

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Helen Elizabeth Fox
January 2020

PERSONAL DETAILS

Personal information: South African, Driver's license, Code B, Born 25th February 1980

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am an environmental educator, researcher and reflexive practitioner in the field of social-ecological systems. My abiding interest is to continually deepen my philosophical, conceptual and transdisciplinary understanding of the human-ecological dynamic and how to achieve just, equitable and sustainable development outcomes and share this with others to empower positive action.

QUALIFICATIONS

Rhodes University (1998-2014)

- Doctor of Philosophy in Water Resources Science, Institute for Water Research, 2012-2014
- Research Design Certificate, Education Department, 2012
- Environmental Education, Goldfields course (part-time), 2008.
- Xhosa 2, 71%, 2006
- Masters of Science with distinction, Environmental Science, 2003-2005
- Bachelor of Science Honours with distinction, Environmental Science, 2001
- Bachelor of Science: Environmental Science with distinction, Geography 302 with distinction, Anthropology, 2000
- Matriculated, Victoria Girls High School, 1997

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT

- Came 4th in the country for an eco/social entrepreneurship project at the Festival of Ideas competition, November 2016.
- Granted a SANPAD bursary valued at R120 000 per annum, April 2012 – April 2014
- Nominated for the Rhodes University Environmental Award September, 2009
- Awarded a DAAD Scholarship valued at +R20 0000, 2004;
- Awarded an Ethel and Erikson scholarship valued at R6000, 2004;
- Granted an NRF bursary valued at R14 000, 2003 and 2004;
- Awarded a Rhodes University Masters bursary valued at R5000, 2003;
- Awarded academic colours, 2001;
- Awarded a National Research Foundation Honours bursary valued at R8000, 2001;
- Awarded a Rhodes University Honours bursary valued at R5000, 2001;
- Invited member of the International Golden Key Society, 2001;
- Awarded the prize for top Environmental Science Third year student, 2000.

SHORT COURSES

- A 7 week online Bright Futures Now course (April – May 2020) that provided me with the “frameworks, skills, experiences and community to...become a potent seed-point for the emergence of the

world's bright future. (It expanded my) capacity to make positive change at all levels – from personal to global – and to spend more time living in the deep strengths of love and creativity”.

- 1 week Holistic Management course, hosted by the Savory Institute, South Africa (April 11th-18th, 2016).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Environmental Educator on a Global Environment Fund (GEF) funded Restoration Project (June 2018 – Present)
 - Responsible for an environmental education programme involving learners, educators and the wider community that supports the ecological restoration outcomes of the larger project.
- Researcher on the KIC Climate Change Education Research Project (October 2021 – Present)
 - The research topic is titled 'A comparative process tracing study on teacher professional development in climate change education' and is being run in five universities in 3 provinces.
- Facilitator on an Energy & Water SETA Short Course offered by the ELRC, Rhodes University (May 2021 – December 2021)
 - The course was offered to TVET college lecturers and managers and had the following focus: “address the need of TVET and Community Colleges to teach technical and vocational learners and communities about environmental sustainability and natural resource management.”
- Materials developer and environmental educator on a Fundisa for Change Keep It Cool (KIC) Climate Change Course offered to Geography & Natural Science Teachers (Feb 2021 – October 2021).
 - Responsible for developing materials, facilitating training and evaluating the process.
- Tutor on an online 6 month “Training of Trainers” course (October 2020 – July 2021)
 - Supported 13 university students in their participation of an online course that gives practitioners skills and knowledge to guide social learning processes in Natural Resource Management.
- Environmental consultant on the Biodiversity Offsets team for the Wild Coast N2 project (June 2019 – September 2020)
 - On the social team developing the implementation plan for how best to engage with local people.
- Researcher on a Tyume Valley Land Reform Study based at the University of Fort Hare (January – December 2019)
 - Investigate past, present and future uses of two land parcels (indigenous forests and commercial forests) with the aim of identifying just, equitable and sustainable developmental pathways.
- Project/Reforestation Manager, Cape Parrot Project (Jan 2017 – June 2018)
 - Reforest and protect degraded Afromontane forest patches in the Amathola region.
 - Manage a team of 6 people.
 - Engage with a variety of stakeholders.
- Environmental Consultant on the Green Village, Water Research Commission funded project (April 2015 – December 2017)
 - Explore and help implement options to bring rural development to Sinxaku village, with a particular focus on livestock management and erosion control.
 - Design and implement an environmental education programme for Sinxaku Lower Primary in the Tsitsa Catchment as part of the Green Village Project.
 - Assist with the running of community workshops.
- Facilitator on a 2-day transdisciplinary research training workshop for post graduates hosted at Rhodes University (May 2016)

- Part of a team who designed, organised and implemented a successful transdisciplinary research training workshop for postgraduates
- Part-time Post doc in the Environmental Science Department, Rhodes University (April 2016 – Dec 2016)
 - Examine why small-scale agricultural projects fail in the Kat River Valley, and explore options for success.
- Post doc in the Environmental Science Department, Rhodes University (April 2015 – March 2016)
 - Undertake an extensive literature review to determine the factors that undermine and promote sustainable, community engaged ecological restoration projects.
- Environmental Consultant for Linkd Consultancies (Sep 2014 – April 2015)
 - Contribute to the development of South Africa's National Biodiversity Assessment Report and the Environmental Offsets Report as commissioned by the Department of Environmental Affairs.
 - Assist with workshop facilitation.
- Environmental Officer, Institute for Water Research (April 2008 – April 2012)
 - Design, lead, manage and implement a stakeholder engagement process and environmental education initiative to generate a groundswell of community support and action for the reclamation of Boksburg Lake that was experiencing severe social and ecological degradation.
- Resource Materials Developer, Sustainable Seas Trust (April 2010 – Dec 2010)
 - Develop three booklets on sustainable use of marine resources.
- Resource Materials Developer, Environmental Education and Sustainability Unit (April 2008 – Dec 2008)
 - Develop 12 Handprint Resource Books on sustainability practices, to be used in the National Curriculum and Eco Schools initiative. These are distributed via Share Net.
- Junior Research Officer, Institute for Water Research (May 2007 – April 2008)
 - Examine Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the context of local government in Makana.
 - Design and implement an environmental education programme that supports Integrated Water Resource Management in the Grahamstown catchment.
- Administrative Manager and Researcher, Social team on a WRC funded project (Feb 2005 – Dec 2006)
 - Assist with the development of a Catchment Management Plan for sustainable use of local water resources.
- Researcher, Environmental Science Department, Rhodes University (Nov 2002 – March 2003)
 - Explore the cultural values people place on their local environment in the Kat River Valley.
- Researcher, Geography Department, Newcastle University (April 2002 – Oct 2002)
 - Explore local people's values and relationship with their water resources in the Coquet Dale Northumberland.

PAPERS AND PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

- Thomas, L & Fox, H. 2020. Focusing on the proposed biosphere reserve in the Amathole Mountains, Eastern Cape South Africa through a socio-ecological and development research lens. To be submitted to a journal.
- Fox, H & Cundill, C. 2018. *Towards Increased Community-Engaged Ecological Restoration. A Review of Current Practice and Future Directions*. Journal of Ecological Restoration. 36-3.
- Fox, H., Palmer, T & O' Donoghue, R. 2015. *Transformative processes in environmental education: a case study*. Environmental Learning Research Centre, Rhodes University: Southern African Journal of Environmental Education: 30.

- Gaylard, M., Huyser, O., & Fox, H. 2014. *Literature Review: Environmental Offsets*. South Africa: Department of Environmental Affairs.
- Gaylard, M., Huyser, O., & Fox, H. 2014. *NBSAP 2005: Stocktaking & Gap Analysis*. South Africa: Department of Environmental Affairs.
- Fox, H. 2013. A theocentric viewpoint: Its contribution towards valued and healthy social-ecological systems. M, Koshy (Ed.), *Religious response to Ecological Challenges Papers presented at the International Ecological Conference held at Nilackal*. Germany: Lambert Academic Publishing.
- Haigh, L., Fox, H.E., & Davies-Coleman, H.D. 2010. *Framework for local government to implement integrated water resource management linked to water service delivery*. Water SA: 36. 4.
- Haigh, L. & Fox, H.E. 2007. *A Framework for the Involvement of Local Government in Water Resource Management linked to Water Service Provision*. Water Research Commission Report. Project no. K5/16881.
- Fox, H.E. 2006. *Development options for the Kat River Valley*. Unpublished report, Catchment Research Group, Rhodes University.
- Fox, H. 2003. *Potential loss of resource value resulting from heavy resource use*, Environmental Science Department, Rhodes University, Grahamstown.
- Fox, H. 2002. *A comparative cultural valuation of three rural landscapes in the Eastern Cape, South Africa*. Environmental Science Department, Rhodes University, Grahamstown.
- Fox, H. 2002. *The people of Coquetdale, Northumberland, UK: Their perceptions of the 'environmental capital' of the Dale*. School of Geography, Politics and Sociology, University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Fox, H & Rowntree, K. 2016. *Navigating the social in restoration projects: Challenges, strategies and ethical quandaries*. VII World Conference on Ecological Restoration. Foz do Iguassu, Brazil (August 27 – September 1).
- Fox, H & Cundill, C. 2015. *Connecting ideology and on the ground realities: Insights for ecological restoration projects and large dams*. PECS 2015 Social Ecological Dynamics in the Anthropocene. Stellenbosch (November 3 – 5).
- Fox, H. 2015. *A Critical Realist analysis of degradation and restorative possibilities in a complex social-ecological system*. International Conference on Complex Systems. Tempe, Arizona. (September 28 – October 2).
- Fox, H. 2012. *Interdisciplinarity, Social-Ecological Systems & Critical Realism: a promising relationship*. International Conference on Critical Realism, Rhodes University, South Africa (July 18 – 20).
- Fox, H. 2012. *A theocentric viewpoint: It's contribution towards valued & healthy social-ecological systems*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Religious Response to Ecological Challenge, St. Thomas Church & Ecumenical Centre Trust, Nilackal, India (April 17 – 20).
- Fox, H & O' Donoghue, R. 2009. *Extending EE / ESD from awareness creation and ethical action to change orientated learning in relation to sustainability practices for sustainable consumption*. 11th International Conference of Finland Futures Research Centre and Finland Futures Academy. Tampere
- Rowntree, K.M., Birkholz, S.A., Burt, J.C., & H.E. Fox. 2009. *Integrating Environmental Flow Requirements into a Stakeholder Driven Catchment Management Process*. International Conference on Implementing Environmental Water Allocations. 2009, Port Elizabeth. Published in proceedings.
- Fox, H. 2008. *Extending EE / ESD from awareness creation and ethical action to change orientated learning in relation to practices*. International conference of the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa. Mbabane. Published in proceedings.
- Fox, H. 2008. *An environmental Education Strategy for Boksburg Lake informed by an exploration of environment and sustainability risks*. EESU conference, Mbabane.

- Fox, H. 2005. *Integrating anthropogenic disturbance, culture and ecology into complex adaptive system thinking*. Society of Southern Africa (Congress 40), Port Shepstone.

SHORT TERM AND VOLUNTARY EXPERIENCE

- Nominated member of my church council since 2016.
- One of three directors of an NPC called Art Connex.
- Participation in a 1 week course in Holistic Management, hosted by the Savory Institute of South Africa (April 2016)
- Assisted in designing and facilitating a post graduate training workshop on transdisciplinary, Rhodes University (10 – 11 May 2016)
- Invited speaker at the Global Environmental Management Education Centre (GEM), University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to give a presentation titled '*Action research at Boksburg Lake, South Africa: Social-ecological learning interactions towards a sustainable future*' (12 April 2010)
- Helped supervise a student from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point during a GEM Ambassador Program in South Africa (2010)
- Pioneered an environmental ministry with interested church members (2005 – 2011)
- Initiated a football club with street children in Grahamstown (1999 – 2009)
- Organised and facilitated an environmental science conference excursion, Rhodes University (Sep 2005)
- Sci friend at the Sasol Science Festival, hosted by the Grahamstown Foundation (two weeks in April 2005, 2002 & 2001)
- Two year ministerial training course, His People Bible School (Feb 2004 – Nov 2005)
- Office assistant (Reference Manager), Environmental Science department, Rhodes University (Jan 2002 – Feb 2002)
- Eco-tourism camp assistant and teacher in Namibia, Save the Rhino Trust (Dec 2000 – Feb 2001)

