

# Outreach

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## Staff Profiles

Since the last volume of LPR there has been a significant refresh of staff teaching into the planning programmes at Lincoln University. Notably, Drs Geoff Kerr, Ken Hughey and Lin Roberts have retired. Drs Sarah Edwards and Su Vallance moved to the CRI sector. All retain some form of honorary research/teaching/advisory relationship with the Department and its programmes. That has meant several new appointments with the NZPI accredited MPlan headed by Dr Dyanna Jolly and the BEPPhons by Dr Oluwafemi Olajide. Please meet our new team members.

### **Dr. Dee Isaacs - Senior Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management**

- *Master of Laws, International Law and Legal Studies, The University of Waikato, New Zealand*
- *Bachelor of Laws, Natural Resources Management and Policy, The University of Waikato, New Zealand*
- *Graduate diploma in specialised translation and interpretation of Māori, Te Reo Māori, The University of Waikato, New Zealand*

Dee is currently serving as the Secretary of Ngā Aho (Māori in architecture, urban design and landscape architecture) and as a governance board member on both the Auckland Urban Design Panel and Tennis New Zealand.

He is dedicated to assisting clients with cultural mitigation in consenting processes and offering cultural competency guidance to corporate organisations. He is open to connecting on environmental management, Māori design and Māori engagement initiatives.



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## **Dr. Dyanna Jolly - Senior Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management**

- *PhD, Geography, University of Otago*
- *MNRM, Natural Resource Management, University of Manitoba, Canada*
- *Dyanna Jolly is the Academic Convenor for the Master of Planning programme, and course examiner for MAST319 (Te Kaitiakitaka) and ERST621 (Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment).*

Dy is a geographer with a focus on Indigenous planning, environmental management, and impact assessment. Her research builds on two decades of experience working with iwi and hapū to develop Iwi Management Plans and prepare cultural impact assessments, and engage with industry and government. Dyanna is particularly interested in Indigenous-led research and processes that create opportunities for transformative engagement and Te Tiriti-based environmental decision-making.

She currently provides advice and research support to the Tāwhaki Joint Venture (partnership between Te Taumutu Rūnanga, Wairewa Rūnanga and the Crown), supporting whenua rejuvenation planning at Kaitorete. She is also involved in the Indigenous Environmental Health Risk Assessment (IEHRA) and Building the Autonomy of Indigenous Communities to Make their Data Work for Decision Making (BAICM) Projects based at University of Guelph, Canada (IndigenERA Lab).

Her home community is Whitebear First Nations (Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, Dakota), in Treaty 4 territory in Saskatchewan, Canada. She was adopted into the Kakakaway, Shepherd, Maxie family as a child, and raised with a strong sense of connection and belonging to land and community.



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## Dr. Oluwafemi Olajide - Senior Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management

- *PhD, Planning, Newcastle University, England*
- *MSc, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Lagos, Nigeria*
- *BSc, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Lagos, Nigeria*

Oluwafemi's career experience spans three sectors (academia, private, and public), defining who he is: a lecturer, a researcher, and a professional. He has led strategic planning and community development projects and draws on experience from both the Global South and North in his research. A critical realist, Oluwafemi applies both inductive and deductive methods, often using the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA) in climate and poverty studies. He has amazing community engagement as a lecturer, having taught and supervised students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. His roles prior to coming to Lincoln University include Senior Planner at Auckland Council, Research Fellow at Beyond Inhabitation Lab (Polytechnic of Turin), and Senior Lecturer at the University of Lagos. He is a 2018 fellow of the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes.

He teaches planning theory, environmental planning, and professional practice. His research explores governance, urban development, and socio-spatial (in)justice, particularly in relation to housing rights, urban livelihoods, informality, social movements, and the decolonisation of climate and urban interventions. He investigates how institutional structures, colonial legacies, and neoliberal ideologies shape development outcomes and perpetuate inequality.

His teaching is student-centred, drawing on debates, group work, and real-world examples to simplify complex ideas. He is committed to decolonising education, aligning his philosophy with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori values such as kaitiakitanga and whanaungatanga, fostering a collaborative and inclusive learning environment.



His research on housing precarity, homelessness, and socio-spatial justice amplifies grassroots struggles and promotes collective agency. By bridging academic and community-based knowledge, he advocates for just, locally grounded urban futures and inclusive governance. His work informs policy and advances resilient, equitable urban development. His motivation stems from witnessing the structural injustices in cities like Lagos, where informal settlements and exclusionary policies are widespread. This inspired his pursuit of more inclusive and justice-driven urban planning.

Looking ahead, Oluwafemi is excited about deepening partnerships with grassroots movements through the “Mapping Spatial Displacement” project. He aims to co-produce knowledge that challenges dominant urban narratives and foster translocal solidarities, while navigating the institutional barriers to transformative change.

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## **Dr. Ramzi Tubbeh - Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management**

- *PhD, Geography, Pennsylvania State University, United States*
- *MSc, Geography, Pennsylvania State University, United States*
- *BSc, Industrial Engineering, Universidad de Lima, Peru*

Ramzi has always been interested in understanding social-ecological change with a focus on environmental justice. This led him to pursue a career in human geography and specialise in climate change, social-ecological transformations and the governance of water and other common-pool resources.

After earning his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Universidad de Lima (Peru) and working for a few years on Health, Safety, and Environmental Management Systems in the construction sector, Ramzi transitioned to consulting on social and environmental impact assessment, sustainability, and climate change. In 2015, he began postgraduate studies at Pennsylvania State University, where he earned his Master's and PhD degrees in geography. Ramzi's Master's research focused on indigenous Amazonian communal land titling and forest conservation while his doctoral research examined state-led and customary water governance in the Peruvian Andes. As a postgraduate scholar, Ramzi conducted research on Andean agrobiodiversity, plantation geographies and histories, and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on rural livelihoods and food security.

Ramzi's current research includes collaborative work on bioprotection governance in New Zealand (through the Bioprotection Aotearoa national Centre of Research Excellence), attitudes and perceptions towards Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere, and relationships between irrigation development and land-use change in Canterbury.



A common thread across much of Ramzi's research is analysing how rural landscapes, livelihoods, and governance systems transform or persist amid environmental change, policy shifts, and infrastructure projects.

Ramzi teaches courses on environmental management systems, international and grassroots sustainability initiatives, water governance, and collaborative research in environmental policy and planning.

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## **Dr. Ritodhi Chakraborty - Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management**

- *PhD, Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison, United States*
- *MA, Global Environmental Policy, American University, United States*
- *Bachelor's Degree, Biology, Environmental Studies, Manchester University, United States*

Ritodhi is interested in working with grassroots climate change adaptation initiatives, climate/environmental justice, ecosystem services, social-ecological systems research, indigenous knowledge and gender subjectivities. He has worked in the Himalayan region (India, Bhutan, China) and in Aotearoa NZ for over a decade, with native fluency in some of the languages spoken there.

He is currently involved with multiple projects in the region researching agricultural change on various scales due to various social and ecological transformations including change in climate change induced precipitation variance and youth migration, as well as modelling possible vulnerabilities using ethnographic agent-based models. He has also been an environmental educator and has extensive experience living and working with agrarian communities, civil society and research institutes in South Asia. Ritodhi also has experience managing a non-profit, as well as working in think tanks in India, USA and China.

He was a contributing author of the latest iteration of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report where he addressed the current lack of representation of indigenous and local knowledge. Ritodhi is currently leading a Ministry of Primary Industries funded project developing a Climate Maladaptation Assessment Tool for Aotearoa NZ and is co-leading, with Dr. Pasang Sherpa (UBC), the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council-funded project on knowledge-justice in the IPCC.



Ritodhi is also part of the editorial board of Counterfutures, a journal of Left research and is co-editing a special issue on 'Himalayan Masculinities' for the South Asia Journal.

He co-chairs the Royal Society of New Zealand Te Apārangi's Early Career forum, where he advocates for the creation of a more just and inclusive research sector in Aotearoa NZ.

Ritodhi's areas of expertise include: human geography; climate change impacts and adaptation development studies; climate change science; and environmental management.

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## **Dr. Zack Dorner - Senior Lecturer in Environmental Economics, Department of Environmental Management**

- *PhD, Economics, Monash University, Australia*
- *BA (Hons), Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand*

Zack Dorner is a Pākehā who grew up in Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington and is an environmental economist. His research investigates individual choices and behaviour change, particularly within an environmental policy context.

Zack utilises economic lab and field experiments, as well as survey methods. His current work aligns with his passion for impactful research. Zack has obtained substantial funding through sources such as the Biological Heritage National Science Challenge and the MBIE Endeavour fund. These interdisciplinary projects include an economic field experiment on increasing volunteering for community conservation groups, and a lab experiment investigating how consumers interact with a circular economy.

His areas of expertise include: agricultural economics; behavioural economics; environment and resource economics; experimental economics; health economics; ecological economics; climate change; experimental economics; behavioural economics; agricultural economics; climate change economics; resource economics; ecological economics; natural resource economics; and environmental sustainability.

