Meeting.
- 2018 **Training on Scanning Electron Microscopy**, Electron Microscope Lab, National Museum of Natural History – Smithsonian Institution.
- 2018 **Training on Specify Database**, Graduate Division, Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo.
- 2013 **First Summer Course in Zoology: Form, Time and Space**, Graduate Division, University of São Paulo.
- 2012 **Third Summer Course on Animal Diversity**, Graduate Division, Bahia Federal University.
- 2011 **Coral Reefs: An Endangered Ecosystem**, Graduate Division, Bahia Federal University.
- 2011 **Scientific Diving**, Graduate Division, Bahia Federal University.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH EXPERIENCE

### Efforts towards diversity inclusion in STEM

2021 & 2024 **Volunteer Researcher** at the Letters to a Pre-Scientist Program. Available [Here](#)

### Efforts towards environment management and conservation

2018 **Taxonomic Specialist**, Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation, Brazil (ICMBio).  
Project coordinator: Harry Boos, Ph.D.

2012 **Speaker** in a workshop about Environmental Education, UFBA.

### Organizer and participant of scientific exhibitions

- 2024 National Science Week – Sea Stars, Melbourne Museum, Australia (1 event)
- 2023 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Members’ Nights – Invertebrates, Field Museum, Chicago, USA (1 event)
- 2022–2023 Dozin’ with the Dinos Science – Echinoderms, Field Museum, Chicago, USA (3 events)
- 2010–2012 Museum Spring at the Museum of Zoology, Bahia Federal University, Brazil (3 events)
- 2009–2011 Week of Biology, Bahia Federal University, Brazil (3 events)

**Ad hoc peer-reviews (3 manuscripts):** Check List; Marine Biology Research; Revista de Biología Tropical, Journal of the University of Costa Rica; Revista del Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales.

## AWARDS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

### Grants and Scholarships

- 2022 Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Bahia – IFBA, Civil Service Examination, High school Teacher – Biology (fully funded job position; declined)
- 2018 FAPESP Research Funds for graduate students, MZUSP, **\$610**

2017 Graduate Division, Conference Travel Grant, MZUSP, **\$380**

### Honors and Awards

- 2018 **Research Fellowship Abroad**, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Three-month scholarship awarded by the Research Support Foundation of the São Paulo State (FAPESP), **\$4,380**
- 2017 **First place in the selection process** for the Master Program in Systematics, Animal Taxonomy and Biodiversity, University of São Paulo. Two-year scholarship awarded by the Research Support Foundation of the São Paulo State (FAPESP), **\$12,000**
- 2014 **Exchange Program**, Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program, Science Without Borders. Sixteen-month scholarship awarded by the Ministry of Education (MEC), **\$16,220**
- 2009 **Research Internship**, Four-year internship awarded by the Bahia Federal University, **\$2,500**

### MENTORSHIP

#### Volunteers Mentorship

- 2022–2023 Jerry Gagne, Image Lab, Gantz Family Collections Center, Field Museum
- 2022–2023 Randy Rust, EMu Database, Gantz Family Collections Center, Field Museum

### TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

#### Invited Talks

- 2012 Virtual Zoology Museum - UFBA: Popularization of Knowledge about the Phylum Echinodermata. In: 29<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Congress of Zoology, Salvador, Brazil.
- 2012 Identification of Juveniles and Adults of Asteroidea: A Taxonomic Problem. In: 31<sup>st</sup> Student Research Seminar and 13<sup>th</sup> Bahia Federal University Research and Graduate Seminar. Salvador, Brazil.
- 2010 Echinodermata Collection from the Museum of Zoology of the Bahia Federal University: Testimonies of Biodiversity. In: 29<sup>th</sup> Student Research Seminar. Salvador, Brazil.

#### Conference Presentations

- 2019 **Cunha, R.** & Tavares, M. Revision of the genus *Narcissia* Gray, 1840 (Echinodermata, Asteroidea): from morphology to taxonomy. In: 3<sup>rd</sup> Graduate Meeting of the Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2013 **Cunha, R.**; Martins, L.; Souto, C. & Menegola, C. Morphology of *Narcissia trigonaria* Sladen, 1889 (Asteroidea: Ophidiasteridae): A Taxonomic Problem? In: 2<sup>nd</sup> Latin American Congress of Echinoderms, São Sebastião, Brazil.
- 2013 **Cunha, R.**; Martins, L.; Souto, C. & Menegola, C. First Record of *Asterinides folium* (Lütken, 1860) for Northeastern Brazil. In: 4<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Congress of Marine Biology, Florianópolis, Brazil. 2012 **Cunha, R.**; Souto, C.; Martins, L. & Menegola, C. List of Living and Fossil Asteroidea (Echinodermata) from Brazil: A Focus on the Fauna of Bahia. In: 29<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Congress of Zoology, Salvador, Brazil.
- 2011 **Cunha, R.**; Martins, L.; Souto, C. & Menegola, C. Echinodermata from the Northern Coast of the State of Bahia, Brazil. In: 14<sup>th</sup> Latin American Congress of Marine Sciences, Balneário Camboriú, Brazil.

#### Scientific Event Organizer

- 2012 XXIX Brazilian Congress of Zoology, co-organizer, UFBA, 3000 participants.
- 2010 VII Week of Biology, co-organizer, UFBA, 800 participants.

### TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Databases** – Access-CadZoo, Arctos, EMu, Specify

**Edition** – Microsoft Office, iWork

**Geospatial system** – QGIS

**Image Editor** – Illustrator, Lightroom, myVGL, Photoshop

**Image Database** – MVWISE, Photo Quad

**Programming** – GitHub, Markdown, R (basic to intermediary)

## **LANGUAGES**

Portuguese (native speaker), English (Fluent)