The aim of Prof Horton’s research is to increase our understanding of the factors which have determined changes in sea level in the past in order to enhance our ability to predict changes in the future. Geological data provide an essential benchmark against which the sea-level rise of the last 100-150 years can be compared. Prof Horton has 13 years of experience in this field. He has published over 80 peer-reviewed manuscripts in international journals. His contributions were recognized in 2004 and 2007 when he received the Linnean Society Award for contributions to biological diversity and evolution, and the Geological Society of America’s W. Storrs Cole Memorial Research Award for contributions to micropaleontology, respectively.