

Anthropology Graduate Program 50th Anniversary Event

Saturday, April 12, 2025
Trent Student Centre (West Bank)



Morning

9:00–10:00 AM Registration & Light Breakfast

10:00–10:10 AM Opening Remarks

10:10–11:00 AM Alumni Presentations

- Robert Pearce
- Robert MacDonald
- Gyles Iannone

11:00–12:00 PM Break / Campus Tour

Afternoon

12:00–1:00 PM Alumni Presentations

- Arthur Reg Murphy
- Jeff Seibert
- Teresa (Wagner) Tremblay
- Corrie Hyland
- Nicole Hultquist

1:00–2:00 PM Lunch

Keynote Lecture

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Distinguished Professor Paul S.C. Taçon

PERAHU, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

Lecture Title:

“Reflections on forty-five years of rock art research with First Nations colleagues”

Dr. Paul S.C. Taçon – Biography

Distinguished Professor Paul S.C. Taçon FAHA FSA FQA is an archaeologist and anthropologist, ARC Australian Laureate Fellow (2016-2022) and Chair in Rock Art Research at Griffith University, Queensland, Australia. He directs Griffith University's Place, Evolution and Rock Art Heritage Unit (PERAHU) and has conducted archaeological and ethnographic fieldwork since 1980. He has over 98 months field experience in remote parts of Australia, Canada, China, India, Southeast Asia and southern Africa. He co-edited *The Archaeology of Rock-art* with Dr Christopher Chippindale (1998) and published over 320 academic and popular papers on rock art, material culture, colour, human evolution and identity. Since 2015, he has co-authored or co-edited seven major books on rock art. In 2016, he was awarded the top award at the annual Australian Archaeological Association conference, the Rhys Jones Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Australian Archaeology. He also received the 2016 Griffith University Vice-Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Research Leadership.

Lecture Abstract – Dr. Paul S.C. Taçon

Lecture Title: “Reflections on forty-five years of rock art research with First Nations colleagues“

In 1980, I embarked on an anthropological and archaeological odyssey that has taken me to many far-flung corners of the world. From the Canadian Arctic to outback Australia, across Southeast Asia and on to China, India and southern Africa I have ventured for fieldwork. A visit to Australia in early 1981 and, later that year, the commencement of a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology at Trent University ignited my growing interest in rock art, particularly in terms of the contemporary significance of this important aspect of local and world heritage. Later, rock art, landscape marking, human evolution and what makes us human became the focus of my research career. Multicultural collaborations and friendships, especially with First Nations peoples, have always been an important part of my research wherever I have undertaken it over the past 45 years. In this presentation, I provide a brief overview of my career development, focus on 15 key points I have learned about rock art and its conservation from First Nations people and local communities in Australia, Asia and elsewhere, and discuss a current collaborative research project with 90-year-old Amurdak songman Charlie Mungulda. Together, we have written the first book about the history of the Amurdak people of northwest Arnhem Land, Australia with Charlie’s life story providing much of the narrative. Lavishly illustrated with archival photographs, imagery from Charlie’s rock art sites and traditional material culture collected in the heart of his Country in 1891, this book provides a unique two-way perspective on the past.

Thank You & Contact Info

Safe travels, and we hope you enjoy your time on campus.

For any questions, please contact Department of Anthropology.
Email: ypedoe@trentu.ca

CHALLENGE THE WAY YOU THINK