

Prof PHOEBE BARNARD | RESUMÉ | BRIEF CV

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Global change scientist | biodiversity vulnerability & adaptation | climate science | risk & resilience | social change | professor | filmmaker | pbarnard@uw.edu | WhatsApp/Cell +44 798 5511 442

WIKIPEDIA SUMMARY | FULL CV PUBLICATIONS LIST | RESEARCH GATE | ACADEMIA.EDU | GOOGLE SCHOLAR

Synopsis

Big-picture societal and environmental strategist, climate and ecosystems scientist, public policy analyst, global and regional policy strategist, filmmaker, and university professor, I'm internationally known for impactful science-policy-implementation work on climate, ecosystems, energy, risk and resilience. On three continents – Africa, Europe and North America – I've worked globally, bioregionally and nationally leading governments, NGOs, academia and global initiatives, and mentoring many dozens of young professionals across the African content and rest of the world.

Internationally, I was a UN negotiator at the Convention on Biological Diversity for the Government of Namibia while developing and leading its founding national biodiversity and climate change programmes. I articulated a CBD Bureau process to align the work programmes of the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CMS and Ramsar Conventions. I was a board and exco member of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; chief science and technology officer for the World Bank-funded Global Invasive Species Programme, and chief science and policy officer for the geospatial consultancy Conservation Biology Institute, including the development of biodiversity early-warning systems, which I'd spearheaded in southern Africa.

Nationally and bioregionally, I worked with governments and academia in Africa, where for 21 years I founded and led influential national climate and biodiversity programmes in post-independence Namibia and post-apartheid South Africa. These were meaningful times, providing guidance for humanity around the world at these crossroads. I also founded and developed collaborative, highly structured programs with 21 strategic working groups on biodiversity and climate resilience, adaptation and restoration. Our work was awarded globally to me personally by the Society for Conservation Biology's 2002 Distinguished Service Award for government (Sir David Attenborough and Prof Georgina Mace co-won it for media and academia respectively).

Since returning to the USA in 2017 to lead and co-lead three international and global environmental and societal NGOs, and initiate a global convening to accelerate planetary restoration for civilizational shift, I've focused increasingly on policies, behaviors and systems driving biodiversity loss, climate change and other symptoms of ecological overshoot. Leaving the US to focus on accelerating civilizational shift, I now live in Oxford, UK as an Honorary Research Fellow at Oxford University's Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery and Affiliated Researcher at the Stockholm Environment Institute's Oxford Centre.

Scientifically, I work on the biological mechanisms of vulnerability and adaptation to rapid global change. I've warned of our precarious ecological overshoot, and how to reverse it: I am a core co-author of the World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency papers in *BioScience* and *Scientific American* in 2019-2021, the first co-signed by 15,656 scientists from 165 countries, and lead author of the World Scientists' Warnings into Action: Local to Global paper in *Science Progress* in 2021 (for COP26), co-signed by 3000+ scientists from 110+ countries. I co-authored World Scientists' Warning: the Behavioural Crisis Driving Ecological Overshoot with disaffected global marketing industry execs. I'm intent on speeding implementation of solutions around the world, through transformative and collaborative action at multiple scales. I now convene big, bold and morally ambitious initiatives to fill gaps in helping humanity and the biosphere run the next century's gauntlet of metacrises.

My interests are big-picture, and my communications skills fastidious. I'm a film co-producer, scriptwriter, public speaker and writer, and highly experienced scientific editor and associate editor, well-honed on clear, succinct and defensible messaging.

Education

PhD in Environmental Sciences (biodiversity/ ecology) -- Uppsala University, Sweden, 1994
MSc in Environmental Sciences with distinction (animal ecology) -- University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, 1990
BSc with Honours in Biology -- Acadia University, Canada, 1983

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2021-26	Regular peer reviewer for ***Ecological Citizen, Science & Society, Solutions*** and other journals.
2016-21	Editorial board, subject editor, ***Ecography*** (the Nordic Society, Oikos), latest IF then = 6.00.
2006-14	Editorial board, ***Animal Conservation*** (Institute of Zoology, London), latest IF then = 3.65.
2008-2015	Editorial board, ***African Journal of Ecology*** (Blackwells), latest IF then = 1.436.
2013-16	Editorial board, ***Climate Change Responses*** (BioMedCentral, London). (Now closed for publication.)
2005-11	Editorial board, ***Biology Letters*** (The Royal Society, UK), latest IF = 3.703. Co-edited 2008 special feature of *Biology Letters* on global change and biodiversity (with Wilfried Thuiller), top download
1993-97; 2016-19	Editorial board, ***Ostrich – Journal of African Ornithology***, latest IF = 1.364.
1986-88	Co-founder and copy editor, ***GABAR – Journal of African Raptor Biology***
1996-97	Guest editor, special Namibian issue of ***Biodiversity & Conservation*** (vol. 7, no. 4, 1998)
1987- present	Scientific referee for (alphabetical order): ***African Journal of Ecology, African Zoology, Animal Behaviour, Behavioral Ecology, Biodiversity & Conservation, Biological Conservation, Cimbebasia, Conservation Biology, Conservation Letters, Diversity & Distributions, Ecological Applications, Emu (CSIRO), Environmental Management, Environmental Research Letters, Global Change Biology, Global Ecology & Conservation, Ibis, International Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation, Journal of Arid Environments, Journal of Biogeography, Memoirs of Geological Survey of Namibia, Nature, Nature Climate Change, Ostrich, Pacific Conservation Biology, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, Proceedings of the Pan-African Ornithological Congress, South African Journal of Botany, S African Journal of Wildlife Research, South African Journal of Science, Trends in Ecology & Evolution***
1984- present	Editorial referee for colleagues' environment & development-related books / manuscripts
1999-02	Co-edited/authored national biodiversity strategy & action plan, ***Biodiversity & Development in Namibia***
1995-98	Edited/co-authored book, ***Biological diversity in Namibia: a country study***

A quite highly ranked, productive and impactful scientist, strategist and communicator, member of the Club of Rome's Planetary Emergency Partnership and other bodies, I can cross-pollinate effectively between siloed disciplines. I've been honored with a global award for bringing people together to tackle our most challenging wicked problems in science and society, and I write and speak extensively on shifting civilization to a wiser, more collaborative future (recently, Oct 2025 at the Avoiding 2 Degrees Summit and July 2024 at the Club of Rome's Roundtable on the Human Future).

After hours, I also co-produce films, working with my filmmaker husband John Bowey on films on big societal issues. Our forthcoming independent global documentary series, *The Climate Restorers*, shows how nature-based carbon removal, vast-scale ecosystem restoration and social change can together help stabilize our planet, climate and societies.

I've been a Fulbright Scholar, Distinguished Service Awardee of the Society for Conservation Biology, and Forbes Distinguished Professional Achievement Awardee. I climb active volcanoes and snowy mountains and grow a community vegetable garden. I'm a US citizen and have lived in Africa, North America and Europe, with permanent residence in Namibia and South Africa.

Contacts

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Work:

- **Founder and convenor, AMOC Preparedness Support Team; Financial Flows for Civilizational Shift Team;**
- **Co-founder and Co-convenor, Global Restoration Collaborative**, a global process to align ecosystem restoration, climate restoration and youth, women and indigenous leadership alliances & thus accelerate progress beyond the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- **Affiliate Full Professor** (conservation biology; environmental futures; climate risk and resilience), **University of Washington – Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, UW Bothell and Center for Environmental Politics, UW Seattle**
- **Honorary Research Fellow, Oxford University Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery, School of Geography & Environment**
- **Affiliated Researcher, Stockholm Environment Institute, Oxford Centre**
- **Honorary Research Associate, African Climate and Development Initiative, and DST-NRF Centre of Excellence at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology**, both at the **University of Cape Town**, Cape Town, South Africa
- **Associate Science, Policy and Comms Strategist, Conservation Biology Institute,** Corvallis, OR, USA
- **Founding CEO and Senior Advisor, Stable Planet Alliance** (2021-26), a global alliance of dynamic, respected organizations and experts
- **Co-producer and Scriptwriter, Transmediavision USA**, Inc on multiple documentary projects, currently The Climate Restorers (below)

URLs: Wikipedia summary | Personal portal | AMOC Preparedness Support Team | Préparez l'Avenir (planetary & societal futures) Team | Global Restoration Collaborative | University of Washington (UW) professorial page | UW Center for Environmental Politics | Early Warning Systems for Biodiversity portal and extended brief | Early warning systems for biodiversity in North American Cascadia Region | FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology honorary research associate page | African Climate and Development Initiative affiliates page | ResearchGate profile | Academia profile | The Climate Restorers documentary series | Climate Repair Café | Leverhulme Centre for Nature Recovery | SEI Oxford