Allison L. Gill

Graduate Institution: Boston University

Graduate Discipline: Ecology, Biogeochemistry

Hometown: Omaha, NE

Relevant SC Research: Biological and Environmental Research

Research Interest:

I am broadly interested in the influence of microbial communities and plant-microbial symbioses on plant species interactions and ecosystem function in northern systems. My current research investigates the impact of climate-change associated reductions in peatland water table height on microbial growth and community structure, enzyme production, and greenhouse gas emission. As microbial communities mediate enzyme-associated carbon loss through decomposition as well as plant nutrient uptake, their functional responses to climate change will likely impact the carbon balance in terrestrial systems.

My other research interests include the influence of plant-associated nitrogen fixing bacteria on plant community dynamics and the role of introduced nitrogen-fixing species in plant species invasions.

About Me:

I graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 2011 and am currently finishing my first year in the Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution and Terrestrial Biogeochemistry graduate programs at Boston University. I developed a clear interest in plant ecology and field research as an undergraduate and continue to expand my research questions and approaches as a graduate student. Outside of my research pursuits, I work with science literacy and outreach in preschool to college level classrooms and am especially committed to working with female students in the sciences. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, biking, and reading non-scientific literature.