

Bette Loiselle



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Bette Loiselle holds a joint appointment as the Director of the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program in the Center for Latin American Studies and Professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. She joined the Center in 2011 following an 18-month detail as Director of the Division of Environmental Biology at the National Science Foundation. From 1990 to 2010, Loiselle was a Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and was Director of the International Center for Tropical Ecology from 1997-2003. She received her PhD in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin and a B.A. and M.S. in Biology at the University of Illinois. Loiselle's research focuses on tropical biodiversity, seed dispersal ecology, evolutionary ecology of lek-mating systems and population dynamics of tropical birds. As Director of TCD, Loiselle leads an interdisciplinary graduate program that fosters professional skills development, problem-oriented research, and holistic approaches to understanding complex socio-ecological systems. TCD engages in research and capacity-building with alumni and partners across the globe. TCD is currently working with key Amazonian stakeholders to create and strengthen a Community of Practice and Learning regarding the use of tools and strategies to improve social-environmental governance and reduce threats from infrastructure development. Loiselle is an elected member of the American Ornithological Society, and her honors include Fulbright Scholar, William Brewster Memorial Award, and IIE Centennial Medal.

Education

M.S. in Biology from the University of Illinois-Champaign
Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison