



# MARiS

25 NOV. 2022, ISSUE 6

## 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!

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### LATEST NEWS INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Give MARiS a follow on social media



# Women in STEM Blog by Kolisa Sinyanya

Kolisa Yola Sinyanya, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Oceanography at the University of Cape Town is the face behind the blog, "[Women in STEM](#)". Kolisa is mentored and supervised by Dr Sarah Fawcett.

The blog is a means of communication between women in science and the rest of the world. She aims to expose the challenges endured, and share strengths of women scientists to inspire the young and old and to crush the status quo that women cannot be powerful scientists. She features updates about women in the world of science and interviews determined women who are contributing to considerable advancements in their fields of expertise, in the continuously evolving world of science.

Kolisa was also interviewed by the 5FMWeekendBreakfast team for #CareerCrazy about her passion to study the Ocean's role in the global climate change. Catch up on the full interview [here](#) or if you would like to reach out to her, you can contact her via [email](#).

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## Podcasts: What to listen out for?

There are so many new amazing podcasts available online so we thought we would share some of those that might interest you. Have a listen to them in your spare time, you might learn something new from various people's stories or from the array of environmental topics discussed.

### Climate Frontiers

A podcast series exploring the latest thinking, approaches and debates in climate science, hosted by the Climate System Analysis Group, or CSAG, at the University of Cape Town.

### The Root of the Science Podcast

Hosted by Anne Chisa. This show has interviews with guests involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

### Ready or Not, Change is Coming

A 12-part Climate Podcast Series, dedicated to breaking down climate change into chewable elements to help us all understand it better, dispel the myths and remove the ambiguity. Tracey Thomas is the host of the the RONCIC series.

### The AtlantECO podcast

A science popularisation show, revolving around conversations between the host and a guest to discuss aspects of AtlantECO, a marine science project which focuses on the Atlantic Ocean.

### BEPSII Podcast: Sea Ice Research, Studies, and Scientists

the official podcast of BEPSII brings you the research studies and work, stories and resources by the members of BEPSII (Biogeochemical Exchanges Processes at Sea Ice Interfaces) – scientists from all over the world and at all career stages.

### Agulhas Current Affairs

A marine science podcast set in Southern Africa with marine biologists Dr Yanas Kisten and Dr Nelson Miranda.



**Podcast of  
the week**

### **THE ROOT OF THE SCIENCE PODCASTS**

**THANDO MAZOMBA (SOUTH AFRICA)**

MARINE MANAGER & TELEMETRY BUSINESS UNIT LEAD, CLS SOUTHERN AFRICA; CO-FOUNDER & CO-DIRECTOR, THE BEACH CO-OP



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## Notices

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# Join SOLAS Early Career Scientist Committee TODAY!

Early Career Scientists (ECS) make up a significant portion of the SOLAS community. To better represent the unique insights and opinions of this critical group at international levels, and to provide future generation scientists with networking and collaboration opportunities, SOLAS initiates the self-organised ECS Committee to act as a strategic and operational body to advise, coordinate and champion early career activities.

**SOLAS welcomes applications from graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty members who have received their latest degree within 10 years.**

Candidates from developing countries are explicitly encouraged to apply. The committee members are appointed for a 3-year term or until they cannot be defined as an Early Career Scientist anymore. The first committee will be elected by the SOLAS Scientific Steering Committee (SSC). In addition, the ECS committee chair will be appointed to the SOLAS SSC as the representative of ECS committee.

The call for (self-) nominations is now open until **25th November 2022, 23:59 pm, CST**. More information, including responsibilities, eligibility, and application procedure, can be found [here](#).



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## AtlantOS Ocean Hour | The Use of Autonomous Vehicles and High Technology for Ocean Observation

You are invited to join NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Research - Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing Program (GOMO) at the AtlantOS Ocean Hour: **November 29th, 2022, 11 am EST** on "The Use of Autonomous Vehicles and High Technology for Ocean Observation".

Join us in the webinar discussion about high technology instruments for ocean observations. The speakers will share projects they are involved in, and address some of the current challenges expected in the coming years.

To register, sign up [here](#).



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# SANCOR Vacancies

November 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:

**Postdoctoral fellowship: Application of eDNA metabarcoding for assessment and prediction of faunal biodiversity in African mangrove ecosystems**

*Stellenbosch University, Cape Town*

Closing Date: [25 November 2022](#)

Find out more information [here](#).

**Postdoctoral position: biodiversity biobanks in South Africa**

*SANBI, Cape Town*

Closing Date: [30 November 2022](#)

See more details [here](#).

**Two-Year Groen Sebenza Internships**

*SANBI, South Africa*

Closing Date: [7 December 2022](#)

Find out more information [here](#).



**Postdoctoral Research Fellow in sea ice modelling**

*The Norwegian Polar Institute, Tromsø, Norway*

Closing Date: [10 December 2022](#)

Find out more information [here](#).

**Postdoctoral position: Marine heatwave analysis of the Atlantic Ocean**

*GEOMAR, the University of Edinburgh, and*

*University of the Western Cape*

Closing Date: [15 December 2022](#)

Find out more information [here](#).

**Post-doctoral position in benthic macrofauna and biodiversity research**

*University of Cádiz, Cádiz, Spain*

Closing Date: [21 December 2022](#)

Find out more information [here](#).

**To view the rest of the vacancies, check out the SANCOR website using [this link](#). Other job opportunities can be found [here](#) too.**

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## Funding Opportunities

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

Funding opportunities have also opened up through the Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP) Network Programme or you could have a look at the NRF [website](#).



# Upcoming Events

November 2022

## Join SAWISE and their AGM

The Association of South African Women in Science and Engineering (SAWISE) is a dynamic association for all those who support the idea of strengthening the role of women in science and engineering in South Africa. For more information on SAWISE, check out their website and social media.

Interested in becoming a SAWISE member, then make sure to sign up [here](#).

**This is a reminder of your invitation to the SAWISE AGM which will take place on the 30th of November 2022 at 17:30 on the Tygerberg Medical Campus.** Please remember to fill out this [form](#) to register for the AGM event. We will also get a chance to hear from Dr Anastasia (Tasha) Kock.

**We would also like to invite you to participate in an outreach act.** As you know, SAWISE values being connected to our communities and being present in addressing issues that marginalise women. We will therefore be reaching out to the Observatory Rape Crisis Centre. We would love to take some items to the centre that will be of use to them. At the moment, we kindly request that you assist and support with the following items:

- Panties (any size)
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Bars of soap
- Face cloths
- Sanitary towels.



Please bring these items along with you to the AGM. We are looking forward to seeing you. **This AGM will be a great opportunity for you to meet with other SAWISE members, as well as the members of our executive committee to discuss the upcoming year, raise questions, and generate new ideas.** 2022 has been an exciting, yet challenging, year for us all as we slowly find even footing after the constant flux of the pandemic. At SAWISE we are glad to be back on our feet, and as we look toward 2023, we want to focus our energy on giving back to our communities. As such our theme for 2023 is outreach, and we will introduce this new community-based strategy at the AGM. We will also hear from a guest speaker, who will guide our conversation on outreach and science engagement.

It is important that we receive feedback and engagement from our members so that we can grow and develop the association in ways that best support you. **We encourage you to attend.**

# Upcoming Events

November-December 2022

## BIMS Week 2022

**Black In Marine Science** (BIMS) is a premier organization aimed to celebrate Black marine scientists, spread environmental awareness and inspire the next generation of scientific thought leaders across the globe.

**Ocean Womxn** has teamed up with BIMS to host one of the Beach Cleanups that will be happening around the globe on the first day of #BIMSWeek taking place from 27 Nov - 3 Dec 2022!

Join them in Cape Town, at Monwabisi Beach on 27 November from 10am - 12pm, where they will be making history!  
#BIMSSWEEPSTHEBEACH

Scan the barcode in the image to register for the Beach clean up event and stay tuned to their website for more information about the events lined up for this week.

## 5th National Global Change Conference

30 Jan - 2 Feb 2023 | **Abstracts due on 30 Nov 2022** | Bloemfontein, Free State

The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) and the National Research Foundation (NRF), in partnership with the University of the Free State (UFS), will be hosting the 5th



National Global Change Conference.

This four-day conference will take place at the Bloemfontein Campus of the UFS, from 30 January to 2 February 2023. The National Conferences on Global Change have been held biennially under the banner of the Global Change Grand Challenge (GCGC), one of the focus areas known as grand challenges in the Ten-Year Innovation Plan (TYIP) of the DSI since 2012.

These conferences are aimed at **providing a platform for networking and knowledge sharing among global change stakeholders to share and debate the latest research and innovations accelerating transformation.** Active participation by early career researchers is strongly encouraged. Almost all costs are funded.

Please refer to the conference website for more information.

# Upcoming Events

December 2022

## Ocean Hackathon Cape Town

2-4 December 2022 | Cape Town

**Welcome to Cape Town's second edition of the 2022 Ocean Hackathon!**

If you think you got what it takes to join this digital marathon, to tackle ocean-impact focused challenges, register NOW to be a part of this year's Ocean Hackathon, in Cape Town from 2 - 4 December 2022!!

It is an exciting opportunity for students of UCT, particularly from the faculties of Engineering, Science, Economic and Management Sciences and the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking. Globally, 85 challenges were selected from 12 countries with the shared objective to better understand the ocean, contribute to its sustainable development, and rethink the use of marine data.

The Global Ocean Hackathon is a 48 hour non-stop team challenge to develop data-based solutions for threats to ocean health.

**The Cape Town edition will be a hybrid event which will take place at the OceanHub Africa Office in the Avenue Conference Centre, located in the Two Oceans Aquarium. So whether you are a coder, a data or marine scientist, or an advocate of healthy oceans wanting to support the ocean-impact space, make sure to sign up through this platform and choose your favourite challenges for this exciting event taking place in December 2022.**

We are hoping for all of our participants to be joining us on-site, however there will be the option of virtual participation for some of participants.



### Which skills are required?

- Oceanography
- Marine sciences
- Marine biology
- IT development
- Data analysis and management
- Geographical Sciences... and more!

This year's Cape Town edition has 4 challenges to choose from:

**CAP01:** Radar at sea: Using land-based high-frequency radar systems to monitor risks of IUU fishing

**CAP02:** LOST (Lagrangian Ocean Search Targets)

**CAP03:** MPAs alert system

**CAP04:** SharkSafe Barrier Design Decision Support System

You can view more details about these challenges [here](#).

By entering the Ocean Hackathon Cape Town, you get to be a part of working towards creating innovative solutions to ocean-impact challenges AND stand the chance to WIN one of the cash prizes and to represent Cape Town during Ocean Hackathon® Grand final in France!!

**[Register to be a part of the hackathon here!](#)**

### Interested in volunteering at the event?

There are 5 available shifts which need approximately 4-5 volunteers. Details about your duties will be given to you at the event (this usually entails assisting the hackers with subject knowledge, helping to set up tables, etc.). Transportation to and from campus will be provided, as well as meals during your shift. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the form [here](#).

# Seminars & Courses

November-December 2022



**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)

**28 Nov 2022 | 16h30 | UCT**

Prof Maano Ramutsindela will be moderating the UCT Science Faculty Dean's Dialogue, focusing on the topic: "The Climate Crisis: How is the UCT Science Faculty part of the solution?" Come and attend the panel discussion of 5 UCT experts at the New Lecture Theatre, UCT Upper Campus.

**3 December 2022 | 10h30 SAST | Shark Museum in Simon's Town, Cape Town**

Alessandro De Maddalena will be presenting a lecture on "Great White Sharks of South Australia". Registration via email is compulsory. Entrance fee is R50.

**5 December 2022 | 14h00 SAST | Online**

Nadia Pinardi will be presenting at the next GOOS Webinar Series on CoastPredict: The Power of Science in Support of Global Coastal Communities. Please register here.



## Workshop: PRIMA Learning Project

20-23 Feb 2023 | Cape Town |  
**Apply by 5 Dec 2022**

The PRIMA Learning Project invites participation in the Workshop "Using Stable Isotopes to Analyse Trophic Interactions in the Marine Environment" that will be held in Cape Town, South Africa. The workshop will be held over four days and will comprise:

(i) lectures from local and international practitioners in the field of stable isotope ecology;

(ii) a visit to the Light Stable Isotope Laboratory, University of Cape Town, where participants will be shown how samples are processed and their isotopic signatures measured; and

(iii) group work where participants will analyse stable isotope data collected from several marine organisms (primarily fish) sampled from a variety of ecosystems and write and present reports on those analyses.

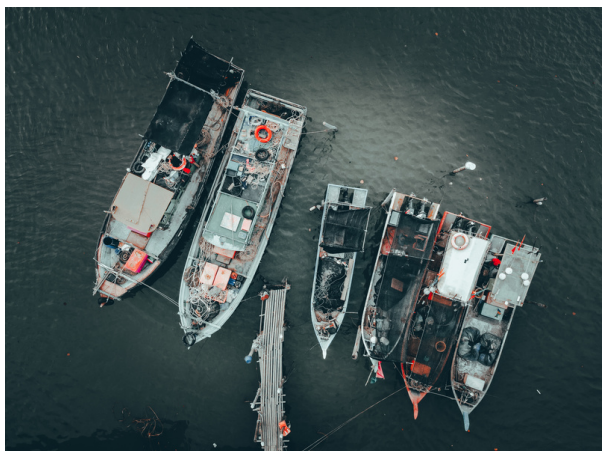
This workshop is open to post-graduate students and early career scientists. Full funding for travel, accommodation and subsistence can be arranged through the South Africa/Norway mobility project PRIMA Learning.



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# Opportunities

November 2022 - January 2023



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## 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.



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## MOOC Machine Learning in Weather & Climate

9 January 2023 | Online

Discover how cutting-edge techniques impact our characterisation of weather and climate. In this **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)** you will explore the application of Machine Learning – a branch of Artificial Intelligence (AI) – across the main stages of numerical weather and climate predictions. These range from the acquisition and handling of input observations to their assimilation into models, and finally to forecasting and post-processing. In each element you will uncover both the added value and limitations of Machine Learning.


It is a fully online and FREE training open to anyone interested in the subject. The first part of the course is a high level introduction to the key concepts. Later sections become more technical and provide hands-on experience in the application of Machine Learning algorithms. Register [here](#).

# 2023 Opportunities




**Fully funded PhD project:**


## Ocean physics and ecology: Can robots disentangle the mix?



*Interested in the ocean? Robots? Interdisciplinary data science? Then check out this fully funded PhD project at the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton (UK) where you will use autonomous underwater gliders to understand how ocean physics control the tiny algae in the ocean. Check the [website](#) and contact me ([filipa.carvalho@noc.ac.uk](mailto:filipa.carvalho@noc.ac.uk)) if you want to know more!*



Dr Filipa Carvalho (NOC, main supervisor)  
Dr Bieito Fernández Castro (UoS)  
Dr Louis Clément (NOC)  
Dr Jo Hopkins (NOC)



*Applications due January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023! Funding available for students worldwide*

## PhD Opportunity

National Oceanography Centre,  
Southampton, UK

**Apply to a fully funded PhD project:  
Ocean physics and ecology: Can robots  
disentangle the mix?**

**Applications due: 3 January 2023**

The PhD student will be working with Dr Filipa Carvalho, Dr Louis Clement, Dr Joanne Hopkins and Dr Bieito Fernandez Castro, on biophysical interactions in the upper ocean using underwater gliders.

In this project, you will use high-resolution gliders to (1) understand and quantify the effect of small-scale and episodic physical processes on the phytoplankton community

growth; (2) evaluate the importance of including small-scale processes in oceanic carbon uptake. Filling this knowledge gap using these high-resolution data will improve predictions of how the carbon uptake by phytoplankton is affected by both natural variability and changes in physical forcing driven by climate change.

Personal and professional development training will be offered alongside extensive opportunities for students to expand their multi-disciplinary outlook through interactions with a wide network of academic, research and industrial/policy partners. The student will be registered at the University of Southampton and hosted at the National Oceanography Centre (Southampton), in the Ocean Biogeosciences group.

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

# 2023 Opportunities

## QUICCHE | CAPE BASIN

March 2023

An opportunity for students to apply for a research cruise in the Cape Cauldron in March 2023. Placements are available for **2 PhD students and 2 undergraduate students** from South Africa to join the international **QUICCHE project aboard RV Revelle from 5-30th March 2023**. Students will help collect observations, conduct mini projects, and co-create a game that connects children with the ocean.

### To apply:

Send your CV, a short statement of interest, and a letter of recommendation from your academic advisor to [lbeal@miami.edu](mailto:lbeal@miami.edu).

## Observational Oceanography Training Course

May 2023 | Apply by 31 Dec 2022

The application window is now open for the next **Nippon Foundation-POGO Centre of Excellence (NF-POGO CoE)**, which provides world class education and training in the field of observational oceanography.

This is an intensive training course for **young professionals at the post-graduate level, ten months in duration, with an intake of ten trainees per year**. The course is sponsored by the Nippon Foundation and hosted by the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research. It is conducted at AWI's site on the offshore island of Helgoland with focus on open-ocean sciences and also at AWI's site on the



**UNESCO reserve Waddensea island of Sylt** where shelf/basin interactions are topics of study. The call for applications will be open until the 31 December 2022. Successful candidates will begin **training in May 2023**. You can read more about what the training involves and submit an application [here](#). Please feel free to circulate this announcement to anyone you think might be interested.

## YSSP - Young Scientists Summer Program for PhD students

The **International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)** offers a summer program for PhD students to undertake a scientific project on a topic related to the IIASA research agenda.

Annually, from **1 June to 31 August**, IIASA hosts up to 50 doctoral students from around the world in its Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP). It is a great opportunity to collaborate and learn from other PhD students worldwide. To find out more information, view their [website](#).

Applications to the 2023 program are now open and will run until **12 January 2023**. Two letters of reference are required (to be received by latest 24 hrs past application deadline). [Apply here!](#)

# 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](mailto:comms.maris@uct.ac.za).



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**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.



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## 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](mailto:ecr.maris@uct.ac.za).