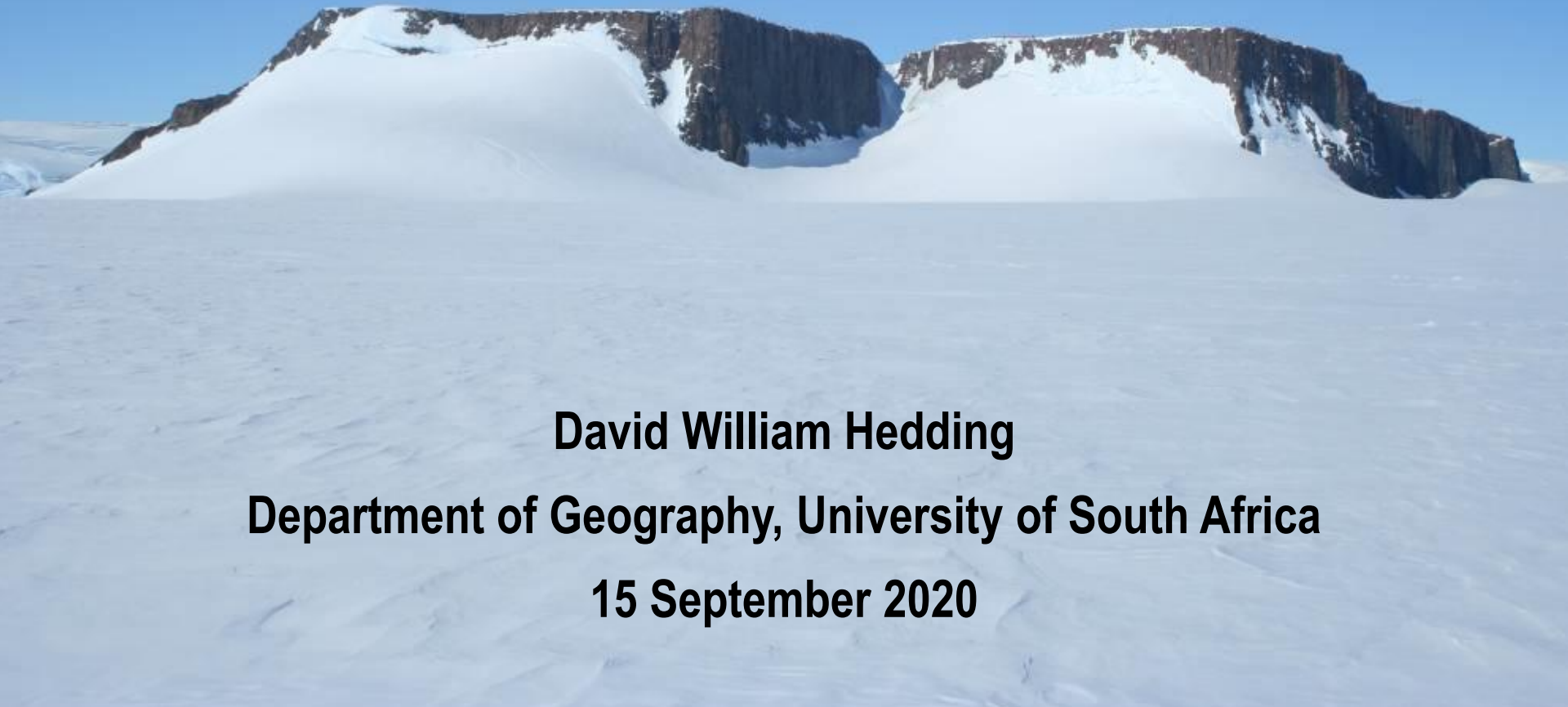


Plotting Your Research Career



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Who am I?

- **Background**
 - Geomorphologist
- **When did the journey begin?**
 - Started university in 2000
 - BSc (2002) - Geoinformatics
 - BSc (Hons) (2003) – Geography (first trip to **Marion Island**)
 - MSc (2006) – Geography (**Over-wintered** on Marion Island)
 - PhD (2014) – Geography (at the age of **34**)
- **Employment**
 - Marion Island - Field scientist (2004-2005)
 - North-West University (Mahikeng) – Lecturer (2006-2008)
 - Unisa – Lecturer > Senior Lecturer > Associate Professor (2008 -)

Plotting your research career

- **Post-graduate**
 - Stick to your **strengths**
 - Conduct research in something you're **passionate** about
 - Find a **mentor** / not a supervisor
 - A mentor is not only someone who will supervise your research, they will take you under their wing, teach you about research and look after you as a person.

Plotting your research career

- **ECR - Focus**
 - Stick to your **strengths**
 - Establish yourself as a **specialist**
 - **DON'T** get side-tracked with peripheral research / tasks
- **Collaboration**
 - One researcher can't do everything
 - Work in a **team** and take the time to find good post-graduate students
 - Collaboration is a key component of success (including students)
 - Bring **YOUR** strengths to the discussions/project
- **Funding**
 - Always be on the lookout for funding opportunities for yourself or as part of a research group

Plotting your research career

- **Opportunities**
 - Most research is planned but seize opportunities that are presented
- **Read**
- **Listen**
 - Speak to fellow researchers / students
- **Network**
 - Go to conferences / workshops / social media
- **Persevere**
- **Celebrate the small victories**