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Lisa Kennedy is a biogeographer with research experience in the Neotropics, the Caribbean, and the Southern Appalachian Mountains of the eastern U.S. Her paleoenvironmental research is aimed at reconstructing vegetation, climate, fire, and human activities, over the past several thousand years through the study of lake/wetland sediments, and especially the pollen grains and other microfossils that are preserved in them. Lake sediments provide a “window” into the past through which we can observe and study landscape changes. She and her students also study tree rings, which yield information on environmental history over shorter time scales (decades to centuries). One of her ongoing projects will reconstruct prehistoric hurricane landfalls (paleotempestology) and other aspects of environmental history from coastal lake sediments in the Dominican Republic. Kennedy teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on physical geography, human-environment interaction, and paleoenvironments, and also leads study abroad courses in the Dominican Republic.