

Marine protected areas lecturer shares insights

Renowned lecturer, Dr Peter Jones from University College London, was welcomed to UWA in July to deliver a public lecture on 'Making Marine Protected Areas more effective: Resilience through Diversity'.

Dr Jones has spent more than 20 years researching the governance of human uses of marine resources with a focus on marine protected areas and spatial planning.

The lecture was organised by the Institute of Advanced Studies who, together with the Oceans Institute,

supported Dr Jones first visit to Perth, and saw him also deliver a seminar on natural resource governance.

In his lecture, Dr Jones explored the results of a range of case studies on marine protected areas around the globe to examine their effectiveness in achieving conservation objectives. The results found too few marine protected areas are achieving their objectives and the key to their resilience must be diversity, both of species in ecosystems and incentives in governance systems. Dr Jones concluded with an unexpected



DR PETER JONES AND PROFESSOR JULIAN CLIFTON

statement. The marine protected area ranked most effective was that of Chube in Tanzania, a privately implemented reserve and also the smallest of the areas studied.



Living and working underwater

A lecture on 'Living and Working Underwater: The Aquarius Reef Base underwater laboratory and residence' and a masterclass on 'Blue Carbon' created great interest around the Oceans Institute in August. Professor James W. Fourqurean, Director of the Marine Education and Research Initiative at Florida International University, delivered both talks at UWA to large audiences.

Professor Fourqurean described his first-hand experience working as Principal Investigator in Aquarius, the underwater laboratory made to withstand the pressure of ocean depths up to 40 meters deep. The talk provided a descriptive tour of Aquarius and her capabilities, and highlighted the research advancements and exciting training missions conducted in the past few years.

Professor Fourqurean was a 2014 Institute of Advanced Studies Professor-at-Large, whose professorship was supported by OI member and Winthrop Professor Gary Kendrick and OI Director Winthrop Professor Carlos Duarte.



DR XIAO XI

Welcome to the OI Xiao Xi

We are very pleased to welcome visiting researcher Dr Xiao Xi from Zhejiang University, China to the Oceans Institute.

Xiao is halfway through her six month visit to the Oceans Institute, working with Winthrop Professor Carlos Duarte, Professor Susana Agusti, Assistant Professor Thomas Wernberg, Dr Ylva Olsen on a project investigating the joint impacts of UV radiation and temperature on south West Australian seaweed species vulnerable to climate change.

A complex aquarium system was created for this project that can investigate the physiological responses of seaweed to different temperature gradients and UV radiations. Xiao says,

"the Oceans Institute is a wonderful platform, there is now a foundation for future work using this system"

Xiao is the first researcher from Zhejiang to visit the Oceans Institute and envisages a long-term collaboration between the two universities on a joint, large-scale seaweed farm project that will attempt to remove nutrients and fixed carbon dioxide from the air to restore the coastal environment. Winthrop Professor Carlos Duarte and Professor Jiaping Wu from Zhejiang University will be the Principal Investigators responsible for cultivating this collaborative research.