

## Meet Your Trip Leaders:

### PROFESSOR PAUL CONSTANTINO



Prof. Constantino is an evolutionary biologist and alumnus (Class of '92) who joined the biology faculty in 2014. He regularly teaches courses in ecology, evolution, and anatomy. Much of his research has focused on the evolutionary morphology of the primate skull and dentition, but his interests remain varied. Prof. Constantino has conducted fieldwork on the dietary ecology of baboons in South Africa and Giant Pandas in central China, as well as paleontological/archaeological work in Kenya, South Africa, Wyoming, Texas, South Carolina, and Massachusetts. He is an avid birder and has recently traveled to places like Borneo and Madagascar to see birds and other wildlife. He joined the Costa Rica Tropical Ecology course in 2016 and created the Ecuador/Galapagos trip for 2026. He also co-leads the Coastal Biology of Ireland course.

### PROFESSOR PETER HOPE



Prof. Hope earned an MS in botany from the University of Vermont and began teaching Vascular Plant Morphology and Evolution at SMC in the fall of 1992. In 1999 he began teaching a field course, The Natural History of Vermont which later became Ecosystem Ecology along with other courses. Having gone to Costa Rica three times with UVM classes in Tropical Plant Systematics taught by his former advisor at UVM, and knowing how transformative and inspirational the trips were for him, Prof. Hope wanted to create a similar trip for students at Saint Michael's. In 2003 after a scouting trip in August, he and Professor Valerie Banschbach (who'd also studied in Costa Rica) created the two-credit course and study tour and took the first group of SMC students to Costa Rica to study tropical ecology over the 2003-2004 semester break. Since then the course has run another 7 times. Prof. Hope has been to Costa Rica a total of 13 times and loves exploring and sharing the extremely diverse tropical biology and ecology with the students and the other instructors during the courses and trips.

Professor Hope retired from full-time teaching at the end of 2019, but continues to team-teach 'BI 249: Tropical Ecology' and 'BI 250: Field Tropical Ecology' and very much looks forward to sharing another course and trip to study the fascinating diversity and ecology of the tropics.

### PROFESSOR SCOTT LEWINS



Scott is a Grant proposal developer in Research Development at UVM, predominantly supporting PIs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. There he supports the grant development process to help proposals reach their full potential and conveys skills and experience to the UVM community to create highly competitive proposals. Prior to joining Research Development, he was an applied agricultural researcher, educator, and extension professional for most of the last 20 years. As an Entomology Extension Educator working with both UVM Extension Northwest Crops & Soils Program and the Plant and Soil Science Department, he worked with a multitude of growers within the region in various agricultural systems. The focus of his work was on sustainable pest management, particularly the development of appropriate IPM tactics for Northeastern organic growers. As Extension Coordinator for the Institute for Agroecology, he was embedded within a transdisciplinary community of practice dedicated to using Participatory Action Research methods to better understand and seek out solutions to the issues facing our food systems. Scott also taught undergraduate courses in entomology and agricultural production as an Instructor in the Plant and Soil Science Department and was an Instructor in the Biology Department at Saint Michael's College.