

Hawai'i, and Micronesia (Pohnpei, Kosrae, Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Pagan, Sarigan, and Palau). Although archaeological research continues to be a strong emphasis, since 1982 he has specialized in paleoenvironmental research as applied to archaeology. He has undertaken lake and wetland coring projects throughout Hawai'i, the Ecuador highland and Amazon regions, and throughout Micronesia. He maintains active collaborative arrangements with many scientists for various types of specialized analyses (e.g., pollen, charcoal particles, phytoliths, diatoms, and geochemistry), and has ongoing research projects in Ecuador and the tropical Pacific region.

www.iarii.org

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Hervé BOSSIN

A medical entomologist, holder of a PhD in Cell Biology and Microbiology (Université de Montpellier, France), and a Master of Business Administration (Open University, UK), he started his international career in the U.S. (USDA, Florida) and in the United Nations before leading the Medical Entomology and Parasitology Laboratory at Institut Louis Malardé (ILM) four years ago. Scientific advisor for the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (mosquito control program on La Réunion, Indian Ocean), and the World Health Organization as part of their program to eliminate lymphatic filariasis in the Pacific, his laboratory at ILM is conducting a range of basic and applied research programmes against insect pests of medical importance (biting midges and mosquito vectors of diseases) that affect tropical islands of the South Pacific and more particularly French Polynesia. His field and lab-based research focuses on the development and evaluation of innovative, integrated, area-wide approaches for the sustainable control of mosquito vectors of diseases such as lymphatic filariasis, dengue or chikungunya. This knowledge-based operational research stems from the study of the biology and ecology of these pest insects and incorporates the latest discoveries in the field of biological control (*Wolbachia*) and biotechnologies. He conducts most of his research programs in collaboration with institutions in Europe, the United States and Australia. He (co-)supervises Polynesian, French or foreign Bachelor, Master and PhD students.

www.ilm.pf

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Raymond BAGNIS

A Medical Doctor (1959), he graduated in Tropical Diseases (1960), Marine Biology (1970), Biological Sciences (1974), Sciences (1977), Human Biology (1981) all from the Université de Bordeaux. Head of the Medical Oceanographic Department at the Institut Louis Malardé in Tahiti (1967-1990), he led the Research Program on Ciguatera fish poisoning. He served as a scientific advisor on food additives and marine products for the World Health Organization (WHO), on aquatic sciences and marine pollutions for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), on marine toxins for SPC (1969-1990). He was appointed as Delegate for Research and Technology in

French Polynesia, by the French High Commissary and a Professor at the Université française du Pacifique, then at the Université de la Polynésie française (1991-1999), in charge of the Diplôme d'Etude Approfondie (DEA) on the Knowledge and Management of Coral Reef Ecosystems. He is since 1992 the president of the "Association Proscience Te Turu'Ihi" whose aim is to promote science and technology in French Polynesia through events including the annual "Feast of Science".

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Michel CHARLEUX

A retired school teacher, member of the Laboratoire d'Ethno-Archéologie Préhistorique (CNRS-Université de Paris X), currently preparing a PhD since 2008 at the Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne under the direction of Prof. Eric Conte (UPF). His research focus on Eiao, the northern uninhabited island of the Marquesas. In 1987, after a DEA (MSc) of Anthropology under the supervision of Prof. José Garanger and with the support of the former Département d'Archéologie (Centre Polynésien des Sciences Humaines) and the French Navy, he organised a first 32 days fieldwork on this island. He recently organised three 50, 23 and 34 days long surveys on Eiao in 2010 and 2011 with the logistic support of the French Navy, and funded by the French Government through UPF/Centre International de Recherche Archéologique sur la Polynésie (CIRAP), and the Ministry of Culture, Government of French Polynesia. His main research deals with the inventory of *paepae* and lithic workshops, in relation with University of Auckland (Prof. Peter Sheppard & Andy McAlister), the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (Prof. Peter Mills) and the University of Queensland (Prof. Marshall Weisler). He also deals with the bird bones and mollusc shells found in excavations, in collaboration with CRIOBE-CNRS (S. Planes) and the Université de Perpignan (Prof. Bernard Salvat) on fishbones -with an experimental method using ancient DNA and biocode data on collected shells and coral pieces.

<http://tahitinui.blog.lemonde.fr/category/eiao/page/3/>

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Eric CONTE

<http://www.upf.pf/Biographie-du-President-de-l.html>

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Emilie DOTTE-SAROUT

An archaeobotanist and Laboratory officer for Archaeology at the University of Western Australia, she was awarded her cotutelle PhD in 2010, both at the Australian National University and at the Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her main research themes are the relationships between people and forests in the Pacific islands, studied through the analysis of wood charcoal macro-remains from archaeological sites. She has worked on the application of anthracology in Pacific islands environments since her PhD, which focused on New Caledonia precolonial sites. For this she has developed a wood reference collection and anatomical

database of Pacific woody taxa that she is continuously enhancing, in an effort to promote the development of archaeobotany in the Pacific and Australasian regions. Directly associated to these research themes are her interests in arboricultural practices throughout the Pacific, processes of plants introductions and domestication, as well as landscapes changes through interactions between societies, climate and the biophysical environment. Over the last decade, she actively collaborated with the Institute of Archaeology of New Caledonia and Pacific (dir. Dr Christophe Sand) and has been involved in archaeological field research in French Polynesia, with Prof. Eric Conte (CIRAP, UPF), Prof. Atholl Anderson (ANU) and Prof. Patrick Kirch (UC Berkeley). She is also participating in P. Kirch and J. Kahn 's current project *Vulnerability and Resilience on Island Socioecosystems* on several French Polynesia islands.

<http://www.sscs.arts.uwa.edu.au/home/archaeology>

<http://www.eureka.archaeology.arts.uwa.edu.au/contact/profiles>

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"Don" Donald R. DRAKE

An Associate Professor of Botany at the University of Hawai'i, he first became interested in the Pacific Islands while teaching high school biology as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tonga in 1982-83, and has been dedicated to studying, conserving, and educating people about the Pacific biota ever since. His research is based in plant ecology, but includes bats, rodents, birds, land crabs, and insects in places such as Hawai'i, Tonga, and New Zealand. A major focus has been to understand ecological interactions between plants and animals as native animals have declined and alien animals have invaded Pacific environments. This work has benefited greatly from interactions with students, academic colleagues, agency personnel and other island residents across the Pacific basin.

http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/facultypages/don_drake.htm

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Benoît FONTAINE

Working in the Species Conservation Unit of the Department of ecology and biodiversity management at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle de Paris, France, he is in charge of invertebrate monitoring in metropolitan France, focusing mainly on common butterflies. His PhD dealt with conservation strategies for rare or poorly known terrestrial molluscs, and since 2002, he has been actively involved in terrestrial and freshwater mollusc inventory in French Polynesia, especially in the Australs and the Society islands, Vanuatu (Pacific Ocean) and Comoro islands (Indian Ocean).

<http://www2.mnhn.fr/cersp/>

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Olivier GARGOMINY

Bio-informatician and malacologist at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle de Paris, France, he is in charge of the *Inventaire national du Patrimoine naturel* (INPN, National Inventory of the Natural Heritage), a French national programme to put national biodiversity on the web. He works with the taxonomic register of metropolitan and overseas species, from the sea to the land, from fungi to animals. He is involved in French Polynesia terrestrial and freshwater mollusc inventory since 2002, especially in the Australs and the Society. He works on inventories, taxonomy (description of new species, elaboration of checklists) as well as on the conservation of this group.

<http://inpn.mnhn.fr/gargo>

<http://www.mnhn.fr/spn/>

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"Rosie" Rosemary GILLESPIE

a Professor in Environmental Science and Director of the Essig Museum of Entomology at the University of California Berkeley, where she has held the Schlinger Chair in Systematics since 1999. Previously she was on the faculty at the University of Hawaii. She is currently President-elect of the *International Biogeography Society*, Past-President of the *American Arachnological Society*, a Trustee and Fellow of the *California Academy of Sciences*, and serves as Associate Editor for *Molecular Ecology*, and on the council of the *American Genetics Association*. Her research uses islands of known age and isolation to assess the combined temporal and spatial dimension of biogeography and determine patterns of diversification, adaptive radiation, and associated community assembly with a focus on spiders and insects on remote oceanic islands.

<http://nature.berkeley.edu/~gillespi/>

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Terry HUNT

A Professor in the Department of Anthropology, adjunct Professor in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology, and Director of the Honors Program at University of Hawai`i at Manoa (UH). He has taught at UH since 1988. His research and teaching are focused on Pacific Island archaeology and palaeo-environment change. He has been conducting archaeological field research in the Pacific Islands for more than 30 years, especially in the Hawaiian Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, and Rapa Nui. Over the past 11 years Hunt has directed archaeological research on Rapa Nui concerning the trajectory of cultural and ecological changes, including the role of the colossal statues and monuments in the ancient society. He (with Carl Lipo) has recently published a book entitled *The Statues that Walked: Unraveling the Mystery of Easter Island* (2011). He has published numerous scholarly articles on Pacific archaeology and prehistory. His work has been published in

Science, Nature, American Scientist, Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, Journal of Archaeological Science, Pacific Science, Journal of the Polynesian Society, Rapa Nui Journal, and Current Anthropology, among others. He has co-edited four books, including a collection on historical ecology and ancient landscape change.

<http://www.anthropology.hawaii.edu/People/Faculty/Hunt/index.html>

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Helen JAMES

Zoologist and paleontologist at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, in Washington DC, USA, she studies ecological and evolutionary change in island ecosystems with emphasis on the fossil record of birds. She and her research collaborators use ancient biological molecules (ancient DNA and protein preserved in subfossil bones) to reconstruct the genetic and ecological histories of extinct and endangered species. She has decades of field experience especially in the Hawaiian Islands but also in other island groups, conducting excavations for fossils and studying island birds. Her research also examines the evolutionary relationships of birds in general, with a focus on songbirds and waterfowl. She frequently advises post-doctoral scholars, as well as both graduate and undergraduate students, in museum-based studies dealing with island paleoecology and the evolution of birds.

http://www.mnh.si.edu/vz/birds/birds_staff_pages/HelenJames_staffpage.cfm

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"Jenny" Jennifer G. KAHN

An assistant Anthropologist at the Bishop Museum, Honolulu (Hawai'i), since 2007 after a Ph.D. in 2005 from the University of California, Berkeley, on late prehistoric household and community organization in the Society Islands. Over the last seventeen years she has conducted archaeological field research in Polynesia and Melanesia, working in the Hawaiian Islands, the Society Islands, the Marquesas Islands, and New Caledonia. Her research interests include environmental archaeology and studies of human-induced landscape change, political economy, socio-political complexity, landscape archaeology, and lithic technology. Her current archaeological and paleo-ecological fieldwork in French Polynesia with collaborator Prof. Patrick Kirch (UC Berkeley) is funded by the National Science Foundation and investigates long-term processes of landscape change in addition to the sustainability and resilience of socio-ecosystems. This work is carried out in collaboration with U.S., Australian, New Zealand, and French specialists in archaeology, paleo-ethnobotany, paleo-ecology, and soil science.

<http://www.bishopmuseum.org/research/cultstud/staff/kahn.html>
http://blog.bishopmuseum.org/anthro/?page_id=25

"Pat" Patrick V. KIRCH

Holds the Class of 1954 Endowed Chair at the University of California, Berkeley, with joint appointments in the departments of Anthropology and Integrative Biology. He has carried out archaeological and paleo-ecological fieldwork on islands across the Pacific, including Mussau (Papua New Guinea), Tikopia (Solomon), Futuna, Niuatoputapu (Tonga), Mangaia (Cook Is.), Hawai'i, Mo'orea, and Mangareva. He has authored more than 300 publications, including 12 books, on the results of his research. His books include *Hawaiki: Ancestral Polynesia*, and *Historical Ecology in the Pacific Islands*. Kirch is a member of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences, and was recently awarded the Hebert E. Gregory Medal for Distinguished Service to Science in the Pacific.

<http://arf.berkeley.edu/projects/oal/people/Pat/Kirch.htm>

Nabila GAERTNER-MAZOUNI

Tamara MARIC

An archaeologist working at the Service de la Culture et du Patrimoine (SCP), Government of French Polynesia, since 2002, she is in charge of the Geographic Information System (GIS) of archaeological data in Tahiti. She is also finishing a PhD at the University of Paris-1 Panthéon-Sorbonne under the direction of Prof. Eric Conte (UPF), and integrated to the ArScAn-UMR 7041 Ethnologie Préhistorique Laboratory (Dr. Pierre Bodu, CNRS, Paris-X). Her main research topic focuses on the archaeology of Tahiti, using data collected by previous archaeologists from the former Département d'Archéologie (Centre Polynésien des Sciences Humaines) *via* GIS, and her own fieldwork conducted in the Teva i Uta chiefdom (South-west of Tahiti). She participated to field surveys in Nuku Hiva (Terre Déserte) and Tuamotu (Fangatau), and recently conducted in 2010 the archaeological inventory of the Anaa atoll for the Putahi Haga no Ganaa cultural association to be pursued in 2012 under the Centre International de Recherche Archéologique sur la Polynésie (CIRAP). She was also employed in 2010-2011 by the French Polynesian Ministry of Culture to work mainly on the two UNESCO World Heritage Sites projects of the Marquesas Islands and the Marae Taputapuatea on Raiatea.

Jean-Yves MEYER

A plant ecologist, field botanist and conservation biologist (PhD, University of Montpellier 1994, Post-doctoral research scholar, University of Hawaii 1997, Scientific Director, Conservatoire Botanique National de Mascarin, La Réunion Island 2001, Research Associate in Botany, National Tropical Botanical Garden of Hawaii since 2008) he is working as a research scientist at the Délégation à la Recherche, Government of French Polynesia, since 2002. He is involved in research studies on

the native and alien flora and fauna of French Polynesia, and organized multidisciplinary field-expeditions to the Australs, Marquesas and Society islands. He collaborates as a consultant on numerous biodiversity and biological invasion initiatives across the Pacific (e.g. South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme, Pacific Invasives Learning Network, Conservation International Micronesia-Polynesia Hotspot, IRD New-Caledonia, National Park of Rapa Nui, Service de l'Environnement of Wallis & Futuna). A guest Lecturer for the Université de Polynésie française and for the R. Gump Research Station on Moorea, he advises and mentors undergraduate/graduate/doctoral/post-doctoral students working in French Polynesia, with projects in the fields of botany, plant ecology, conservation biology, terrestrial biodiversity and invasive species management.

<http://moorea.berkeley.edu/content/jean-yves-meyer>
<http://www.jymeyer.over-blog.com>

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Guillaume MOLLE

An archaeologist working with the Centre International de Recherche Archéologique sur la Polynésie (CIRAP). His main research deals with the prehistory of Ua Huka island (Marquesas), a subject on which he completed a PhD thesis in 2011 at the Université de la Polynésie française (UPF). He also has carried out excavations and surveys on Tetiaroa and Fakahina. In collaboration with Prof. Eric Conte (UPF) and Pascal Murail (Université de Bordeaux I), he is in charge of the archaeological part of the research program on Temoe, an uninhabited atoll east of Mangareva (Gambier). He also leads various projects on several Tuamotu atolls, focusing especially on the development of the *marae* complex in this archipelago. In 2012, he will participate in the project *Vulnerability and Resilience on Island Socioecosystems* directed by Prof. P. Kirch (UC Berkeley) and J. Kahn (Bishop Museum, Honolulu) on Maupiti and the Gambier islands. Since 2009, he is a lecturer in Oceania Prehistory at UPF and the Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne.

<http://upf-pf.academia.edu/GuillaumeMolle>

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Hinano MURPHY

<http://moorea.berkeley.edu/outreach/atitia/>

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Paul NIVA

An archaeologist (Maîtrise of archaeology at the Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne under the supervision of Prof. Eric Conte, UPF) specialized in *marae* architecture in French Polynesia, now a private consultant. He was involved in archaeological excavations in several islands of the Society. Employed by the county of Taputapu'atea (Rai'atea), he studied the architecture of *marae* in this island,

especially in the Opo'a valley. He also conducted several field surveys in collaboration with the Délégation à la Recherche and *Te Rau Atiati* nature protection group (Makatea, Mehetia, Niau mount Orohena on Tahiti) and the Service du Développement Rural (Faaroa valley, Rai'atea). For the past 10 years, he was in charge of some 'preventive archeology' operations for the Service de la Culture et du Patrimoine. He currently supervises a restoration project of the *marae* Ta'ata (Tahiti, Paea) since July 2011.

<http://tuihana.org>

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Serges PLANES

He has been involved in the study of population genetics of marine fish since the beginning of his career that started with his PhD in 1989. Over the past 20 years, he has published about 60 papers in international journals dealing with the population genetics of coral reef fishes and an additional 50 papers dealing with ecology, ecology of marine protected areas and recruitment of marine fishes. His early work suggested that coral reef fish populations are much more limited in space than was generally believed prior to the early 90's. Most of the recent work using both genetic markers and other techniques has confirmed his view that marine populations conform to a stepping stone model, with limited gene flow occurring between adjacent populations and most renewal being from self-recruitment. He has gained experience in managing large scheme grants by coordinating two major European programs, and involved as a partner in another five European projects, providing essential experience in managing large groups of scientists. In the meantime he has been co-PI in two NSF (US) grants, two ARC (Australia) grants, a Moore foundation project (*Moorea Biocode*) and several smaller international joint grants, as well as the coordinator of two *Total Foundation* grants and three *Etat-Pays* projects in French Polynesia. He is now directing the *LABEX* program on coral intitled: coral reefs facing global changes.

<http://moorea.berkeley.edu/content/serge-planes>

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"Nick" Nicholas PORCH

A Lecturer in Environmental Earth Science in the School of Life and Environmental Sciences at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia and an Associate in Science of the Bishop Museum. His palaeo- research revolves around the use of recent fossil insect remains for exploration of past climates and environments, often in collaboration with researchers working on other aspects of palaeoecology and/or archaeology. Current research is focusing on the island archipelagos of the Indo-Pacific, especially Hawai'i, French Polynesia, Cook Islands and the Mascarenes where he is especially interested in: 1) island diversity prior to its catastrophic loss in the past thousand years, 2) invasion palaeoecology – the use of the palaeoecological record to contextualise biological invasions, and 3) the human transport of species and their significance to archaeology and ecosystems.

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/scitech/les/staff/porchn>

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Robin POUTEAU

A PhD student at the Laboratoire de Géosciences du Pacifique Sud of the Université de la Polynésie française (UPF) since 2008, where he gives lectures on computer science and biology. His research interests include remote sensing of environment and spatial ecology. He developed a range of methods and models to map temperature, vegetation and native and alien plant species from remotely sensed and GIS data in montane tropical landscapes including Andean highlands of Bolivia and French Polynesia (Moorea, Nuku Hiva and Tahiti). His current researches are conducted in collaboration with the Délégation à la Recherche de la Polynésie française and the *Moorea Biocode Project*.

<http://gepasud.upf.pf/pouteauen.html>

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“Matiu” Matthew PREBBLE

A lecturer in palaeoecology and environmental archaeology at The Australian National University, currently working on an Australian Research Council Discovery Fellowship exploring past ecological changes on the remote Solomon Islands (Rendova, Tetepare, Makira, Santa Ana and Tikopia). The overarching direction of his research questions the way traditional Pacific societies are portrayed in paradox; either as the ultimate stewards of fragile ecosystems or as perpetrators of ecocide. He has carried out palaeoecological research across the Pacific from Papua New Guinea to French Polynesia, exploring novel methods for understanding the role of humans in shaping Pacific ecosystems. Most recently he has been working on the application of molecular fossils for assessing occupation and abandonment of islands with ambiguous archaeological records. His forthcoming book *Treeless Islands and Buried Forests* addresses the interpretation of archaeological and palaeoecological evidence for ecological change across a transect of Pacific islands. He shows that the profound claims made by many authors for past social and ecological change rest on unresolved fossil evidence, misinterpretation of the capacity of past traditional island societies and the role of European spread of diseases, organisms and unprecedented resource exploitation.

<http://palaeoworks.anu.edu.au>

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“Rava” Ravahere TAPUTUARAI

Trained as a terrestrial biologist (Maîtrise in Population Biology and Ecosystem, Université de Montpellier, 2004), working as a research assistant at the Délégation à la Recherche between 2004-2006, he is currently a private consultant in plant

ecology and botany. He collaborated to the *Miconia biological control* program in collaboration with the Institut Louis Malardé (2007) and participated to many biodiversity surveys conducted by Dr. Jean-Yves Meyer in the Marquesas (Hiva Oa, Fatu Hiva, Nuku Hiva, Ua Pou) and the Society islands (Raiatea, Tahaa, Mehetia). He was also involved in plant ecology studies on rare endemic plants in Tahiti and Moorea, and on the subalpine vegetation in Tahiti (Mt Aorai, Mt Pito Hiti). He is actively involved in the *Moorea Biocode Project* (2007-2011) as the native vascular plant's collector, and acts as the scientific advisor for two French Polynesian nature protection groups, *Te Rau Atiati a Tau a Hiti Noa Tu* in Tahiti and *Tuihana* in Rai'atea.

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Jean-Claude THIBAUT

Research associate at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris since 2007, he worked for 32 years as a Research Officer at the Parc Naturel Régional de Corse in Ajaccio, Corsica (France). His work on Mediterranean and Polynesian islands focusses on the changes in range and number in relation to human activities for both seabirds and endemic landbirds. His PhD thesis (1995) was on the relationships between Cory's shearwaters and black rats on Corsican islets. A major recent focus has been to understand the habitat selection of the Corsican nuthatch (*Sitta whiteheadi*) and the influence of fires and forest management on this endangered species endemic to Corsica. His current research studies in Polynesia includes the phylogeography of landbirds and their pattern of colonisation. Recent publications on reedwarblers (*Acrocephalus* spp.) provide evidence for a complex pattern of colonization of the Pacific, with multiple long-distance dispersals, reverse colonization from island to continent, and a few extinctions. Continuing work on other landbird groups is likely to increase the body of evidence on complex patterns of colonization of the Pacific islands.

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Stéphanie THIÉBAULT

Research director at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), France, she is an archaeobotanist specialized in wood charcoal analysis (or anthracology) from archaeological sites. With more than 140 publications, she takes an active part in the increase of the environmental studies in archaeology in France and abroad by her implication in both research and education. Since 1983, her implication in research, within different laboratories of the CNRS, as well as in the education activities allows her to approach the interaction between the cultural development of past societies and their environment. She studied the relations of human population with their plant environment, through time during the Holocene, more particularly in the Mediterranean regions (the South of France, the eastern Mediterranean basin) and peri-Mediterranean areas, the pre-Alps in particular and the subalpine mountains. She initiated projects, continued today by other researchers, in South America (Chilean Patagonia), Pakistan (Baluchistan) and east Africa (Djibouti). Her research includes palaeo-biodiversity, environment-society co-evolution, anthropic impacts on

the environment, and the importance of environmental constraints on the biological and/or cultural evolution of human groups.

<http://www2.mnhn.fr/archeozoo-archeobota/>

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Rose WHITAU

Masters of Archaeological Science student at the Australian National University, she completed a BA (Hons) in Classics at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand in 2009. In 2010, she was a teaching assistant for the Classics department at the University of Canterbury, before participating in the *Cambustica Project*, an archaeological excavation of a Roman military fort in Bulgaria. She is a newcomer to Pacific archaeology and her major research interests are the application of archaeobotanical techniques in palaeo-environmental reconstructions, the effects of human impact upon endemic flora and the domestication of plant taxa in Polynesia. She is currently investigating endemic plant extirpation in French Polynesia with Dr. Matiu Prebble (ANU), analysing macroscopic charcoal from Madagascar for Dr. Simon Haberle (ANU) and sorting shell middens from East Timor for Prof. Sue O'Connor (ANU).

<http://archaeology.anu.edu.au/archaeologicalscience/rose>

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Janet WILMSHURST

A full time palaeoecologist based at Landcare Research, New Zealand's foremost environmental research organisation. Her main research interests are the analysis of fossil plant remains (pollen, seeds, macrofossils, fungus *Sporormiella*) from sediments (including swamps, bogs, lakes, caves, and coprolites) to reconstruct past vegetation histories during the Holocene. A particular interest is dating the arrival and impact of biotic change that occurred on pristine island ecosystems following initial human settlement, in New Zealand and other islands in South and East Polynesia. Her research is characterised by a multi-disciplinary approach, collaborating closely with colleagues in different fields to help answer questions about past environments. She currently runs an active research program on various aspects of global change, merging palaeoecological perspectives with current ecological issues (including changing treelines, fire histories, wetland change, climate change and forest dynamics). Other work includes reconstructing past diets of extinct avian herbivores such as moa; tracing the past impact of introduced ungulates on vegetation composition, and of introduced rodents on seed predation. She currently mentors or co-supervises a number of post-graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows.

http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/research/staff_page.asp?staff_num=91

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