

Subject: MSI Newsletter Update - October 2023

Date: Monday, 23 October 2023 at 9:24:52 am Australian Eastern Daylight Time

From: Marine Studies Institute

To: MSI Coordinator



Marine Studies Institute

October 2023 Newsletter



Recent Events

Coral Emergency! Multidisciplinary Event

MSI hosted a successful panel event on 26 September with over 50 attendees and panellists from marine science, international law, Sydney Fish Market, and the Australian Museum.

Each panellist explained their perspective on the impact of climate change on coral reefs followed by a Q&A with the audience.

MSI looks forward to a similar event in 2024 so watch this space!

[Watch the recording on the MSI YouTube channel here.](#)



Meet the Panel



Dr. Ana Paula da Silva
Oceanographer
Co-Chair



Dr. Shawna Foo
Marine Scientist
Co-Chair



Dr Pat Hutchings
Australian Museum
Panellist



Mr. Erik Poole
Sydney Fish Market
Panellist



Prof. Tim Stephens
International Law
Panellist

MSI Connecting Marine Enthusiasts



Building an MSI Network

MSI has been working towards building connections between marine students and researchers throughout the university departments.

We recently organised food fuelled get-togethers for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. These gatherings gave our marine enthusiasts a chance to meet, bond, and share their passion for marine research.

We've also expanded our reach by inviting researchers from various university

departments to join MSI. To kick things off, we hosted a lunch event to connect marine researchers and build a stronger marine network.

MSI is now more diverse than ever, with members hailing from various university faculties including Science, Engineering, Arts and Social Science, and Medicine and Health.

Stay tuned for more events and opportunities to connect, collaborate.

MARS 5004



MARS5004 Coastal Management Fieldschool

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It was great to finally run the MARS5004 Coastal Management Field school with all students face to face!

This fieldtrip focused unit provides students with immersive learning opportunities in local coastal settings. Visits to different sites within the Sydney area included Narrabeen, Gamay (Botany Bay) and Royal National Parks.

The unit had an enthusiastic group of 19 students from postgrad programs in Marine Science, Environmental Science and Architectural Science (Sustainable

Design). Several Geosciences staff were also involved and contributed their depth of knowledge at various coastal sites within the greater Sydney area including Tommy Fellowes, Tiago Passos, Ana Paulo Da Silva, Peter Cowell, Bruce Thom and Billy Haworth.



Upcoming MSI AGM

We will hold our annual MSI board meeting on *28 November 2023*, where we will discuss our vision for MSI, our recent activities, and planning for 2024.

Staff Spotlight



Dr Shawna Foo

Postdoctoral Fellow

Marine Studies Institute

University of Sydney

Dr. Shawna Foo is an ARC and Westpac Research Fellow at The University of Sydney. As a marine scientist with an interest in the biology, ecology, and evolution of marine ecosystems in a changing climate, her research investigates factors that increase the resilience of marine ecosystems to climate change stressors. During her career she has used many fascinating technologies (e.g., remote sensing techniques) and systems (e.g., CO₂ vents) to understand the health and function of marine ecosystems.

Current Research

- Investigating factors that increase the resilience of marine ecosystems to climate change from organismal biology to reefscape scales
- Investigating strategies utilised by marine species inhabiting extreme environments
- Impacts of climate change stressors on marine ecosystem functioning
- Use of remote sensing technologies to improve coral restoration outcomes and understanding of coral reefs



Dr Ana Paula da Silva

Postdoctoral Fellow

Marine Studies Institute

University of Sydney

Dr. Ana Paula da Silva is an oceanographer focused in researching coastal variability, wave dynamics and the effect of large-scale climate drivers in these coastal environments. Currently she is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Sydney in the ARC Discovery Project that aims to investigate the eco-morphodynamic processes on the Great Barrier Reef and projected changes until 2100. During her academic career and formation, Ana has studied the coastal evolution of different environments from the tropical to the polar regions using field measurements, remote sensing, and hydrodynamic modelling.

Current Research

The Great Barrier Reef in 2100 (ARC Discovery Program) project led by Professor Ana Vila-Concejo (USYD) and other internal and external collaborators: This research will develop models to quantify the biotic/abiotic stressors on the GBR, supporting predictions of the GBR eco-morphodynamic evolution until 2100 under the IPCC climate scenarios.

#Coast2Cast Podcast



In early 2021, Ana Vila-Concejo (University of Sydney) and Giovanni Coco (University of Auckland), decided to interview coastal scientists, engineers and oceanographers from around the world about research and non-research topics. The idea was that, as COVID madness continued, students and scientists around the world could still "meet" coastal scientists and hear directly from them. This podcast has grown into a successful global marine outreach.

Listen to #Coast2Cast in [Spotify](#), via [PodBean](#) or directly from the [Coast and Ocean Collective](#).

[If you'd like to be added to the mailing list, please email Ana Vila-Concejo.](#)



[Listen to the podcast](#)



Marine Studies Institute

Email: sydney.msi@sydney.edu.au

Phone: 02 8627 0450

School of Geosciences | Faculty of Science

Rm 308, Madsen Building F09 | The University of Sydney |

NSW | 2006



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



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Marine Studies Institute · Room 308, Madsen Building, Eastern Avenue · Sydney, Nsw 2000 · Australia

