Before moving to Australia in 2010, Patrick Nunn taught and researched for more than 25 years in the Pacific Islands. He has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and several books including *Oceanic Islands* (Blackwell, 1994), *Environmental Change in the Pacific Basin* (Wiley, 1999), *Climate, Environment and Society in the Pacific during the Last Millennium* (Elsevier, 2007), and *Vanished Islands and Hidden Continents of the Pacific* (University of Hawai‘i Press, 2009). In March 2003, he was awarded the Gregory Medal of the Pacific Science Association for “outstanding service to science in the Pacific”.