

Melanie Lenart

Education

August 2003 Ph.D., *University of Arizona, Tucson*. Focused on Global Change with a dual affiliation in the School of Natural Resources and the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research.

May 1992 M.S., Forestry *University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana*, mainly tropical forestry.

May 1984 B.A. in Journalism, *Northern Illinois University, DeKalb*.

Current Position

October 2003-Present Postdoctoral Research associate at the University of Arizona's *Institute for the Study of Planet Earth*, Climate Assessment for the Southwest project. Focus on outreach, including giving presentations on climate change to a variety of groups, organizing workshops, and writing feature articles for our monthly Southwest Climate Outlook.

Select Teaching Experience

August-December 2001 UA teaching assistant, *Environmental History of the Southwest*. Tasks included meeting with students, grading papers and lecturing on climate change.

August 1997-May 1999, August 1999-May 2000 UA teaching assistant, *Introduction to Global Change*. Tasks included grading papers, leading two-hour discussion sessions on topics like rising carbon dioxide levels and global deforestation and occasionally lecturing.

August 1990-December 1990 Visiting lecturer, *Xi Jiang University, Zhaoqing, China*.

Select Research Experience

August 1998-August 2003 Primary investigator in research assessing uprooting frequency and soil disturbance in forests in Colorado and Puerto Rico (including after Hurricane Georges) with support from the *International Institute of Tropical Forestry* and *U.S. Geological Survey*.

August 1996-August 1997 UA research assistant, *Free-Air Carbon Dioxide Enrichment* experiment, Maricopa, Arizona, on project exposing wheat to futuristic carbon dioxide levels.

June 1990-June 1991 UI research assistant, *U.N. Man and the Biosphere reserve*, Dinghushan, China, with field and laboratory work on forest carbon cycling for M.S. degree.

August 1989-January 1990 Intern, *International Institute of Tropical Forestry*, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico, assisting in damage inventory of Caribbean National Forest from Hurricane Hugo.

Select Journalism experience

January 2001-December 2003 Co-founder, editor and writer for the twice-yearly *Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research* glossy magazine-style newsletter, the *Tree-Ring Times*.

September 1997-January 2002 Science writer for *University of Arizona News Services*, Tucson, specializing in breaking news on Global Change research at the university.

August 1992-June 1996 Held various positions at *The San Juan Star*, an English-language daily newspaper based in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Positions included environmental columnist (1993-1995), copy editor (1992-1995) and environmental reporter (1995-1996).

January 1985-July 1987 General reporter, *The Suburban Life Citizen*, a twice-weekly newspaper based in La Grange Park, Illinois, that covers Chicago's western suburbs.

January 1981-May 1984 Held various positions at *The Northern Star*, a campus newspaper in DeKalb, including editorial editor, newsroom supervisor, feature writer and city reporter.

Awards and Scholarships

2004 Outstanding Dissertation award, School of Natural Resources.

1999 Fort McDowell Wassaja Memorial Fund Scholarship

1985 Northern Illinois Newspaper Association award for feature writing.

1982-1983 Outstanding NIU Journalism Student

1982 Hearst Award for Investigative Reporting