

# Ruth Nicole Sepulveda Marquez

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## EDUCATION

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### University College London

London, United Kingdom

*PhD in Planning Studies*

2017 – present

- Thesis: 'Urban agriculture under the constraints of Neoliberalism: networks, discourses and story-lines in Santiago, Chile' (Supervised by Prof Yvonne Rydin and Prof Claudio de Magalhaes).
- Researched networks and discourses formed between actors working on urban agriculture, analysing their perspective on knowledge, territory, and society.
- Presented research results in national and international conferences, lectures, and seminars.
- Increased entrepreneurial skills through a one-day workshop to an entrepreneurial mindset.
- Participated in Writing Circle from The Bartlett School of Planning, a group created to provide comments and advice in drafting papers.

### Wageningen University and Research

Wageningen, The Netherlands

*MSc Urban Environmental Management*

2013 – 2015

- Major Land Use Planning: 'Increasing green areas in a low socioeconomic neighborhood using the concept of Biophilic City (Case study: Temuco, Región de la Araucanía, Chile)'. (Supervised by Prof Dr Arnold van der Valk).
- Minor Environmental System Analysis. 'Environmental and Socio-economic effects of increasing urban green areas in the Villa Cautín II neighborhood (Temuco city, Chile)' (Supervised by Prof Dr Dolf de Groot)
- Completed modules on Planning and Design of Urban Space, Planning for Urban Quality of Life, Reflections on Spatial Planning Practices and Planning Theory
- Joined RUW Foundation in four study trips to explore solutions to environmental and social problems in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Wageningen, Copenhagen and Malmö.

### Universidad de Concepción

Los Angeles, Chile

*B.A.Sc. in Forestry Resources / Forest Engineer*

2008 – 2012

- Thesis: 'Diametrical growth model and dendrochronology for *Pilgerodendron uviferum* in Lago Vargas y Lago Quetru, Provincia Capitán Prat, Región de Aysen' (Supervised by Prof. Fabian Milla and Prof. Eduardo Navarrete). Project DIUC PATAGONIA 210.415.013-1SP
- Completed with excellence modules on biology, ecology, cartography, GIS, forest management.
- Participated in numerous experiential learning experiences, visiting several national parks, exotic forests, and nurseries.

### The University of Montana

Missoula, United States

*Exchange Student*

Aug – Dec 2011

- Completed an exchange semester with excellence studying modules on climatic change, rural and environmental change and ethics and politics.
- Obtained first place in the professor's award and student's choice award with poster and presentation evaluating the goals and projects of the IOM.

## TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

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### University College London

London, United Kingdom

*Postgraduate Teaching Assistant in Modules:*

Oct 2020 – present

*Planning for Sustainability and Inclusion (2021)*

- Provided digital support to the students connected to the online sessions and led the conversations during the small group discussion in the classroom.

*Sustainable Future by Design (2021 and 2022)*

- Tutored master's level students in creating four assignments about sustainability in the Wandle Valley.
- Marked assignments following the criteria determined by the module professor, providing specific weekly verbal and written feedback on their work following the institution's teaching standards.
- Contributed to the module with a lecture on urban agriculture in the session of Nature in Cities.
- Managed virtual learning environments Moodle and Echo360, updated new content every week, uploaded links and lectures from Echo360 and Zoom and organised the links for live discussions.
- Recorded and edited 66 clips in a 35-minute video about Wandle Valley recorded in on-site fieldwork with the module professor.

*Case Studies in Implementing Regeneration Projects (2021)*

- Edited the transcription of 28 videos to improve the quality of the texts for the students.

- Experienced the use of Echo360 to edit transcription.

### **Hillsong London**

*Young and Adult Leader Group*

**London, United Kingdom**

*Dec 2017 – Mar 2020*

- Led a group of 15 members between the ages of 18 to 30 from different socioeconomic and educational backgrounds in Bible studies, social events, and activities.
- Developed innovative and creative teaching strategies to adapt the provided materials to the members' situations using videos, readings, and conversations.
- Organised fortnightly social events to generate cohesion in the group, coordinating movie nights, games, karaoke, and trips.
- Provided pastoral care to group members, contacting them regularly to verify their situation. On two occasions, I supported members experiencing mental and emotional crises.
- Participated in regular leadership and management training to develop skills to support the group as a leader.
- Coordinated the participation of the church guests in two conferences, contacting the leaders, arranging their sitting location, and attending to their needs during their participation.

### **University College London, The Bartlett School of Planning**

*PhD Academic Representative*

**London, United Kingdom**

*Sept 2018 – Aug 2019*

- Organised a weekly digital newsletter to promote relevant events and activities for the doctoral community.
- Managed the individual student funds, accepted claims, verified information, and coordinated payments with department administration.
- Participated in departmental meetings to inform about student concerns and requests to improve the department strategies.
- Coordinated the printing of the booklet "Taking Planning Forward" created by the doctoral community.
- Reported every two months the representatives' work to the PhD community, explaining the status of the budget and future activities.

### **Wageningen University and Research**

*MSc Mentor*

**Wageningen, The Netherlands**

*Sept 2014 – Aug 2015*

- Mentored twelve first-year master's students from different countries during their start at university.
- Participated in mentoring training to develop communication and mentorship skills to guide new students and deal with unexpected situations.
- Contacted students before arrival to provide basic information and consult about their accommodation and travel arrangements.
- Coordinated visits to the city, accompanied students through the university reception activities and organised meetings on relevant days, such as Sinterklaas, end of terms and finals.

### **Universidad de Concepción**

*Student Representative*

**Los Angeles, Chile**

*Mar 2010 – Mar 2012*

- Achieved university funding for accommodation and food during two internships of fifteen days each.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **Sud-Austral Consulting**

*Environmental Consultant specialised in Sustainability*

**Los Angeles, Chile**

*Oct 2015 – Jul 2016*

- Worked in a team of seven to collect detailed environmental and scientific information for three environmental projects from the Chilean government.
- Wrote research documents to be included in the technical and methodological sections of projects proposals on the topics of the environmental market, electromagnetic waves, and forest legislation for the Ministry of Environment of Chile and the topics of forest fund for climate change and vegetation resources for UNDP.
- Analysed vast amounts of national and international data on the collection and valuation of priority products in a project to establish a waste and recycling law for the Under Secretary of Environment of Chile.
- Generated a database about Chilean recycling companies and the number of recycling points distributed in the country, either in public areas or private establishments.
- Edited chapters 9, 11 and 12 of the final National Forest Inventory of Costa Rica about forest diversity, regeneration and herbs species.
- Collected, analysed and reported information about the environmental markets after Law N°19.300 in Chile.

### **Lipor**

*Urban Agriculture Consultant*

**Matosinhos, Portugal**

*May 2014 – Jun 2014*

- Worked on a team of five to analyse the environmental potential of LIPOR's waste reduction strategies in encouraging organic waste as compost.

- Identified organisations, educational establishments, and unused spaces in Sao Mamede through an online search.
- Collected data in Sao Mamede and Matosinhos through interviews with stakeholders, questioners to inhabitants, and observations frameworks in the potential urban agriculture areas.
- Identified areas for urban agriculture in different neighbourhoods in Sao Mamede and Matosinhos through an online search and on-site visits.
- Presented the results of the evaluation to the company and citizens of Matosinhos.

### **Sud-Austral Consulting**

*Forestry Consultant*

**Los Angeles, Chile**

*Mar 2013 – Aug 2013*

- Wrote technical documents about the quantification of AFOLU, carbon credits, deforestation, land use, voluntary markets, exotic forest plantations, dendrometry of antecedents and allometric equations of species and climate change in Chile and Centro America.
- Translated two sections of REDD+ technical documents to Spanish that were published as a booklet.
- Edited grammar and spelling in a document about the national action programme against desertification.
- Worked on two projects about carbon credits in Chile for the government.

### **Universidad de Concepción**

*Forestry and Environmental Consultant*

**Los Angeles, Chile**

*Mar 2013 – Aug 2013*

- Wrote technical and methodological documents about typologies of carbon capture forest projects consistent with the Voluntary Carbon Market Standard in AFOLU in Chile for REDD+ and LULUCF.
- Wrote methodologies and projects about Afforestation/Reforestation focused on indigenous populations at the world level.
- Collected socioeconomic information, geographical location, cultural background on the indigenous communities in Region del Bio Bio and Region de la Araucania, Chile.
- Wrote a document about the territorial identities, historical demands, and characterisation of indigenous communities in the Region de la Araucania, Chile.
- Wrote documents about the growth and efficiency of *Pinus contorta*, *Pinus radiata*, *Pinus ponderosa*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Eucalyptus nitens* in Chile.

## **HONOURS AND PRIZES**

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### **Academic**

- 2012 Universidad de Concepción award to the best student of the generation, Chile (Awarded full tuition for a national master's degree at the same university)
- 2011 Dean's List, nominated as Scholar of the College of Arts and Sciences, USA.

### **Funding**

- 2019 The Bartlett Conference Fund (£750)
- 2011 Universidad de Concepción Fund (1.000.000 Chilean pesos, £1029) for exchange programme to The University of Montana

### **Scholarships**

- 2017 Becas de Doctorado en el Extranjero Becas Chile 2017, Chile (Full tuition and allowance for an international doctoral degree)
- 2013 Becas de Magister en el Extranjero Becas Chile 2013, Chile (Full tuition and allowance for an international master's degree)
- 2007 Beca Presidente de la República. 2008, Chile (Full tuition for a bachelor's degree).

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### **Invited**

- 2021: *BSP PhD Conference, London, UK*
  - Urban agriculture projects under the constraints of Neoliberalism: networks, discourses and story-lines in Santiago, Chile.
- 2021: *Socially Just Planning Doctoral Network, London, UK*
  - Resistance and empowerment: stories of urban agriculture in Santiago
- 2021: *Sustainable Future by Design, UK (Lecture)*
  - Urban Agriculture and Cities
- 2020: *Universidad Santo Tomas, Chile (Lecture)*
  - Proceso de Investigación: de la idea a la práctica
- 2020: *AAG 2020, Denver, USA (Panel)*
  - Teaching the Geographies of Food and Agriculture Panel
- 2017: *BSP Postgraduate Research Day, London, UK*

- Green Infrastructure under the constraints of Neoliberalism: networks, discourses and story-lines in Santiago, Chile.

## Oral

- 2021: *RGS-IBG2020, London, UK*
  - When the marginalised speak out: the fight of urban agriculture groups to belong in a neoliberal society.
- 2021: *AAG 2021, USA*
  - When the marginalised raise their voices: the fight of urban agriculture groups to belong in a neoliberal Santiago.
- 2020: *AAG 2020, Denver, USA*
  - How has urban agriculture improved the environmental and political education of the local communities in Santiago de Chile?
- 2019: *RSA Winter Conference 2019, London, UK*
  - Urban Agriculture as Connection points: Civil Society Influence in Santiago, Chile.
- 2019: *RSA PhD Students and Early Careers, Lincoln, UK*
  - Urban agriculture as centres of connection and community knowledge in Santiago, Chile.
- 2019: *City+2019 The International Conference for PhD Students and Early Career Researchers on Urban Studies, Delf, The Netherlands*
  - Urban agriculture and social cohesion: the return to community life in Santiago.

## Poster

- 2015: *Encuentros ChileGlobal Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands*
  - Increasing green areas in a low socioeconomic neighborhood using the concept of Biophilic city (Temuco, Chile).

## PUBLICATIONS

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Cho, H., Han, D., Juangbhanich, A., Dianati, V., **Sepúlveda, R.**, Panayotopoulos, D., Wang, M., Zang, Y., Zhu, J. 2019. *Taking Planning Forward*. 2019. England. 4th edition. 89 p.

**Sepúlveda, R.** 2015. Increasing green areas in a low socioeconomic neighborhood using the concept of Biophilic city (Temuco, Chile). In: Contreras, C., Schlageter, A. 2015. *Booklet of Abstracts: Encuentros – Chile Global 2015*. Rotterdam, The Netherlands. 23 p.

Emanuelli, P., Milla, F., Torrealba, J. and **Sepúlveda, R.** 2014. *Desarrollo de Proyectos Piloto de Captura de Carbono en el Sector Forestal de Centroamérica*. 37 p. doi: 10.13140/RG.2.2.17809.84324

Emanuelli, P., Milla, F., **Sepúlveda, R.**, and Torrealba, J. 2014. Chapter: Hoja de ruta para la implementación de proyectos piloto. P.374-389. In: GIZ, CCAD and SICA. *Insumos Técnicos Generados por el Programa REDD-CCAD/GIZ: Línea Base de Cobertura Forestal Sistema Regional-Multinivel de Monitoreo de Bosques Plataforma Regional de Mecanismos de Compensación*. 425 p.

Emanuelli, P., Milla, F., and **Sepúlveda, R.** 2014. Chapter: Guía Práctica para Desarrollar Proyectos REDD bajo Metodología VM0015 de VCS (Metodología para estimar las reducciones de emisiones de GEI por deforestación no planeada). In: GIZ, CCAD and SICA. *Insumos Técnicos Generados por el Programa REDD-CCAD/GIZ: Línea Base de Cobertura Forestal Sistema Regional-Multinivel de Monitoreo de Bosques Plataforma Regional de Mecanismos de Compensación*. 425 p.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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### Ready to submit:

- The Broken Networks of Urban Agriculture: a case study of Santiago, Chile (Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability)

### In Progress:

- Circulation of Knowledge into Urban Agriculture Networks in Santiago, Chile (Temporary title. Journal of Agriculture and Human Values)
- Nature vs market: the impact of agricultural projects in the use of the space in Santiago, Chile (Temporary title. Urban Forestry & Urban Greening)
- Resistance and empowerment in the space: reflections from urban agriculture in Santiago, Chile (Temporary title. Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability)

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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### Skills:

- **NVivo** used to process and code interviews transcriptions and documents for the doctoral thesis.
- **UCInet** used to create network maps for the doctoral thesis.
- **Adobe Premiere Pro** used to edit different clips for a video used in a module.
- Spanish (Native) and English (Fluent).

**Interests:** Reading, travelling, visiting museums.