

Joseph S. Pitula

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A. Professional Preparation

Rutgers State University of New Jersey, BS in Biology, 1989
State University of New York at Buffalo, MA in Microbiology, 1998
State University of New York at Buffalo, PhD in Microbiology, 2001.

B. Appointments/Employment

- 1/04- University of Maryland Eastern Shore, **Associate Professor**, Department of Natural Sciences, UMES
- 1/12- University System of Maryland Marine, Environmental, and Estuary Sciences (MEES) **Graduate Program Campus Coordinator; ENMT AOS.**
- 7/09- National Park Service North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit, **Director of UMES Unit**
- 1/08- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences, Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology, **Adjunct Faculty**
- 2/01-12/03 University of Wisconsin, Madison, **Post Doctoral Research Associate**, Department of Nutritional Sciences
- 8/95-1/01 State University of New York at Buffalo, **Graduate Research Assistant**
- 8/89-8/95 Eurofins Food and Nutrition Testing Laboratory, Dayton, NJ. Quality Control Analytical Chemistry **Lab Technician**

C. Selected Publications

1. Lycett KA and **Pitula JS**. Disease ecology of *Hematodinium perezii* in a high salinity estuary: investigating seasonal trends in environmental detection. (2017) *In press; Dis Aquat Org*, doi: 10.3354/dao03112.
2. Chung JS, **Pitula JS**, Schott E, Alvarez JV, Maurer L, Lycett KA.(2015) Elevated water temperature increases the levels of reo-like virus and selected innate immunity genes in hemocytes and hepatopancreas of adult female blue crab, *Callinectes sapidus*. *Fish Shellfish Immunol.* 47:511-20. doi: 10.1016/j.fsi.2015.09.027.
3. Hanif AW, Dyson WD, Bowers HA, **Pitula JS**, Messick GA, Jagus R, Schott EJ. (2013) Variation in spatial and temporal incidence of the crustacean pathogen *Hematodinium perezii* in environmental samples from Atlantic Coastal Bays. *BMC Aquat Biosyst.* 9:11. doi: 10.1186/2046-9063-9-11.
4. **Pitula JS**, Dyson WD, Bakht HB, Njoku I, and Chen F. (2012) Temporal distribution of genetically homogenous 'free-living' *Hematodinium* sp. in a Delmarva coastal ecosystem. *Aquat Biosyst.* 8:16; doi: 10.1186/2046-9063-8-16.
5. Nagle L, Place AR, Schott, EJ, Jagus R, Messick G, and **Pitula JS**. (2009) A Real-time PCR-based Assay for Quantitative Detection of *Hematodinium* sp. in the Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) *Dis Aquat Org*, 84: 79-87.

Other Publications

1. Chung JS, Maurer L, Bratcher M, **Pitula JS**, and Ogburn MB. (2012) Cloning of aquaporin-1 of the blue crab, *Callinectes sapidus*: its expression during the larval development in hyposalinity. *Aquat Biosyst.* **8**:21 doi:10.1186/2046-9063-8-21.
2. Hearne, JL and **Pitula JS**. (2011) Identification of Two Spliced Leader RNA Transcripts from *Perkinsus marinus*. *J Eukar Microbiol.* **58**: 266-268.
3. Clarke SL, Vasanthakumar A, Anderson SA, Pondarre C, Koh CM, Deck KM, **Pitula JS**, Epstein CJ, Fleming MD, and Eisenstein RS. (2006) Iron-responsive degradation of iron-regulatory protein 1 does not require a Fe-S cluster. *EMBO J.* **25**:544-53.
4. **Pitula JS**, Deck KM, Clarke SL, Anderson SA, Vasanthakumar A, and Eisenstein RS. (2004) Selective inhibition of the citrate-to-isocitrate reaction of cytosolic aconitase by phosphomimetic mutation of serine-711. *Proc Nat Acad Sci, U.S.A.* **101**: 10907-10912.
5. **Pitula J**, Ruyechan WT, Williams N. (2002) Two novel RNA binding proteins from *Trypanosoma brucei* are associated with 5SrRNA. *Biochem Biophys ResComm.* **290**:569-76.

D. External Research Funding

NSF Award: 1511738 8/2016-8/2021

Center for Research Excellence in Science & Technology (CREST):Center for the Integrated Study of Coastal Ecosystem Processes and Dynamics in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Role: **Co-PI**. \$5 million PI: Paulinus Chigbu

Subproject entitled: *Climate Variability and Microbial Dynamics in the MCBs*

USDA Capacity Building Grants Program 8/2014-8/2018

An Examination of the Autochthonous Sources of Urea in Watersheds

Role: **Co-PI**. \$500 K. PI: Eric May

NSF Award: 1036586 11/2010-11/2015

Center for Research Excellence in Science & Technology (CREST):Center for the Integrated Study of Coastal Ecosystem Processes and Dynamics in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Role: **Co-PI**. \$5 million PI: Paulinus Chigbu

Subproject entitled: *Effects of Environmental Factors on Blue Crab (C. sapidus) and its Relation to Infection by Hematodinium sp.*

NSF Award 0614882 10/2006-08/2008

Research Initiation Grant

Role: PI. \$150 K.

Discovery of Novel RNA Polymerase III Transcription Factors in Trypanosomatids

H. Educational Awards

National Center for Academic Transformation, Colleagues Committed to Redesign (C2R) Program; Proposal accepted for redesign of Principles of Biology I, January 2009

University System of Maryland Course Redesign Fellow; 2013-2015