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I have worked with Paddy Woodworth in a variety of capacities over the past several years: as a guest speaker at DePaul University's Institute for Nature and Culture, as local Field Director for a portion of a study-abroad trip I take with my students to Irish National Parks, and most recently as a visiting professor to our department. I can recommend him with great enthusiasm.

I met Paddy first when he was working on his now recently published book *Our Once and Future Planet: Restoring the World in the Climate Change Century* (University of Chicago Press). We invited him to present on this work in progress to the Institute for Nature and Culture. Paddy is a meticulous and very engaging speaker and he spoke to a full house.

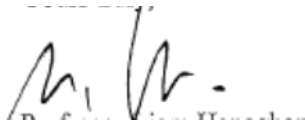
Building on the success of this visit and based upon our shared interest in Irish Natural History, I invited Paddy to join us as local Field Director for an annual short term study abroad trip to Ireland. I take 15 or so students to tour Dublin, Wicklow, Connemara, the Burren (Co Clare) and Killarney in the Irish South West. Paddy stewards the Dublin and Wicklow components of this visit. The vigor with which he created these legs of the trip is peerless. He sought out the most relevant site-visits, introduced us to local scientists including the Director of the National Botanic Gardens in Kilmacurragh, Co Wicklow. The student enthusiasm for the activities, and for Paddy's guidance, has been thrilling. By the end our visit to Wicklow the students were quite literally chanting "Paddy, Paddy..." as our tour bus left the county! No greater endorsement from students is imaginable.

Most recently, on the strength of his newly published volume on the emerging field of restoration ecology, I invited Paddy to offer a short-course on this topic to our undergraduates in Environmental Science and Studies in the autumn of 2014. The seminar filled almost immediately. Paddy was responsible for all aspects of the course. I sat in on some of these sessions, since I was also interested in reading the volume, some chapters of which I had read in manuscript. The quality of the discussion and level of engagement was gratifying. A number of participants mentioned to me that this seminar was a highlight of their undergraduate career. For

example, one wrote: “This was one of the most thought provoking and engaging classes I have ever taken at DePaul. This topic is so relevant to everything else that we're learning through this major, that it really tied so many concepts together.”

The response to Paddy’s teaching was especially gratifying as there had been some administrative concern about Paddy’s lack of advanced academic qualifications. Such lack was more than compensated by his history of research accomplishment, his experience in engaging with leading scientists, coupled with his ability to communicate that knowledge and experience in the classroom. Paddy met all our stringent requirements for teaching at our university.

I encourage you to engage Paddy in any of the capacities I have described above: guest lecturer, visiting professor, or as a field director. He may be, at the moment, the most knowable person on the planet about restoration management as it is deployed in a variety of international settings. In addition, Paddy is very collegial and a great pleasure to work with.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liam Heneghan', written over a dashed horizontal line.

Liam Heneghan
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