

Eunice L. Blavascunas, Ph.D.
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Current Appointment

2015-present *Associate Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies.* Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. August 2015-present

Research Appointments

2018-2019 *GWZO Visiting Researcher,* Leibniz-Institute for East European History and Culture, Leipzig, Germany.

2013-2014 *Rachel Carson Fellow,* Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany.

2012-2013 *Research Associate/Faculty Associate,* University of Maine Anthropology Department.

2012-2015 *Research Fellow/Instructor.* College of the Atlantic.

2010-2011 *Research Fellow,* The Havighurst Center for Russian and Postsocialist Studies, Miami University.

Teaching Appointments

2008-2010 *Social Science Teaching Fellow,* Program on the Environment, University of Washington.

Education

2008 Ph.D. Cultural Anthropology, University of California Santa Cruz.

2003 M.A. Cultural Anthropology, University of California Santa Cruz.

1999 M.A. Cultural Geography, University of Texas at Austin. 1999.

1994 B.S. and B.A. Environmental Science and Liberal Arts, The Evergreen State College.

Areas of Expertise

Environmental Anthropology, Environmental History, Science Technology Studies, Political Ecology, Sustainability, Animal Studies, Postsocialist Anthropology, Forestry and Conservation , Peasant Studies

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

External

- 2021 Andrew F. Mellon Foundation 2021-2023-role: subaward. **\$4.52mil.** Pacific Northwest Just Futures Initiative for Racial and Climate Justice.
- 2020-2021 NSF grant 2020-2021– role: subaward. **\$1.077mil.** [NSF IUSE-EHR](#) Collaborative Research: A Next Generation Concept Inventory using Constructed Response for evaluating student knowledge of complex systems in environmental education.
- 2013-2014 Rachel Carson Center Fellowship.
- 2013 Cornell University Summer Institute on Contested Landscapes.
- 2012 Switzer Environmental Leadership Grantee.
- 2011 CEC Artslink Grant.
- 2010 National Council of East European and Eurasian Research Fellowship.
- 2005 Fulbright Hays Doctoral Fellowship.
- 2005 Switzer Foundation Environmental Fellowship.
- 2004 Berkeley Working Group on Environmental Politics.
- 2003 American Society for Environmental History Travel Grant.
- 2002 David L. Boren Graduate Fellowship.
- 2002 Kosciuszko Foundation Research Grant.
2002. NSF Graduate Research Fellowship-Honorable Mention.
- 1998 NSEP Graduate Fellowship.
- 1998 Ford Foundation Social Science Concepts Research Grant.

Internal

- 2021 Whitman College Pedagogical Inquiry Grant/The Body.
- 2020 Whitman College Community Engaged Learning Initiative.
- 2018 Whitman College CDTLI Pedagogy Grant/Animal Studies.
- 2018 Whitman College Perry Grant to support undergraduate research
- 2016 Whitman College CDTLI/Teaching with Games.
- 2008 Rich Randolph Award: Best Ethnographic Essay Award, UCSC 2007.

Publications

Books

- 2020 *Foresters, Borders, and Bark Beetles: The Future of Europe's Last Primeval Forest.* Indiana University Press.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2021 *In press.* "Constructing Forest Expertise: Foresters in the Białowieża Forest" in *Planners, Experts and Bureaucrats: The Transformation of Economy and Nature in European Peripheries.* eds. Stefan Dorondel and Stelu Serban. Pittsburgh University Press.
- 2018 "Bark Beetle and Ultra-Right Nationalist Outbreaks: Białowieża, Poland" in *Environmentalism under Authoritarian Regimes.* eds. Viktor Pal and Stephen Brain. Routledge University Press.
- 2013 "Signals in the Forest: Cultural Boundaries of Science in Białowieża, Poland" in *New Natures: Joining Environmental History with Science and Technology Studies.* eds. Finn Arne Jorgenson, Dolly Jorgenson and Sarah Pritchard. Pittsburgh University Press.
- 2010 "Imaginative Geography at the Forested Polish/Belarusian Borderland" in *Annus Albaruthenicus vol.11,* ed: Sokrat Janowicz. Stowarzyszenie Villa Sokrates, Krynki, Poland.
- 2009 "From Agriculture to Ecology: Rural Responses to New Modes of Production" in *P-S Landscapes: Optics for Urban Studies.* eds. Nerijus Milerius, Benjamin Cope: EHU, Vilnius.
- 2007 "Border Trouble: Constituting and Crossing Borders in the Białowieża Primeval Forest" in *Borders and Boundaries in the European Union: Crossing and Resisting Strategies* eds. Mathilde Darley and Paul Bauer. Centre Francais de Recherche en Sciences Sociales. Prague.
- 2002 "Authenticity and Rhetoric in the Białowieża Forest Preserve" in *Just Ecological Integrity: The Ethics of Maintaining Planetary Life.* ed. Peter Miller. Rowman and Littlefield: Boulder.

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals

- 2021 "Depriving the far-right unity." *Social Anthropology.* 29:2 pp. 341-342.
- 2017 "In the mud and of the mud: Posthumanities for eastern European rural societies." *Historische Anthropologie: Kultur, Gesellschaft, Alltag.* 27:2 pp.305-309.

- 2015 "Using Lake Superior Parks to Explain the Midcontinent Rift" *Park Science* 32:10-15.
- 2014 "When Foresters Reterritorialize the Periphery: Postsocialist Forest Politics in Poland's Białowieża Forest." *Journal of Political Ecology* 21:475-492.
- 2009 "Ecological Community: Pogroms, Peat Bogs and the Zapust Festival" In *Anthropology of East Europe Review*. 27:2.

Working Papers

- 2021 Tucker, B., L. Arakawa, S. Anderson, S. Vincent. E. Blavascunas et al. *in preparation*. "Alignment among environmental programs in higher education: What are we covering in introductory courses?" *Journal of STEM Education*.
- 2018 "The Open Access Tradition in Northern Maine; Cultures of Property."
- 2012 "Uncommonly Wild: Contesting Warsaw's Vistula River."
<http://www.nceer.org/papers.html>.
- 2012 "Reversing orders: Foresters and the Local in Poland's Białowieża Forest."
<http://www.nceer.org/papers.html>.

Book Reviews:

- 2007 Elizabeth Dunn. *Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor*, 2004. *Czech Sociological Review* 44:1.
- 2005 John Terbourgh, et.al. *Making Parks Work: Strategies for Preserving Tropical Nature*. *Conservation Biology* 19:1 pp. 279-281.

Public Opinion and Activist Writings

- 2018 "The Bellflower Specialist." *Seeing the Woods*. Rachel Carson Center Blog
<https://seeingthewoods.org/2018/11/16/the-bellflower-specialists/>
- 2016 "The real threat to Europe's last primeval forest: Bark beetles or undemocratic politicians." *Earth Island Journal*.
https://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/articles/entry/the_real_threat_to_europes_last_primeval_forest_bark_beetles_or_undemocrati/
- 2015 "Poland's Primeval Forest has Lost its Staunchest Defender." *Earth Island Journal*. August 28, 2015.
https://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/articles/entry/polands_primeval_forest_has_lost_its_staunchest_defender/

- 2014 "Using the Midcontinent Rift as a Unifying Theme for Park Interpreters and Educators." Stein, Seth, Catol Stein and Eunice Blavascunas. *Insights: The Earthscope Newsletter*. Fall 2014.
https://www.earthscope.org/articles/midcontinent_rift_educators.html
- 2013 "Cultural Encounters in the Name of Biology" in *Making Tracks: Human and Environmental Histories*. Edited by Christof Mauch and Helmuth Trischler. Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich.
https://www.jstor.org/stable/26240546?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents
- 2009 "National Parks and Our Highest Ideals" in *The Białowieża National Park: To Know, Understand and Protect* (English version). Białowieża National Park: Białowieża.
- 2005 "Of Greener Worlds: American Impressions of the Białowieża Forest." (Polish translation) in *Człowiek i Las*. Ed. Janusz Korbel. Białydruk: Białystok.
- 2006 "National Parks as Cultural Patrimony." (Polish translation) in *Dzikie Życie*. 12: 138-139.
- 1999 "The Forest through the Trees." *The Warsaw Insider*. 12:12-14.

Administrative, Evaluative, and Other Projects

- 2021 **Grants Evaluator**, Switzer Foundation.
- 2020 **Peer Reviewer**, NSF, DDRIG.
- 2020 **Peer Reviewer**, National Humanities Center Fellowship.
- 2020 **External Reviewer for Ph.D. candidate**, George Iordachescu, IMF, Luca, Italy
- 2020 **Peer Reviewer**, Conservation and Society
- 2019 **Peer Reviewer**, Freie Universität Berlin. Review postdoctoral applications.
- 2017 **Peer Reviewer**, Charles University Prague. Review postdoctoral application.
- 2014 **Project Partner/Grantwriter**, NSF, Advancing Informal Stem Learning (AISL).
- 2011 **Filmmaker**, "Black Stork/White Stork" 2011-2014. Funded from CEC Artslink.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bW8Qm3JvqY>
- 2014 **Resource Faculty**, Global Environmental Summer Academy, Bern, Switzerland. August 2014.
- 2013 **Curriculum for the Bioregion Contributor**, Developed Seattle-based curriculum on race and social justice.
<http://serc.carleton.edu/bioregion/examples/59036.html> 2013.
- 2011 **Thesis Advisor/External Reviewer** Maria Aukhimovich, MA student, European Humanities University 2011.
- Ongoing **Peer Reviewer**, *Journal of Baltic Studies*.
Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Ecological Anthropology*.
Peer Reviewer, *Conservation and Society*
- 2008 **Scholarship Reviewer**, University of Washington. Boren Scholarship.
- 2007 **Consultant**, Served as policy advisor to the Polish Presidential Commission on Protecting Cultural and Natural heritage in the Forest 2007.
- 2002-2005 **Consultant**, Białowieża Forest Institute.

- 2002 **Consultant**, Isle Royale Institute.
 1997 **Filmmaker**, “Le Danse D’Individuelle.” Screened at South by Southwest Film Festival, Austin Texas, and Olympia Film Festival, Olympia, WA.

Institutional Service

- 2015-2021 Environmental Studies Advisory Committee. Whitman College.
 2020-2021 Elected Position: Admissions and Financial Aid Committee, Whitman College
 2020 Community Engaged Research and Learning Committee, Whitman College.
 2020 First Generation and Working Class Student Advisor. Whitman College.
 2019 Elected Position: Aid to Scholarship and Development Committee.
 2017 Elected Position: General Studies Advisory Committee. Whitman College.
 2016-2021 Faculty hiring committees. Whitman College
 2016 Elected Position: Student Life. Whitman College

Research Groups

- Land Acknowledgements-Whitman College. 2021.
 The Body-Whitman College. 2021.
 Love, Work, Violence-Europe-based. 2017-present.
 Animal Studies-Whitman College. 2018.
 Multi-species working group-Rachel Carson Center, Munich 2014.
 Interdisciplinary studies working group-Rachel Carson Center, Munich 2014.
 Center for Applied Human Ecology-College of the Atlantic, Maine 2012-2013.
 Political ecology working group-Founding Member, UC Santa Cruz 2001-2007.
 Expedition Leader. Long Term Ecological Research (LTER). Isle Royale Moose/Wolf Predator Prey Study. August 2003. February 2004.

Invited Lectures and Workshops

- 2021 **L’Ecole de haute etude. Paris. Les plans magistraux des humains et leurs challengers non-humains.** “Europe as Hyperbole: Conceptual Tensions and Animal Agency in the Rewilding Europe Phenomenon.” February 10.
 2019 **University of British Columbia. Forestry Department.** “The Forester as a Figure: Between Communism and Nationalism in Europe’s Last Primeval Forest.” October 10.
 2019 **University of Mainz. Rewilding Europe,** workshop. April 4.
 2019 **GWZO-Outbreaks of Bark Beetle and Radical Nationalism.** February 4.
 2019 **University of Halle-Wittenberg.** “Of Forests and Time”. Colloquium. April 10.
 2017 **GWZO-Keynote Speaker-New Materiality: Things-Environment-Human-Animal Relations.** March 16-17.

- 2017 **GWZO, Visiting Scholar:** Leipzig Germany.
- 2016 **GWZO, Visiting Scholar:** Leipzig, Germany.
- 2016 **GWZO-Space and the Countryside: Approaches, Questions, Problems.** Leipzig, Germany. February 12-13.
- 2015 **Environment and Societies Workshop, UC Davis.** "Man of the Forest and the Staging of the Peasants."
- 2014 **Global Environment Summer Academy, Bern, Switzerland.** "Misfits of Conservation." August 3.
- 2014 **University of Giessen, Giessen Germany.** "When Foresters Deterritorialize the Periphery." Guest Lecture. May 5.
- 2013 **Technological University of Munich.** "Foresters in transhistorical time: Białowieża, Poland." Guest Lecture. November 13.
- 2013 **ETH Zurich. Field School Workshop.** Białowieża, Poland. "Landscape and Architectural Listening." October 21-22.
- 2013 **SERC Institute. Schoodic Series Lectures.** Winter Harbor, ME. "Land and Conservation Politics in Maine's North Woods." June 7.
- 2013 **Cornell University: Institute on Contested Landscapes.** Ithaca, NY. "Maine Unorganized: Living Territory and Property." May 13-17.
- 2012 **University of Maine, Anthropology Department.** Orono, ME. "Applying Ethnography across Disciplinary Boundaries and Projects." October 17.
- 2012 **College of the Atlantic, Human Ecology Lecture Series.** Bar Harbor, ME. "Reversing Orders: Foresters and the "Local" in Poland's Białowieża Forest." September 25.
- 2010 **Cornell University/Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Bringing Science and Technology Studies into Environmental History.** Trondheim, Norway. "Forest Science and Postsocialist Politics in Poland's Białowieża Forest." August 5-7.
- 2009 **The Havighurst Center, "1989: Then and Now".** Miami University, Oxford Ohio. "Youthful Struggles and Time Lags in the Forested Polish/Belarusian Borderlands." October 29-31.
- 2009 **Department of Anthropology Colloquium, University of Washington.** Seattle, WA. "Malinowski, The Peripheral and Polish Ecological Politics." January 26.
- 2006 **Conservation, Justice and Resource Rights Conference.** Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. "Social Justice and Nature Conservation in the Post-Socialist Context." October 21.
- 2006 **New York University in Prague: Guest Lecturer for the Ernest Gellner Seminar.** Prague, Czech Republic. "Becoming Ecological in the Green Lungs of Poland." April 27.
- 2006 **European University of St. Petersburg: Guest Lecturer at Center for Environmental History and Technology.** St. Petersburg, Russia. "The Forest that Points Forwards and Backwards in Time: Białowieża, Poland," February 13.
- 2001 **Zsambek College, Anthropology Department.** Budapest, Hungary. Guest Lecturer. "Developing Tradition: Forest Conservation in Poland." May 5.

Conference Participation

- 2021 **Memory Studies Association, Warsaw, Poland.** "*Lalki* (dolls): Rituals beside the Peat Bog." July 5, 2021.

- 2019 **American Anthropological Association**, Vancouver, BC. *Ecologies of the Far Right* (panel organizer). "Belonging and Becoming: Foresters and Bark Beetles in the Białowieża Forest." November 20-24.
- 2019 **German Studies Association**, Portland, Oregon. "Environments, Resources and Power in German Central Europe." September 3,4,5.
- 2019 **European Humanities University. Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Studies**. Florence, Italy. "Rewilding Europe: Geographical and Historical Considerations." April 11,12.
- 2017 **European Society for Environmental History**. Zagreb. "Crossborder Imaginaries: Bark Beetle and Nativisms at the Polish-Belarusian Border." June 29.
- 2016 **American Society for Environmental History**. Seattle. "Temporalities of Communism and the Anthropocene in the Białowieża Forest, Poland." March 30-April 2.
- 2015 **Wisent-Reservat und UNESCO-Welterbe. Referenzen für den Białowieża-National Park**. "Never True Peasants: Not Now Proletariats: Refashioning the Local Population of Białowieża." Justus Liebig University, Giessen. April 24.
- 2015 **American Anthropological Association**. Denver. "Public and Private Property in Maine's North Woods." November 17-20.
- 2015 **American Society of Literature and the Environment**. Moscow, Idaho. "Beyond the Mud: Black Stork." June 20-23.
- 2014 **Geological Society of America**. Vancouver, BC. "Using the Midcontinent Rift as a Unifying Theme for Park Interpreters." Poster presentation with Seth Stein and Carol Stein. October 19-22.
- 2014 **World Congress of Environmental History**. Guimarães, Portugal. "Bison, Storks and Misfits from the Polish Primeval Forest: The Underlaborers of Ecology in Białowieża." July 8-12.
- 2013 **European Society for Environmental History**. Munich, Germany. "Man of the Forest: A Social Biography of Misfits and Birds in the Polish Jungle." August 21-25.
- 2013 **American Association of Geographers**. Los Angeles, CA. "Resident Biology: Postsocialist Wildlife in Białowieża, Poland." April 9-13.2010 **University of Washington, Conservation Colloquium**. Seattle, WA. "The King's Forest and Everyman's Mushroom." March 3.
- 2010 **REECAS, Ecological, Cultural and Political Change in Russia, East Europe and Central Asia**. University of Washington, Seattle, WA. "Nature and the Postsocialist Politics of Community." April 18.
- 2008 **SOYUZ. Postsocialist Cultural Studies Conference**, Berkeley, CA. Contemporary Critical Inquiry through the Lens of Postsocialism. "Ecological Gaps: Nature, Absences, and Postsocialist Politics of Memory in a Polish Wetland." April 24-27.
- 2007 **American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting**. Washington D.C. "National Parks, Civil Society, and Post-Communism: The Białowieża Primeval Forest Poland." November 28-December 2.
- 2007 **SOYUZ. Postsocialist Cultural Studies Conference**. Princeton University. "Primeval Forest and Relic Dictatorship on the EU's External Border: Białowieża, Poland. April 27-29.

- 2006 **French Center for Social Science Research: Borders and Boundaries in the European Union: Crossing and Resisting Strategies.** Prague, Czech Republic. "The Białowieża Forest as the Boundary Object on the Polish/Belarusian Border." June 8.
- 2005 **VII World Congress on Central and East European Studies,** Berlin, Germany. The Scale of Conservation: Białowieża Forest Poland." July 25-30.
- 2005 **European Society for Environmental History Conference,** Florence, Italy, "Wolves, Moose, and the Science that Describes: Predator-Prey Science on Isle Royale." February 16-20.
- 2003 **European Society for Environmental History Conference,** Prague, Czech Republic. "The Past Below the Forest: Graves in the Białowieża National Park." September 3-6.
- 2003 **American Society for Environmental History Conference,** Providence, Rhode Island. "Cultural Memory and Ecodevelopment in the Green Lungs of Poland." March 26-30.
- 200 **The Uses of History, Great Lakes History Conference,** Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan. "An Environmental History of The Białowieża Forest Preserve." October 5.
- 200 **Connecting Environmental Ethics, Ecological Integrity and Health in the Millennium.** San Jose, Costa Rica. "The Tactics of Forest Preservation: Authenticity and Rhetoric in Poland's Białowieża Forest Preserve." June 15-20.

Non-Academic Professional Experience

Interpreter/Naturalist, Yosemite National Park, National Park Service June 2008-September 2008, June 2009-September 2009.

English Language Editor, Polish Academy of Sciences: Mammal Research Institute February 2005-June 2006.

District Interpreter/Naturalist, Supervisory. Isle Royale National Park, National Park Service May 2001-September 2001. (Supervisory).

Program Associate, Academy for Educational Development, Washington, D.C. January 2000-February 2001.

Biological Technician, US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Olympia, Washington July 1994-May 1995.

Grant Writer, Olympia Film Society, Olympia Washington. June 1994-February 1997.

Program Assistant, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Program Olympia, Washington. October 1992-December 1993.

Membership in Professional Societies

American Anthropological Association
 Society for Conservation Biology
 European Society for Environmental History
 Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences

Association for Literature and the Environment
Memory Studies Association
American Association of University Professors.

Languages

Polish-advanced

Spanish-intermediate

Russian-intermediate

German-intermediate