

Michael Christoph SCHOLL

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Curriculum Vitae

Short Profile

- BSc Degree Zoology
- Research and living experience abroad (*Bahamas, Scotland, South Africa, Middle East*)
- Lecturer for shark biology and marine conservation
- NGO/NPO management and fund-raising
- Published in newspapers, magazines and books
- Excellent presentation skills and public speaker
- Experience in knowledge transfer and multidisciplinary collaboration
- Extensive experience in education
- Fluency in English, French, Swiss German and German

Academic Education

2002-2008	Dept Zoology, University of Cape Town, South Africa	Enrolled for MSc
1996-1997	Dept Zoology, University of Aberdeen, Scotland	BSc Designated Degree
1990-1995	Biology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland	Undergraduate programme
1989-1990	Physics, University of Lausanne, Switzerland	Undergraduate programme

Education

28/09/1989	Swiss Federal Maturity Certificate (<i>Mathematics/Science</i>)	Certificate
1987-1989	Collège Pierre Viret, Lausanne, Switzerland	Baccalaureate programme
03/07/1986	Secondary Study Certificate (<i>Mathematics/Science</i>)	Certificate
1977-1986	Établissement Scolaire Primaire et Secondaire, Blonay, Switzerland	Secondary school programme

Language Proficiency

I am trilingual having grown up talking Swiss-German at home with my family, while attending school in French in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, and since 1995, I have lived, studied and worked in the Bahamas, in Scotland, in the Middle-East and mainly in South Africa communicating exclusively in English.

French	<i>native language</i>	English	<i>excellent – native language</i>
Swiss-German	<i>native language</i>	German	<i>very good</i>

Main Publications

- Article* *Shark Detectives* – written by Thomas P. Peschak and Michael C. Scholl, published in Africa Geographic magazine, September 2005 issue, pages 36-47
- Book* *South Africa's Great White Shark* – written by Thomas P. Peschak and Michael C. Scholl, published by Struik & New Holland Publishers 2006, 96 pages, ISBN 9781770073821

Scientific Publications

- Science* *Transoceanic Migration, Spatial Dynamics and Population Linkages of White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias)* – R.Bonfil, M.Meyer, M.C.Scholl, R.Johnson, S.O'Brien, H.Oosthuizen, S.Swanson, D.Kotze & M.Paterson, *Science*, Vol 310, 7 October 2005, Pages 100-1003
- Nature* *Philopatric Females and Roving Male Great White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias) inferred from Analysis of mtDNA and microsatellites* – A.T.Pardini, C.S.Jones, L.R.Noble, H.Malcom, C.A.J.Duffy, M.Francis, B.Bruce, J.D.Stevens, G.Cliff, M.C.Scholl, B.Kreiser & A.P.Martin, *Nature*, Vol 412, No 6843, 12 July 2001, Pages 139-140
- Mol Ecology* *Isolation and characterisation of Dinucleotides Microsatellite Loci in the Great White Shark (Carcharodon carcharias)* – A.T.Pardini, C.S.Jones, M.C.Scholl & L.R.Noble, *Molecular Ecology*, Vol 9, 8 August 2000, pages 1176-1178

Scientific Posters and Presentations

- 2011 *Fin-Printing Great White Sharks: Towards Computer Vision Identification of Individual Animals* – B.Hughes, M.C.Scholl & T.Burghardt, In: Abstract and Programme Booklet of The 15th Annual Scientific Conference of the European Elasmobranch Association EEA, Berlin, October 28-30, 2011
- 2004 *Long-Term Photographic Identification Methodology and population Structure of Great White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias) at Dyer Island, South Africa* – M.C.Scholl, In: Great White Shark Conservation Research Workshop, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) headquarters (New York, USA), January 20-22, 2004
- 2003 *Population Structure of Great White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias) at Dyer Island, South Africa* – M.C.Scholl & C.L.Griffiths, In: 2003 Zoological Society of Southern Africa: Wet'n Wildlife - Current Trends in Limnology and Zoology in Southern Africa ZSSA/ESSA/SASQA, University of Cape Town, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, Western Cape, South Africa, July 10-12, 2003
- 2003 *Long Term Individual Photographic Identification of the Great White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias)* – M.C.Scholl & C.L.Griffiths, In: 2003 Zoological Society of Southern Africa: Wet'n Wildlife - Current Trends in Limnology and Zoology in Southern Africa ZSSA/ESSA/SASQA, University of Cape Town, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, Western Cape, South Africa, July 10-12, 2003
- 2001 *Individual Photographic Identification of Great White Sharks (Carcharodon carcharias) for Field Population Projects* – M.C.Scholl, In: 6th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference IPFC, Durban, South Africa, May 20-25, 2001

Professional Activities

- 07/2010-12/2012 **Mike Horn Expedition Centre, Mike Horn Sàrl, Château-d'Oex, Switzerland**
Pangaea Young Explorer Program Coordinator
Full time position
- ☞ Coordinating the Young Explorers Program
 - ☞ Responsible for all correspondence with Young Explorers
 - ☞ Assisting the Young Explorers to setup projects in their local communities and worldwide
 - ☞ Promoting, establishing and coordinating Pangaea Act Projects
 - ☞ Assisting, guiding and selecting Young Explorers in setting up and running projects worldwide
 - ☞ Responsible for the selection process of Young Explorers for the 10-day Selection Camps and the Expeditions, organising associated travel arrangements, reference and invitation letters for VISA and schools, etc
 - ☞ Responsible for video media and portfolio management, storage and distribution
 - ☞ Secondary Project photographer and videographer
- 08/2009-07/2010 **Collège Champittet, Pully, Switzerland**
Science & Mathematics Teacher
Full time (31 x 40-minute weekly classes) teaching position at this renown private school
- ☞ Teaching science classes and practicals in English in the Bilingual program (BI) section
 - ☞ Teaching pre-bac secondary grade 9th and 10th Biology, Mathematics and Physics courses
 - ☞ Teaching 11 HL Biology and 11 SL Mathematics IB (International Baccalaureate) Diploma courses
- 08/2008-07/2009 **Collège Champittet, Pully, Switzerland**
Science & Mathematics Teacher
Full time (26 x 40-minute weekly classes) teaching position at this renown private school
- ☞ Teaching science classes in English in the Bilingual program (BI) section
 - ☞ Teaching secondary grade 7th and 8th Biology classes including Ecology and Geology courses
 - ☞ Teaching pre-bac secondary grade 9th and 10th Biology, Mathematics and Physics courses
 - ☞ Assisted with the school's application and preparation for the IB (International Baccalaureate) Diploma
- 08/2006-11/2007 **Mejreno Exploration and Expedition Team, Dubai, U.A.E.**
Expert Scientific Consultant and Expedition Photographer
NGO aimed at exploring new frontiers and presenting these explorations to the public through the Middle East and beyond through the production of documentary films and the publishing of books. Involved in two projects: 'Face to face with carcharias in South Africa' a project on Great White Sharks in South Africa and 'Socotra the Galapagos of the Indian Ocean' a project on the remote Yemeni archipelago of Socotra
- ☞ Selected and organised information and literature research
 - ☞ Expert scientific advisor on expeditions and media content
 - ☞ Primary underwater and surface expedition photographer and second underwater film cameraman
 - ☞ Assisted with HD video digitalising and editing using Final Cut Pro at the studio in Dubai
 - ☞ Introduction to the Arabic and Islamic culture in working and living with other team members solely from the Middle East during expeditions and while based in the U.A.E.
- 10/1997-01/2007 **White Shark Trust, Gansbaai, South Africa**
Shark Biologist
Worked as a Shark Biologist in establishing and running research and conservation projects on white sharks around Dyer Island
- ☞ Initiated and ran long-term global research project on population structure and dynamics of white sharks around Dyer Island and Shark Bay
 - ☞ Developed innovative shark population study tool in designing and establishing photographic based identification methodology using first dorsal fin: *Finprinting*
 - ☞ Developed stereo-photography technique to assess length of free-swimming white sharks
 - ☞ Conducted first biopsy sampling on white sharks in South Africa leading to first evidence of transoceanic open-structure population using DNA
 - ☞ Discovered transoceanic migration of white sharks using satellite telemetry and identified the return of famous white shark *Nicole* from Australia to South Africa using photographic fin-based identification
 - ☞ Established largest white shark population database in the world
 - ☞ Published results in renown peer-reviewed scientific journals *Nature* and *Science*, and author of reference book on white sharks

White Shark Trust, Gansbaai, South Africa

12/2001-01/2007

Team Leader for Field Research Assistantship and Internship Programme

Established and lead successful assistantship programme enabling biologists to get invaluable field research experience being integrated in existing research project

- ☞ Lead research team of up to six people
- ☞ Welcomed 120 international research assistants from academic background primarily
- ☞ Average assistantship period of two months, ranging from one to six months
- ☞ Established programme as recognised training facility worldwide
- ☞ Enabled undergraduate university students to conduct independent projects
- ☞ Dealt with crisis management of living and working together 24/7 conditions
- ☞ Establishing marketing strategies and advertising programme internationally

05/2002-01/2007

Founder & Director

Established NPO in 2002 to research the Great White Shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*) species and foster its conservation. *Major success:* Closed new alien species Atlantic Salmon industrial aqua-culture project threatening local ecosystem and numerous predator populations using media relations, exposing corruption and educating public opinion.

- ☞ Administration management of organisation, e.g. secretariat and managing volunteer research assistant programmes. Goal setting and process definition
- ☞ Designed, managed and administered diverse research projects, budgeting, fund raising and sponsorship
- ☞ Public relations. Gather, manage and disseminate a maximum amount of information on shark biology and ecology to change and promote public opinion about sharks
- ☞ Developing international synergy, networking with all stake-holders, and media relations
- ☞ Designed education and information material for print and web site, and taught specialist courses on shark biology, ecology and conservation
- ☞ Multimedia presentations for public as well as specialised audiences, e.g. 2005 Nuit des Musée at the Musée de Zoologie in Lausanne
- ☞ Invited to the 2001 IFAW African Shark Workshop in Cape Town, SA, the 2004 WCS White Shark Conservation Workshop in New York, USA to supplement the 2004 CITES proposal and the 2006 WWF Shark Specialist Workshop in Cape Town, SA to define and implement solutions to resolve shark and human interactions
- ☞ Acted as watch post for illegal poaching activities and stopped illegal sale of white shark teeth

10/1997-11/2006

Eco-Tourism Industry, South Africa

Specialised Guide & Divemaster

Worked on temporary and time limited basis as a specialised shark guide and educator, also responsible for scuba and snorkel dives, and acting as second boat captain within the eco-tourism shark cage-diving industry around Dyer Island near Gansbaai, South Africa

- ☞ Internal and external communication, establishing marketing strategies for company, media relations and promotions
- ☞ Manage and secure clients in restricted boat space, handle difficult client conflict situations and weather related conditions
- ☞ Integrated extensive briefings about the expeditions, local environment and diving procedure
- ☞ Designed, established and presented daily pre- and post-expedition multimedia presentations and lectures about general shark biology, ecology and conservation, and the local ecosystem
- ☞ Produced various educational material for displays and distribution
- ☞ Guided thousands of international tourists through their discovery of white sharks and reshaped their attitude and understanding towards sharks
- ☞ Temporary positions for various companies: Marine Dynamics (01/2006-11/2006), White Shark Discovery (04/2001-06/2002), White Shark Diving Company (05/1999-03/2001) and White Shark Research Institute (10/1997-04-1999)

01/2000-06/2002

Internet Companies, South Africa

Founder & Owner

Founded and developed two successful internet companies: **Gansbaai.net**: Information and booking portal for the tourism of the growing touristic coastal town and region around Gansbaai; and **White Shark Discovery**: Eco-tourism company specialised in providing and organising exclusive, custom tailored and educational excursions to discover white sharks

- ☞ Web design and maintenance
- ☞ Management
- ☞ Establishing marketing strategies targeting international travellers
- ☞ Specialist guide and tour operator
- ☞ Both companies sold in 2002 to *Shark Diving Unlimited*

- 01/1998-07/1998 **Conservation de la Faune du Canton de Vaud, St-Sulpice**
Projet Lynx Suisse / KORA, University of Bern
Research Assistant
National research and conservation management project on the population of reintroduced Lynx (*Felis lynx*)
- ☞ Radio telemetry to locate and track movements of individual Lynx
 - ☞ Western region of Switzerland (Swiss and French Jura) and the Swiss Alps
 - ☞ Triangulation, orientation, GPS and map handling
 - ☞ Tracking footprints and locating prey (roe deer *Capreolus capreolus*, white tailed deer *Odocoileus virginianus*)
 - ☞ Computer assisted analysis of data
 - ☞ *Full time and temporary position*
- 07/1997-09/1997 **Nestlé Research Centre (CRN), Vers-chez-les-Blancs**
Multimedia Developer
Identified and tested range of multimedia software tools for alternative solutions to Powerpoint style presentations for management level
- ☞ Proficiency in mFactory mTropolis, Macromedia Director and Microsoft Powerpoint
 - ☞ Development of high-end multimedia presentations
 - ☞ Provided final report and recommendations
 - ☞ *Full time and temporary position*
- 05/1996-09/1996 **La Caisse Vaudoise, Lausanne**
Data Processor
Worked in the affiliation department of this insurance company
- ☞ Computer assisted data processing and analysis
 - ☞ Lead team of up to 10
 - ☞ Trained new employees
 - ☞ Telephonic client interaction
 - ☞ *Full time and temporary position*
- 04/1996-10/1996 **International Institute of the Château Beau-Cèdre, Clarens/Montreux**
Teacher
Replacement teaching position for maternity leave at this prestigious and exclusive private school
- ☞ Teaching in English
 - ☞ Upper secondary American High School level Grade 12 biology class
 - ☞ *Part time and temporary position*
- 10/1995-02/1996 **Bimini Biological Field Station (BBFS), RSMAS University of Miami**
Research Assistant
Assisted in long-term research programme on the life-history and home range of Lemon Sharks (*Negaprion brevirostris*) lead by world renown shark specialist and research pioneer Dr Samuel H. Gruber
- ☞ Ultrasonic telemetry of sub-adult Lemon Sharks
 - ☞ Experience working in a team and organising continuous tracking sequences
 - ☞ Assisted with start of new research project using ultrasonic speed transmitters
 - ☞ Long-lining technique, shark handling, tagging with ultrasonic, streamer and PIT tags
 - ☞ Shark behaviour observations
 - ☞ Based at the RSMAS (*Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science*) field station located on the remote Bahamian island of Bimini
 - ☞ *Full time and temporary position*
- 07/1994-04/1996 **Programme Info-Energie, Lausanne**
Teacher
Mobile teacher and animator in the primary and secondary schools: environmental education and sensibilisation to the historical and present global energy situation
- ☞ 2-hour lectures with theory and experiments adapted to class level
 - ☞ Children age ranged from 7 to 16 years old
 - ☞ Mobility throughout the Canton de Vaud
 - ☞ Introduction to the different energy types and sources, their origins and pros and cons
 - ☞ *Part time and temporary position*

Worked as a teaching assistant for undergraduate level biology laboratory classes

🐛 Invertebrate biology lab (1st year biology), vertebrate biology lab (2nd year biology and 1st year medical students)

🐛 Demonstrated dissections and demonstrations

🐛 *Part time and temporary position*

Personal Information

Born on May 7th 1971 in Zürich

Originally from Pieterlen, Bern

IT-skills

Extensive experience with Apple OS X - MS Office package (*Word, Excel, Powerpoint*), database software Filemaker, Adobe Creative Suite, Apple iLife and iWork (*Pages, Keynote, Numbers*) suites, web creation GoLive, etc

Hobbies

My main interests and hobbies are nature, the oceans, wildlife, photography, filming, travelling, exploration, multimedia presentations, web design, reading fantasy books and thrillers, magazines and the movies.

The sports I practice are snowboarding, kite surfing, swimming, scuba diving, free-diving, snorkelling, and cycling. I have a good sense of humour and always enjoy the company of family and good friends.

References

- Dr. Ramón Bonfil** Fisheries Consultant, Shark Ecologist and Biology Teacher, 2233 Caton Avenue 5C, Brooklyn, NY-11226 New York, USA, tel +1 917 670 41 56, mobile +1 917 673 80 51, eMail Ramon.Bonfil@gmail.com
- Andy B. Casagrande IV** Producer and Cinematographer at National Geographic and Discovery Channel, 2264 Carter Street, Naples, FL 34112, Florida, USA, mobile +1 202 415 44 72, eMail AndyCasagrande@yahoo.com, web <http://www.ABC4Explore.com>
- Prof. Daniel Cherix** Musée de Zoologie, Palais de Rumine, Case Postale 448, CH-1000 Lausanne 17, Switzerland, tel +41 21 903 40 61, mobile +41 79 324 54 47, eMail Daniel.Cherix@UNIL.ch, Daniel.Cherix@vd.ch, web <http://www.Zoologie.vd.ch>
- Dr. Samuel Gruber** Bimini Biological Field Station, RSMAS, University of Miami, 9300 South West 99th Street, Miami, Florida 33176-2050, USA, tel +1 305 274 06 28, mobile +1 305 799 90 48, fax +1 305 274 06 28, eMail SGruber@RSMAS.Miami.edu, web <http://www6.miami.edu/sharklab/>
- Sultan Bin Al Sheikh Mejren** Mejreno Exploration and Expedition Team, Villa No. 4, Street No. 15 Corner, Al Rasheed Street, Al Baraha Area, Deira, Dubai, U.A.E., tel +971 4 2722999, fax +971 4 2722888, eMail BinMejren@yahoo.com, Mejren@eim.ae, <http://www.Mejreno.com>, web <http://www.mejrengroup.com>
- Dr. Leslie R. Noble** Zoology Department, University of Aberdeen, Tillydrone Avenue, Aberdeen AB9 2TN, Scotland, tel +44 1224 27 23 92, mobile +44 771 079 71 74, eMail L.R.Noble@ABDN.ac.uk, web <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/zoology/>
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- Craig Spencer** Warden for Olifants West Region (Greater Kruger National Park), Director of Transfrontier Africa, and Senior Ecologist at SAVANNA Projects, P.O. Box 1187, Hoedspruit 1380, Limpopo Province, South Africa, mobile +27 82 787 43 66, eMail craigs@ezulwini.com, craigspencer@transfrontierafrica.org, web <http://www.TransFrontierAfrica.com>