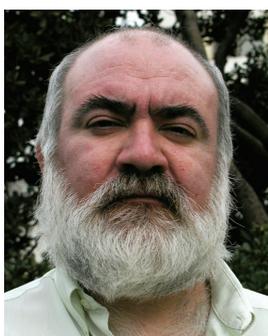


About the authors



Marina Aboal (°1959) is Full Professor and the head of the Phycology Research Group at Murcia University (Spain). She is interested in biodiversity and ecology of freshwater algae from the Mediterranean area. Although having studied lenitic and flowing systems in different regions she addressed in last years the algae communities and functioning of semiarid streams and the production of cyanotoxins by benthic communities. Her current research focuses on systematics of filamentous algae and its relationship with phosphorus dynamics.



Miguel Ángel Alonso-Zarazaga (°1956) is Tenured Scientist (Entomologist) at the Spanish National Museum of Natural History in Madrid (MNCN-CSIC). He carries out research on the nomenclature, systematics and evolution of Coleoptera Curculionoidea (weevils), particularly of the families Apionidae and Nanophyidae, and on the fauna of the Western Mediterranean and Macaronesia. He has described several new taxa of hypogean weevils and has more in study. Currently he has more than 130 published papers and, in collaboration with C.H.C. Lyal, runs a weevil database, WTaxa (<http://wtaxa.csic.es>).



Yves Basset (°1960) is scientific coordinator of the Tropical Canopy Biology Programme and Arthropod Initiative of the Center for Tropical Forest Science at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. His main research interests are plant-insect interactions and canopy arthropods in tropical rainforests. During the past 25 years his professional residence was in Australia, Hawaii, Papua New Guinea, Guyana and Panama, with other field projects completed or extent in Gabon, Brasil and Thailand. Currently he is leading an ambitious programme to monitor arthropods in tropical forests.



Philippe Bouchet (°1953) is senior professor at the French National Muséum of Natural History, in Paris. He is a malacologist whose interests are with the exploration and description of biodiversity, especially marine invertebrates. Exploring for unknown faunas has taken him to expeditions in three oceans, as well as to a number of remote islands, with emphasis on the western Pacific, where he has coordinated several major international expeditions that have and have rallied the forces of as many as 80 scientists from 19 different countries working together to change our perspectives on marine megabiodiversity, attracting attention of the public, policy makers and scientists alike.



Peter Bridgewater (°1945) is currently Chair of the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee and has been deeply involved in international biodiversity discussions for over 20 years. He helped organise the 'Darwin Conference' in 1998 which spurred the acceptance of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).



Bart Buyck (°1959) is associate professor and curator of the national mycological herbarium at the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle in Paris, France. He is also president of the French mycological society. His main interests are phylogeny and taxonomy of ectomycorrhizal basidiomycetes, particularly Russulales and Cantharellales. He has an extensive experience with fungal inventories from the tropics to the arctic zone. He participated in the Great Smoky Mts national park ATBI (USA), the ATBI in Santo (Vanuatu) organized by the Muséum, and he presently organizes for EDIT the fungal inventory for the ATBI in the Mercantour (France) - Alpi Maritime (Italy) national parks.



Santos Cirujano (°1950) is a researcher at the Real Jardín Botánico (CSIC) in Madrid. He is a specialist in Aquatic vascular plants.



Jan Decher (°1960) is a mammalogist by training and a research associate and lecturer in the Biology Department of the University of Vermont. His main research interests are the zoogeography, ecology, and conservation of West African small mammals. He has also worked as a small mammal consultant for the rapid assessment program (RAP) of Conservation international, for the environmental engineering firms NKUK and SNC Lavalin, in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, and recently for Heindel & Noyes, Inc. for an Environmental Impact Statement in southern Vermont.



Jérôme Degreef (°1966) is head of the department Cryptogamy and curator of the cryptogamic collections at the National Botanic Garden of Belgium, Meise. His research focuses on the taxonomy of tropical African fungi (mainly Boletales) and ethnomycology. During the past 10 years he has been involved in fieldwork all over Africa, collecting specimens for traditional morphology-based and molecular taxonomic research and compiling a checklist of edible mushrooms. He also is the co-founder and one of the permanent editors of the capacity building journal *Abc Taxa*.



Wouter Dekoninck (°1974) obtained his PhD in 2008 with a study on the distribution, ecology and conservation of ants in Belgium with emphasis on Flanders. Since 2000 he works at the Entomology Department of the Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences in Brussels as scientific assistant, curator of databases and curator of the entomological collection. His main topics are sampling methodology, ecology and inventory of Formicidae, Carabidae and Culicidae; Red data analyses; Site Quality Assessment using invertebrates; knowledge on insect distribution, protection of threatened habitats/species. He is Belgian ant curator since 2006 and president of the Royal Belgian Entomological Society since 2009.



Jacques Delabie (°1957) is researcher at the Cocoa Research Center of CEPLAC, Brazilian Agriculture Ministry, and full Professor of Santa Cruz State University, Bahia, Brazil. His main research interests are ant biogeography, community ecology and diversity, as well as use of ants for biological control in cocoa plantations or biomonitoring. He has collaborated to several large research programs for ant taxonomy and ecology. He is currently participating to arborous and leaf-litter ant community and ant-plant interaction studies, firstly, but not exclusively, in the Neotropical Region.



Teresa Domingo-Quero (°1976) is a predoctoral fellow in the Spanish National Museum of Natural History in Madrid (MNCN-CSIC). She is currently finishing her PhD thesis on the Coleoptera diversity of the Caldera de Taburiente National Park (La Palma I., Canary Islands, Spain). In 1999 she graduated in Biology in the Alcalá University (Madrid, Spain). From 1999 to 2001, she worked in the ATBI project: 'The Invertebrate Fauna Inventory of Caldera de Taburiente National Park'. During two years of field work, she collected invertebrate samples using multiple techniques and processed them in the laboratory: soil, litter, vegetation, freshwater and caves were included in this study.



Gabriele Droege (°1978) is a computer scientist at the Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem. She studied Biology at the Freie Universität Berlin. After her Diploma thesis about rooks (*Corvus frugilegus*) she developed the Corvids Literature Database. Within the DFGfunded DNA Bank Network she is currently responsible for data architecture and software development. Her main interest is directed towards aggregation of biological data, especially all kinds of biological collections and publications.



Xavier Eekhout (°1977) is a herpetologist currently working in project management in the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (MNCN). Although he has mainly worked with amphibians, he also has strong personal interests in reptiles. Professionally he has studied frog population dynamics with the aid of drift fences, and later acoustic communication in anurans of Spain and Mexico. He has also participated as instructor in general bioacoustics courses in Mexico and regularly collaborates with the Fonoteca Zoológica (www.FonoZoo.com), the animal sound collection of the MNCN.



Jutta Eymann (°1972) has been working as scientific coordinator for the workpackage “Applying Taxonomy to Conservation” within the EU-project EDIT (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy) while co-editing this Field Manual. Currently, she is back in Australia where she did her PhD on conservation and management of urban brushtail possum populations.



Jon Fjeldså (°1942) is curator of birds at the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, since 1971, and is now also professor in biodiversity studies. Has long experience in expedition work in tropical countries, especially in the Andes of South America and East Africa.



Andreas Floren (°1961) is since 18 years involved in canopy research focussing on the diversity, structure and dynamics of tree specific arboreal arthropod communities, which are sampled mainly by highly efficient canopy fogging. Starting in SE-Asian primary rain forests he extended his research to anthropogenically disturbed forests. For about 12 years he is carrying out comparable studies in temperate Europe. There is no lack of managed forests in Germany, but for primary forests he had to change to the polish Bialowieza forest. These data form the basis for his recent research project focussing on the functional importance of xylobiontic arthropods (mainly beetles) by manipulating key resources like canopy and ground dead wood.



Antonio Garcia-Valdecasas (°1952) is a researcher at the Museo Nacional Ciencias Naturales (CSIC) in Madrid. He is a specialist in Hydrachnidia and has worked on taxonomic tools by computer. Presently he is working on the scientific foundations of taxonomic work.



Birgit Gemeinholzer (°1968) is scientific head of the molecular laboratory at the Berlin Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum (Freie Universität Berlin). She is heading the German DNA Bank Network and is involved in several projects to safeguard primary data of biodiversity research. Her own research interest is within the plant group Cichorieae/Asteraceae analyzing evolutionary and phylogenetic mechanisms but also covering topics on species delimitation and detection, like DNA barcoding.



Adriaan Gittenberger (°1976) is associate researcher at the National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, and the Institute of Biology, Leiden University (The Netherlands). He joins the marine expeditions of Naturalis as specialist of ascidians and gastropod parasites of corals. In addition, he directs GiMaRIS (cf. www.gimaris.com). Together with his team of biology and bioinformatics students he runs a multidisciplinary research program in temperate areas, focusing on marine species communities and population dynamics based on long-term monitoring, field studies and aquarium experiments and molecular analyses.



Robbert Gradstein (°1943) is a retired Professor of Botany, and former Director of the Herbarium and Botanical Garden of the University of Göttingen. His main research interests are systematics and biogeography of bryophytes, especially liverworts, and flora and vegetation of the tropics. Professor Gradstein had done fieldwork in all parts of tropical America and in Asia, has directed numerous research projects in his field of interest, and has published more than 350 research papers, including several books. He is co-author of "Guide to the Bryophytes of Tropical America" (2001), the first synthesis of its kind. Professor Gradstein is the editor-in-chief of the journal TAXON, member of the Academy of Sciences of Göttingen, and a former president of the International Association of Bryologists. For his botanical research he was awarded the Prix Augustin-Pyramus de Candolle of the Societé de Physique et d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève.



Patrick Grootaert (°1952) promoted with a PhD on freeliving nematodes at the University of Ghent, but later specialised in Diptera, Empidoidea when he became employed at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels in 1980. In the beginning he worked on taxonomy and faunistics of Palaearctic fauna. He helped to develop Red Data Books and performed many site quality assessments of forests, heath land and coastal dunes using various insect groups as indicators. He directs the Department of Entomology at RBINS since 1991 and his main interests are now in the fauna of Southeast Asia and in particular in mangrove fauna.



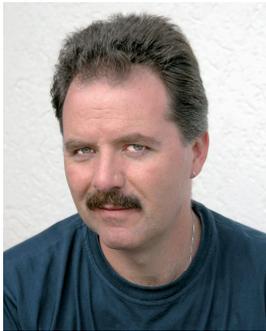
Michael Grundmann (°1961) is curator for molecular collections at the Botany department, Natural History Museum, London. His doctoral thesis, prepared at Heidelberg University, Germany and the NHM, was on phylogeny, population genetics and phylogeography of the moss genus *Pleurochaete*. During the past 10 years he has been involved in fieldwork all over Europe, collecting specimens for molecular research on bryophytes, ferns and flowering plants. His current work focuses on conservation and storage procedures of DNA and tissue collections.



Christoph L. Häuser (°1959) is a biologist with a background in taxonomy and evolutionary biology, originally specializing in the study of Lepidoptera. Since 2009 he is leading the office for international collaboration and science policy at the Directorate of the Berlin Museum für Naturkunde, and has been actively involved in several international efforts linking taxonomy, information science, and biodiversity conservation (CBD: GTI, GBIF). For the EDIT project, he has been leading Work Package 7 (Applying Taxonomy to Conservation), developing an ATBI+M approach for protected areas. He has ample field experience as an entomologist working recently at ATBI+M pilot sites in Europe, and also before in many countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.



Anke Hoffmann (°1962) is scientific coordinator for the workpackage “Applying Taxonomy to Conservation” within the EU-project EDIT (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy) and is based at the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin. Her PhD (1999) was on population dynamics and habitat utilisation of terrestrial small mammals in the grasslands of Queen Elizabeth National Park in Uganda. Moreover she has been involved in further small mammal surveys in different habitats, like in rain forests in Uganda and Guinea, also in the Nama-Karoo in Namibia. Currently she focuses on small mammal inventories in the EDIT ATBI+M sites of Slovakia (Gemera Area) and France/Italy (Mercantour/Alpi Maritime National Park).



Joachim Holstein (°1965) is research entomologist at the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart, Germany. He is interested in afrotropical Saltatoria and Araneae, mainly Jumping Spiders (Salticidae) but is also very familiar with the insect fauna of Central Europe. His wide-ranging interest in entomological subjects as well as in IT technics results in several projects of designing database management systems for collection management, faunistics, and research. His current research focuses on East African jumping spiders and the insect fauna of Kakamega Forest in Western Kenya as well as on the development of an illustrated database and information system for the European fauna.



Valerie Hofstetter (°1964) is responsible for the molecular diagnostics of fungi at the Agroscope Changins-Wädenswil, Nyon, Switzerland. She is a molecular biologist interested in systematics of various groups of asco- and basidiomycetes. She participated in fungal inventories on many continents, where she had the responsibility for the barcoding aspects and tissue sampling for all fungal groups. She presently works on fungal communities of vine and other agricultural crops.



Sanda Iepure (°1974) is a Researcher at Speleological Institute “Emil Racovitza” Biospeleology Department from Cluj, Romania. She carries out systematic, ecologic, biogeographic and conservation researches on groundwater crustaceans (cyclopoids and ostracods) mainly from caves. Currently her researches are focused on speciation and phylogeny of cave cyclopoids and ostracods from the peri-Mediterranean region inferred from both molecular and morphologic approaches.



Damià Jaume (°1963) is CSIC staff Scientist at the Mediterranean Institute of Advanced Studies (Balearic Islands, Spain). His research is focused on the taxonomy, comparative morphology, biogeography and phylogeography of peracarid crustaceans, especially those living in anchialine environments and other subterranean habitats.



Lars Krogmann (°1976) is a research scientist and curator of Hymenoptera in the Entomological Department of the State Museum of Natural History in Stuttgart. His research focuses on the systematics and evolutionary biology of parasitoid wasps. He obtained a PhD from the University of Hamburg and has previously worked as a Feodor Lynen Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt-foundation at the University of Adelaide in South Australia.



Alexander Kroupa (°1966) is graduated in Zoology focussing on community ecology and systematics at the University of Bayreuth and specialised on aculeate Hymenoptera (www.HymIS.eu). Subsequently working for several companies and consultancies developing IT applications for various biodiversity monitoring and conservation programs. Currently employed at Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin working for EDIT to test and improve field-based digital recording tools and techniques for biodiversity inventorying and monitoring programs.



Thomas Læssøe (°1958) is associate professor at the University of Copenhagen (Denmark) with an extensive field experience on many continents and in many climatic zones, from far Eastern Russia to lowland Ecuador. His main interests are with the taxonomy of ascomycetes, in particular pyrenomycetes (especially tropical Xylariaceae), but also has extensive experience with many saprotrophic basidiomycetes and several other fungal groups. He coauthors one of the most comprehensive, user friendly, multientry, computerised keys to fungi on and off the web (www.mycoskey.com), maintains a webpage and database on Ecuadorean fungi, and co-runs the newly started atlas project in Denmark (www.svampeatlas.dk).



Gaël Lancelot (°1981) is the communication officer for the European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy, working at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. He has previously worked for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the BioCASE project. He is the author of *University Reorganisations in Biology: remodelling British and French life sciences, 1960-1995*.



Maurice Leponce (°1964) is researcher at the Biological Evaluation section of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Science. His main research interests are ant and termite community ecology and biodiversity. He has collaborated to large-scale biodiversity inventories in Panama, Australia, Vanuatu and France in the framework of IBISCA (Investigating the Biodiversity of Soil and Canopy Arthropods) projects. He currently studies the response of ant communities to environmental changes in Podocarpus National Park (EDIT's ATBI site in Ecuador).



Diego Llusia (°1978) is a PhD researcher in the National Museum of Natural Sciences (MNCN-CSIC) at Madrid (Spain). His research includes acoustic communication, behaviour and ecology of terrestrial vertebrates. He is currently involved in acoustic monitoring of anuran populations in light of climate change. He previously taught biology in SEK-Segovia University and was member of the Ecology of Steppe Birds Research Group in the Autonomous University of Madrid.



Raphael Marquez (°1962) is Tenured Researcher (Investigador Científico) of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). He directs the laboratory of Bioacoustics and the Animal Sound Library Collection of the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid, Spain. His current research involves the development of acoustic monitoring programs in terrestrial habitats (anurans and birds).



Christopher Meyer (°1966) is a research zoologist at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. His main research interests are in diversification processes and patterns in marine systems, especially those associated with coral reefs. Generally, he uses diverse molluscan groups to test phylogenetic and phylogeographic hypotheses. His other research interests include the use of genetic markers to examine diversity in marine communities. Currently he is the director of the Moorea Biocode Project, an all taxon, voucher-based, genetic inventory of a tropical ecosystem in French Polynesia.



Marianne Meyer (°1943) is living in the French Alps. Notwithstanding the fact that she is an 'amateur' mycologist, she is one of the world experts on myxomycetes maintaining an intensive international collaboration and activity. She is particularly known for her contributions on nivicolous myxomycetes and is presently finishing a prestigious and beautifully illustrated world monograph. Her incredible energy and contagious enthusiasm for myxomycetes has made her one of Europe's best known ambassadors of this group.



Juan Carlos Monje (°1963) is a scientist at the State Museum for Natural History, Stuttgart, Germany. His expertise is in the classical and molecular taxonomy of minute parasitic wasps. He works at present as project coordinator and is one of the team leaders for EDIT's Work Package 7.



Alexandra N. Muellner (°1974) is a postdoctoral lab manager and research group leader at the Grunelius-Moellgaard Laboratory at the Senckenberg Research Institute in Frankfurt, and teaches at Goethe University. She set the stage for Senckenberg's DNA Bank and DNA database which cover various groups of organisms (plants, fungi, animals). Her research focus during the past 10 years has been on molecular phylogenetics, molecular phylogeography and historical biogeography of temperate and tropical flowering plants. Recently, research has centered largely upon taxa of the pantropical family Meliaceae (mahogany family) in the order Sapindales. Her scientific research resulted in various papers, book chapters (incl. floras), reports and media involvement. She has received several prizes and awards for her work.



Dirk Neumann (°1972) is diplom biologist and technician managing the ichthyological collection and in charge for the technical equipment in the DNA Lab of ZSM. Main interests are the ichthyofaunal diversity of Bavarian rivers and nilo-sudanian rivers in Northwest Africa. Besides coordination in the species inventory of Bavarian freshwater fishes, he was engaged in 8 field projects in South America and Africa the past 10 years.



Martin Obrist (°1958) is research associate in the Biodiversity and Conservation Biology research unit of the Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL in Birmensdorf, Switzerland. He is engaged in the development of biodiversity assessment tools in general as well as acoustic tools for the assessment of bat species by their echolocation calls in specific. Present work involves the acoustics part of the revision of the Red List of Swiss bats and a study on bats' response to habitat connectivity, which both will be analysed in the framework of spatial ecology.



Beáta Papp (°1965) is the curator of the Bryophyte Herbarium (BP) of the Hungarian Natural History Museum since 1999 she is also the editor of *Studia Botanica Hungarica*. She participated in numerous monitoring and conservation programs, in her home country Hungary but also in the Balkan, Turkey and in East Asia. In 2005 she received the Pro Natura Award from the Ministry of Environment for her efforts in the field of conservation of bryophytes.



Gustav Paulay (°1957) is curator of marine invertebrates at the Florida Museum of Natural History. He uses integrative taxonomy, large-scale biodiversity surveys and sequencing efforts to document and understand the diversity, distribution, and evolution of reef-associated marine invertebrates. His focus has been largely on tropical Indo-Pacific corals, molluscs, crustaceans, and echinoderms.



Gianni Pavan (°1960) is Professor of “Terrestrial and Marine Bioacoustics” at the University of Pavia, Italy. He is President of the “Centro Interdisciplinare di Bioacustica e Ricerche Ambientali” he contributed to create in 1989 to develop advanced bioacoustic research based on digital techniques. He started to work on computational bioacoustics in 1980. His main research interests are now on marine mammals acoustics and terrestrial landscapes. Cooperates with ONR, NATO, WHOI, IT Navy and other institutions worldwide to study marine mammals. He developed the SeaPro package for real-time sound analysis and display.



Gitte Petersen (°1963) is professor in molecular systematics of higher plants at the Natural History Museum of Denmark. Her research is focused on phylogeny and molecular evolution of the monocotyledons.



Mark Pollet (°1961) was trained as an entomologist at the University of Ghent (1983) where he also accomplished his doctoral research on the feeding ecology of carabid beetles (Coleoptera, Carabidae) in pasture ecosystems. Since 1985 he grew a passion for scientific research on long-legged flies (Diptera, Dolichopodidae) from the Palaearctic and the New World, in all their aspects. As grant coordinator – scientific advisor sr at the Institute for the Promotion of Innovation through Science and Technology (IWT-Vlaanderen), between 1994 and 2009 he organized hundreds of evaluation committees and evaluated a multifold of PhD applicants in biology. Since 2009, he's head of the new Information and Data Center at the Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO), which combines his interest for nature conservation and information and data systems.



Heather Proctor (°1964) is a professor in Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta, Canada. Her early research was focused on the ecology and evolution of water mites (Hydrachnidia) but has since branched out to include the community ecology of freshwater and terrestrial invertebrates and the ecology and systematics of bird-associated mites.



David Rawson (°1943) is professor of Applied Cell Biology in the LIRANS Institute of Research in the Applied Natural Sciences at the University of Bedfordshire (United Kingdom) and Visiting Professor at the China Agricultural University, Beijing (China). His main area of research is cryobiology and the cryopreservation of cells, gametes and embryos of fish, and the study of cryo-impact on gene expression and sub-cellular structures. His is currently leading the development of cryo-banks of cells and tissues of UK fish species and also co-ordinating the collection and banking of material from critically endangered fish species worldwide as part of the Frozen Ark Project.



David Remsen (°1962) is a senior programme officer for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility in Copenhagen, Denmark. He works on the development of taxonomic infrastructure as a component of the GBIF network. His focus is on the development of taxonomic name services that include authoritative catalogues of common and scientific names of species and the application of these names, and information about their relationships, to the access and retrieval of information about species. He is the architect of the uBio Project in the USA and is a member of the EDIT Strategic Advisory Council.



Swen Renner (°1974) is Research Scientist at the Institute of Experimental Ecology at the University of Ulm. His research is mainly about biogeography and taxonomy of SE Asian birds and the impact of land use on bird communities. His work involves a wide variety of methods including museum collection work, field work as well as GIS and lab analysis.



Isabel Rey (°1961) is the curator of Tissues and DNA of the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales of Madrid. Her research is focused on preservation of DNA and on methodology to obtain ancient DNA from classical zoological collection specimens. In addition, she is involved in designing standard protocols to obtain non invasive samples of living animals.



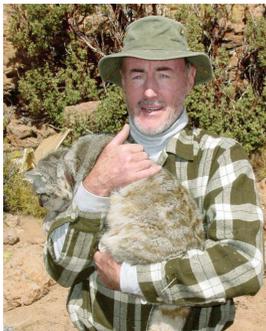
Klaus Riede (°1953) is Associated Researcher at the Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn (Germany). His research focuses on neuroethology, bioacoustics and ecology of Orthoptera, with a strong focus on tropical species. He managed major biodiversity database projects, such as a global geo-database on migratory species (Global Register of Migratory Species) and a web-based multimedia database on Orthoptera specimens with song recordings. At present, he is working on cricket sensory ecology at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Station at Barro Colorado Island (Panama), with funds from the FWF Austrian Science Fund to the University of Graz.



Francesco Rovero (°1970) is the Curator of the Tropical Biodiversity Section at Italy's Trento Museum of Natural Sciences. Since 2002, he conducts research on diversity, ecology and conservation of rainforest mammals in the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania, with a focus on census methods and ecological modeling of primates and ungulates. He works predominantly in the Udzungwa Mountains, where he helped establishing, and currently directs, the Udzungwa Ecological Monitoring Centre, a field station annexed to the Udzungwa Mountains National Park. He holds a PhD in Animal Ecology at the University of Wales in Bangor (UK) and published over 40 scientific papers and book chapters.



Yves Samyn (°1972) is employed by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels (Belgium) where he is coordinator of the activities of the Belgian National Focal Point to the Global Taxonomy Initiative. In this capacity he organises training for students and young researchers from developing countries in particular from Africa. To this end he has developed a web site focused on capacity building in taxonomy (www.taxonomy.be). He also is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of the capacity building journal *AbcTaxa*. His research expertise is on the taxonomy of sea cucumbers (www.echinodermata.be).



Jim Sanderson (°1949) is the founder of the Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation, a Fellow of the Wildlife Conservation Network, a conservation officer of the Feline Conservation Federation, and one of the world's leading authorities on small wild cats. He has studied the Guigna, margay, and jaguarundi. With his Chinese and Tibetan colleagues, he obtained the first pictures of the Chinese mountain cat taken in the wild. He has a Ph.D. in mathematics and also wildlife ecology and conservation. He is the co-author of four books, and published more than 100 peer-reviewed articles.



Juliane Schaer (°1982) is a MSc student of biology at the Humboldt University in Berlin. Her main research interests are systematics, evolution and ecology of Chiroptera. During the past 4 years she has worked in the mammal collection of the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin and also has been involved in field trips to Costa Rica and two small mammal surveys in Guinea. Currently, she is investigating host associations and evolutionary relationships of West African chiropteran blood parasites as part of her diploma thesis at the American Museum of Natural History, New York.



Ole Seberg (°1952) is Professor at the Laboratory of Molecular Systematics, Natural History Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen. His main research is in Molecular Systematics and Molecular Evolution especially on the phylogeny of the Monocotyledons and the evolution of the plant mitochondrial genome.



Mark R. Shaw (°1948) is the former Keeper of Natural Sciences and is now honorary research associate at the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh. He has published about 200 papers on parasitic wasps, particularly on their host associations, ecology and developmental biology, but also including some faunistic, taxonomic and phylogenetic contributions. The main focus has been on Ichneumonoidea, especially those parasitizing Lepidoptera and spiders, and to a much lesser extent Chalcidoidea.



Axel Steiner (°1960) is a free-lancing biologist with a background in archaeology who has worked on the Lepidoptera fauna of Germany at the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Karlsruhe. He has a long-standing experience in collecting nocturnal Lepidoptera and in monitoring species for conservation projects. At the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart he was involved in the development and maintenance of taxonomic databases of butterflies. His interests include insect photography, the history of entomology and of entomological illustration, and he has done some taxonomical work on Noctuidae (Lep.)



Jerome Sueur (°1972) is Assistant Professor at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris. He is interested in systematics and biomechanics. One part of his research focuses on the acoustic behaviour of insects with a particular attention to mechanical auditory processes of cicadas. He is developing a new method to assess and compare local biodiversity through acoustic analysis. He is the maintainer of seewave, an R package dedicated to sound analysis and synthesis.



José Templado (°1957) is a Researcher of the Spanish Research Council (CSIC) at the National Museum of Natural History of Madrid. He is mainly interested in reproductive biology, systematics and evolutionary diversification of marine gastropods. He has been involved in many fieldworks and oceanographic cruises. His scientific research resulted in over 110 scientific publications (including papers in scientific journals, books and chapters of books).



Conny Thiel-Egenter (°1976) is co-owner of FORNAT, a consulting company for nature conservation in Zurich, Switzerland. She is involved in projects on plant conservation, vegetation ecology and protected area management. During her PhD in the EU-project IntraBioDiv, she gained broad experience in floristics, plant biogeography and phylogeography. She has special interest in arctic-alpine flora and ecosystems.



Simon Tillier (°1950) is senior Professor at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris, and the leader of EDIT. He studied taxonomy and phylogeny of Molluscs and was the curator of land and freshwater molluscs at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle from 1976 to 1990. During this period he collected invertebrates in various regions of the world, particularly in New Caledonia, spending in total several years in fieldwork. From 1990 Simon Tillier turned to molecular systematics and phylogeny, and set up and directed the molecular systematics facility of the Museum. In parallel he got involved in organization of research in systematics at International, National and Museum levels.



Mathias Tobler (°1975) is a research ecologist in the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. He works with the Andes to Amazon Biodiversity Program on research and conservation in the Peruvian Amazon, with a focus on the ecology of Amazonian ungulates. He has a strong interest in developing new monitoring techniques and quantitative methods for data analysis. He is also involved in the development of new computer software tools for managing and analyzing large amounts of biodiversity data. He holds a Ph.D. in Wildlife Sciences from Texas A&M University.



Kees Van Achterberg (°1948) he made forty years ago his first Townes type Malaise traps to collect Braconidae (Hymenoptera). Both in Europe and SE Asia he experimented with modified designs of the traps and methods to prepare specimens from 70% alcohol. During the 2007 RMNH-IEBR expedition to S Vietnam he used 35 Malaise and Schacht traps simultaneously. He published 300+ papers and books on the taxonomy, phylogeny, biology and biogeography of Hymenoptera (Braconidae, Heloridae, Stephanidae, Ichneumonidae (Hybrizontinae), Pamphiliidae, Cephidae, Argidae and Thynnidae) and works currently as senior researcher at the National Museum of Natural History (Naturalis).



Didier VandenSpiegel (°1961) is employed by the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren (Belgium) where he is senior researcher in the Department of Zoology, section Invertebrates, non-insects. He also is the co-founder and one of the permanent editors of the capacity building journal *Abc Taxa*. He has research expertise in the taxonomy of echinoderms and millipedes.



Alain Vanderpoorten (°1974) graduated as a bioengineer and did his PhD at the faculty of agricultural sciences of Gembloux (Belgium). After several post-doctoral research programs on the phylogeny and evolution of aquatic bryophytes at Duke University (USA) and diversification of Proteaceae in the fynbos of South Africa at Rhodes University (RSA), he is now a research associate of the Belgian Funds for Scientific research. His research presently focuses on the evolution of island endemism in bryophytes.



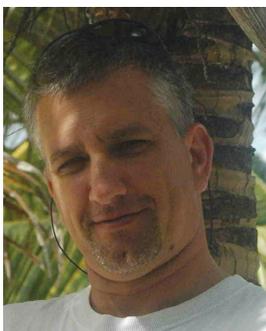
Jackie Van Goethem (°1943) is Honorary Head of the Department of Invertebrates at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels. He was responsible for the curation of a worldwide-recognised reference collection of molluscs and other invertebrates. He also was Belgium's National Focal Point to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the promoter of a major project funded by the Belgian Development Cooperation for capacity building in taxonomy and collection management for developing countries. He is the Executive Secretary of the King Leopold III Fund for Nature Exploration and Conservation which offers opportunities for biodiversity related fieldwork outside Europe. His research interests cover a.o. terrestrial snails and slugs from Europe, Africa and New Guinea.



Jose Luis Velasco (°1947) is a researcher at the Museo Nacional Ciencias Naturales (CSIC) in Madrid. He is a specialist in Rotifera.



Christian C. Voigt (°1966) is a Senior Research Scientist at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research and also a lecturer at the Humboldt University in Berlin (Germany). His main research interests are the behavior, ecology and physiology of mammals, in particular bats. He combines novel methodological approaches such as stable isotopes with conventional techniques such as behavioral observations or ecological surveys. His research focus has been in the New World with a strong focus on Central and South American bat assemblages, but recent projects have brought him in contact with the African continent as well.



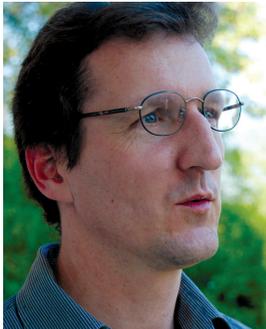
Lee Weigt (°1960) is the Head of the Smithsonian Institution's Laboratories of Analytical Biology (L.A.B.) at the National Museum of Natural History. Since 1985 he has managed and directed molecular laboratories at several major museums, research institutes and universities. His current efforts are focusing on bringing together cutting edge biotechnology and bioinformatics tools to the Smithsonian scientists studying biodiversity, and on sharing information amongst research efforts. His personal research interest surrounds recently diverged species and species complexes.



Kurt Weising (°1954) is full professor at the University of Kassel. His research is focused on the phylogenetic reconstruction and evolution of plants. Research projects cover intra specific as well as higher taxonomic ranks and use traditional taxonomic (anatomy, morphology, etc.) as well as DNA-based molecular methods (e.g. micro satellites, DNA sequencing).



Gudrun Wibbelt (°1971) is senior veterinary pathologist at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin (Germany). Her research focuses on pathology and infectious diseases of wildlife animals. She is particularly interested in diseases in bat species and is working on this subject since some years.



Thomas Wilhalm (°1965) is curator of Botany at the Museum of Nature South Tyrol in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy). He is interested in floristics and taxonomy (especially of alpine species and of Poaceae) and has acquired a broad experience in these topics during the project "Mapping the flora of South Tyrol" which he manages. Other activities include setting up herbarium BOZ, of a computerized database of floristic records and updating the Red List data of endangered vascular plants of South Tyrol. He is also involved in national and international projects concerning floristic mapping, molecular biogeography and taxonomy.



Friederike Woog (°1968) is curator of the bird collection at the State Museum for Natural History in Stuttgart, Germany. In 2003, she started a long-term study on site fidelity and biology of rainforest birds in Madagascar.



Holger Zetzsche (°1971) is a postdoctoral botanist at the Botanic Garden Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem and Germany. During the last 3 years he has been involved in the establishment of the DNA Bank Network. He is interested in long-term DNA storage, DNA based plant identification as well as systematics and evolutionary diversification of *Pulsatilla*. Although trained as a classical botanist he acquired a broad knowledge of molecular tools on various taxa of plants and algae.



Elke Zippel (°1968) is a researcher at the Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Germany and project manager for the National Seed Bank for Crop Wild Relatives in Germany. Her further interests include population genetics and phylogeography of rare plants in Central Europe, ecology and dynamics of bryophyte vegetation, as well as the flora and vegetation of the Canary Islands.

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