PEER Science Participants’ Conference

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Guest Speakers

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Biographical Sketch: Noelle Gracy is currently the Director of Community Engagement, responsible for Elsevier’s Academic Executive Advisory Boards, Library Advisory Boards, Scopus Content Selection Boards and their related local content selection boards. She is also responsible for developing the communication strategy of the marketing communications group. She spent several years as the regional marketing director for Northern Europe, where her team led more than 600 librarian and user trainings per year and developed events such as the UK Scopus Young Researcher Awards. She held publisher and executive publisher roles in the Elsevier journals publishing organization from 1999-2009. Dr. Gracy received her PhD in neuroscience from Cornell University Graduate School of Medical Sciences and completed her postdoctoral training at The Scripps Research Institute.

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Biographical Sketch: Simon Grimley is the regional representative for EURAXESS Links ASEAN, a network of European and international researchers, scientists, and scholars looking to strengthen research collaboration between Europe and Southeast Asia. Prior to joining the EURAXESS Links team, he was program director at Thailand’s National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) where his responsibilities included the European Union’s Seventh Framework for Research and Technological Development as well as bilateral programs with the United Kingdom, Germany, and France. He holds an MA from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, and a BA with honors from McGill University in Montreal. Before moving to Thailand, Simon had his own consultancy practice based in Singapore focused on North American technology start-ups seeking to expand into the Asian market. Services included the raising of venture funds, building sales and marketing teams, and market
expansion. From 2000 -2003 he was the Southeast Asia regional director for the Alberta Research Council (ARC), a contract R&D corporation headquartered in western Canada. His regional responsibilities included technology acquisition and development, generating a stream of revenues through the commercialization of ARC’s intellectual property, and the selling of contract R&D services.

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Biographical Sketch: Christa Hasenkopf is the 2013-2014 American Institute of Physics State Department Fellow and is working in the
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Biographical Sketch: Ravi Murugesan is an associate at the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP), an international development charity in the UK dedicated to putting research knowledge at the heart of development. His responsibilities are mainly related to the AuthorAID project, which supports developing country researchers in publishing their work by conducting training programs on research writing and publishing, awarding travel and workshop grants, and maintaining a website (authoraid.info) with an online mentoring scheme, instructive blog posts, and e-resources. Ravi joined INASP in March 2011 after working as an authors’ editor and teacher of scientific writing for researchers in East Asia. Since then, he has traveled to six of INASP’s partner countries in Africa and South Asia to conduct workshops on research writing or for capacity building in this area. Over the past year much of his work has been in e-learning, which he initiated at INASP. He has developed online courses on research writing and proposal writing and taught these courses to more than 160 researchers from 30 developing countries. Through his work and membership in science editing associations – the European Association of Science Editors (and in particular their Gender Policy Committee), the World Association of Medical Editors, and the Board of Editors in the Life Sciences – Ravi seeks to make researchers aware of guidelines, ethics, and best practices for communicating their work.

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Biographical Sketch: Richard Primack is a professor of biology at Boston University with research interests in plant ecology, conservation biology, climate change biology, and tropical rain forests. He has carried out extensive fieldwork in Southeast Asia, Central America and New Zealand. A special focus has been patterns of the tree diversity and the impacts of logging on the forests of Malaysian Borneo. For the past 12 years, he has led an investigation on the effects of a warming climate on the ecology of plants and birds in Massachusetts, with an emphasis on following up the observations of the famous environmental writer Henry David Thoreau made 160 years ago in Concord, Mass. He has served as the president of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, and is an honorary fellow of that society. He is currently serving as the editor-in-chief of the international journal Biological Conservation.

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Biographical Sketch: Geraldine (Geri) Richmond is a Presidential Chair and professor of chemistry at the University of Oregon. Her research using laser spectroscopy and computational methods focuses on understanding the chemistry and physics that occurs at complex interfaces that have relevance to important problems in energy production, environmental remediation and atmospheric chemistry. More than 190
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Biographical Sketch: Bernard Slippers is a professor in genetics at the University of Pretoria. He is a research leader of the Tree Protection Co-operative Programme and DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology at the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI). His research focus is on applied ecological and evolutionary genetics of insects and micro-organisms that affect tree health, including biological control systems. Bernard has published widely on these topics and has been recognized through a number of national and international awards. Bernard is a Young Affiliate of the Academy of Science of the Developing World (TWAS) and immediate past Co-Chair of the Global Young Academy.
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*Biographical Sketch:* Mary Thomas is a program officer in global health, discovery & translational sciences at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Mary is focused on the foundation’s efforts to reduce the incidence of low birth weight, early stunting and wasting in children, and prevent undernutrition in women of reproductive age living in developing countries. She also works on the Grand Challenges family of grant programs, which includes developing and managing early-stage discovery investments in the Grand Challenges Explorations program and launching programs that enable grantees to accelerate their ideas and inventions into sustainable solutions for the world’s poorest population. Prior to joining the foundation in 2012, Mary spent two years as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) fellow at the National Cancer Institute where she contributed to efforts in developing evidence-based policies and strategies in support of the National Cancer Program and in serving as a liaison with the Technology Transfer Center to communicate policies and potential partnering opportunities with external organizations. She also worked at the NIH Office of Autism Research Coordination, where her analysis of the Autism Spectrum Disorder research portfolio was included in a report issued by a high-profile federal advisory committee. Mary holds a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois and has published numerous articles in gene regulation & molecular mechanisms related to cancer. Mary was a Howard Hughes Postdoctoral Research Fellow at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and a Christine Mirzayan Science & Technology Policy Fellow at the National Academies.

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Biographical Sketch: Maria Carmen Ablan-Lagman is an associate professor in the biology department of De La Salle University. She is also a member of the Centre for Natural Science and Environment Research (CENSER). She started her career working on the physiology and genetics of giant clams for her MSc and genetic connectivity and adaptation of reef fish for her PhD at the University of the Philippines while working with experts and at laboratories in Australia, Japan, the U.S., Thailand and Malaysia. She had held research positions at the UP Marine Science Institute and the International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management in Manila and the WorldFish Center in Malaysia before moving to De La Salle University in 2007. Her interests are in the study of genetic diversity and population structure of marine organisms and their implications to the management of reefs and associated fisheries in both the Philippines and across the Asia and Pacific region since 1997 as either project lead or as a co-proponent to a project. She has also been involved in genetic characterization, parentage analysis and breeding studies of giant clams and Tilapia. In 2011-12 she began to work with characterization of populations using markers developed from genomes and transcriptomes with the NSF-PEER funded PhilFishConnect project. Her work has increasingly moved towards studying the genetics of adaptation. She continues to work the challenges and directions of using very fine scale genomics and transcriptomics approaches to study patterns and processes in mega-diverse coral reefs threatened by climate change, pollution and sedimentation.

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*Biographical Sketch:* Gusti Z. Anshari chairs the Center for Wetlands People and Biodiversity (CWPB), and is the department head of postgraduate studies on environment at Tanjungpura University. He received his PhD from Monash University, Australia in 2000, his master’s degree in environmental studies from Dalhousie University, Canada in 1995, and his BA in agriculture from Tanjungpura University in 1987. His research activities center on wetland changes and sustainability of wetland uses. He has taught wetland ecology, specializing in tropical peats, since 2000. He is part of the Peatland Working Group in Roundtable Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), and currently is lead author on a supplement to the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands*, which will be published in early 2014.

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Biographical Sketch: Dr. Kent E. Carpenter is a professor of biological sciences at Old Dominion University. He earned his PhD in zoology from the University of Hawaii and his BS in marine biology from Florida Institute of Technology primarily. He is interested in marine conservation biology, the systematics and evolution of marine fishes, and marine biogeography. His research in marine conservation biology centers on the assessment of extinction risk using the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List Criteria. His marine biogeographic interests concentrate on the origins of biodiversity in the Indo-West Pacific, with a special interest in the Philippines and the wider Coral Triangle. This has led to studies in comparative marine phylogeography and an NSF-funded Partnerships for International Research and Education project.

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Ashish Rao Ghorpade is a senior manager for the South Asia division of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). He serves as coordinator of urban ecomobility and green buildings-related initiatives. He previously was the project manager for Asian Cities Adapt and the project “Integrating urban climate guidelines through clean technologies (RE & EE) at the state and city level to build sustainable low carbon cities.” He managed the Urban Climate Project funded by the U.S. State Department through the Asia Pacific Partnership. Previously, he was a program manager and project manager with Infrastructure Professionals Enterprise Pvt Ltd. There, he managed the Bhutan National Urbanization Strategy and Thimphu City Development Plan in Bhutan to support the Royal Government’s vision of fostering a balanced and well-governed system of local governments, and developing a strategy for national urban development.

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*Biographical Sketch:* Dr. Nguyen Tri Quang Hung is currently heads the environmental engineering department at Nong Lam University. His expertise at Nong Lam University is in air pollution monitoring, assessment and management. He received his PhD in energy and environment at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology in 2011. His PhD research dealt with black carbon in Asian megacities including Bangkok and Seoul. He received his MEng in environmental technology and management from the Asia Institute of Technology in Thailand, and his BEng from the University of Technology in Ho Chi Minh City. During his years abroad, he participated in ten projects focusing on aerosol and other air pollutants in megacities including ultrafine particles and black carbon. At Nong Lam University, Dr. Hung has published two peer-reviewed papers in international referred journals. He presented at the Advanced Training Workshop on Southeast Asia Regional Climate Change and Health Issues in 2009, and at the 17th meeting of the Japan Association for Environmental Chemistry in 2008.
**Biographical Sketch:** Hoang Duc Huy is a lecturer in the department of biology at the University of Science, Ho Chi Minh City. He teaches evolution - biodiversity, aquatic entomology and conservation biology. He enjoys fieldwork with students in Langbiang Plateau, where they have been building community-based learning programs for local students using active teaching and service learning. He now has conducted the projects on documenting the biodiversity of amphibian, fish and aquatic insects in the Mekong tributaries in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. He is under contract with the National Foundation for Science & Technology Development to expedite fieldwork and outreach to document indigenous wildlife resources and monitoring the quality of streams. He holds a PhD and an MSc in ecology and evolution from Seoul Women’s University, Korea. He received his BSc degree in animal physiology from University of Science Ho Chi Minh City. Since 1999, he has worked as a wildlife conservation instructor for universities, national parks and nature reserves in the Central Highland of Vietnam. His work there has led to nine scientific projects, with four as principal investigator. His research group has published numerous papers on Vietnamese herpetofauna and wildlife biodiversity. He also supervises for graduate students in wildlife and watershed conservation. His group made international news in 2011 with the discovery of the vampire tree frog *Rhacophorus vampyrus* and for the first recorded sighting of the rare turtle species *Cuora picturata* in the wild.

**Biographical Sketch:** Ausraful Islam is a research investigator in zoonotic diseases at the International Centre for Diarrheal Diseases Research, Bangladesh. His responsibilities there include developing research protocols, managing and leading office staff and field team members, collaborating with government and other organizations and writing manuscripts. He is involved in research projects that primarily focus on wild animals, such as surveillance of Nipah virus among bats and other animals, surveillance of avian influenza among wild and domestic birds and
surveillance of new pathogens among rodents, carnivores and bats. He received his doctorate in veterinary medicine and his master’s degree from Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh. He previously received his master’s in public health from American International University of Bangladesh. Dr. Islam has identified Salmonella Virchow among Pteropus giganteus fruit bats which had previously never been reported. He presented findings at the 61st American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Annual Meeting and at the 2012 International Conference on Emerging Infectious Disease.

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*Biographical Sketch:* Krushnamegh Kunte is with the National Center for Biological Sciences in Bangalore, India. He joined the faculty as a Ramanujan Fellow, and his research centers on the evolution and organization of biological diversity with a special focus on speciation and morphological diversification in butterflies and cicadas. After receiving his PhD in integrative biology from the University of Texas in 2008, he became a post-doctoral research fellow at Harvard. In 1999, shortly after receiving his master’s
degree in wildlife sciences from the Wildlife Institute of India, he was commissioned by the Indian Academy of Sciences to write a book on peninsular Indian butterflies. Before receiving his bachelor’s degree in botany from the University of Pune, he spent a year in the Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary in southern India studying large mammals.

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arsenic from contaminated groundwater in rural areas. She and her research group have been involved in several collaborative projects with senior scientists from the U.S., Germany, and Switzerland. Findings from these collaborations have been published in Nature, Environmental Science & Technology, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. She received a master’s degree in analytical chemistry in 2005 from Hanoi University of Science and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 2002.

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Bank on projects relating to particulate matter pollution in Ulaanbaatar. Currently, Prof. Lodoysamba is the PI for the PEER project “Determining Sources and Health Impacts of Particulate Matter in Ulaanbaatar City to Aid and Assess Current Air Pollution Mitigation Efforts” at the National University of Mongolia. Prof. Lodoysamba and colleagues have recently launched the first air quality instrument in Mongolia that shares important air quality data via social media to the public.

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implement problem-based learning (PBL) in the classroom after he attended a PBL workshop given by the late Prof. Don Woods of McMaster University in 2000. Since then, he has conducted workshops on PBL in several Indonesian universities. USAID is now sponsoring Dr. Mulia and his co-PI, Dr. Elsa Krisanti, to facilitate more Indonesian STEM educators to implement PBL through a PBL PEER project. Besides working on PBL, he is also doing research on extraction of bioactive compounds from plants and on controlled release of these compounds from chitosan macroparticles.

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at the Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology and as research assistant at the University of the Philippines-Marine Science Institute. At Haribon, she has led various research projects including the documentation of MPAs in the Philippines which led to the formation of the national alliance of community-based MPA managers; alternative to cyanide use in collecting marine ornamental fishes; as well as the biology and trade of seahorses, seamoths and sea cucumbers.

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*Biographical Sketch:* Made Pharmawati received her PhD in plant biology in 2006. Her field of study was in plant diversity using DNA markers. As a lecturer at Udayana University, Bali, she has taught several courses related to plant genetics and molecular biology. She supervises undergraduate and postgraduate students in the field of plant genetics. She has also done research related to plant genetics diversity and breeding. She has done studies on the modification of garden balsam (*Impatiens balsamina* L) by caffeine; the development of fingerprinting key of salak bali cultivars; mutagenesis of *Capsicum annuum* using EMS; DNA fingerprinting of endemic plants in the Batukahu reserve area; and genetic diversity of seagrass in South Bali coastal areas. She has published in the *Annals of Botany, Theoretical and Applied Genetics* and the *Hayati Journal of Biosciences*. She received her MSc at Deakin University in Australia in 1999, and her BSc at Bogor Agricultural University in 1992.

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**Biographical Sketch:** Frida Sidik is with the Agency for Marine and Fishery Research, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia (MMAF). She has developed marine research programs and strengthened research capacities for MMAF. She is in her last year of PhD study in the Marine Science at the University of Queensland, Australia. She holds an MS in ecosystem analysis and governance from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom, and has a BS from the University of Sydney, Australia. The focus of her research is mangrove ecology and mangrove adaptation on climate change and anthropogenic stress. In marine conservation, her works include marine protected area (MPA) planning, coastal resource management and monitoring, and marine education for students. She has presented her research on mangrove and marine conservation at international conference meetings and workshops. Recently, she has published her research on the CO₂ emission from shrimp ponds in the international publication *PLoS ONE*.

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**Biographical Sketch:** Chander Kumar Singh is an assistant professor at TERI University in New Delhi. He received his MPhil and PhD degrees from School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and earned both his master’s degree in analytical chemistry and bachelor’s in chemistry from Banaras Hindu University. He has been working on a holistic approach for effective and efficient water management issues spreading across different geographies of rural India. His current research focuses on reducing population exposure to geogenic water contaminants. In collaboration with Columbia University, he has initiated a complementary behavioral and socio-economic study on reducing poisoning by arsenic in tube well water in Bihar, one of the most arsenic-affected states in India. Dr. Singh’s approach for exposure reduction to contaminants such as arsenic and fluoride in rural settings is based on the widespread use of field kits by villagers and non-
specialists, particularly in developing countries such as India. He has been recipient of the Young Scientist Award by International Union of Geological Sciences.

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Biographical Sketch: For more than a decade, Surata has been working with regional communities to implement environmental education and agricultural outcomes and to enact change. His research has shown that the key to sustainable and ethical uptake of research outcomes in education and agricultural ecology is to simultaneously harness community capacity via a new model of community development, while at the same time instigating a strategic whole-of-life education approach through teacher training programs which not only educate the adult teachers-to-be, but also influence the leaders of the future. In addition to his research record with national competitive grants, he has added considerable value to, and impacted strongly on, international partnerships and research in the U.S. and Australia. This includes work with Professor Stephen Lansing (University of Arizona), Professor Ian Falk (Charles Darwin University) and with Kevin Thompson (University of Florida). In recent years Surata has refined the focus of his research and application in rice fields and Subak to account for the importance he found of multi- and cross-disciplinary research in achieving sustainable uptake of research outcomes. Since 2008 he has conducted action research with his classes in the Mahasaraswati Denpasar University, where he is in charge of teacher training. This is designed to increase students’ environmental awareness and strategies for sustainable education based on Subak as a model.
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**Biographical Sketch:** Abdul-Hamid Toha is an associate professor in the Department of Fishery at the State University of Papua (UNIPA). He has been a lecturer there since 1998, and previously served as a lecturer at Dayanu Ikhsanuddin in Buton. He graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology with an MS in chemistry in 1998. He earned his BA in aquatic resources management from Sam Ratulangi University at Manado-North Celebes in 1993. He is currently studying for his PhD in biology at Bawijaya University. His research interests are in conservation genetics, with the goal of understanding patterns of connectivity among marine ecosystems and patterns of genetic variation in natural populations. He is
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