

LE STUDIUM

CONFERENCES

VIRTUAL MEETING | 20-21 JANUARY 2021

ABSTRACTS

Managing riverscapes and flow regimes for biocultural diversity

CONVENORS

Dr Rebecca Tharme

LE STUDIUM / MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE RESEARCH FELLOW

FROM: Riverfutures Limited - UK

IN RESIDENCE AT: Cltés, TERritoires, Environnement et Sociétés (CITERES) / CNRS, University of Tours - FR

Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen

UNESCO Chair Fleuves et Patrimoine / River Culture

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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Sophie Gabillet, General Secretary

Dr Aurélien Montagu, Scientific Relations Manager

Maurine Villiers, Events Projects Officer

LE STUDIUM Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies • Région Centre-Val de Loire • FR

Created in 1996 on the CNRS campus in Orleans La Source, LE STUDIUM has evolved to become a multidisciplinary Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS), operating in the region Centre-Val de Loire of France. LE STUDIUM has its headquarters in the city centre of Orleans in a newly renovated 17th century building. The amazing facilities are shared with the University of Orleans. In 2014 new developments and programmes linked to the smart specialisation of the Centre-Val de Loire region came to strengthen existing IAS cooperative relationships with the local and the international community of researchers, developers and innovators.

LE STUDIUM IAS offers to internationally competitive senior research scientists the opportunity to discover and work in one of the IAS's affiliate laboratories from the University of Tours, the University of Orleans, National Institute of Applied Sciences (INSA) Centre Val de Loire and ESAD Orléans, as well as of nationally accredited research institutions located in the region Centre-Val de Loire (BRGM, CEA, CNRS, INSERM, INRA, IRSTEA). Our goal is to develop and nurture trans-disciplinary approaches as innovative tools for addressing some of the key scientific, socio-economic and cultural questions of the 21st century. We also encourage researchers' interactions with industry via the IAS's links with Poles of Competitiveness, Clusters, Technopoles, and Chambers of Commerce etc.

LE STUDIUM has attracted over two hundred and twenty LE STUDIUM RESEARCH FELLOWS and LE STUDIUM RESEARCH PROFESSORS for long term residencies. In addition to the contribution in their host laboratories, researchers are required to participate in the scientific life of the IAS through attendance at monthly interdisciplinary meetings called LE STUDIUM THURSDAYS and gathering members of the regional scientific community and industries.

For the period 2015-2021, LE STUDIUM operates with an additional award from the European Commission in the framework of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) with the programme MSCA-COFUND for the mobility of experienced researchers. LE STUDIUM is also the official partner of the

Ambition Research and Development 2020 (ARD 2020) initiated by the Region Centre-Val de Loire, that supports the specialisation strategy around 5 main axes: biopharmaceuticals, renewable energies, cosmetics, environmental metrology and natural and cultural heritage.

Researchers are also invited and supported by the IAS to organise, during their residency and in collaboration with their host laboratory, a two-day LE STUDIUM CONFERENCE. It provides them with the opportunity to invite internationally renowned researchers to a cross-disciplinary conference, on a topical issue, to examine progress, discuss future studies and strategies to stimulate advances and practical applications in the chosen field. The invited participants are expected to attend for the duration of the conference and contribute to the intellectual exchange. Past experience has shown that these conditions facilitate the development or extension of existing collaborations and enable the creation of productive new research networks.

The present LE STUDIUM CONFERENCE named is "*Managing riverscapes and flow regimes for biocultural diversity*" the 108th in a series started at the end of 2010 listed at the end of this booklet.

We thank you for your participation and wish you an interesting and intellectually stimulating conference. Also, we hope that scientific exchanges and interactions taking place during this conference will bring opportunities to start a productive professional relationship with presenting research laboratories and LE STUDIUM Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies.

Yves-Michel GINOT

Chairman
LE STUDIUM

INTRODUCTION

For millennia, people have been part of nature in riverscapes, coevolving with the living river systems that are the hearts of these environments. As well as being biologically diverse and resilient ecosystems, the world's rivers have been paths for the evolution and adaptation of the cultural identity, material and spiritual wellbeing, and security of human civilizations. River flows continue to connect people, places, and wildlife today, inspiring and sustaining a myriad beliefs, values, services, and lifeways.

The workshop will convene thought leaders, researchers, and practitioners working on different aspects of the conservation and management of biological and cultural diversity in river basins. They will explore the interlinkages between nature and culture in the context of the parallel global biological and cultural diversity crises, in particular focusing on river flow regulation and fragmentation with water infrastructure development.

Participants will share case studies, experiences, and insights with one another in a virtual informal setting, continuing to expand the global knowledge base. They will use this exchange to help lay out some of the elements of a high potential, policy relevant research agenda with global reach, to more effectively manage riverscapes and flow regimes for biocultural diversity. They will also identify promising opportunities to put key elements of this agenda into practice during the 2021-2030 UN decade on ecosystem restoration, including the partnerships, projects, and mechanisms needed.

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 20TH JANUARY 2021

11:00 Official Opening

Dr Aurélien Montagu: Scientific Relations Manager, LE STUDIUM, Loire Valley Institute for Advanced Studies - France

11:15 Dr Rebecca Tharme & Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen - Conference format, context, aims and objectives

11:30 Round of participant introductions

12:00 Prof. Angela Arthington - Progress with environmental flows to maintain healthy rivers and healthy societies

12:30 Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen - Development(s) of the River Culture Concept

13:00 Q&A session and open chat

13:30 Lunch

14:00 Dr Simone Langhans - Weaving together plural values in freshwater management: a case study of the Upper Clutha Catchment in Aotearoa New Zealand

14:30 Dr Fengzhi He & Dr Rebecca Tharme - Freshwater megafauna: diversity, status, and cultural importance

15:00 Dr Wendy Monk & Prof. André St-Hilaire - Adapting social-cultural-environmental flows for cold regions.

15:30 Prof. Sonja Jähnig - Living Water: A Research Agenda on Freshwater Biodiversity

16:00 Dr Nathalie Richards - From the Mau Forest to Lake Victoria: The Journey of the Mara River in East Africa

16:30 Dialogue session on opportunities (1). Roundtable on key research strategies, projects, and partnerships

17:30 End of the 1st conference day

THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY 2021

13:00 Dr Erin O'Donnell - Reshaping the human relationship with water: what happens when a river becomes a person?

13:30 Dr Avril Horne - Participatory environmental flows assessments

14:00 Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen - Recap of Session 1 and objectives

14:15 Introductions and open discussion

14:30 Dave Pritchard - Action for culture and the water environment through the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

15:00 Nupur Prothi Khanna - Cultural landscapes of Water systems in Asia

15:30 Discussion (2) to map future policy and research directions

16:00 Prof. Tim Jardine - Canada's freshwater deltas as complex and vulnerable social-ecological systems.

16:30 Dr Tim Badman - Natureculture approaches in the World Heritage Convention, and beyond.

17:00 Discussion (3) on key initiatives and partnerships, and next steps

18:00 Dr Rebecca Tharme & Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen - Final remarks, thanks, and workshop close.

18:15 Close

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CONVENORS



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Rebecca works with diverse partners to develop policy appropriate technical solutions, and the capacity to implement them, to meet challenges in natural resources management. As an independent consultant, she has over 25 years experience collaborating in multicultural, interdisciplinary initiatives across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. Rebecca serves on the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Freshwater Conservation Committee and is an Adjunct Principal Research Fellow of the Australian Rivers Institute. She is interested in exploring ways to advance the policy, science and practice of environmental water management, through innovative bridging of sociocultural and ecohydrological boundaries. Rebecca recently completed a LE STUDIUM fellowship at the University of Tours in France.

Riverscapes and Lifeways - Biocultural Diversity and River Flow Management

For millennia, people have inhabited riverscapes, coevolving with the living rivers that are the very hearts of these dynamic landscapes. The world's river ecosystems have been vital and formative paths for the adaptation, cultural identity, and material and spiritual wellbeing of human civilizations, as well as sustaining our precious biological diversity. River flow regimes continue to intimately connect people, places and wildlife today, inspiring and sustaining diverse cultural beliefs, values, goods and services, and fundamental ways of life.

I will set the stage for us to explore the interlinked diversity of river nature and culture, particularly in the context of the global biocultural diversity crisis - in large part, a consequence of the flow regulation and fragmentation impacts of infrastructure development. I will touch upon new frontiers in environmental flow management and conservation that are already enriching our transdisciplinary knowledge and understanding of the interrelationships between healthy rivers and dependent peoples. I hope that this will help us to continue to share our collective insights, actions and approaches, in the hopes of identifying some key avenues for research and collaboration that hold the promise of more sustainably managed rivers in the future.



Prof. Karl Matthias Wantzen

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Professor Wantzen is interested in all kind of aquatic ecosystems, mostly on river-floodplain systems and their invertebrate inhabitants, and ... humans. Basic research ia. on the hyporheos of the Rhine River, environmental impacts of agriculture on streams, stable isotope analysis of foodwebs, plant secondary compound effects on organic matter processing, invasive invertebrates. Applied studies on biomonitoring and restoration in erosion-prone streams, carbon storage, sustainable management of river-floodplain-systems using traditional ecological knowledge, rare species conservation, and urban hydrosystem restoration. Concept development on stream ecology, the Flood Pulse Concept in streams, rivers, and lakes, and the River Culture Concept (2016) on human-river relationships worldwide.

Development(s) of the River Culture Concept

Rivers give rhythm to all life in their catchments. Floods and droughts trigger both, etho-physiological adaptations by biota, resulting in biodiversity, and one species, *H. sapiens*, resulting in cultural diversity. The River Culture Concept (2016) takes an attempt to re-establish harmony between humans and rivers. The five tenets of the concept include, (i) reconsidering priorities on the use of riverine assets, (ii) integrating the natural flow regime into river management, (iii) rediscovering traditional ecological knowledge (and by no means all ancient use forms), (iv) copying natural adaptive strategies ("ecosystem bionics"), and (v) a territorial reorganization, making the catchment the central administrative unit ("bassin de responsabilité"). Practical steps focus on human-river-relationships including (i) a typology of their expressions (e.g., spiritual, religious, utilitaristic, medical), (ii) a temporal and causal analysis of the ruptures, (iii) an appreciation of still-existing, newly developed, or transformed River Culture Actions that help to manage river better, (iv) specific case studies along a gradient from more traditional to highly modernized cultures (focus on urban systems), (v) transfer and transformation studies how this knowledge can be integrated and distributed to manage rivers better. This is documented in a series of papers, PhD studies and the recent book "River Culture – Life in the rhythm of the waters" (UNESCO Publishing, 2nd half of 2021).

SPEAKERS



Prof. Angela H. Arthington

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Angela established a research team working on river fish communities and flow regimes in Queensland's coastal rivers in the early 1990s. She and colleagues from South Africa initiated the concept of holistic ecosystem frameworks for assessment of environmental flows (e-flows) to support riverine ecosystems. In 2012 Angela published 'Environmental Flows: Saving Rivers in the Third Millennium' (University of California Press). She later led a global team to produce 'The Brisbane Declaration and Global Action Agenda on Environmental Flows (2018)' [<https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2018.00045>], an updated blueprint and action agenda to protect and restore the water regimes and biodiversity of freshwater ecosystems, and the human societies and livelihoods dependent on healthy aquatic ecosystems.

Progress with environmental flows to maintain healthy rivers and healthy societies

The science and practical applications of environmental flows (e-flows) have advanced rapidly since the early 1980s. E-flows serve as a means to protect the flow regimes and ecosystems of undeveloped rivers, and conversely, as a means to restore the flow regimes and ecological health of regulated rivers. From simple beginnings in the form of 'minimum flows' to ensure adequate aquatic habitat for fish, the e-flows concept has expanded to embrace the water requirements of rivers and other aquatic habitats as ecosystems. "Holistic" ecosystem methods aim to devise a flow regime that will maintain habitat, dispersal and reproductive requirements of multiple taxa, and ecological processes, from river reach to basin scale, and more recently, to multiple basins at regional scale (e.g. the ELOHA framework). The presentation will describe recent efforts to promote e-flows for rivers as vital to human livelihoods and well-being, globally. I will briefly describe 'The Brisbane Declaration and Global Action Agenda on Environmental Flows (2018)' [<https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2018.00045>], a renewed call for concerted action to achieve beneficial outcomes from environmental flows and wise freshwater management for people, biodiversity and ecosystems. I will show how this Declaration is being received globally, and who is using it (e.g. FAO, WWF, IUCN) in recent policy developments (e.g. SDGs, Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework).



Dr Tim Badman

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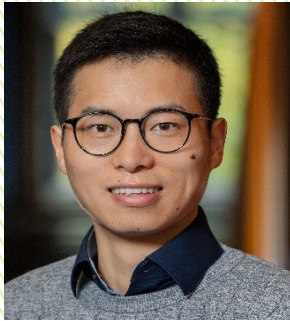
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Tim Badman is Director of IUCN's World Heritage Programme. He has been senior IUCN spokesperson on World Heritage, chair of the IUCN World Heritage Panel and Head of IUCN's delegation at World Heritage Committee meetings since 2007. As of April 2019, Tim leads IUCN's Nature Culture Initiative, developing closer links between the Nature and Culture sectors, including through the World Heritage Leadership Programme jointly run by ICCROM and IUCN with support from Norway.

Tim joined IUCN having worked as team leader of the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site, UK. This role culminated in inscription of the site on the World Heritage List in 2001, and the subsequent development of the World Heritage programme on-site. Tim also speaks for IUCN on the special challenges of conserving geological sites, including those sites that protect the most exceptional fossil remains of life on Earth.

Natureculture approaches in the World Heritage Convention, and beyond

This paper will provide a review of work being undertaken to bring together the consideration of nature and culture in policies, programmes and practices of the World Heritage Convention, and a linked series of renewed collaborations and new relationships between the nature and culture sectors. These include the integrated nature-culture programmes Connecting Practice, and World Heritage Leadership, and the Culture Nature Journey promoted through the major Congresses of IUCN and General Assemblies of ICOMOS. The paper will review some of the emerging opportunities to scale up the attention to connecting nature and culture going forward.



Dr Fengzhi He

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I am a postdoctoral researcher at the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) in Berlin. I conducted my master's program at the Institute of Hydrobiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 2019, I received a joint PhD degree from Freie Universität Berlin and Queen Mary University of London. My research focuses on diversity patterns of riverine species and anthropogenic impacts on freshwater ecosystems, with an emphasis on ecological roles of freshwater megafauna species and their potential in functioning as flagship and umbrella species to improve freshwater conservation. I am also interested in interactions and cultural links between people and freshwater megafauna.

Freshwater megafauna: diversity, status, and cultural importance

Megafauna species play important ecological roles. Owing to their intrinsic characteristics such as large habitat requirements, long lifespan, and late maturity they are particularly susceptible to extinction. Freshwater megafauna species, i.e. freshwater animals that can reach a body mass of 30 kg or more, are also vulnerable to anthropogenic impacts. There are intense and growing threats such as overexploitation, dam construction, habitat degradation, pollution, and biological invasions in diversity hotspots of freshwater megafauna including the Amazon, Congo, Mekong, and Ganges-Brahmaputra river basins. Consequently, half of all assessed species are considered as threatened on the IUCN Red List. Global populations of freshwater megafauna declined by 88% from 1970 to 2012. Their geographic distributions have also changed profoundly. In Europe, distribution ranges of 42% of all freshwater megafauna species have contracted by more than 40% of their historical distributions. Given that freshwater megafauna share similar threats with overall freshwater biodiversity and often have large area requirement, they hold the potential to function as flagship and umbrella species. In addition, many freshwater megafauna species have important cultural values to local communities. Hence, a megafauna-based approach could be a promising strategy to promote freshwater biodiversity conservation benefiting a broad range of co-occurring species.



Dr Avril Horne

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Avril is a water policy specialist, with a rare combination of experience across economics, hydrology and policy. With twenty years' experience across a range of interdisciplinary projects, she has spent time in consulting, government and academia. Avril returned to academia in 2014, and has managed a number of large multidisciplinary research projects developing tools and systems to assist efficient and adaptive environmental water management; allocation mechanisms and institutional arrangements for environmental water; stakeholder led vulnerability assessments across sectors and reallocation policies between sectors.

Participatory environmental flows assessments

Several of the key challenges to implementing environmental flows are related to the social and political context of environmental flows projects. These include community acceptance and buy in, political will and legislation, as well as effective stakeholder engagement. Despite this, in many countries there remains a delineation between environmental and social outcomes, and the process to determine environmental flows requirements remains a predominantly technocratic approach placing a large emphasis on scientific understandings of rivers.

Using the Goulburn River, Victoria, Australia as a case study, this presentation will discuss the design of a participatory approach to bring together scientists, community and government in an environmental flows assessment. There were benefits in the legitimacy for environmental flows in the river, but also significant changes in the scope and objectives for the flows. However, the project also highlighted some notable challenges for this approach, including the legislative definition of environmental flows, the mandated timelines, and the perception of the science community in their role.



Prof. Sonja Jähnig

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Dr. Jähnig has been a research group leader at IGB since 2014 and has been appointed Professor of Aquatic Ecogeography at HU in 2020. After completing her doctorate at the University of Duisburg-Essen, she did a Postdoc at the Hydrobiological Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Wuhan and at the Senckenberg Research Institute in Frankfurt. Her research focuses on global change impacts in river ecosystems, combining hydrology, community ecology, conservation, and ecological and habitat modelling approaches. The scope of analyses range from river reaches, catchments, to continental networks, to global scale impacts, analyzing different organism groups from invertebrates to fish to freshwater megafauna.

Living Water: A Research Agenda on Freshwater Biodiversity

Fresh waters including their floodplains represent a global hotspot of biological diversity. They are also among the most threatened ecosystems on Earth, yet receive much less attention than terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Due to the multitude of human pressures, more comprehensive approaches to protect freshwater biodiversity must be urgently developed and implemented. Biodiversity research is called upon to provide workable approaches, appropriate methods and detailed information supporting more efficient conservation. As a group of over 100 researchers representing a diversity of expertise in freshwater biodiversity research across the globe, we have outlined 15 priority topics grouped into five major research areas, based on a structured consultation in 2020: (1) data infrastructure, (2) monitoring; (3) ecological research; (4) socio-ecological research, and (5) management.



Dr Tim Jardine

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Tim Jardine is an Associate Professor in the Toxicology Centre and the School of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan, and a Fellow of the Canadian Rivers Institute. His research seeks to understand how natural flow regimes affect the transfer of energy and contaminants through food webs and the implications of human modifications to these regimes. Much of his work is situated in large rivers and their floodplains, and he works with local communities to understand long-term changes to environments and livelihoods.

Canada's freshwater deltas as complex and vulnerable social-ecological systems

In north-western Canada, glacial retreat left behind large lakes that led to the development of three massive freshwater deltas (Peace-Athabasca, Slave and Saskatchewan). The productivity of these delta floodplains drew both wildlife and humans, leading to strong cultural connections to the landscape and economic opportunities through the fur trade, fisheries and guiding. But throughout the 20th century, upstream water resource development coupled with oil and gas exploration has altered the quantity and quality of water entering the deltas, affecting plant and animal populations, livelihoods, health and social relations. In this presentation, I will offer an overview of the challenges facing these deltas and how a transdisciplinary approach has shed light on problems and potential solutions for these special places.



Dr Simone Langhans

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Dr Simone Langhans grew up in Switzerland, where she received a PhD in freshwater ecology. After her PhD she led a large team of practitioners to set quality targets and develop monitoring protocols for Swiss rivers. This position introduced her to the societal challenges around solving complex decisions in freshwater conservation and management, which since then has formed the backbone of her research. Simone has led research projects in Switzerland, Australia, Germany, New Zealand and Spain, using different approaches to tackle freshwater management problems. For the past two years she has been based at the University of Otago, supported through a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship from the European Commission. Simone is currently in Bilbao (Spain) spending the last year of her fellowship at the Basque Centre for Climate Change.

Weaving together plural values in freshwater management: a case study of the Upper Clutha catchment in Aotearoa New Zealand

Public participation is an effective way to resolve the tensions between contested objectives, while maintaining ecological integrity. New Zealand is one of the few countries that takes a collaborative approach to environmental management, mandating that management plans for catchments are co-created with local communities based on the concept te Mana o te Wai. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) gives guidelines on objectives and attributes that must be considered to safeguard freshwater values. They also specify minimum quality standards, but allow communities to set higher standards and to add more objectives. A critical challenge in this process is to successfully account for potentially conflicting objectives in a framework that supports decision-making. Little guidance on this is provided in the NPS-FM, which leaves the challenge to the Regional Councils to overcome. In my talk I present a participatory decision support framework based on multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) that allows the weaving together of different values, objectives and, therefore, different ways of knowing. I illustrate how we implemented the MCDA-framework to develop a catchment management plan for the Upper Clutha catchment in Central Otago. Finally, I talk about what lessons we have learnt that help foster the successful application of the MCDA-framework in other catchments across New Zealand, and worldwide in decision-making situations that want to be inclusive.



Dr Wendy Monk

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Wendy Monk is a Research Scientist with Environment and Climate Change Canada, Visiting Research Professor with the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management at the University of New Brunswick, and a Fellow of the Canadian Rivers Institute. Building on her strong interdisciplinary research background, Dr. Monk's research focuses on the spatial and temporal integration of ecology and hydrology patterns, and how we can use this knowledge to better understand and manage our freshwater ecosystems. Her primary research explores the application of environmental flows through the integration of social-cultural and environmental components. Recent research and collaborations include developing tools to support environmental flow methods (including a national hydrological regime classification and targeted flow stressor-specific diagnostic indices) and adapting environmental flows frameworks for freshwater ecosystems within cold regions.

Adapting social-cultural-environmental flows for cold regions (in partnership with Prof. André St-Hilaire)

In northern regions, many rivers remain ice-covered for a period of three to six months and have two distinct low flow periods: mid-winter and mid to late summer. Societal water demands are highly seasonal, for example with peaks in demand being associated with summer agricultural activities in many regions, and access and navigation of systems with complex seasonal wetting/drying of deltaic environments. We have divided our talk into two parts to explore environmental flows in cold regions; the first half explores applications in eastern Canada where most jurisdictions are still using prescriptions of minimum discharge as environmental flows. We compared the most commonly used metrics on over fifty rivers in the southern part of the province of Québec and showed that a "one size fits all" approach is not optimal for this region. In order to provide insight to a broader community of stakeholders and include indirect information on fish habitat and the ecological health of the river, two additional variables are being considered: the wetted perimeter and river temperature. The second half presents components from two holistic application case studies from Canada: the Wolastoq (St. John River, New Brunswick) and the Peace-Athabasca Delta (Alberta) with a focus on the key social and cultural components of these cold region environmental flows frameworks.



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Erin is a water law and policy specialist, and has worked in water resource management since 2002. Erin is recognized internationally for her research into the groundbreaking new field of legal rights for rivers, and the challenges and opportunities these new rights create for protecting the multiple social, cultural and natural values of rivers. Her work is informed by comparative analysis across Australia, New Zealand, the USA, India, Colombia, and Chile. Erin's PhD examined the role of environmental water managers in Australia and the USA in delivering efficient, effective and legitimate environmental water outcomes in the context of transferable water rights and water markets. In 2018, Erin was appointed to the inaugural Birrarung Council, the voice of the Yarra River.

Reshaping the human relationship with water: what happens when a river becomes a person?

Globally, the status of rivers in law is changing rapidly, as rivers themselves are beginning to receive legal rights. This growing transnational movement accelerated in 2017 with the recognition of rivers in Aotearoa New Zealand, Colombia and India as legal persons. In Aotearoa New Zealand, this recognition was a way to incorporate the Māori cosmology into settler state law. In Colombia and India, the new status of the river was the result of deep judicial concern for both the health of the river and the people who live along and depend upon it. For the Río Atrato in Colombia, becoming the subject of rights was a way for the court to protect the biocultural values, and the relationship between the river and the people. This connection between the health of the river and the health of people has been central to the ongoing recognition of rivers and lakes as rights holders, legal and living persons in India, Colombia, Bangladesh, Australia, the USA, and Mexico. However, legal personhood does not necessarily result in improved environmental outcomes. In Aotearoa, Māori describe the process as one of 'generational change'. In India and the USA, the backlash against riverine rights has been immediate and severe, sometimes fracturing communities that were otherwise united by their dependence on healthy waterways. Legal rights for rivers can be a potentially powerful tool in reshaping the human relationship with rivers, but it comes with significant risks.



Dave Pritchard

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Dave Pritchard is a proponent of stronger links between the worlds of environmental policy, cultural heritage and the creative arts. He has worked for almost 40 years in a variety of research, policy, legal, management and governance roles in all these sectors, and has held several non-executive directorships. He is now an independent consultant for bodies ranging from the UN Environment Programme and the Council of Europe to the Arts Council in England, and has academic involvements at several universities. Dave also coordinates the Culture Network of the Convention on Wetlands, while in the UK he chairs the Arts & Environment Network and serves on the government's Darwin Expert Committee.

Action for culture and the water environment through the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

The intergovernmental Ramsar Convention on Wetlands celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Its global treaty provisions and conservation policy frameworks have always been based on the best available ecological and hydrological science. Over the years, however, there has been a growing appreciation that truly sustainable strategies depend just as much on understanding societal factors, Indigenous knowledge, community traditions and contemporary advances in transdisciplinary research. A body of guidance materials, knowledge exchange initiatives and cooperation activities on the subject of culture and wetlands within the framework of the Convention has consequently taken shape in more recent times. This presentation will give a brief overview of these and the principles involved. Particular reference will be made to the role of the Ramsar Culture Network; and the presentation will conclude with some thoughts on prospects for the future.



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NUPUR is educated in physical planning and landscape architecture from SPA, Delhi, India and has majored in heritage conservation studies from York University, U.K on a Charles Wallace fellowship. As the founder of a research-based design practice, Beyond Built (www.beyondbuilt.in), her scholarship and practice, over two decades, is focused on public spaces across India. She is currently based in Stockholm. She has been recently elected as a Board Member (2021-23) of ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and has held positions in IFLA/ISOLA and ISOCARP Institute and is a member of IUCN CEM. She is passionate about working with youth on climate action through exchange of knowledge and practice on nature culture orientation in cities.

Cultural landscapes of Water systems in Asia

In this ‘SDG Decade of Action’ we are aiming to facilitate a nature-culture orientation related to water wisdom with a focus on our young citizens. Traditional knowledge related to water has endured over time to bridge the void between the past and the present, offering a means to facilitate unique solutions to urban problems of flooding and drought. Our response to natural water systems within urban extents communicate our diminishing sensibility and traditional ethos of our natural and cultural heritage. How then can we march on in making a difference on ground in traditional cultures enabling youth to use the memory of our rich past in safeguarding their future.

As cities today seek to reclaim their riverfronts, a rare opportunity is offered to restore past glory and to create more sustainable communities. Waterfront projects offer a tremendous opportunity to direct riverfront revitalization efforts that can weave local streams and younger populations. Showcasing good practice projects is one possibility to (re)connect the historic and sacred aspects of water systems with indigenous, local or migrant communities within the built environment. An adequate response to our water systems with an eye on climate effective action will define the quality of life that we offer to our youth and children.

In this presentation I will be presenting our perspective on riverfutures through some good practice projects in Asia.



Dr Nathalie Richards

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Nathalie currently works as an advisor for the Natural Resources Stewardship Programme (NatuReS) at the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. NatuReS enables private-public-civil society partnerships to manage natural resources risks hindering sustainable growth and improved livelihoods. Nathalie previously undertook her PhD in Geography on Water Users Associations in Tanzania and Kenya at King’s College London, in collaboration with WWF. During this time, she investigated water governance challenges in two basins, using hydrological modelling and critical institutional analysis. Overall, Nathalie’s work focuses on natural resources institutions, particularly implementation gaps between environmental policies and practices on the ground.

From the Mau Forest to Lake Victoria: The Journey of the Mara River in East Africa.

The Mara River starts its journey in the Mau forest in Kenya, flowing through diverse waterscapes and famous savannahs into Tanzania, where it reaches the Mara wetland system before spilling into Lake Victoria. The landscapes surrounding the Mara River are shaped by the seasonality of its flows. Its exceptional flora and fauna follow the rhythm of water availability, and human inhabitants have adapted to and influenced the ecosystem services provided by the local environment. For millennia and more intensively in the past centuries, different peoples have been inspired by the river ecosystem to give meaning, and create culture and livelihoods adapted to their environment. In the Mau forest where the Mara River starts its journey, the Ogieks have been protecting trees providing sources to the river; in the savannahs of the current Maasai Mara and Serengeti, Maasai people have been living in harmony with wildlife, adopting a nomadic lifestyle; in the Wetlands of the Mara, fishing communities regulate practice rituals linked to the landscape of the lower Mara.

Threats to the Mara River have been increasing and affecting the quality and quantity of river flows. Climate change, colonisation, land tenure changes, intensification of agricultural and fishing methods, increased human pollution, and a lack of governance are some of the main causes of the degradation of the river. Current efforts are addressing governance, improving monitoring of flows and allocation of water, with the objective of improving the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Mara River Basin.



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André is a graduate of Royal Roads Military College, Université de Moncton and INRS-Eau (University of Quebec), where he received his Ph.D. in Water Science. He is now a professor in environmental hydrology at INRS. His main research interests include the thermal and sediment regimes of rivers and the development of methods to assess environmental flow needs. He is one of fellows of the Canadian Rivers Institute and a member of the Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche sur le saumon Atlantique (CIRSA). He is also co-editor of the Canadian Water Resources Journal and has served as president of Canadian Water Resources Association from 2011 to 2013.

Adapting social-cultural-environmental flows for cold regions

In northern regions, many rivers remain ice-covered for a period of three to six months and have two distinct low flow periods: mid-winter and mid to late summer. Societal water demands are highly seasonal, for example with peaks in demand being associated with summer agricultural activities in many regions, and access and navigation of systems with complex seasonal wetting/drying of deltaic environments. We have divided our talk into two parts to explore environmental flows in cold regions; the first half explores applications in eastern Canada where most jurisdictions are still using prescriptions of minimum discharge as environmental flows. We compared the most commonly used metrics on over fifty rivers in the southern part of the province of Québec and showed that a “one size fits all” approach is not optimal for this region. In order to provide insight to a broader community of stakeholders and include indirect information on fish habitat and the ecological health of the river, two additional variables are being considered: the wetted perimeter and river temperature. The second half presents components from two holistic application case studies from Canada: the Wolastoq (St. John River, New Brunswick) and the Peace-Athabasca Delta (Alberta) with a focus on the key social and cultural components of these cold region environmental flows frameworks.

PAST LE STUDIUM CONFERENCES

2020

Dr Magdalena Malinowska & Dr Arnaud Lanoue

Exploring the molecular diversity of grape, a source of natural ingredients
3 December 2020

Dr Jean-François Deluchey & Prof. Nathalie Champroux

What are our lives worth to a neoliberal government? Capitalism, War and Biopolitics in the Pandemic Era
18 - 19 November 2020

Prof. Pieter Hiemstra & Dr Mustapha Si-Tahar

Novel host- and microbiota-directed strategies for treating respiratory infections
24 - 25 September 2020

Dr Emilio Maria Sanfilippo & Xavier Rodier
FAIR Heritage: Digital Methods, Scholarly Editing and Tools for Cultural and Natural Heritage
17-18 June 2020

Dr Margriet Hoogvliet & Prof. Chiara Lastraioli

Spatial Humanities and Urban Experiences During the Long Fifteenth Century
11 Mai 2020

Dr Thimmalapura Marulappa Vishwanatha & Dr Vincent Aucagne

Challenges and prospects in chemoselective ligations: from protein synthesis to site-specific conjugation
27-29 January 2020

Dr Arunabh Ghosh & Prof. Fouad Ghamouss

Towards Futuristic Energy Storage; paving its way through Supercapacitors, Li-ion batteries and beyond

22-24 January 2020

2019

Dr Yuri Dancik & Dr Franck Bonnier
Skin Models in Cosmetic Science: Bridging Established Methods and Novel Technologies
2 - 4 December 2019

Dr Eric Robert, Dr Jean-Michel Pouvesle & Dr Catherine Grillon
International Meeting on Plasma Cosmetic Science
25-27 November 2019

Prof. Richard Freedman & Prof. Philippe Vendrix
Counterpoints: Renaissance Music and Scholarly Debate in the Digital Domain
14-16 November 2019

Prof. Manuela Simoni, Dr Frédéric Jean-Alphonse, Dr Pascale Crépieux & Dr Eric Reiter
Targeting GPCR to generate life, preserve the environment and improve animal breeding: technological and pharmacological challenges
16-18 October 2019

Prof. Akkihebbal Ravishankara & Dr Abdelwahid Mellouki
Climate, air quality and health: long-term goals and near-term actions
28 June 2019

Dr Wolfram Kloppmann
N and P cycling in catchments: How can isotopes guide water resources management?
18 June 2019

Dr Carmen Díaz Orozco & Dr Brigitte Natanson
Forging glances. Images and visual cultures in XIXth century Latin America
28-29 May 2019

DrTijen & Dr Gülçin Erdi
Rebel streets : urban space, art, and

social movements

28 - 29 May 2019

Dr Marcelo Lorenzo & Prof. Claudio Lazzari
New avenues for the behavioral manipulation of disease vectors

21-23 May 2019

Dr Agnieszka Synowiec & Dr Christophe Hano
Biological Activities of Essential Oils

13 - 15 May 2019

Prof. Yiming Chen & Prof. Driss Boutat
2019 International Conference on Fractional Calculus Theory and Applications (ICFCTA 2019)

25-26 April 2019

Prof. Temenuga Trifonova & Prof. Raphaële Bertho
On the Ruins and Margins of European Identity in Cinema: European Identity in the Era of Mass Migration

2-3 April 2019

Dr Patrizia Carmassi & Prof. Jean-Patrice Boudet
Time and Science in the Liber Floridus of Lambert of Saint-Omer

27-28 March 2019

Dr Guillermina Dalla-Salda & Dr Philippe Rozenberg
Adapting forest ecosystems and wood products to biotic and abiotic stress

12 - 15 March 2019

Dr Vincent Courdavault & Prof. Nathalie Guivarc'h
Refactoring Monoterpenoid Indole Alkaloid Biosynthesis in Microbial Cell Factories (MIAMi)

5-6 February 2019

Dr Denis Reis de Assis & Prof. Hélène Blasco
Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells (iPSCs): From Disease Models to Mini-Organs

28-30 January 2019

2018

Prof. Igor Lima Maldonado & Prof.

Christophe Destrieux
Frontiers in Connectivity: Exploring and Dissecting the Cerebral White Matter

5-6 December 2018

Dr Marius Secula, Prof. Christine Vautrin-UI & Dr Benoît Cagnon
Water micropollutants: from detection to removal

26-28 November 2018

Prof. Guoxian Chen & Prof. Magali Ribot
Balance laws in fluid mechanics, geophysics, biology (theory, computation, and application)

19-21 November 2018

Dr Volodymyr Sukach & Prof. Isabelle Gillaizeau
Progress in Organofluorine Chemistry

15-17 October 2018

Jens Christian Moesgaard, Prof. Marc Bompaire, Bruno Foucray & Dr Guillaume Sarah
Coins and currency in the 10th and 11th centuries: issuing authorities, political powers, economic influences

11-12 October 2018

Dr Norinne Lacerda-Queiroz & Dr Valérie Quesniaux
Malaria - Current status and challenges

27-28 September 2018

Dr Renaud Adam & Prof. Chiara Lastraioli
Lost in Renaissance

20-21 September 2018

Prof. Abdelwahid Mellouki & Dr Véronique Daële
The 6th Sino-French Joint Workshop on Atmospheric Environment

10-12 September 2018

Prof. Emre Erdem & Dr Guylaine Poulin-Vittrant
Frontiers in Nanomaterials for Energy Harvesting and Storage

27-29 August 2018

Prof. Graeme Boone & Prof. Philippe Vendrix
Affective horizons of 'song' in the long fifteenth century

27-28 June 2018

Prof. Bilal Haider Abbasi, Prof. Nathalie Guivarc'h & Dr Christophe Hano
Modern aspects of Plant in Vitro Technology

27 June 2018

Prof. Marek Łos & Dr Catherine Grillon
Stem cells & cancer stem cells: Regenerative medicine and cancer

11-13 June 2018

Dr Ewa Łukaszyk & Prof. Marie-Luce Demonet
Transcultural Mediterranean: in search of non-orthodox and non-hegemonic universalism(s)

30-31 May 2018

Prof. Vladimir Shishov & Dr Philippe Rozenberg
Wood formation and tree adaptation to climate

23-25 May 2018

Dr Ján Žabka & Dr Christelle Briois
Advances in Space Mass Spectrometry for the Search of Extraterrestrial Signs of Life

16-18 May 2018

Dr Massimiliano Traversino Di Cristo & Prof. Paul-Alexis Mellet
From Wittenberg to Rome, and Beyond Giordano Bruno: Will, Power, and Being Law, Philosophy, and Theology in the Early Modern Era

26-27 April 2018

Dr William Horsnell & Dr Bernhard Ryffel
Neurotransmitters: non-neuronal functions and therapeutic opportunities

26-28 March 2018

Prof. Eric Goles & Prof. Nicolas Ollinger
Discrete Models of Complex Systems

19-21 March 2018

2017

Dr Kristina Djanashvili & Dr Éva Jakab Tóth
Is Multimodal Imaging an Invention with a Future? The Input of Chemistry

11-13 December 2017

Dr Emmanuel Saridakis & Dr Marc Boudvillain
Structural biology and biophysics of RNA-protein complexes

13-15 November 2017

Prof. Franco Pierno & Prof. Chiara Lastraioli
The Runaway Word. Languages and Religious Exile in the Renaissance

7-8 November 2017

Prof. Michiel Postema & Dr Ayache Bouakaz
Acoustic bubbles in therapy: recent advances with medical microbubbles, clouds and harmonic antibubbles

23-24 October 2017

Dr Mauro Simonato & Dr Jérôme Rousselet
Species spread in a warmer and globalized world

18-20 October 2017

Dr Sophie Heywood & Dr Cécile Boulaire
1968 and the boundaries of childhood

12-14 October 2017

Prof. Mihai Mutascu & Prof. Camelia Turcu
Globalization and growth in eurozone: new challenges

28-29 September 2017

Dr Mauro Manno & Prof. Richard Daniellou
The role of glycosylation on serpin biology and conformational disease

27-29 September 2017

Prof. Salvatore Magazù, Prof. Francesco Piazza, Dr Sivakumar Ponnuregam Malliappan, Dr Emilie Munnier
Recent advances in basic and applied science in cosmetics

3-5 July 2017

Dr Maria Clotilde Camboni & Prof. Chiara Lastraioli
The dynamics of the relationship with the more recent past in early modern Europe: between rejection and acknowledgement

20-22 June 2017

Dr Sohail Akhter & Prof. Chantal Pichon
Messenger RNA therapeutics: advances and perspectives

22-23 March 2017

Prof. Gary Gibbons & Prof. Sergey Solodukhin
GARYFEST: Gravitation, Solitons and Symmetries

22-24 March 2017

2016

Dr Mohammed Ayoub & Dr Eric Reiter
Antibodies Targeting GPCRs, Recent Advances and Therapeutic Challenges
24-25 November 2016

Prof. David Koester, Dr Bernard Buron & Dr Jean-Philippe Fouquet
Practical Engagements and the Social-Spatial Dimensions of the Post-Petroleum Future
7-9 November 2016

Dr Jorge Gutierrez & Dr Philippe Frank
Lipids, Nanotechnology and Cancer
10-12 October 2016

Dr Ferenc Kálman & Dr Éva Jakab Tóth
Being Smart In Coordination Chemistry: Medical Applications
26-28 September 2016

Jean-Philippe Bouillon, Mourad Elhabiri, Jiri Kozelka, Laurent Plasseraud, Michèle Salmain & Eva Tóth, Roman Bulánek, Radek Cibulka, Michal Otyepka, Jan Preisler, Vladimír Šindelář & Irena Valterová
**7th French-Czech "Vltava" Chemistry Meeting
Advancing Chemistry through Bilateral Collaboration**
5-6 September 2016

Dr Satyajit Phadke, Dr Chandrasekaran & Prof. Mériem Anouti
Future strategies in electrochemical technologies for efficient energy utilisation
7-9 September 2016

Prof. Peter Bennett & Prof. Philippe Vendrix
Sacred/secular intersections in early-modern European ceremonial: Text, music, image and power
11-13 July 2016

Prof. Leandros Skaltsounis & Prof. Claire Elfakir
Olive Bioactives: applications and prospects

4-6 July 2016

Dr Mikhail Zubkov & Dr Maxim Chernodub
Condensed matter physics meets relativistic quantum field theory
13-15 June 2016

Prof. Brown-Grant, Dr Carmassi, Prof. Drossbach, Prof. Hedeman, Dr Turner & Prof. Ventura
Inscribing Knowledge on the Page: Sciences, Tradition, Transmission and Subversion in the Medieval Book
6-9 June 2016

Prof. Gary Gibbons & Prof. Sergey Solodukhin
Classical and quantum black holes
30-31 May 2016

2015

Dr Gyula Tircsó & Dr Éva Jakab Tóth
Medicinal flavor of metal complexes: diagnostic and therapeutic applications
7-9 December 2015

Prof. Erminia Ardissino & Dr Elise Boillet
Lay Readings of the Bible in Early Modern Europe
24-26 November 2015

Prof. Kathleen Campbell & Dr Frances Westall
Habitats and inhabitants on the early Earth and Mars
17-18 November 2015

Prof. Marion Harris & Dr David Giron
Insects, pathogens, and plant reprogramming: from effector molecules to ecology
5-7 October 2015

Dr Arayik Hambardzumyan & Dr Sylvie Bonnamy
Bioinspired molecular assemblies as protective and delivery systems
7-9 September 2015

Dr Peter Arensburger & Dr Yves Bigot
Analysis and Annotation of DNA Repeats and Dark Matter in Eukaryotic Genomes

8-10 July 2015

Prof. Scott Kroeker & Dr Pierre Florian
Nuclear Waste Disposal: Designing Materials For the End of Time
27-29 May 2015

Prof. Gary Gibbons & Prof. Sergey Solodukhin
Entanglement, Holography and Geometry
17 April 2015

Prof. Kari Astala & Dr Athanasios Batakis & Prof. Michel Zinsmeister
Conformal Methods in Analysis, Random Structures & Dynamics
12 April 2015

Prof. Kari Astala & Dr Athanasios Batakis
Loire Valley Workshop on Conformal Methods in Analysis, Random Structures & Dynamics
12-16 April 2015

2014

Dr Natalia Kirichenko & Dr Alain Roques
Insect invasions in a changing world
17-19 December 2014

Dr Alejandro Martinez & Dr Philippe Rozenberg
Natural and human-assisted adaptation of forests to climatic constraints: the relevance of interdisciplinary approaches
18-19 November 2014

Dr Magnus Williamson & Prof. Xavier Bisaro
Reconstructing Lost Spaces: acoustic, spatial, ceremonial contexts
30-31 October 2014

Dr Edouard Asselin & Dr Patrick D'Hugues
Copper, a strategic metal? The present and future of resources, processing and recycling
14-15 October 2014

Dr C. Oshman & Dr G. Poulin-Vittrant
Piezoelectric micro and nano-structures and their applications

25-26 September 2014

Dr Eric Reiter
3rd International Congress on Gonadotropins & Receptors - ICGRIII
7-10 September 2014

Dr Robin Beech & Dr Cédric Neveu
NemaTours: bringing worms together
17-18 July 2014

Prof. Gary Gibbons & Prof. Sergey Solodukhin
Gravitation, Solitons & Symmetries
20-23 May 2014

Dr Charles Sennoga & Dr Ayache Bouakaz
Targeted ultrasound contrast maging and drug delivery
19-20 May 2014

Dr Igor Leontyev & Dr Louis Hennet
Heterogeneous catalysis: recent advances in preparation and characterization
31 March - 1 April 2014

2013

Prof. Chandani Lokuge & Prof. Trevor Harris
Postcolonialism now
4-5 February 2013

Dr Fabrizio Gherardi & Dr Pascal Audigane
Geochemical reactivity in CO₂ geological storage sites, advances in optimizing injectivity, assessing storage capacity and minimizing environmental impacts
25-26 February 2013

Prof. Marcos Horacio Pereira & Prof. Claudio Lazzari
Vector-borne diseases: a multidisciplinary approach
8-9 April 2013

Prof. Marc Hillmyer & Prof. Christophe Sinturel
Bottom-up approaches to Nanotechnology
29-31 May 2013

Dr Svetlana Eliseeva & Prof. Stéphane Petoud
Lanthanide-based compounds: from chemical design to applications
11-12 July 2013

Prof. Pietro Roccasecca & Prof. Philippe Vendrix
Vision and image-making : constructing the visible and seeing as understanding
 13-14 September 2013

Prof. Reuben Rumphal & Prof. Mustapha Si-Tahar
Chronic inflammatory lung diseases : The next-generation therapeutic targets to consider
 20-21 September 2013

Prof. Sergey Traytak & Prof. Francesco Piazza
Macromolecular crowding effects in cell biology : models and experiments
 24-25 October 2013

Prof. Mourad Bellasoued & Prof. Le Rousseau
Biology and mathematical inverse problems : a new wedded couple ?
 14-15 November 2013

2012

Dr Lidewij Tummers & Prof. Sylvette Denèfle
Co-housing : born out of need or new ways of living ?
 12-14 March 2012

Prof. Clive Oppenheimer & Dr Bruno Scaillet
Mount eribus, antarctica : an exceptional laboratory volcano
 15-16 March 2012

Prof. Friedrich Wellmer
Life and innovation cycles in the field of raw material supply and demand — a transdisciplinary approach
 19-20 April 2012

Dr Gerard Klaver, Dr Emmanuelle Petelet & Dr Philippe Negrel
Rare earth elements in our environment from ores towards recycling through the continental cycle
 10-11 May 2012

Prof. Rosalind Brown-Grant & Prof. Bernard Ribémont
Textual and visual representations of power and justice in medieval manuscript culture

5-6 July 2012

Dr Agata Matejuk & Prof. Claudine Kieda
Defeating Cancer Can non coding small RNAs be new players ?
 24-25 September 2012

2011

Prof. Nicola Fazzalari & Prof. Claude-Laurent Benhamou
Osteocyte Imaging
 13-14 January 2011

Prof. Nikolay Nenovsky & Prof. Patrick Villieu
Europe and the Balkans : economic integration, challenges and solutions
 3-4 February 2011

Prof. Salvatore Magazù & Dr Louis Hennet
Cosmetics and Pharmaceutics : New trends in Biophysical Approaches
 14-15 February 2011

Prof. Irène Garcia-Gabay & Dr Valérie Quesniaux
Inflammatory and infectious diseases
 30-31 May 2011

Prof. Ali Chamseddine, Prof. Alain Connes & Prof. Mickaël Volkov
Non commutative geometry, strings and gravity
 25-27 May 2011

Prof. Jinglin You & Dr Patrick Simon
In situ Molecular Spectroscopic Technique and Application
 20-21 June 2011

Prof. Valery Terwilliger & Dr Jérémy Jacob
Hydrogen isotopes as environmental recorders
 15-16 September 2011

Prof. Philip Weller & Prof. Philippe Vendrix
Mystères des voix perdues – Polyphonies reconstituées, 1420-1520
 24-30 October 2011

Prof. John Brady & Prof. Marie-Louise Saboungi
Water in biological systems
 5-6 December 2011

2010

Prof. Alfredo Ulloa Aguirre & Dr Eric Reiter
New directions in gonadotropin hormones and their receptors
 3-4 June 2010

Dr Yossi Maurey & Dr Christine Bousquet-Labouérie
Sacred space, sacred memory : bishop saints and their cities
 10-12 June 2010

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