

## Outreach Lecturing Fund

**Fulbright Visiting Scholar MARCO FRANCESCHI  
from ITALY will be presenting the following lecture**



### **ANCIENT CARBONATE “ATOLLS” IN THE DOLOMITES OF ITALY**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, WILLIAM  
PATERSON UNIVERSITY, WAYNE, NEW JERSEY**

Marco Franceschi is a post-doctoral researcher at Department of Geosciences of the University of Padova, Italy. His research mainly focuses on integrated stratigraphy, 3D modeling and cyclostratigraphy applied to the study of carbonate platforms and of the rate and tempo of carbonate sedimentation in the Mesozoic. He is currently Fulbright Scholar at the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences of the George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.

This presentation is conducted through the Fulbright Scholar Program’s Outreach Lecturing Fund (OLF). OLF enables Visiting Scholars to share their research interests, speak about their home country, and exchange ideas with U.S. students, faculty, and community organizations. Through these lectures, universities forge relationships with the Fulbright Scholar Program, Visiting Scholars, and the Visiting Scholar’s home and host institutions.

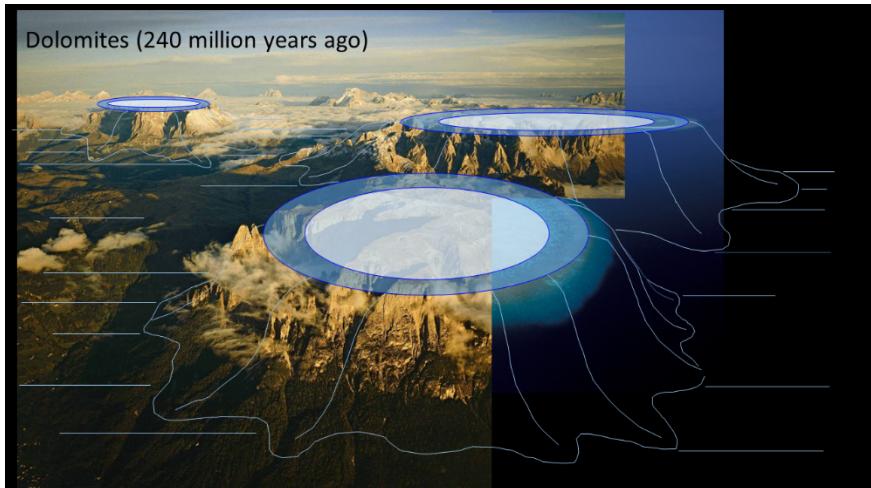


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Carbonate platforms are formed by the precipitation of marine carbonates which is a key part of the global Carbon cycle. Modern reefs host some of the ecosystems with higher biodiversity. Ancient carbonate platforms, once marine islands and reefs have a relevant economic value as their rocks can host large hydrocarbon reservoirs. For these reasons, much effort was put in their study.



The Dolomites of Italy, recently added to the list of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites, host some of the most spectacular exposures of these sedimentary bodies, dating back to the Triassic Period. The study of these old archives tells us of the life and chemistry of those ancient seas, and offers keys to interpret and understand the phenomena and dynamics in the modern oceans.

