

Project Update: August 2021

Our project began in February 2021, genomic DNA samples of the corals *Acropora palmata* and *Acropora cervicornis* was shipped to the laboratory of Dr Carlos Prada at the University of Rhode Island, USA. Genomic libraries were constructed with Nextera XT DNA Library Preparation Kit and recommendations from Kishony *et. al* 2015. This part of project was supported by the technician Margaret Schedl (Fig. 1). Subsequently, the libraries were sequenced by the Illumina 100 PE platform at the Oklahoma Medical Center.

We received the DNA sequences in July 2021, and we are going to do the data analysis to detect the Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) variability and coral genotyping. When the analysis is concluded we will share the results with the local community, academics, and key actors in coral reef restoration in Quintana Roo by conference-workshop and report writing.

Conclusions

Obtaining the DNA sequences was key to continue our project. Coral genotyping is one of the main objectives to explore the genetic diversity of *Acropora*.

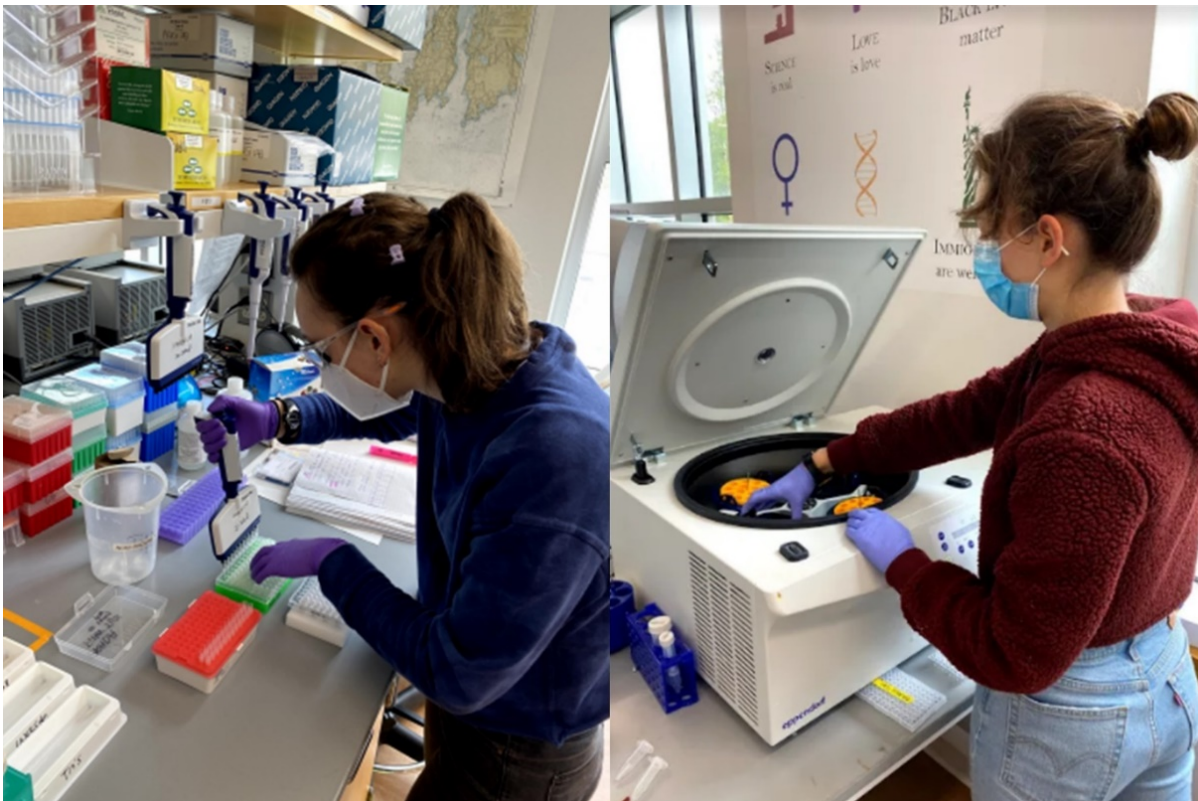


Fig. 1. Construction of genomic libraries at the Department of Biological Sciences of the University of Rhode Island. © Carlos Prada, URI.