About the editors

Ross Dowling

Ross Dowling OAM is Foundation Professor of Tourism in the School of Business & Law, Edith Cowan University, Western Australia. He holds the following degrees – BSc (Geology), MSc [Hons] (Geography) and PhD (Environmental Science). Professor Dowling conducts international research in the fields of geotourism, ecotourism and cruise ship tourism and has over 200 publications in these fields including sixteen books. In 2011 he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his contributions to tourism education and development. He has a deep interest in the development of Geotourism and Geoparks and he is a passionate advocate for the establishment of UNESCO's Global Geoparks in Australia and around the world. He fosters regional development through Geotourism globally and he convened the world's first three conferences on Geotourism in Australia (2008), Malaysia (2010) and the Sultanate of Oman (2011).

David Newsome

David Newsome is an Associate Professor in the Conservation and Environment Group at Murdoch University, Western Australia. He holds the following degrees – BSc [Hons] (Botany and Geography, MSc (Soil Science) and PhD (Environmental Science). Dr

Newsome's research interests span all aspects of natural area tourism with particular emphasis on the environmental impacts of tourism, the sustainability of tourism in national parks and nature reserves and geotourism. More than 100 publications have arisen from this work. Dr Newsome is the lead author of the research monograph *Natural Area Tourism: Ecology, Impacts and Management* (2013) and was ranked at 25 in the world in the list of most cited tourism scholars for the period 2008–2014 as reported in McKercher's (2014) 'A changing of the Guard in Tourism Research Leadership' published on TRINET. Particular interests include the development of sustainable tourism, encouragement of local communities to maintain environmental quality and the enhancement of geodiversity, biodiversity and protected areas globally and especially in Southeast Asia.

Together Ross Dowling and David Newsome have co-edited three previous books on Geotourism. They are *Geotourism* (2006), *Geotourism: The Tourism of Geology and Landscape* (2010) and *Global Geotourism Perspectives* (2010). They have also written many papers and book chapters on the subject and have worked together on the first three global geotourism conferences.

Source: Ross Dowling.

Ross Dowling and David Newsome convening and presenting at the Second Global Geotourism Conference held on the island of Borneo at the Royal Mulu Resort, Mulu World Heritage Area, Sarawak, Malaysia in 2010