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Institute of Economic Botany
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Professional Positions

- 2012 - Present Manager of the GIS Laboratory, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York
2011 – Present Research Associate, National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kalaheo, Kauai, Hawaii.
2006 – 2012 Postdoctoral Research Associate and Program Manager, The New York Botanical Garden, Institute of Economic Botany, Bronx, New York.

Education

- Ph.D.** Evolution, Ecology, and Population Biology, Washington University in St. Louis, MO.
Spring 2007
Dissertation: Ecological and Evolutionary Impacts of Harvesting the Himalayan Snow Lotus (*Saussurea laniceps* Maxim. and *S. medusa* Hand.-Mazz.)
B.S. Botany and Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside. Spring 2001
GPA: 3.20

Grants and Awards

- 2008 National Geographic Society, Research and Exploration Grant (\$20,000)
National Science Foundation, Biodiversity Survey and Inventory Grant (\$400,000)
2005 Graduate Student Research Symposium, 3rd Place, Biological Science (\$100)
2004 National Science Foundation, Doctorial Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$13,300)
2004 Garden Club of America, Anne S. Chatham Fellowship in Medicinal Botany (\$4,000)
2004 National Science Foundation, East Asia Summer Institute Program (\$5,500)
2001 Asian Pacific Islander Academic Award (\$100)
2001 Senior Student Grant (\$500)
1997 University Honors Program Residential Fellowship (\$200)
Chancellor's Scholarship (\$1,500)
California Scholarship Federation Scholarship (\$300)

Publications

- Balick, M.J., K. Herrera, F. Sohl, W. Law, R. Lee, and W.C. Raynor. 2012. Biodiversity and Human Health: Using Plants and Traditional Ethnomedical Knowledge to Improve Public Health and Conservation Programs in Micronesia. In A.A. Aguirre, R. Ostfeld, P. Daszak, eds. New Directions in Conservation Medicine: Applied Cases of Ecological Health.
- Wheeler, Q. D., S. Knapp, D. W. Stevenson, J. Stevenson, S. D. Blum, B. M. Boom, G. G. Borisby, J. L. Buizer, M. R. De Carvalho, A. Cibrian, M. J. Donoghue, V. Doyle, E. M. Gerson, C. H. Graham, P. Graves, S. J. Graves, R. P. Guralnick, A. L. Hamilton, J. Hanken, W. Law, D. L. Lipscomb, T. E. Lovejoy, H. Miller, J. S. Miller, S. Naeem, M. J. Novacek, L. M. Page, N. I. Platnick, H. Porter-Morgan, P. H. Raven, M. A. Solis, A. G. Valdecasas, S. Van Der Leeuw, A. Vasco, N. Vermeulen, J. Vogel, R. L. Walls, E. O. Wilson, and J. B. Woolley. 2012. Mapping the biosphere: exploring species to understand the origin, organization and sustainability of biodiversity. *Systematics and Biodiversity* 10: 1-20.

- Dahmer, S., M.J. Balick, A. Hillman Kitalong, C. Kitalong, K. Herrera, W. Law, R. Lee, V.R. Tadao, F. Rehuher, S. Hanser, K. Soaladaob, G. Ngirchobong, M. Besebes, F. Wasisang, D. Kulakowski and I. Adam. 2012. Palau Primary Health Care Manual: Health Care in Palau, Combining Conventional Treatments and Traditional Uses of Plants for Health and Healing. The New York Botanical Garden, Ministry of Health, Republic of Palau, The Continuum Center for Health and Healing and Belau National Museum. Charleston SC. 216 pp.
- Salick, J. and W. Law 2011. Snow Lotus Threatened by Overharvest. In D. A. Rakow and S. A. Lee, Public Garden Management. Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ. 280p.
- Kitalong, A.H., M. J. Balick, F. Rehuher, M. Besebes, S. Hanser, K. Soaladaob, G. Ngirchobong, F. Wasisang, W. Law, R. Lee, V. R. Tadeo, C. Kitalong and C. Kitalong (2011) Plants, people and culture in the villages of Oikull and Ibobang, Republic of Palau, pp. 63-84, in, Liston, J. G. Clark and D. Alexander (eds.). 2011. Pacific Island Heritage: Archaeology, Identity & Community.Terra Australis 35. Australian National University, Canberra.
- Lee, R., N. Shere, M. J. Balick, F. Sohl, A. S. Roberts, K. Herrera, S. Dahmer, M. Lieskovsky, A. Dores, W. Raynor, P. Raynor, E. Albert, M. Hunt, C. Trauernicht, L. Offringa, I. Adam, and W. Law. (2010) Pohnpei Primary Health Care Manual: Health Care in Pohnpei, Micronesia: Traditional Uses of Plants for Health and Healing. CreateSpace. p. 175
- Law, W., J. Salick, T. M. Knight. (2010) The effects of pollen limitation on population dynamics of snow lotus, a threatened Tibetan medicinal plant of the Eastern Himalayas. *Plant Ecology*. 210: 343-357
- Byg, A., J. Salick, & W. Law (2010) Medicinal Plant Knowledge Among Lay People in Five Eastern Tibet Villages. *Human Ecology*. 38(2): 177-191
- Balick, M.J., D.H. Lorence, D. Lee Ling, & W. Law. (2009) Plants and People of Pohnpei: An Overview. In: Balick, M.J. (ed), Ethnobotany of Pohnpei: Plants, People, and Island Culture. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu. p. 575
- Law, W. (2007) Ecological and Evolutionary Impacts of Harvesting the Himalayan Snow Lotus (*Saussurea laniceps* Maxim. and *S. medusa* Hand.-Mazz.). Biology Washington University, St. Louis, p. 154
- Law, W. & J. Salick. (2007). Comparing conservation priorities for useful plants: Botanists and Tibetan doctors. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. 16 (6): 1747-1759
- Salick, J., A. Amend, B. Gunn, W. Law, H. Schmidt, & A. Byg. (2006) Tibetan Medicine Plurality. *Economic Botany* 60(3): 227-253
- Law, W. & J. Salick. (2005) Human induced dwarfing of Himalayan snow lotus, *Saussurea laniceps* (Asteraceae). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science* 102 (29): 10218-10220

Corresponding Author Publications

Salick, J. A. Amend, & Y.P. Yang. (2005) Tibetan land use and change near Kawa Karpo, Eastern Himalayas. *Economic Botany* 59(4): 312-325

Newspaper Articles

Conservation Society of Pohnpei, & Law, W. (2011) Challenges to the Forest Ecosystems of Micronesia; Strategies to Protect these Key Habitats. *Kaselehlie Press*. September 5-18, 2011. pg 6.

Law, W. (2009) New Poster Highlights Unique Plants of Pohnpei. *Kaselehlie Press*. August 19 – September 1, 2009. pg 10-11.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Law, W., J. Salick, & T.M. Knight. In preparation. Harvest affects the populations dynamics of Tibetan medicinal Snow Lotus, *Saussurea laniceps* and *S. medusa* (Asteraceae). (To be submitted to *Conservation Biology*)

Posters & Presentations

- Law, W. (2011). The impact of sakau (*Piper methysticum*) cultivation on Micronesia's upland forest ecosystem. Columbia University. NY
- Law, W., R. MacKenzie, T. Jenkinson, B. Perry, D. Desjardin, D. Lorence, E. Eperiam, R. Lengsi, J. Sanney, C. Cianchini, M. Balick. (2011). Increased local demand for *sakau* (*Piper methysticum*) in Micronesia, and the impact on biodiversity. Society of Economic Botany, St. Louis, MO.
- Law, W. (2010). Snow lotus (*Saussurea laniceps* and *S. medusa*) of the Himalayan Mountains. National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kauai, HI
- Kryss, C., R. MacKenzie, W. Law, M. Balick. (2010) Impacts of Deforestation on the Biodiversity and Ecological Function of Pacific Island Streams. Hawaii Conservation Conference, Oahu, HI.
- Law, W. (2010). Sakau (*Piper methysticum* G. Forst.) Cultivation in the Upland Forest of Pohnpei, FSM: Impacts of Biodiversity. The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY.
- Law, W. R. Mackenzie, & M.J. Balick (2009). Grow low! The impacts of Sakau (*Piper methysticum*) on biodiversity. Society of Economic Botany, Charleston, SC.
- Law, W. (2009). The Ethnobotany of Micronesia: Conserving plant diversity and the cultures that use them. Fairchild Botanic Garden, Miami, FL.
- Law, W. (2009). From Snow Lotus to Sakau; developing sustainable strategies for changing plant practices. University of Hawaii, Manoa, HI
- Balick, M.J. & W. Law (2008). Plants, people, culture and Conservation. Palau Conservation Society.
- Law, W. (2008). Ethnobotany and ecological impacts of sakau farming in Pohnpei, FSM. Youth Environmental Ambassadors, Pohnpei, FSM
- Law, W., F. Marcus, C. Tauling, & M.J. Balick (2008). Use it or lose it: The link between culture and plant biodiversity in Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia. Sustaining Culture and Biodiversity Conference, New York, NY
- Law, W. & J. Salick (2006). Human induced dwarfing of Himalayan snow lotus, *Saussurea laniceps* (Asteraceae). Society of Economic Botany, Chang Mai, Thailand.
- Law, W. (2006) Snow lotus vs. Humans: A Fair Fight? Washington University. Student Seminar
- Law, W. & J. Salick (2006) Human induced dwarfing of Himalayan snow lotus, *Saussurea laniceps* (Asteraceae). Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, Carbondale, IL.
- Law, W. & J. Salick (2006). Human induced dwarfing of Himalayan snow lotus, *Saussurea laniceps* (Asteraceae). Society of Ethnobiology, State College, PA.
- Law, W. (2004) Harvesting effects on the Medicinal Plant, Snow Lotus. The Nature Conservancy, Kunming, China
- Law, W., J. Salick, & N. Cili (2004). Comparing Conservation Priorities of Useful Plants: Botanists and Tibetan Doctors. Society of Economic Botany, Bronx, New York.
- Law, W. (2004) Human Harvesting Effects on Snow Lotus. Washington University. Student Seminar, St. Louis, MO.
- Law, W., J. Salick, & N. Cili (2003). Comparing Conservation Priorities of Useful Plants: Botanists and Tibetan Doctors. Society of Ethnobiology, Seattle, WA.

Fieldwork Experience

- 2012 *July*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project, Pohnpei, FSM
- 2011 *September*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project, Kosrae and Pohnpei, FSM
- 2010 *January – February*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project, Kosrae, FSM
July – September, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Kauai, HI, Kosrae and Pohnpei, FSM
- 2009 *January – April*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Kosrae, FSM
July – October, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Kosrae and Pohnpei, FSM, Palau, Republic of Palau
- 2008 *January – February*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Palau, Republic of Palau

- May – September*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Pohnpei, FSM and Palau, Republic of Palau
- 2007 *April – May*, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Pohnpei, FSM
July – November, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Kosrae, FSM
- 2006 *June – August*, Effects of Harvesting the Snow Lotus; Yunnan, China
August – November, Biodiversity and Human Health Project; Kosrae and Pohnpei, FSM
- 2005 *June – September*, Effects of Harvesting the Snow Lotus; Yunnan, China
- 2004 *June – August*, Effects of Harvesting the Snow Lotus; Yunnan, China
- 2003 *June – July*, Effects of Harvesting the Snow Lotus; Yunnan, China
- 2002 *June – August*, Effects of Harvesting the Snow Lotus; Yunnan, China
- 1999 *July – August*, Field Assistant, El Edén Ecological Reserve, Quintana Roo, Mexico

Research Experience

- 2002 *January – May*, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) techniques, Lab Rotation, Barbara Schaal; Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
September – December, Analyses of Botanical Remains from the Southwest New Mexico, Lab Rotation, Gayle Fritz; Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
- 2001 *August – December*, Process and Database China Ethnobotanical Collections, Lab Rotation, Jan Salick; Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO
January – June, Senior Research Project, University of California, Riverside, CA
- 2000 *June – August* Getty Grant Program Intern, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Pomona, CA
January – June, Ethnobotanical monograph of *Perilla* spp., University of California, Riverside, CA
- 1999 *January – June*, Lab Assistant, Dr. Arturo Gomez-Pompa, University of California, Riverside, CA

Teaching Experience

- 2007 Teaching Instructor, 10th Grade Conservation Biology, Kosrae High School
2005 Teaching Assistant, Workshop – Population Ecology, Ford Foundation Capacity Building, Kunming, China
- 2004 Teaching Assistant, Conservation Biology (Biology 317), Washington University, St. Louis
2002 Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Biology (Biology 100a), Washington University, St. Louis

Mentoring Experience

- 2012 Summer Internship Program, The New York Botanical Garden
2011 Masters Student Davia Palmeri, Columbia University
2010 Summer Internship Program, The New York Botanical Garden
2008 Micronesia and America Samoa Student Intern Program (MASSIP)
Co-Mentor with Richard MacKenzie, USDA – Forest Service

Workshops Organized

- 2011 Protecting the upland forest ecosystems of Micronesia. September 13-15, 2011. Pohnpei, FSM

Professional Societies

- Society of Ethnobiology
Botanical Society of America
Society of Economic Botany

Service as reviewer

Biotropica, Economic Botany, Ethnobotany Research & Applications, Evolutionary Biology, International Journal of Plant Sciences, Journal of Ethnobiology, Oecologia, Southwestern Naturalist, Springer

Media Attention

My research has been featured in popular outlets such as MSNBC, CNN.com, over 50 U.S. newspapers (e.g. NY Times, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Chicago Sun-Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Newark Star Ledger), international media (e.g. China Daily, New Scientist, UK, Science and Development Network, UK, Canada.com), National Geographic, National Public Radio, and Science News.