

# MICHELLE CALHEIROS

MARINE BIOLOGIST

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## PROFILE

Driven by a genuine passion for understanding and protecting our planet's ocean ecosystems. My path has been shaped by science, conservation, communication, and hands-on experiences with diverse teams and communities. I value meaningful work, thoughtful collaboration, and creative problem-solving, and I'm motivated by opportunities that allow me to turn knowledge into real-world impact. Curious by nature, adaptable, and deeply committed to learning, I aim to contribute to initiatives that protect biodiversity and foster a more sustainable future.

## EDUCATION

### 2023 - 2024

University of Gibraltar

#### Master in Marine Science and Climate Change

With Merit

- Thesis: Tagging Sharks, Informing Policy, and Conservation: Streamlining Best Practices for the Isle of Man's Tagging Initiatives for Sustainable Shark Management

**Relevant classes:** *Marine Biology, Ecosystems and Conservation, Oceanographic Processes, Research Skills and Methods, Coastal Zone Management, Marine Ecosystems and Sustainability, Climate Change Adaptation, and Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction.*

### 2018 - 2020

Florida International University

#### Bachelor in Marine Science

With Honors

**Relevant classes:** *Physiological and Behavioral Ecology of Marine Animals, Coral Reef Biology, Biological Oceanography at Sea, Cell Biology, Genetics, and Organic Chemistry I, II, and III.*

## SKILLS

- **Design & Software:** Proficient in Canva, Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Google Workspace, and evolving knowledge in R Studio and ArcGIS.
- **Marine Conservation:** Expertise in coastal zone management, climate change adaptation, ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction, and marine consultancy.
- **Research & Analysis:** Skilled in critical evaluation of concepts, proposal development, data interpretation, and spatial analysis.
- **Leadership & Communication:** Executive board experience, stakeholder engagement, ethical and conservation-themed content creation, and multilingual communication.
- **Adaptability & Problem-Solving:** Interdisciplinary problem-solving and effective collaboration in remote and cross-functional teams.

## LANGUAGES

- English (native)
- Portuguese (native)
- Spanish (proficient)
- Italian (beginner)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### 2021 - PRESENT

Pure Brasil

#### Back Office Operations Specialist

- Develop and maintain comprehensive product data, including descriptions, specifications, and pricing, in both Portuguese and English.
- Ensure the accuracy and consistency of product information across multiple platforms, including Amazon and the company's own website.
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams to ensure smooth product data integration into the system, supporting efficient and effective product listings.

### 2021

Florida Ichthyological Services and Habitat Consulting

#### Research Specialist

- Conducted a systematic literature review on the Indian River Lagoon's fauna, identifying key species, ecological trends, and environmental factors critical to restoration efforts.
- Analyzed and synthesized research findings to support the viability and strategic direction of the Restore Lagoon Inflow Research Project.

## VOLUNTEERING

*R3 Animal - Florianópolis, 2025*

#### Volunteer

Supported veterinary staff in marine animal rehabilitation, daily husbandry, clinical examinations, and laboratory routines. Participated in beach monitoring, environmental education activities, and worked with local and migratory marine fauna using modern rehabilitation equipment.

*Florida International University, 2019*

#### Research Assistant

Conducted analysis of gut contents from invasive Asian Swamp Eels to assess their dietary preferences, specifically determining whether they exclusively target endemic Everglades species and whether they exhibit cannibalistic behavior.

*Florida International University, 2019*

#### Research Specialist

Analyzed video + fieldwork data on Hawksbill Turtles in Madagascar to investigate their foraging patterns, ecology, and mating behaviors, including both intra- and inter-species interactions.

## HONORS & AWARDS

- Parasol Foundation Scholarship (2023)
- Nancy Sun Hershoff Scholarship (2019)
- Blue & Gold Scholarship (2019)
- Honors Transfer Scholarship (2018)
- SGA Excellence Scholarship (2017)
- Unsung Hero Award (2017)
- Ambassador of the Year (2016)

## CERTIFICATES & PRESENTATIONS

#### Certificate

American Heart Association - 2025  
***Sustainability in SMEs***

#### Certificate

DGERT - 2025  
***Sustainability in SMEs***

#### Certificate

Fauna em Foco - 2025  
***Training in Strategies for the Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Conservation of Marine Animals***

#### Presentation

UK Oversees Territories Conversation Forum - 2024  
***Guest speaker representing Gibraltar and the Isle of Man***

## OUTREACH

- Honors College, FIU - 2018-2020
- VP of Finance, FIU - 2019
- Exchange Manager of Outgoing Global Volunteer, AIESEC - 2018
- Science Club Secretary, BC - 2018
- SGA Senator of Legislation, BC - 2018
- Art Club Events Coordinator, BC - 2018
- Student Ambassador, BC - 2017
- International Students Club Historian, BC - 2017

## REFERENCES

#### Letícia Aparecida Zampieri Costa

*R3 Animal - Vice President*  
leticia@r3animal.org

#### Dr. Awantha Dissanayake

*Coordinator of the Master's Program in Marine Sciences and Climate Change*  
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