



MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY

Montclair State University
**Montclair State University Digital
Commons**

Sustainability Seminar Series

Sustainability Seminar Series, 2022

Sep 12th, 3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

Cultural Legacies in the Amazonian Holocene: A Paleoecological Perspective

S. Yoshi Maezumi

Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, maezumi@gea.mpg.de

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/sustainability-seminar>



Part of the [Sustainability Commons](#)

Maezumi, S. Yoshi, "Cultural Legacies in the Amazonian Holocene: A Paleoecological Perspective" (2023).
Sustainability Seminar Series. 1.

<https://digitalcommons.montclair.edu/sustainability-seminar/2022/fall2022/1>

This Open Access is brought to you for free and open access by the Events at Montclair State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Sustainability Seminar Series by an authorized administrator of Montclair State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@montclair.edu.



MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY

The Doctoral Program in Environmental Science & Management and MSU Sustainability Seminar Series Present:

Cultural Legacies in the Amazonian Holocene: A Paleoecological Perspective

S. Yoshi Maezumi

Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology

WHEN: Monday, September 12, 2022, 3:45 pm WHERE: CELS 120



Dr. Maezumi is a Neotropical paleoecologist specializing in the impact of past human land use, cultural burning, and plant domestication on modern forest ecosystems. She is currently the Group Leader of Palaeoecology at the Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology in Jena, Germany.

The extent to which Indigenous land use and cultural burning practices have altered modern ecosystems is a hotly debated topic in archaeology and paleoecology. To address this issue, an interdisciplinary approach combining archaeological, archaeobotany, palaeoecology, and palaeoclimatology is used to investigate climate-human-ecosystem interactions in the Amazon. These data indicate Indigenous Amazonians employed diverse subsistence strategies that combined cultural burning, agroforestry, polyculture, and soil amelioration that maximized subsistence diversity without large-scale land clearing. These data provide evidence of resource diversification, improved food security, and sustainable anthropogenic landscapes during increased climate variability and expanding Indigenous populations during the late Holocene. These data provide an example of long-term anthropogenic landscapes that can inform management and conservation efforts for sustainable futures of tropical ecosystems in the 21st century.

For more information contact Peter Siegel at 973.655.3415, siegelp@montclair.edu