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EDUCATION

-Dec 2018 Doctorate of Philosophy in Geography, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK.

-Dec 2011 Masters of Literature in Medieval Studies, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK.

-May 1998 Bachelor of Science in Special Education, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Carbondale, IL U.S.A. -Dec 1992 Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL U.S.A.

RECENT EMPLOYMENT

•Dec-May 2019: Demonstrator in ENVS 389- Climate Change: A Critical Review, University of Liverpool,UK.

•Oct-Feb 2018: Consultant through Liverpool Doctoral College, University of Liverpool- Development of Student Employment Program. Open Awards, Speke, UK.

•Apr-May 2016: Consultant through Liverpool Doctoral College, University of Liverpool- Case Study Analysis of client circumstances, needs and services rendered. ADDvanced Community Services Inc., Speke, UK.

•Sep-Dec 2016/ Sep-Dec 2014: Demonstrator in ENVS 120-Experiments in Physical Geography; Taught research module sessions in pollen evidence, and dendrochronology as well as offered guidance on eight other physical geography research sessions; University of Liverpool, UK.

PUBLICATIONS

- Ruhaak, R. (2019) An Alternative Black Death Narrative for Ireland: ecological and socio-economic divides on the medieval European frontier. Journal of the North Atlantic 2019(39): 1-16.

- Ruhaak, R. in press -expected May 2020. An Analysis of What Fostered Resilience of the Irish Sea Area Gaels and the Bedouin of the Mamluk Frontier leading up to Black Death. B.J. Walker and A. Al Ghouz (Eds.) Living with Nature and Things.

- Ruhaak, R. expected early 2020. *The Crusades and the Development of Risk of Black Death in the Mamluk Empire*. B.J. Walker and A. Al Ghouz (Eds.) Studies of the Annemarie Schimmel Kolleg 'History and Society during the Mamluk Era.'

Forthcoming papers:

-Ruhaak,R. A Re-Evaluation of the Environmental and Biological Foundation of the Historical Black Death Narrative: An analysis of the basis of the Gasquet's foundational Black Death narratives in the context of ecological and biological evidence of the pandemic

-Ruhaak, R. Using a Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Approach to Assess Vulnerability & Resilience to Past Epidemics to Avoid Field-specific 'Blind-spots'.

-Ruhaak, R., Kimaro, D.N., and Mtoi, P. The Relationship of Socio-economic and Knowledge System Changes and the Patterns of Human Vulnerability for a Zoonotic Infectious Disease Epidemic: An assessment of the Plague in Lushoto, Tanzania.

-Ruhaak, R., Nedashkovsky, L., Cui, X, and D'Amore, R. *The development of Issyk-Kul (Kyrgyz Republic) and Qinghai Lake (China) regions in becoming centres of Yersinia pestis diversity in the advancement of the Second Pandemic: A comparative analysis of the two regions using risk factors for a zoonosis.*

-Ruhaak, R., Nedashkovsky, L., Cui, X, and D'Amore, R. *The Expansion of the Mongol Empire through unprecedentedly large herds, landscape change, and the spreading of Yersinia pestis animal reservoirs before Black Death*

PRIMARY AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

•Nov 2012-Apr 2013: DYNAMITE Fund/ERAMUS-University of Lund, Sweden-training and research in Palaeoecological Research

•Oct 2010-June 2012: Institute of Irish Studies Fund, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, England

•2006-2007: Organiser of a successful signature campaign for Hok Tek T'oi Wichi community's land rights and was a liaison for medical/health and social support services for the community in Salta, Argentina

•Teacher of the Year 1999, Chicago Metro area (Sam's Club/Walmart Award)

REFERENCES Available upon Request