



## **4<sup>th</sup> International Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Symposium**

**Guadeloupe, 2011**

**Mentor Biographies**

## Tundi Agardy

### Sound Seas



Tundi Agardy is an internationally renowned expert in biodiversity conservation, with extensive field and policy experience in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, North America and the Pacific. She currently heads Sound Seas, an independent policy group based in the Washington, DC area, specializing in biodiversity conservation, coastal planning and assessment, marine protected areas, and fisheries management. She also serves as Director of the Marine Ecosystem Services (MARES) Program of Forest Trends, is Science and Policy Director for the World Ocean Observatory, and is Associate Editor of Marine Ecosystems and Management (MEAM), published through the University of Washington. Prior to forming her own organization, she was the Senior Director for the Global Marine Program at Conservation International and, before that, Senior Scientist for WWF.

## Vera Agostini

### The Nature Conservancy



Vera Agostini is a Senior Scientist with The Global Marine Initiative of The Nature Conservancy. She is an ecosystem oceanographer with 15 years of international experience in climate and fisheries, providing technical expertise across a range of multi-disciplinary efforts. Dr. Agostini has held marine science positions across three sectors: non-governmental, U.S and international government, and academic/educational. Her experience ranges from broad policy and planning through comprehensive scientific ecosystem research to site level program management. She has worked on marine issues in a number of areas around the globe (the Mediterranean, the Coral triangle, the Caribbean, the North Atlantic and the Pacific) and has been invited to speak and chair a number of international meetings and workshops. Dr. Agostini's work is currently focused integrating people and human well being into conservation approaches. Examples include marine zoning, ecosystem approaches to fisheries, protected area network design and ecosystem-based climate adaptation. Her recent work in marine zoning, has taken her to work alongside partners at sites across the Caribbean and Asia Pacific.

## Russ Avery

### SeaWeb



Russ Avery joined SeaWeb in January 2010 as the Administrative Assistant to the Sustainable Markets and Science Initiatives teams in the London office. After graduating with a combined degree in French and Russian, Avery worked in various contract positions, including a technical assistant role at a film production company and as a case administrator for the Forensic and Dispute Services department of Deloitte LLP. In July 2009, Avery created his own website, Cool Footprint, which he set up in order to raise awareness about environmental issues, and he is further pursuing this passion by studying environmental science.

A native of the west coast of Scotland, Avery has traveled extensively. He lived in Chile for five months, where he taught at a school in Santiago, and in Saint Petersburg, Russia, for one year as part of his Bachelor of Arts degree. Having lived by the sea for much of his life, Avery enjoys most water-based activities, especially surfing, and he is looking forward to learning how to scuba dive one day. When not at work or by the sea, Avery also enjoys photography, filmmaking and cinema.

## Nicola Barnard

### Fauna and Flora International



Nicola Barnard is the Marine Programme Manager for Fauna and Flora International – an NGO working to ensure that threatened marine biodiversity is effectively conserved by the people who live closest to it - where she has oversight for the global portfolio of marine activities. Formerly the Acting Director of the International Coral Reef Action Network, Nicola provided technical and facilitation support to partners in the Caribbean, Pacific, South Asia and the Western Indian Ocean, in the design and implementation of strategic partnerships and site based interventions to further develop the capacity of local stewards to protect, manage and prosper from their marine and coastal resources. She was also responsible for facilitating an active global learning network to share lessons and knowledge derived from these activities. As a marine scientist, Nicola has worked in both government and NGO sectors gaining over a decade of experience in marine and coastal research, conservation and management, and has published a range of toolkits and reports relevant to tropical marine ecosystem management.

## Lisa Dropkin

### Edge Research



Lisa Dropkin, a Principal at Edge Research, works with a diverse array of clients, from Fortune 1000 companies like Intuit (makers of Quicken and TurboTax) to progressive non-profits. She takes the best research practices in branding, marketing, packaging and product development from her clients in the business sector and leverages them for her issue advocacy and membership development work with non-profit organizations. Over the years she has conducted research for a host of conservation organizations (The Ocean Conservancy, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Environmental Defense Fund, and World Wildlife Fund, to name a few), and is often sought out to speak on trends in sustainability and conservation.

Prior to joining Edge Research, Lisa served as research director for SeaWeb, an innovative non-profit specializing in ocean conservation communication. Previously she spent seven years (her last year as Vice-President) at the Mellman Group, a national public opinion research and campaign strategy firm. Lisa has a B.A in Political Communications from the George Washington University in Washington, DC. She is Chair of the board of the Green Media Toolshed, an application service provider supporting media communications for environmental organizations. Professional memberships include the Council of American Survey Research Organizations, the Marketing Research Association and the Qualitative Research Consultants Association. Lisa lives in Arlington, VA with her husband and two daughters.

## Dave Gulko

Department of Land and Natural Resources,  
Hawaii



Dave Gulko is a senior aquatic biologist with the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources where he is responsible for coral reefs and marine natural resource damage assessments (NRDA). He often serves as the Lead Investigator for marine injury events, including mitigation and restoration; and has worked on a number of the largest vessel groundings on U.S. coral reefs. Dave is the Director of the International Coral Reef CSI (CRCSI) Field Training Program, a project of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and run through the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL); in the last four years, this program has trained over 300 coral reef resource managers and enforcement officers from 24 countries with an international staff of instructors from 10 countries. He is also the lead for ICRI's Coral Reef Enforcement and Investigation Working Group.

## Dr. Annelise Hagan

### Southern Environmental Association (SEA)



Having learnt to SCUBA dive in the Caribbean at a young age, Annelise became fascinated by the marine environment and quickly decided on a career in marine biology. She gained a BSc in Oceanography and Marine Biology at University of Southampton, UK, in 2000 and went on to specialise in coral reef ecology, completing her PhD at University of Cambridge, UK, in 2004. Annelise focused her research on the Indian Ocean (Seychelles) until 2005 when she was employed as Chief Project Scientist for Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation, a privately funded NGO based in Washington, DC. This involved numerous research expeditions, including to Seychelles, Red Sea, Florida Keys and Bahamas. In May 2010 Annelise moved to Belize as Science Program Director for Southern Environmental Association (SEA). SEA is a Belizean NGO which co-manages 3 Marine Protected Areas (including two UNESCO World Heritage Sites) and works with numerous stakeholder communities to improve stewardship and the environmental integrity of key marine areas in southern Belize. Annelise is a keen underwater photographer; her photographs have been printed in books/publications and have won her prizes in international competitions.



## Stephanie Kavanaugh

NOAA National Ocean Service



Stephanie is an IAF Certified Professional Facilitator (CPF) with more than ten years of experience in collaborative process design, conflict management, and stakeholder involvement. She is also a skilled policy analyst with expertise in natural resource management and environmental certification programs. Her love of “all things collaborative” began in graduate school at the University of Maryland in College Park, where she earned a Master of Science in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development. During her undergraduate studies, she spent a year studying marine and plant ecology in Australia.

Stephanie has facilitated dozens of meetings on very sensitive topics, including nuclear waste disposal and marine energy facilities. She holds a Certificate in Public Participation from the International Association for Public Participation, and has completed over 80 hours of training in facilitation and dispute resolution. In her spare time Stephanie enjoys running trails in Rock Creek Park, making jewelry, sewing and coaching roller derby for the DC Roller girls.

## David Obura

### Coastal Oceans Research and Development in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO)



David Obura is the Director of CORDIO East Africa, supporting coral reef and marine activities in mainland Africa and Indian Ocean island states. CORDIO's work includes research, monitoring and capacity building, as well as working with stakeholders, managers and policy makers to support sustainability and coping with climate change. David's primary research focuses on developing a new biodiversity hypothesis for coral reefs of the Western Indian Ocean, through work on coral species and coral reef resilience. This work will help generate more holistic approaches to conservation and resource management practices, from local to regional levels. David received a PhD from the University of Miami in 1995 on coral bleaching and life history strategies. Other areas of work include the development of participatory monitoring and research tools with artisanal fishers in East Africa, and remote-reef surveys such as in the Phoenix Islands, central Pacific, and in the central and western Indian Ocean. David chairs IUCN's Coral Specialist Group and the Climate Change and Coral Reefs working group.

## Scott Radway

### SeaWeb



Based in Honolulu, Hawaii, Scott Radway brings a diverse background in environmental reporting and organizational development to lead a program that elevates ocean conservation through strategic communications, social marketing and capacity building. His skills are specially tailored for work that focuses on bridging the distances between experts, the media, communities and governments.

Before joining SeaWeb, Scott served as managing editor for *Hawaii Business Magazine*, where he helped elevate the role of the business community in achieving sustainable development and promoting community well being. He also was instrumental in improving internal administrative operations and launching new products for the magazine brand. Before his tenure at *Hawaii Business*, Scott worked as an environmental journalist for the *Pacific Daily News* in Guam and led a nine-month environmental series on coral reef conservation. He also lived in Palau where he worked for several international media outlets such as Agence France-Presse, Radio New Zealand International and *Pacific Magazine* and covered regional politics and small island development challenges.

Prior to working in the Pacific, Scott worked for newspapers on the East Coast of the United States. He has won numerous journalism awards, including environmental and public service awards for his work in the United States and in the Pacific. Scott graduated from Boston College with a bachelor's degree in English.



## Daria Siciliano

### SeaWeb



Daria Siciliano is the Director of Science for SeaWeb. With expertise in coral reef ecology, marine spatial planning and remote sensing, she holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Cruz, in biological oceanography and a Bachelor of Science in aquatic biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her dissertation work examined latitudinal limits to coral reef accretion in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, using a combination of in-situ biodiversity surveys and benthic habitat mapping from satellite spectral imaging. Prior to joining SeaWeb, she was a National Research Council Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences conducting marine remote sensing research and mentoring students pursuing their master's degrees. She has extensive experience in the Asia Pacific region (Fiji, the Line Islands, the Marshall Islands and Papua New Guinea) and was a consultant with UNESCO's World Heritage Centre as a technical specialist for Ailinginae Atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. As Director of Science, Siciliano works to synthesize and communicate marine science, bridging the worlds of academia, the media and policymakers. She continues to be actively involved in research and provides scientific support to all of SeaWeb's efforts. Siciliano is originally from Rome, Italy, but Venezuela is her second home. She is fluent in four languages and resides in California.

## Kristian Teleki

### SeaWeb



Kristian Teleki is currently the Vice President of SeaWeb – a communications NGO dedicated to creating a culture of ocean conservation. SeaWeb works to collaboratively to inform and empower diverse ocean voices and conservation champions in strategic, targeted sectors to encourage market solutions, policies and behaviours that result in a healthy thriving ocean. For the last decade Kristian was the Director of the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN), a unique global partnership dedicated to addressing the series decline in the health of the world’s coral reefs. During his tenure, Kristian had oversight for coral reef projects in 35 countries that ranged from livelihood diversification and resource management to the prevention and mitigation of ecological degradation of coral reefs through management, monitoring and public awareness actions. In addition to his ICRAN duties, Kristian established and led a marine programme at the UNEP’s World Conservation Monitoring Centre, designed to synthesise, analyse and disseminate marine and coastal biodiversity knowledge, to provide the basis for decision making, and advance understanding around sustainable use and development of marine and coastal goods and services. Kristian has a diverse background in marine science and conservation and his experience extends from the polar to tropical environments.

## Rubén Torres

### Reef Check Dominican Republic



Rubén Torres is a Dominican marine biologist, who worked as the conservation director for the national aquarium in Santo Domingo for about 10 years, then created Reef Check DR as a local NGO with full time staff and activities related to coral reef conservation, education and restoration. Reef Check DR co-manages La Caleta MPA with the Ministry of Environment, and together are bringing marine life back to La Caleta waters, while providing fishermen with opportunities to leave fishing behind, and engage in eco tourism activities. Rubén is also the president of Tec Unlimited, a marine environmental firm that works with private sector development projects.

## Stephanie Wear

### The Nature Conservancy



Stephanie Wear, Director of Coral Reef Conservation, is a marine scientist that began working with The Nature Conservancy in 2001 in the Caribbean Program, where she managed all conservation projects for the US and British Virgin Islands. Stephanie's work focused on developing a network of marine and terrestrial protected areas and she was instrumental in establishing the USVI's first territorial marine park. While in the Virgin Islands, she worked with local fishermen, NGOs, government agencies, community leaders, and stakeholder groups to get them involved in solving their local conservation problems. In 2004, Stephanie began working with the Conservancy's Global Marine Initiative to help coral reef managers' address the impacts of climate change on critically important coral reef ecosystems. She developed a reef resilience training program that she conducted in the Caribbean, Western Pacific Islands, Southeast Asia, Western Indian Ocean, and South Asia. Since then, Stephanie has developed a global reef conservation program that includes a network of practitioners from over 70 countries. She is focused on strengthening a network of coral reef practitioners and developing innovative ways to build capacity through training and exchange lessons learned among remotely located managers who are working to reduce the impacts of global climate change on tropical marine ecosystems.



## Rich Wilson

### Seatone



Founder and Principal of Seatone Consultants, Rich Wilson is a consultant, trainer and facilitator with extensive international experience in resource management, sustainable business and environmental conservation. He brings a collaborative approach to program design and implementation that creates effective working alliances between resource managers, the private sector, conservation NGOs and local stakeholder groups.

Rich has facilitated creation and sustained growth of sustainable tourism and resource conservation programs in nearly a dozen countries, resulting in improved marine protected area infrastructure, fishery policy recommendations, widespread reduction in anchor damage to coral reefs, and pioneering partnerships between park managers, resource users, and conservation NGOs. He has designed and led more than fifty workshops on sustainable business, conservation action planning and protected area management.

Rich currently serves on the Leadership and Resources Team of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Managers Network and is a Certified Professional Facilitator with the International Association of Facilitators.