



MARiS

17 OCT. 2022, ISSUE 3

Newsflash

ECR Bi-Weekly Newsletter



WELCOME

Welcome to the MARIS ECR newsflash where we share information that will be of use and interest to the broader MARIS ECR community. In this newsletter, you will find the latest news, opportunities and events. Enjoy the read!

LATEST NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Give MARiS a follow on social media



Tara-AtlantECO Mission Microbiome

Studying the Benguela upwelling systems

MARiS Junior Research Fellow, **Emma Rocke**, was chief scientist on board the schooner Tara earlier this year as it sailed from Cape Town in South Africa up to Walvis Bay in Namibia. **They studied microbiomes in the different zones of the upwelling, as well as the Orange river mouth.** As Emma explains in the latest AtlantECO [podcast](#), an upwelling happens when winds push surface waters away and allows for deeper, nutrient-rich water to rise to the surface. This has many effects on the water column and the marine life within it, and these were what Emma and the team on board set out to study during this 5 week long leg up the Western African coast.



©Maéva Bardy - Fondation Tara Ocean

[Read more](#) and listen to the podcast to learn more about the region, how it can help us understand the Atlantic ocean and the changes linked to rises in temperature or ocean acidification, but also to hear more about what life is like on board Tara!

For more information on AtlantECO project, check out their website [here](#).

National Marine Week



This past week, from 10 - 14 October 2022, we celebrated **National Marine Week**. Let us continue to celebrate our ocean and make the effort to learn more about the ocean's influence on us & our influence on the ocean. Let us join hands to safeguard our ocean's resources and life.



FameLab SA Finale 2022

Storytelling and Science communication

Be inspired by the ten stories about African science and discover who will represent South Africa in the **FameLab International Competition 2022**.

Will it be Onesimo Mtintsilana; Ewura-Esi Manful; Nompumelelo Nkosi; Tanya van Aswegen; Nehemiah Latolla; Sohair Geyer; Tarryn-Lee Surajpal; Johanné Marais; Nolwandle Khumalo; Lehlogonolo Ledwaba?

Our esteemed panel of judges, Tshiamo Legoale, Sibusiso Biyela, Ina Smith and Wiida Fourie-Basson will decide. Facilitated by Dr Gillian Adrense.

Please share with your networks (also on social media) and join FameLab to show support to these talented, young science communicators.

Date and Time: **17 October 2022 | 18h00**

Here is the broadcast [link](#).

FameLab looks forward to seeing you at the final.

Join our UCT Marine Chatties Seminars

The Marine Chatties seminars are used as a platform for students and researchers within the marine research field to informally share their science, practice presentations for conferences, discuss and workshop ideas, and work through the various marine science problems that ECRs face with the transition from studying to finding themselves in the workplace.

These seminars take place **every Friday** from **12h00 til 13h00**, usually in the Seminar Room 4, Level 4 in the John Day Building at UCT Upper Campus.

All are welcome from the Oceanography, Engineering and Biological Sciences departments. We hope to see you there!



If you are interested in joining the **Marine Chatties mailing list** or offering up a talk or a workshop, please feel free to email [Shakirah Rylands](#) or [Dr Natasha Karenyi](#), who are currently running the Chatties seminars.

Here is an example of one of the [seminars](#).

SANCOR Vacancies

October 2022

Looking out for the next step in your career path?

The South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research (SANCOR) has listed some recent vacancies available within the marine and coastal environment.

Here are a few posts available:

Learning and Communication Designer
Nature Connect, Westlake business park and Zeekoevlei, Cape Town
Closing Date: [28 Oct 2022](#)
See more details [here](#).

Groen Sebenza Internships in Environmental Management, Environmental Sustainability and Biodiversity & Coastal Management
Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Closing Date: [21 October 2022](#)
Find out more information [here](#).



Postdoctoral position to study Southern Ocean trace metal - phytoplankton interaction. Open until filled.
Stellenbosch University, Cape Town
Closing Date: [4 November 2022](#)
Find out more information [here](#).

Postdoctoral position to join the “Indigenous Marine Innovations for sustainable Environments and Economies (IMiSEE) project”
SAIAB Grahamstown, Eastern Cape
Closing Date: [4 November 2022](#)
Find out more information [here](#).

To view the rest of the vacancies, check out the SANCOR website using [this link](#).

Join APECS SA National Committee

Are you an early career scientist, enthusiast, naturalist or good storyteller with a passion for Polar Research?

Then you have come to the right place! Join our National Committee to psyche up the rest of South Africa (and the world!) about the value of polar science. Any APECS member can apply to serve on the South African National Committee, applications close **31 October 2022!**

Don't know who we are? Have a look [here](#) or explore our [website](#). Full details [here](#).



UCT Funding Opportunities

Friday 21st October | 12h30-14h00 | [MS Teams](#)
UCT 2023 Postgraduate Online Funding Application Information session.

Check out UCT's current funding opportunities [here](#) and other student research grants [here](#).

Vacancies

October 2022

Short-term Contract: Wildlife Camera Operator's Assistant

Employer: Crowned Eagle Research / Dandy
Lion Films

Location: Durban, South Africa

Application Close: 21 October 2022

Provide a short < 1pg cover letter.
a short (2 pg) CV, including 2 Referees
Email .doc or .pdf to
kzncrowneagle@gmail.com with Subject
Line 'Application CameraOp Assistant'

Period: 2-11-2022 to 9-01-2023

Remuneration: ZAR1,050 per work day
Accommodation and food provided
Daily transport provided, but must self-fund
travel to Durban

Job Description:

An excellent opportunity for a university
biology student or wildlife/conservation
volunteer to gain experience in animal
conservation and wildlife filming work.

Job position can be achieved solo - or shared
between two persons - (if latter, prefer if
applicants can propose a shared schedule)
Expect long work days in urban forest areas in
all weather situations
Some recovery days included, plus Christmas
and New Years Day.
Expected to co-habit in provided
accommodation and share in-house duties
(food prep, cleaning, etc)
Assist with data and equipment maintenance
and upkeep.



Duties include:

- * long days with early morning starts
- * carry heavy camera equipment on forest trails
- * quiet alertness for animal activity from hides/blinds to support Camera Operator
- * excellent communication skills in English and isiZulu
- * easy personable manner with Durban residents from diverse backgrounds
- * some operation of supporting camera / audio equipment

Beneficial experience/skills

- + familiarity with Durban Greenspace and biodiversity incl. vervet, duiker, and eagles.
- + drivers licence and South African city driving experience
- + positivity to endure conditions and possible animal encounters (biting insects, snakes, heat and humidity)
- + willingness to learn rope climbing access
- + willingness to handle live animals and dead prey animals

Please contact Shane McPherson directly
on kzncrowneagle@gmail.com or
WhatsApp: +43 664 994 63085 if you'd like
to apply or want further details.

Upcoming Events

October 2022



GO2NE 16th Webinar Series

20 Oct 2022 | 16h00 | Webinar
(Online)

Please join the Global Ocean Oxygen Network (IOC Expert Working Group GO2NE) for a new session of its webinar series on ocean deoxygenation.

The webinar will feature presentations by a more senior and an early-career scientist, 20 minutes each followed by 10 minutes moderated discussion sessions.

If you are interested in joining, register [here](#).

Moderation: **Grant Pitcher**
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, South Africa

Speakers:

Annette Carlson | University of Connecticut, USA

Assessing drivers of oxygen dynamics in the southern Benguela Upwelling System through the combined application of models and observations

Bronwen Currie | Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Namibia

Oxygen calls the shots in the Northern Benguel Upwelling System of Namibia

If you are interested in presenting at one of the upcoming webinars please submit a short abstract [here](#).

Upcoming Events

October 2022

GEO Blue Planet's 5th Symposium

24 - 28 October

For the first time, this signature event will take place in Africa, in Accra, Ghana. The theme is "Local Action in Support of Global Traction" and is specifically geared towards improving GEO Blue Planet's engagement with African nations in an effort to expand the Earth Observation (EO) community of practice, strengthen local capacity and provide access to resources, tools and services.

Co-organised by the GEO Blue Planet Secretariat (Mercator Ocean International, NOAA and the University of Maryland) and the AIR Centre, this year's hosts and local organisers are the University of Ghana and University of Energy and Natural Resources in Ghana. The symposium will feature Plenary Sessions centered around the GEO Blue Planet Core Action Areas of Stakeholder Engagement, Cooperation and Co-design and Capacity Development. It will

also feature Ocean and Coastal Observations Tutorials, Thematic Workshops and a highly Interactive Symposium Forum, which the organizers highly encourage Early Career Ocean Professionals to take part in. This is an in person only event, registration and more details available [here](#).

4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress Series (Latin America & Caribbean)

24 - 27 October

The [4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress](#) (4WSFC) is a transdisciplinary forum for anyone interested in small-scale fisheries to participate in an interactive discussion about the world's small-scale fisheries.

The purpose of the congress is to facilitate knowledge exchange, foster collaboration, and mobilize support for the viability and sustainability of small-scale fisheries. Considering the Covid-19 global pandemic, and recognizing the need to strengthen regional networks and organizations, the 4WSFC will take place in five regions of the world, with the next one in Merida, Mexico.



The banner features a dark blue background with a circular logo on the left containing the text 'Stakeholder Engagement', 'Capacity Development', 'Cooperation and Co-design', and 'GEO BLUE PLANET'. To the right, the text reads 'GEO Blue Planet 5th Symposium' and '24 - 28 Oct 2022 | Accra, Ghana'. A dark blue bar at the bottom contains the slogan 'Local action in support of global traction'. The bottom edge of the banner is decorated with a colorful, abstract pattern of geometric shapes and organic forms in green, yellow, purple, and white.

Upcoming Events

November 2022

iAtlantic: Identifying Offshore Biodiversity Priority Areas to Support MPA Expansion in South Africa

10 Nov 2022 | 10h00 - 15h30 | SANBI at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens

The expansion of South Africa's Oceans Economy aims to provide benefits to all South Africans through expansion and intensification of maritime activities whilst ensuring environmentally sustainable development. This requires careful consideration and safeguarding of marine natural resources and biodiversity for current and future generations.

The **iAtlantic Project** is a multidisciplinary research programme, funded by the European Commission, which aims to collate and generate knowledge that is critical for responsible and sustainable management of ocean resources. The project further aims to provide relevant information and tools to support competent authorities to implement integrated, sustainable management decisions and practices at appropriate scales. The DFFE Branch Oceans and Coasts, SANBI and SAEON are among the South African partners in the iAtlantic Project.



Given the recognition of the importance and need for comprehensive cross-sectoral stakeholder engagement from the outset, stakeholders are invited to participate in an introductory workshop for this process. Two introductory meetings shall be held. These include an in-person meeting which will be held on the 10th November 2022 from 10 am to 3.30 pm, to be held at the SANBI premises at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens. For those unable to attend the in-person meeting, an online meeting shall be held on 11 November 2022, using the Microsoft Teams platform, also from 10 am to 3.30 pm. An agenda shall be made available closer to the time.

Kindly RSVP by Monday 24 October 2022, to both Lisa Skein (l.skein@sanbi.org.za) and Tyla Goldman (TGoldman@dffe.gov.za), and indicate whether you are likely to attend (a) in-person, or (b) online. For those attending in-person, kindly indicate any dietary preferences.

Upcoming Events

November 2022



SAYAS Blogging Competition 2023

Are you a masters or doctoral student or postdoctoral researcher in South Africa? Do you want to express yourself and share your thoughts and opinions, but do not have a platform to do so?

SAYAS is proudly representing the voice of young scientists of all spheres of science and we want to provide the platform for aspiring scientists to talk, debate and learn more about the postgraduate journey in South Africa.

It is about time for the world to know more about you and at the same time improve your writing and communication skills; such a win-win situation, don't you think? And if you wonder whether your ideas are "blogworthy" have a look here.

Through the years, in the SAYAS blog, we have learned about specific research fields and new discoveries; understood challenges such as finances, funding, diversity and inequalities; were inspired by stories of women in science or other role models; and discovered what the students expect from

supervisors and mentors.

What do I need to enter?

Any Masters or PhD student or postdoctoral researcher from any research field studying in South Africa who can communicate in English can enter.

How do I enter the blogging competition?

You will enter the competition by completing this [form](#). This includes:

- A short bio (500-700 words) introducing yourself – this will form the evidence of your blogging style.
- Your CV
- A high-resolution photo of you

The closing date for applications is **Monday, 14th November 2022**. For more information, write to: Jennifer.Fitchett@wits.ac.za

What is expected from me and what should I expect from SAYAS If I am selected to be a SAYAS blogger?

You will have to work with the 2023 SAYAS blog editor and submit one blog every month in 2023.

The blog posts will range from themes directed by the editor to topics of your choice.

You will receive guidance and mentoring from the editor so that your blog is of SAYAS standards and quality.

We will be in touch within 4 weeks if you have been selected as a SAYAS blogger.

You will also receive a small stipend monthly for the year of your blogging contract.

Upcoming Conferences

November-December 2022



5th International Marine Science Communication Conference

Sète (France) & Online
30 Nov - 1 Dec, 2022

Are you a professional communicator working in a marine institute, governmental body or a NGO, or a marine scientist that would like to be speed-trained by experts in the skills of modern ocean science communication?

Then CommOCEAN is for you.

Our conference programme combines hands-on exercises in current science communication skills for disseminating ocean research and technology, with plenty of expertise-sharing, social

interaction and fascinating marine science along the way.

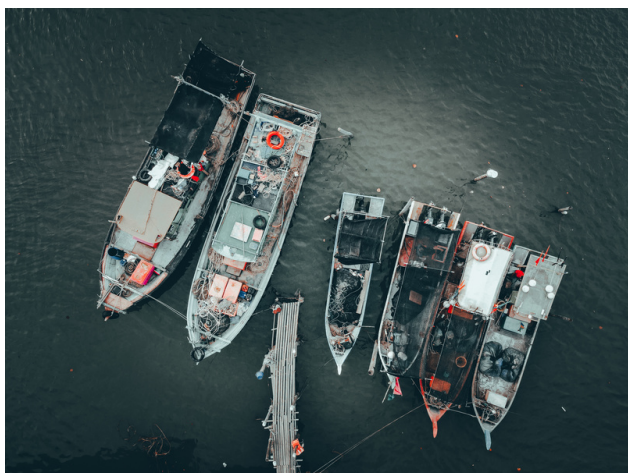
If you have questions or need assistance related to registering for CommOcean, please contact: info@marineboard.eu.

Registration closes on 15 November 2022.
Register [here](#).

The main organizer of the conference, the European Marine Board Communications Panel (EMBCP) has also a dedicated Future Science Brief on [Marine Science Communication in Europe: a way forward \(June 2022\)](#), where it highlights the critical need to strengthen the marine science communication capacity in Europe, as well as develop dedicated training programs, engage in deeper and wider collaboration with stakeholders, and ensure close interaction with the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and the EU Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030.

Opportunities

November 2022



Open Call for Shipboard Fellowship

Closing date: 30 Nov 2022

The Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO) offers a [shipboard training fellowship programme](#) which is designed to promote training and capacity development building leading towards a global observation scheme for the ocean. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that shipboard placements will be made available at shorter notice than normal. In order to make best use of these opportunities, the POGO Secretariat is issuing an Open Call for applications from any early career scientists, technicians, postgraduate students (PhD or MSc) and Post-doctoral Fellows involved in oceanographic work at centres in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Workshop on 'worker voice' for fishing vessel crews

Event date: 7-8 Nov 2022 | Cape Town

Key Traceability is delighted to inform that we are running a workshop exploring worker voice and grievance mechanisms for fishing vessel crews in Cape Town, South Africa on Monday 7th November / Tuesday 8th November on behalf of Global Seafood Alliance and in collaboration with Woolworths South Africa. The workshop offers the opportunity to discuss what expectations are in terms of worker voice mechanisms and grievance procedures. Standards based on global conventions such as ILO c188 require these mechanisms to be in place, but there is little guidance on what best practice looks like. We are looking to gather people from different parts of the industry to discuss expectations of current best practice – what should be expected on vessels certified to these standards? The workshop forms part of global outreach which involves interviews and workshops. All input is in confidence but will be used to create a report and recommendations. Anyone who would have valuable input or would like to participate in the discussion is welcome to join. Full details are available [here](#).

Opportunities

November 2022

Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program

Closing date: 1 Nov 2022

The [Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program](#) offers opportunities for independent research or study related to Smithsonian collections, facilities, and/or research interests of the Institution and its staff. Fellowships are offered to graduate students, predoctoral students, and postdoctoral researchers to conduct independent research and to utilize the resources of the Institution with members of the Smithsonian professional research staff serving as advisors. These fellowships are offered through the Smithsonian's Office of Academic Appointments and Internships. Fellowship tenures must begin between June 1, 2023 and May 30, 2024.

Determination of the fellowship category for which to apply should be based on the anticipated academic level at the time the fellowship would begin:



Smithsonian

- **Postdoctoral Fellowships** – for scholars up to seven years beyond the Ph.D.*
Term: 3 to 12 months; Stipend: \$55,000 per year; Research Allowance: up to \$5,000
- **Predocctoral Fellowships** – for doctoral candidates to conduct dissertation research. Students enrolled in a university as candidates for the Ph.D. or equivalent are eligible for predoctoral fellowships. Term: 3 to 12 months; Stipend: \$42,000 per year; Research Allowance: up to \$5,000
- **Ten-Week Graduate Student Fellowships** – for graduate students to conduct independent research usually before having been advanced to candidacy if in a Ph.D. program. Term: 10 weeks; Stipend: \$8,000

SANCOR Seminars & Courses

October 2022

18 Oct 2022 | 19h00 | Online:
Tegan Carpenter Kling, BirdLife
South Africa
Keeping track of our threatened seabirds

8 Nov 2022 | 13h00 | UCT
Dr Björn Backeberg, Deltares
Hydrodynamics and Forecasting,
Netherlands
Oceanography Seminar Room:
Ocean Modelling, towards a workflow solution for D-HYDRO that can be easily deployed across distributed cloud and high-performance computing infrastructures

28 Nov 2022 | 13h00 | UCT
Prof Mathieu Rouault, Nansen Tutu
Center for Marine Environmental
Research, UCT
Oceanography Seminar Room: The
intrusion of warm Agulhas water on
the South Coast of South Africa (all
the way to Struis Bay)



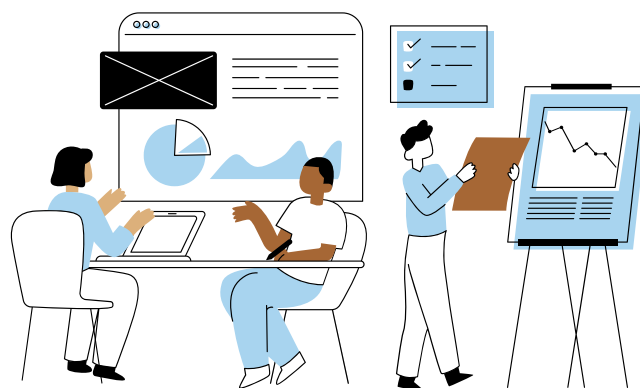
R and Python Online Workshop

26 Oct 2022 | 11h00 – 13h00 SAST |
Online

Are you in Humanities & Social Sciences in SA? Are you learning R or python? Join us for the informal biweekly R/Python study group. All skill levels welcome!

Register [here](#).

Full details on registration, programme and computer setup [here](#).



Courses



Master's in Applied Ocean Sciences Course

MARiS convenes a one-year coursework (full-time) Master's in Applied Ocean Sciences, which is joint between the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Oceanography at the University of Cape Town. This course provides interdisciplinary training in treating the most applied aspects of oceanography and marine biology, with the aim to become future ocean professionals. It is designed for both recent graduates as well as those with some years' experience and who wish to gain skills to operate in the ocean services sector, with a focus on operational and conservational activities, food, water quality and recreation, preservation and other aspects of the Blue Economy.

For more information, check out the [website](#).

Applications Deadline:

31 October 2022

Course commences:

late January 2023



2023 APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!



MARiS
Marine and Antarctic Research
for Innovation and Sustainability

Are you a BSc or BA Hons graduate interested in the ocean and its environment?

UCT-MARiS offers a 13-month programme, the Applied Ocean Sciences (AOS) MSc Coursework + Minor Dissertation, offering a range of disciplines that will shape both your academic and technical skills with the applied aspects of oceanography and marine biology. This multi-disciplinary MSc course is joint between the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Oceanography. The AOS course commences in January 2023.

APPLICATIONS CLOSING DATE | 31 OCTOBER 2022

To apply, visit maris.uct.ac.za

CONTACT US

MARiS

University of Cape Town, South Africa

✉ aos.maris@uct.ac.za

Call for Content Creators

The UCT-MARiS Comms Team is looking out for volunteers to assist us in providing marine related content especially involving interdisciplinary research, whether it may focus on your current research, fieldtrips, cruises, conferences, workshops, events, etc., we want to know what is happening in the marine and Antarctic sphere and share it with our networks.

If you are interested in getting involved (once-off or long-term) on a voluntary basis with the MARiS Comms Team in:

- writing up a blog,
 - promoting events and opportunities,
 - suggesting ideas for marine science communication or
 - providing media that will promote marine research,
- then we would love for you to fill in this short [form](#).

For all content and queries, please feel free to mail us at comms.maris@uct.ac.za.



Feel free to tag us on our social media platforms and we'll be happy to repost:

Twitter: @MARIS_UCT
Instagram: @maris_uct



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Because you are part of our MARiS ECR network.



Give MARiS a follow on social media

CONTACT US

If you'd like to sign up for the [ECR mailing list](#) or you'd like to include an event or opportunity in our next newsflash, please email ecr.maris@uct.ac.za.