



*Updated April 27, 2010*

## **Travel Awards Committee**

### **Caio Carlos, Co-Chair**

Since the year 2000 I have been working, in collaboration with other ornithologists, on several aspects of the taxonomy, geographical distribution pattern and conservation of seabirds, especially petrels, in Brazil. My research primarily involves intensive literature survey (from early years of Brazil in the 1500s up to now) studies of museum specimens and much field effort – beach patrols and at sea observations– on several parts of the coast. These studies have resulted, for example, not only in new, and important distributional data for a number of taxa, but also in the clarification of existing misidentifications, some of them well incorporated into the Brazilian ornithological literature. Between 2004–2007 I worked as Assistant Curator of the Seabird collection of the 'Universidade Federal do Rio Grande', in south Brazil, where I also received (in 2006) a Master's Degree in Biological Oceanography after studying the geographical distribution patterns of petrels in the Brazilian seas. I am a member of the Brazilian Committee of Ornithological Records, and representative in Brazil of the Royal Naval Birdwatching Society. Next year I hope to complete the 'Catalogue of petrels in Brazil', which will be a comprehensive work of reference for these birds in the country. I am also working on seabird trapping (terns and skuas) and the distribution and migration of terns (especially Least Terns) on the Brazilian coast, and helping on the creation of some marine protected areas.

*Representing **Brazilian Seabird Scientists***

### **Ken Morgan, Co-Chair**

Ken Morgan is a pelagic seabird biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, stationed at Canada's Fisheries and Oceans Institute of Ocean Sciences, (Sidney, British Columbia). Ken completed his MSc. on forest bird ecology, at Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia) in 1984; however, since then he has worked almost exclusively on seabirds. Over the years, he has worked on many seabird files including: chronic oiling of seabirds in Canada's Pacific waters; monitoring the spatial and temporal variability of seabirds off Canada's Pacific and Arctic coasts; identifying and characterizing marine hotspots for seabirds and marine mammals for potential MPA designation; and assessing seabird bycatch in commercial fisheries. Ken is Chair of Canada's Short-tailed Albatross, Black-footed Albatross and Pink-footed Shearwater Recovery Team; and he is a member of the US-Japan Short-tailed Albatross Recovery Team. He collaborates with members of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) and was stationed at the ACAP Secretariat office in Hobart, Tasmania for three months in 2008. Ken continues to work with the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (part of the North American Free Trade Agreement) on implementing the North American Conservation Action Plan to conserve Pink-footed Shearwaters in Mexico, US and Canada; and he is working with other Canadian, US and Chilean colleagues on finding solutions to Pink-footed Shearwater conservation threats in Chile. Ken is on the Pacific Seabird Group's Executive Council, as the Canadian Regional Representative.

*Representing **Pacific Seabird Group***

### **Liliana Ayala**

Liliana began studied seabirds in 1997 in Peruvian Sea Institute (IMARPE) working on breeding biology and ecology of Peruvian Guano birds. Besides, she participated in some research

projects on the R.V. Humboldt in Peru and Antarctica, relating seabirds with their preys, anchovy in Peru and krill in Antarctica.

In the last five years a group of professionals interested in marine conservation and research are working in several projects in APECO and they develop the Marine-Coastal Program. She has the researcher or co-researcher of several projects: Bycatch of Albatross and Petrel in Peru, Humboldt Penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*) Conservation in northern Peru, Breeding Biology and ecology of Antarctic Tern (*Sterna vittata*) in King George island, Antarctica, Humboldt Penguin Conservation in central and southern Peru, Distribution and abundance of Wedged-rumped Storm Petrel (*Oceanodroma tethys kelsalli*) and Interactions between marine wildlife and the industrial anchovy fishing fleet. Also, she held an educational and outreach event at the National Library of Peru where four videos about seabird conservation were showed to the public and invited policy-makers.

Since 2000, she has been considered six times to be part of the selected group of researchers in Peruvian Antarctic Expedition. Since 2006, APECO was the first time that a non-government organization that participates in a Peruvian Expedition to Antarctica with the project: "Climate and microclimate effects on breeding ecology of Antarctic tern". That multi-year project runs by her, is a part of the 23 projects that participate in Latin America Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML) program.

She has received some support from Rufford Small grants for Nature Conservation, Oak Foundation, Duke Center for Marine Conservation, Idea Wild, Peruvian Antarctic Institute, Pacific Seabird Group (PSG), Overbrook Fellows, Agreement on the Conservation of albatrosses and petrels (ACAP) and American Bird Conservancy (ABC).

Representing [Peruvian Association for the Conservation of Nature \(APECO\)](#)

### **Peter Dann**

Peter Dann is employed by the Phillip Island Nature Park in south-eastern Australia to manage a research group carrying out investigations of the Island's fauna, particularly Little Penguins and Australian Fur-seals. Peter completed his post-graduate studies at the University of Melbourne on the feeding ecology of Palearctic shorebirds in southern Australia and started working on the ecology and management of Little Penguins on Phillip Island in 1980. Peter has worked on penguins throughout the southern hemisphere and has published extensively on seabirds and shorebirds in Australasia. His main research interests are population regulation, demography and foraging ecology. He co-supervises seven post-graduate students working on a range of seabird and shorebird projects and is currently a research fellow of the Department of Zoology at the University of Melbourne, Secretary of Birds Australia, an editor of "Marine Ornithology" and the past president of the Australasian Seabird Group.

Representing [Australasian Seabird Group](#) and [Phillip Island Nature Park, Australia](#)

### **Rian Dickson**

Rian Dickson is a M.Sc. candidate in the Centre for Wildlife Ecology at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby. Her current work focuses on wing moult ecology of Surf Scoters (*Melanitta perspicillata*) and White-winged Scoters (*M. fusca*) on the Pacific coast of North America and is a collaborative effort between Environment Canada and the US Geological Survey. Rian began doing field work on the coast of British Columbia while completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria. Since then she has followed birds from Mexico to Alaska and the Canadian Arctic. Broad areas of interest include the non-breeding biology of birds and exploring links between marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

**Simon Foster**

**Jessica Hardesty**

Dr. Jessica Hardesty Norris, Seabird Program Director, joined American Bird Conservancy in Spring 2007 as she wrapped up her PhD in Ecology at Duke with John Terborgh. She received her BSc in Wildlife Biology from Humboldt State University, and then spent a few years as a field technician in the United States before heading to Ecuador with the US Peace Corps. She conducted her dissertation research in Venezuela, Peru, and Ecuador, focusing on the ecology of birds in Sangay National Park, Ecuador where she spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar. In 2005, she worked with ABC, WWF, CI, and TNC developing project abstracts for Alliance for Zero Extinction sites. Jessica now has 12 years of experience as a conservationist, ecologist and social scientist, with a focus on Latin America. She has been working on seabird policy issues such as the accession of the US to Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and overseas ABC field projects to benefit the world's most endangered seabirds in Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

Representing [American Bird Conservancy, Seabird Program](#)