

Stephen Porder
Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Providence, RI
phone: 650-799-8854 fax: 650-725-1856
sporder@stanford.edu

Academic History:

- As of 1/1/2007 **Brown University**
Assistant Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- 2005 – 2006 **Stanford University**
Post-doctoral scholar – Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences
Primary investigators: C. Page Chamberlain, George Hilley, and Peter M. Vitousek
Current research: The influence of tectonic uplift rates on nutrient availability.
- 2000 – 2005 **Stanford University.** Stanford, CA.
Ph.D. - Biological Sciences (Ecology and Evolution).
Advisor: Peter M. Vitousek
Committee Members: Pamela Matson, Gregory P. Asner, Elizabeth A. Hadly, and Jennifer Harden
Thesis: “Nutrient availability across tropical landscapes - examining old paradigms at new scales.”
- 1995 – 1997 **The University of Montana.** Missoula, MT.
M.S. (Geology)
Advisor: Donald Hyndman
Thesis: “Metamorphism and metasomatism in the Lower Prichard Formation.”
- 1989 – 1994 **Amherst College.** Amherst, MA.
B.A. (History)
Thesis: “The Creation of the 14th State: Vermont’s History Prior to Joining the Union.”

Teaching experience:

- 2005 - 2006 **Lecturer (Geological and Environmental Sciences),** Stanford University
• Course title - Biology and global change
- 2000 - 2004 **Teaching Assistant (Biological Sciences).** Stanford University.
• Assisted teaching Introduction to Biology, Paleobiology, and Biology and global change)
• Led graduate seminar in biogeochemistry (2002).
• Designed and led graduate seminar in biological invasions (2001).
- 1997 – 2000 **Earth Science and Physics Teacher.** St. Jean Baptiste High School, NY
• Taught earth science to 9th and 10th grade students.
- 1995 – 1997 **Teaching Assistant (Geology).** The University of Montana, Missoula, MT.
• Taught geology laboratory course.
• Assisted teaching upper-level petrology course.

Selected Publications:

- **Porder, S.**, P.M. Vitousek, O.A. Chadwick, C.P. Chamberlain, and G.E. Hilley (in press). Uplift, erosion, and phosphorus limitation in terrestrial ecosystems. *Ecosystems*.
- **Porder, S.**, D.B. Clark, and P.M. Vitousek (2006). High availability of rock-derived nutrients across the lowland tropical rainforest at La Selva, Costa Rica. *Ecology* 87 (3): 594-602.
- **Porder, S.**, G.P. Asner., and P.M. Vitousek (2005). Ground-based and remotely-sensed nutrient availability across a tropical landscape *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 102 (31), 10909 – 10912.
- **Porder, S.**, A. Paytan, and P.M. Vitousek (2005). Erosion and landscape development affect plant nutrient status in the Hawaiian Islands. *Oecologia* 142, 440 – 449.
- Vitousek, P; Chadwick, O; Matson, P; Allison, S; Derry, L; Kettley, L; Luers, A; Mecking, E; Monastera, V; **Porder, S.** (2003) Erosion and the rejuvenation of weathering-derived nutrient supply in an old tropical landscape. *Ecosystems* 6(8) 762-772.
- **Porder, S.**, A. Paytan and E.A. Hadly (2003). Mapping the origins of faunal assemblages using strontium isotopes. *Paleobiology* 29(2) 197-204.
- **Porder, S.J.**, Hyndman, D, and Copeland, P. (1997). Burial metamorphism of the lower Prichard Formation of the Belt Supergroup; petrology, thermobarometry, and geochronology. *Geological Society of America Abstracts w/Programs*, 29 (6), p408-409.

Grants/Awards

- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant DEB-0407726 (2004)
- Sixma Xi Grants in research award (2004)
- Stanford Graduate Fellowship (3 years tuition and stipend support) (2000-2003)
- Geological Society of America Award for Outstanding Student Research (1996)
- Geological Society Penrose Grant #5909-96 (1996)
- Summa cum laude – Amherst College (1994)
- Phi Beta Kappa – Amherst College (1994)
- Amherst College Alfred J. Havighurst Prize for Outstanding Scholarship in the Historical Sciences. (1994)

Selected Professional Presentations:

- **Porder, S.**, D.B. Clark and P.M. Vitousek. Nutrient variability across a lowland tropical forest at La Selva, Costa Rica. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, August 2004.
- **Porder, S.**, P.M. Vitousek, A. Paytan, and T. Bullen. Erosion and landscape development affect nutrient availability in the Hawaiian Islands. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, August 2003.

- **Porder, S.**, E. Hadly, and A. Paytan. Reconstructing predator foraging habitats using strontium isotopes. Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting, October 2001.

Public Policy/Community Outreach

- **Invited panel speaker.** Union of Concerned Scientists forum on science and policymaking. Ecological Society of America Meeting, August 2005.
- K.M.A. Chan, P.A.T. Higgins and **S. Porder** (2005). Protecting science from abuse requires a broader form of outreach. *Public Library of Science* 3 (7) e218.
- **Porder, S.**, K.M.A. Chan and P.A.T. Higgins (2004). Scientists must conquer the reluctance to speak out. *Nature* 431, p1046.
- Chan, KMA, **S. Porder** and P.A.T. Higgins (2004) Concern is more than just 'ruffled feathers' - If a government abuses science to justify its policies, scientists have a duty to speak out. *Nature* 428, p255.
- **Porder, S.**, K.M.A Chan and P.A.T Higgins (2004) Science and policy – it's an issue of trust. *San Francisco Chronicle* April 4, 2004.
- **Porder, S.** (2004) Science and policy - Uneasy partners. *Bioscience* 54(1) 6-7.
- **Co-founder of scienceinpolicy.org.** This organization was dedicated to promoting the use of sound science in policy making. It has been subsumed by the efforts of the Union of Concerned Scientists, but in 2003-2005 was a grass roots organization of environmental scientists trying to inform the public about the use, and misuse, of science by policy makers.