Amadeus DeKastle, MSc MAT BSc

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OBJECTIVE

Committed to the advancement of conservation biology through research and education.

EDUCATION

- 2020 pres. PhD in Ecology, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanic Garden Institute, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
- 2014-2015 M.Sc. in Entomology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska
- 2007-2009 Masters of Arts of Teaching, Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia
- 2004-2007 B.Sc., Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia

EMPLOYMENT

- 2021-pres. Promoted to Assistant Professor at the American University of Central Asia.

 Undergraduate courses: Applied Ecology, Wildlife Conservation, Introduction to GIS.

 Graduate course: Education for Sustainable Development
- 2016-2021. Curriculum Developer and Lecturer at the American University of Central Asia. Courses include Ecology, Wildlife Conservation, and GIS.
- 2016-pres. Development of a citizen science smartphone platform called Lapis Guides. Projects developed with this platform include: Butterflies of Kyrgyzstan, Cultural Heritage of Kyrgyzstan, and Butterflies of Daxing'anling, China.
 - Conservation and Environmental Management Specialist with Plateau Perspectives.
 - Expedition guide/researcher in conjunction with Biosphere Expeditions. Scientific expeditions led in the Dubai desert in order to research the Oryx. Expeditions in Kyrgyzstan's Tien Shan Mountains were focused on Snow Leopards.
- 9-11 2015 Consultant for two projects with the University of Central Asia's Mountain Societies Research Institute. Produced 3 citizen science cell phone applications used for wildlife, water, and pasture monitoring in the Naryn Region of Kyrgyzstan.
- 2009-2015 Science teacher at Hope Academy of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

 Taught Biology and Ecology at an international secondary school. Many courses taught based on an accredited international curriculum called IGCSE. Promoted to Science Department Leader in 2013.
- 1-4 2007 Intern at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History Entomology Department. Involved in specimen identification, labelling, and preservation of Coleoptera collections.
- 5-8, 2006 Research technician at the University of Idaho Research and Extension Centre, Parma, Idaho. Involved in planning and implementing experiments, including collecting and processing data. Research included work with *Priorus californicus*,

Leaf Hopper Mosaic Virus, and Mint Root Borer.

GRANTS

- 2021 Rufford Foundation grant recipient for the project "Environmental Impacts of Belt and Road Initiative
 - Development on Macro-Invertebrate Biodiversity in Freshwater Ecosystems in Kyrgyzstan's Mountains"
- 2020 American University of Central Asia President's Research Grant recipient for the project "Digitisation of the National Academy of Science Herbarium"

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPERIENCE

- Experience in field based identification specifically for insects, and other arthropod groups.
- Familiar with technical solutions for environmental monitoring as well as the equipment necessary for such programs.
- Group led tours and education sessions, both in the classroom and in the field.
- Experience in outdoor activities including rock climbing, caving, mountaineering, and hiking.
- Research and teaching in sustainable agriculture and environmental management systems.
- Extensive wildlife photography work.
- Experience with GIS computer software.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Can communicate well in English and Russian.

OTHER

First Aid: Wilderness First Responder Certification received September 2016

PUBLICATIONS

- Tytar, V., DeKastle, A., Hammer, M. 2016. Mountain Ghosts: Protecting Snow Leopards and other Animals of the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Biosphere Expeditions.
- Tytar, V., DeKastle, A., Hammer, M. 2017. Mountain Ghosts: Protecting Snow Leopards and other Animals of the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Biosphere Expeditions.
- Tytar, V., DeKastle, A., Hammer, M. 2018. Mountain Ghosts: Protecting Snow Leopards and other Animals of the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Biosphere Expeditions.
- Tytar, V., DeKastle, A., Hammer, M. 2019. Mountain Ghosts: Protecting Snow Leopards and other Animals of the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Biosphere Expeditions.
- Tytar, V., DeKastle, A., Hammer, M. 2020. Mountain Ghosts: Protecting Snow Leopards and other Animals of the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Biosphere Expeditions.
- Hermann, L., DeKastle, A., Foggin, M. (2020). The Rock Art of the Karakol Region (Tchoui and Naryn Oblast) in Kyrgyzstan. *International Newsletter on Rock Art.* 86:17-25