

Biographies

María de la Luz Ayala is a professor and researcher at the Department of Regional Studies of the Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico. She is currently working on two research projects: “Uso y aprovechamiento de recursos forestales en Nueva España” and, with E. Jiménez Huerta, “Guadalajara a través de los siglos, una línea de tiempo en construcción”. She has published some articles on the forest history and environmental history of New Spain: “La pugna por el uso y la propiedad de los montes y bosques novohispanos”, in B. García Martínez and A. González Jácome, *Estudios sobre historia y ambiente en América*, vol. I, México, Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia/El Colegio de México, 1999; “The uses of forest and woodlands in New Spain from 16th to 18th centuries”, in *Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Forest Management: The Role of Traditional Knowledge*, vol. 1, Warsaw, Poland, Ministerial Conference on the protection of Forests in Europe, 2006; “Desmonte y agricultura en Nueva España”, in A. Fábregas Puig, et al. (co-ords.), *Diversidad cultural y sobrevivencia. La frontera chichimeca, una visión desde el siglo XXI*, Guadalajara, Seminario Permanente de Estudios de la Gran Chichimeca, 2007; “Historia y medio ambiente” in M.P. Gutiérrez Lorenzo (coord.), *Cuadernos de Investigación Histórica 1*, Guadalajara, Universidad de Guadalajara, 2008; and an article cowritten with E. Jiménez Huerta, “Ejididos y comunidades. Guadalajara, 1920-2000” in R. Solís Gadea and K.A. Planter Pérez (coord.), *Jalisco en el mundo contemporáneo. Aportaciones para una enciclopedia de la época. Tomo I: Arte, Población y cultura, salud*, Guadalajara, Universidad de Guadalajara y Consejo Estatal de Ciencia y Tecnología, 2010. She is a member of the Sociedad Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Historia Ambiental (Solcha).

Max Bourke is an agricultural scientist and historian who is currently a Director of the Advisory Board of the Nature Conservancy (Aust), Executive Director of The Thomas Foundation, Chairman of the Capital Woodlands and Wetlands Trust, and Director of the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network. He has been a jackaroo, scientist, science broadcaster, CEO of the Australian Council for the Arts, and CEO of the Australian Heritage Commission. In 1994 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his service to heritage and arts organisations and to the development of government policy for the preservation of Australia’s historic and cultural environment. He has had a lifetime interest in conservation and history and is a member of the Australian Forest History Society and the Australian Garden History Society. He has published on the introduction of new crops, garden history, arboreta and the conservation of rural landscapes.

Idamaria Fusco is a researcher at the Institute of Studies on Mediterranean Societies of the Italian National Research Council. She has a degree in Law and a Ph.D. in Economic History. She has taught in some Italian universities, participated in national and international conferences, and published several books and essays. Her main interest is in plague, taxation and population in the Kingdom of Naples in the Modern Age, a subject on which she wrote a book (*Peste, demografia e fiscalità nel Regno di Napoli del XVII secolo*, FrancoAngeli, Milan 2007) and some essays, such as “La peste del 1656-58 nel Regno di Napoli: diffusione e mortalità” (*Popolazione e Storia* 1, 2009). She also has an interest in the history of silk production and related health and environmental problems. She has edited the book *La seta. E oltre...* (Edizioni Scientifiche Italiane, Naples, 2004) and published the essays “La trattura della seta in Calabria: rinnovamento tecnologico e crescita tra Sette e Ottocento” (*Società e Storia* 109, 2005) and “Industrie urbane, conflitti e salute nella Calabria dell’Ottocento” (*Meridiana. Rivista di Storia e Scienze Sociali* 57, 2006). She has also written on trade and exchanges of men, goods, know-how and technology in the Mediterranean area (“The Spread of Technology through Commercial Networks in the 19th Century. Foreign Merchant Entrepreneurs and Calabrian Sericulture amid Changes and Conflicts”, *The Historical Review* 7, 2010), tourism and cultural heritage (“The Campi Flegrei: A Case Study”, coauthored with G. Lombardi, in *Tourism and Visual Culture*, vol. 2: *Methods and Cases*, edited by P. Burns, J. Lester, L. Bibbings, CAB International, Oxfordshire-Cambridge MA, 2010) and on migration (*Identità mediterranea ed Europa. Mobilità, migrazioni, relazioni interculturali*, coedited with M.C. Carli and G. Di Cristofaro Longo, CNR-ISSM, Naples, 2009).

Jeff Grischow holds a PhD in History from Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada. He is an Associate Professor of History and a Fellow of the Tshepo Institute for the Study of Contemporary Africa at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Canada. Dr. Grischow’s research interests include colonial development and disability history in Africa. In addition to his book, *Shaping Tradition: Civil Society, Community and Development in Colonial Northern Ghana, 1899-1957* (Leiden: Brill, 2006), he has published in the *Journal of African History*, the *Journal of Agrarian Change*, the *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *Africa*, *Historical Sociology*, and the *Canadian Journal of African Studies*. His current projects include a study of disability education in Ethiopia, and a joint manuscript with Holger Weiss on the environmental history of Northern Ghana.

Edith R. Jiménez Huerta studied Architecture at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (1979), and obtained a Masters in Economy from the University of London (Department of Urban Planning, 1983) and a Doctorate in Sociology from the University of Essex (1988). Currently she works as a researcher and professor at the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. She is conducting three research projects: i) with Heriberto Cruz Solís and other researchers, on

the current situation of old low-income settlements in the metropolis, ii) monitoring the expansion of the metropolis and land prices in Guadalajara, and iii) with M. de la Luz Ayala, “Guadalajara a través de los siglos, una línea de tiempo en construcción”. Her most important book on land markets is *El Principio de la Irregularidad, Mercado del Suelo para Vivienda en Aguascalientes* (2000). She has collaborated in setting up two Internet projects, namely, <http://www.lahn.utexas.org> (new problems for formerly irregular settlements in 11 Latin American cities) and <http://www.udg.mx/atlasdelsuelodeguadalajara> (a digital Atlas of the City of Guadalajara). Her major interests are low-income settlements, housing for the poor, land prices, urban expansion, and the impact of urban expansion on the environment and people’s ways of life in traditional villages close to the metropolitan area. Her two most recent articles are: “Ejidó y comunidades. Guadalajara, 1920-2000”, in R. Solís Gadea and K. A. Planter Pérez (coord.), *Jalisco en el mundo contemporáneo. Aportaciones para una enciclopedia de la época. Tomo I: Arte, Población y cultura, salud*, Guadalajara, Universidad de Guadalajara y Consejo Estatal de Ciencia y Tecnología, 2010, written with M. de la Luz Ayala, and an article written jointly with Adriana Fausto Brito and Heriberto Cruz Solís, published in 2012 by the journal *Ciudades*, under the title “En el Limbo de las Agendas Internacionales”. She is a member of the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI), the Latin American Sociological Association (LASA), International Sociological Association (ISA) and the Latin American Housing Network (LAHN).

Richard Oram is professor of Medieval and Environmental History at the University of Stirling and former Director of the Centre for Environmental History and Policy. He is a member of the North Atlantic Biocultural Organisation (NABO) and the Global Human Ecodynamics Alliance [GHEA]. His research focuses on the impact of historic climate change on communities in ‘marginal’ contexts around the North Atlantic, with particular emphasis on resource-management, especially of fuel resources and grazing, and community resilience and social reconfiguration in episodes of extreme environmental stress, and also on processes of anthrosol formation in urban and peri-urban contexts.

Mario Pansera is a PhD research fellow in Management at the University Of Exeter Business School, UK. His work focuses on eco-innovation, with a particular interest in emerging and developing countries. A graduate of the Federico II University of Naples (MSc, 2005) in Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering, at the beginning of his career he worked on natural disaster management and prevention in developing countries by means of remote sensing instruments, and as a telecommunication consultant. He spent two years in Bolivia working in the field of renewable energy for remote rural areas. Most recently he has come back to academia working as project Manager on R&D projects funded by the European Commission at the Polytechnic University of Madrid. His enduring interest in economics and social development issues has been constantly increas-

ing over the last years, leading him to the decision of earning a Master's Degree in "Economics and Management of Innovation" at the Polytechnic of Madrid in collaboration with the Autonomous University of Madrid and the Complutense University in 2009. He has also delved in Economic of Innovation and Science and Technology Policy at Aalborg University in Denmark as visiting scholar. His primary research interest is sustainable and ecological transition. He is particular interested in the dynamics of eco-innovation at the "bottom of the pyramid" in emerging economies, appropriate technologies, and grassroots innovations.

Desirée A.L. Quagliarotti is a researcher at the National Council of Research, Italy. She is a graduate in Economics of International Commerce. In 2000 she obtained a Master's Degree in Agricultural Economics and Policy at the Agricultural Economics and Policy Department, Faculty of Agriculture of the Federico II University in Naples. In 2001 she got her Ph.D. in Economics of Food and Environmental Resources at the Parthenope University in Naples. She conducts research in agricultural and environmental economics applied to the Mediterranean context, food security and sustainable development, climate change and desertification processes in arid and semiarid areas, water resource management, and non-market evaluation methods. She is presently researching the land grabbing phenomenon as a consequence of food and energetic crises. She has written several articles on water and environmental issues, climate change and desertification, environmental refugees, food security, and land grabbing.

Fei Sheng graduated from Shanxi University (2005) and got his Ph.D at Peking University, Beijing (2012). He was a visiting fellow at the College of Arts and Social Science, Australian National University (2010-2011) and will be the Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Now he is hosted as an assistant professor at the School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou. His research fields are Australian environmental history, Chinese environmental change and migration, and resource exploitation.

Holger Weiss is professor of general history at Åbo Akademi University, Finland. He holds a PhD in general history from Helsinki University (1997) and is adjunct professor of African history at Helsinki University as well as a member of the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters. His research interests include global and Atlantic history. He is currently heading two research programmes: 'Portals of Early Modern Globalization and Creolization During the Era of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade' and 'Radical and Leftwing Networks during the Inter-war Period in Europe and Beyond'. In addition, he has been conducting research on West African environmental history, among others on Northern Nigeria and Northern Ghana.