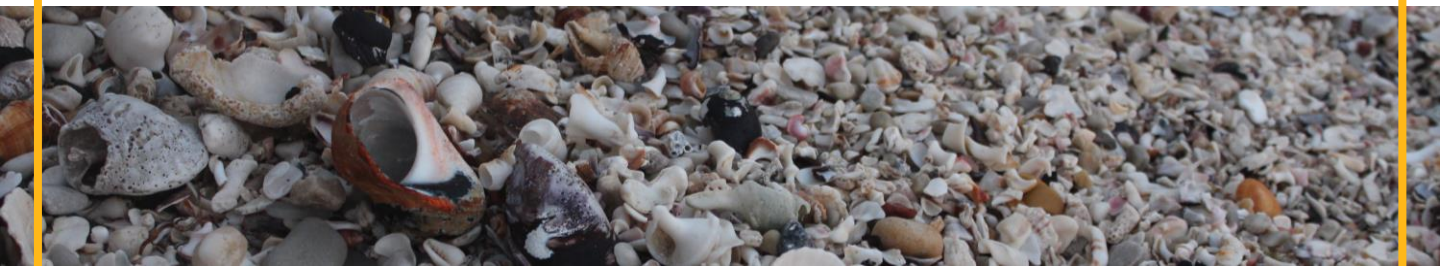


NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY



Term 4 News

2019 is nearing its end, and after a third term filled with celebrations, further growth at the Ocean Sciences Campus, environmental disasters, international visits and events, the **Institute for Coastal and Marine Research (CMR)** is looking forward to the last few months of the year.



Celebrating Excellence

The Vice Chancellor's Excellence Awards evening was a glamorous affair, hosted at the Tramways on 10 September. The CMR is delighted to announce that we were awarded the **Engagement Excellence Team Award!** A heartfelt thank you to all of our members for your collaborations, contributions, and support. The CMR Office is very proud of our exceptional team.



Of the 49 awards presented during this evening, 7 were awarded to the CMR and CMR members. This truly indicates the calibre of members forming the CMR. The CMR is very proud of the following members for receiving awards in recognition of the contributions that they make to our University:

Professor Pierre Pistorius

Faculty of Science Researcher of the Year Award
Nelson Mandela University Researcher of the Year Award

Ms Danai Tembo

Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences Emerging Excellent Teacher of the Year Award
Nelson Mandela University Emerging Excellent Teacher Award

Dr Tim Pittaway

Agricultural Technology Transfer Programme Engagement Excellence Award STEM

Professor Jean Greyling

Innovation Excellence Award

Professor Andrew Leitch (Chair of the CMR Advisory Board)

Nelson Mandela University Lifetime Contribution Award



Dr Alastair Potts, Deputy Director for the African Centre for Coastal Palaeoscience (ACCP), was awarded a **P Rating** at the annual National Research Foundation awards evening in September. This is the first time that a researcher from our University has been awarded this rating. Professor Guy Bate received a **gold medal** from the Southern African Society of Aquatic Sciences for his excellence in aquatic research, student teaching and academic publishing over a long period. Dr Kerry Sink was appointed as an **Honorary Professor** in October. Congratulations to these members!



Ocean Sciences Campus News

News of the CMR's tours at the Ocean Sciences Campus caught the attention of the Communication & Stakeholder Liaison Department and together we are now offering **tours** of the facilities to University staff members on a quarterly basis. Two tours were initially proposed and were fully booked within hours of the advertisement being circulated. A total of seven tours for around 80 staff members were conducted in September and October, attended by a variety of staff members ranging from the Library, Postal Services, Science, Engineering, Health, Finance, IT, Architecture and others.



The **Research Vessel Observer** is being built for SAEON and SAIAB as part of the Shallow Marine Coastal Research Infrastructure (SMCRI). Sea trials are set to start in December, with the official launch being planned for March 2020. This vessel will enable our researchers, particularly Professor Mike Robert's Ocean Science and Marine Food Security Research Chair and members from SAEON and SAIAB, to operate comfortably outside of Port Elizabeth or Mosselbay for 48-hour cruises. This vessel will also provide excellent training opportunities for our students. It is recognised that the Ocean Sciences Campus offers an excellent platform for this vessel, housing two NRF National Facilities and highly technical infrastructure and expertise.



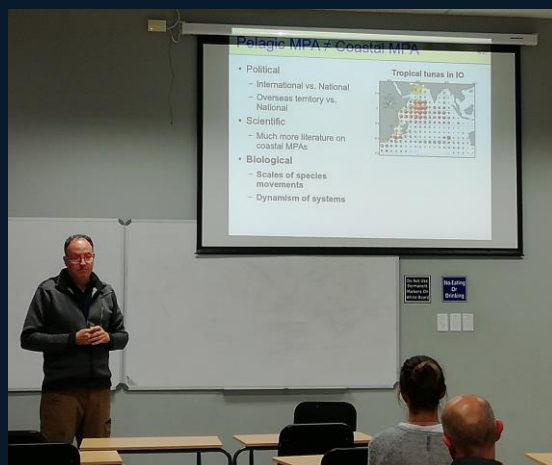
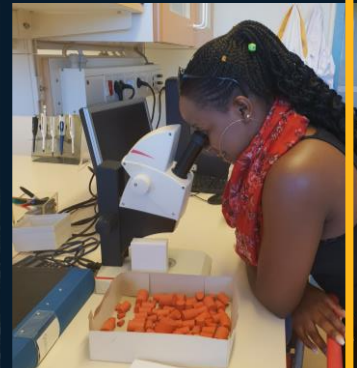
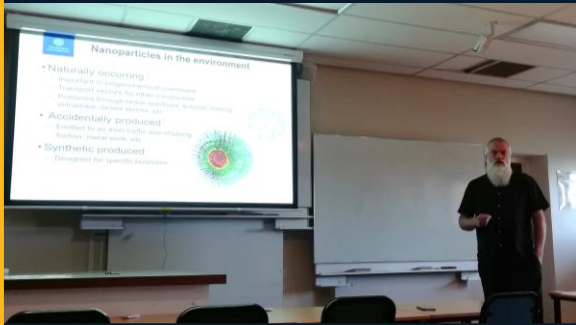
Environmental Disaster

On the morning of 6 July, an estimated 200-400 litres of oil overflowed from the vessel *Chrysanthi S* during a **bunkering** operation. This occurred near the Port of Ngqura, adjacent to the border of the newly-proclaimed marine protected area, and in close proximity to St Croix and Bird Islands – critical breeding colonies for African penguins, Cape gannets and other wildlife. SANCCOB Eastern Cape admitted just over 70 seabirds (the majority being African penguins and a number of Cape gannets), as well as oiled eggs. The rescue operation is extremely stressful to the seabirds, and physically and emotionally demanding for volunteers. We thank our Research Assistant, Liza Rishworth, for forming part of the rescue operation. She has previous rehabilitation and oil spill experience, and could assist in washing the oiled birds, and she remains involved in seabird rehabilitation. CMR MSc student, Tayla Ginsburg, has taken up a NRF Internship at SANCCOB, and she is thanked for her dedicated rehabilitation and conservation work. Debbie du Preez, previous CMR student, is also thanked for her time as a volunteer. We also express gratitude to any other CMR members that we may not be aware of for their time in assisting with this situation, as well as the public for their generous donations of cleaning detergents and tools, towels, food for the rescue team and financial support. The cleaned and rehabilitated patients have since been released at the islands. CMR researchers Dr Lorien Pichegru, Dr Denning Metuge and Professor Ronney Ncwadi compiled a response letter addressed to SAMSA, detailing the environmental, legal and economic implications and risks of bunkering operations performed out at sea. We thank them for providing guidance based on research and their expertise.



International Visits

As part of the **Erasmus Mundus + Exchange Programme** with the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, the CMR hosted Dr Joachim Sturve and his PhD student, Ms Lina Birgersson, from 1 to 5 July 2019. They met with a number of CMR researchers to discuss ecotoxicology and microplastics research, enjoyed a day-trip to SAIAB in Grahamstown, and also had the opportunity to visit estuaries around Port Elizabeth. On 3 July, they presented their research in a seminar session. Dr Sturve spoke about *Integrated fish monitoring in a changing environment*, and Lina shared details of her PhD study with a presentation entitled *Effects of mixtures of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) in fish*. Nelson Mandela University Faculty of Law student, Ms Rachael Chasakara, visited the Department of Marine Sciences at the University of Gothenburg from 17-27 July, also as part of this exchange programme. The aim of her visit was to collaborate on ocean governance and the law of the sea. During her visit, she presented a seminar to the Centre for Sea and Society and the Department of Law. She also had the opportunity to visit the Tjárnö marine laboratory and the Koster Marine National Park.



In November 2018, Dr David Kaplan from the **IRD** (France) was hosted by the CMR to meet with our researchers around modelling research. He returned for a 2-month research sabbatical (June-August) to work on further collaborations. The CMR hosted a seminar on 7 August, where he spoke about *Pelagic MPAs in the Indian Ocean: Potential and Perspectives*. In collaboration with the Ocean Science and Marine Food Security Research Chair, David presented a short course on R scripting, Rstudio, Rmarkdown and GIS in R. This ran from 21-23 August.

Events

The CMR's main Term 3 event was a **Balance is Better: Celebrating Women in Ocean Science** brunch. This took place at La Colline on 20 August. Lady researchers and senior students (Post-Doctoral Research Fellows and PhD Candidates) were invited to this event to discuss the following topics: Contemporary women's struggles; Overcoming career challenges in a male-dominated world; Safety for women in science and research; Identifying as a woman in science, research and society; and Ocean cultures and identity in Africa and its diaspora. This was an inspiring and empowering event.



Dr Nina Rivers hosted two workshops during the third term, both taking place at Dolphin's Leap Conference and Events Centre. The first was a **Developmental Facilitator Course** presented by the Community Development Resource Association (CDRA) from 16-18 July. The impetus for the facilitation course stemmed from the need to capacitate scientists with the skills to facilitate heterogeneous groups of people around issues of natural resources management. This course formed part of the Algoa Bay CoP Phase 1 funding and output. The second was a **Qualitative Research Methods Course** that ran from 18-20 September, and was attended by Honours, Masters and PhD students from the Nelson Mandela University, Rhodes University, and University of Fort Hare. This course was developed and funded with SAIAB and the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) under the CMR's SANOCEAN project *Benchmarking knowledge-based adaptive management of estuarine fisheries in South Africa for a sustainable development*.



BOATS is a mobile app and board game developed by Professor Jean Greyling and his students. This game educates school children about plastic pollution in the marine environment, whilst teaching coding skills and encouraging critical thinking. On Mandela Day (18 July) the BOATS team hosted a tournament for primary schools. A total of 250 learners in 50 teams participated in this event



BOATS is a mobile game which educates players about **Plastics in the Ocean**.

Make use of actual tokens and image recognition to move your boat on a grid representing the ocean. Your aim is to remove plastics from the ocean!

How to get started

- Download "BOATS powered by Tangibi" from Google PlayStore.
- Cut out the tokens on the reverse.
- Read the ABOUT section in the app to find out how to play.
- Have fun!

GAMES POWERED BY TANGIBI

mandela bay UNIVERSITY

NELSON MANDELA BAY UNIVERSITY

International Clean-Up Day took place on Saturday, 21 September. The Re-Trade Project requested participation from Nelson Mandela University research groups and students, and so Dr Denning Metuge and Ms Asisipo Mhlonyane (CMR Student Representatives) gathered CMR postgrads to participate in this event. The area selected for cleaning was the Humpback Dolphin trail that stretches from the beach in front of the Summerstrand Hotel to the beach opposite SANCCOB. In two hours, the volunteers collected a total of 151.25 kilograms of waste.

CMR academics and students also attended a number of national and international conferences and workshops, including the **5th International Mangrove, Macro-benthos & Management Conference** (1-5 July, Singapore), **CCAMLR Pelagic Spatial Planning Workshop** (August, Cape Town), the **8th World Conference on Ecological Restoration** (22-27 September, Cape Town), **International Ocean Institute Course on Ocean Governance** (September, Cape Town), and the **Global Ocean and Marine Science Summit** (7-11 October, Wilmington North Carolina). Dr Berny Snow, Professor Mandy Lombard, Professor Rose Boswell, Professor Kerry Sink, Professor Patrick Vrancken and Dr Denning Metuge participated in the **One Ocean Hub** inception meetings held in Cape Town in August.

In collaboration with the Western Cape Government, the CSIR, DEA, DAFF and CapeNature, Professor Janine Adams led a **Management of Estuaries Short Learning Programme** from 27-29 August. This took place at the Driftsands and Rietvlei Nature Reserves, and was attended by 31 participants, mostly government officials involved in environmental management.

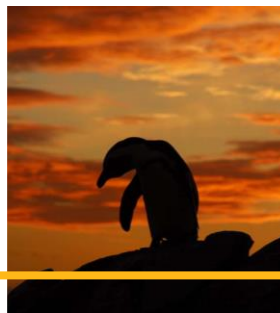
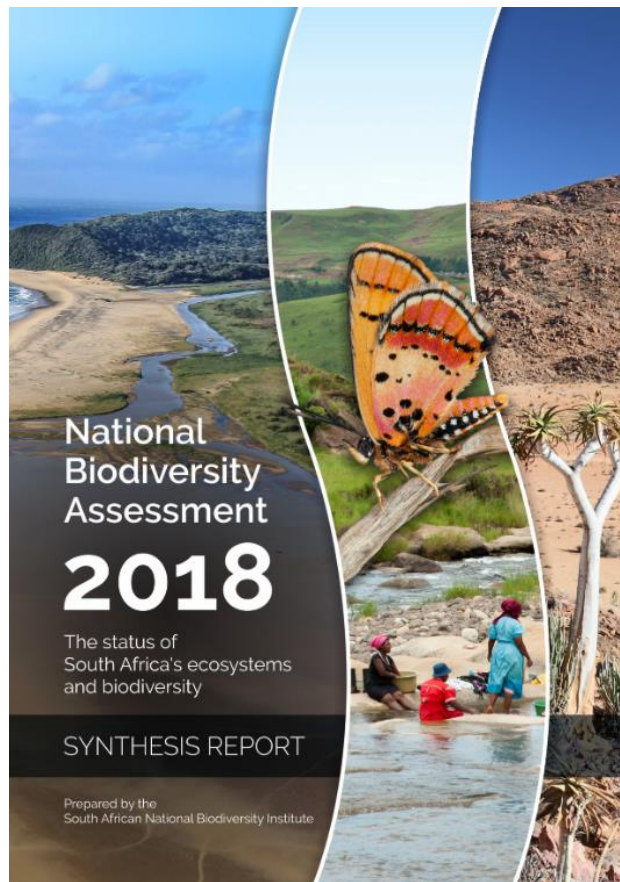
Professor Janine Adams, Professor Mandy Lombard, Dr Nina Rivers and Ms Estee Vermeulen attended the **ICM Lekgotla: From Science to Policy and Beyond** meeting in Cape Town from 10-11 September. Dr Bernadette Snow and Professor Mandy Lombard attended a **Garden Route Interface Meeting (GRIM)** from 17-19 September 2019.

National Biodiversity Assessment Launch

Ms Barbara Creecy, the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries officiated the launch of the latest **National Biodiversity Assessment (NBA)** at SANBI in Pretoria on 3 October.

The NBA is a comprehensive, scientific assessment of the state of South Africa's biodiversity at the ecosystem, species and genetic level. This assessment plays a critical role in informing policies, strategies and activities for the management and conservation of our biodiversity in a more effective manner.

The work for this assessment was done from 2015-2019, and was a collaboration between over 470 researchers from 90 institutions. The CMR is very proud of the significant contributions made by our members, particularly Dr Linda Harris, Professor Kerry Sink, Professor Janine Adams, Professor Mandy Lombard, Dr Stephen Holness, Dr Stephen Kirkman, Dr Melanie Lück-Vogel and Dr Lara van Niekerk.



Talks

National Science Week took place from 29 July-3 August, with the theme *Facing the harsh realities of climate change*. The Faculty of Science held a symposium as part of the pre-launch activities during the week leading up to National Science Week. On 18 July, Professor Janine Adams and Dr Gavin Rishworth delivered talks on their climate change-related research, and represented the CMR. Dr Jackie Raw and Mrs Sinegugu Mbense-Banda spoke to the theme *Let's bring climate change under control* at an event hosted at the Nelson Mandela Bay Science Centre (Uitenhage) on 30 July. SAEON hosted a number of talks in celebration of National Science Week at the Ocean Sciences Campus on 1 August.



Dr Jan de Vynck from the Faculty of Science's African Centre for Coastal Palaeoscience (ACCP) was hosted by the CMR for a transdisciplinary talk **A research synopsis of a Pleistocene cape environment and the co-existence of humans**. This talk took place on 18 September at the Ocean Sciences Campus Lecture Venue 2 from 13:30-14:30.



Heritage Month's **Know Your Bay** talks took place at the Bayworld Events Complex on 30 September, showcasing some of Algoa Bay's natural heritage. Professor Nadine Strydom presented on *Ecology of the Baakens River and Estuary with emphasis on fishes and their future*. Dr Gavin Rishworth spoke about *Treasure in sludge: our Bay's living heritage boosted by its 'newest' habitat, the stromatolites*. Dr Lorien Pichegru is thanked for arranging these monthly talks.



Upcoming Events

This year, the CMR's annual Research Symposium is entitled **Discovering Diversity**, and we look at research under the themes *Biological Banter*, *Social Signals*, *Economic Energy* and *Management Marvels*. This event takes place on Wednesday, 13 November at the North Campus Conference Centre, from 08:00-19:00. The CMR is hosting guests from the University of Oldenburg (Germany) and a visiting researcher from the University of California, Davis (USA), and the programme therefore promises to have an interesting mix of local and international transdisciplinary ocean and coastal science research. This will be the CMR's last event for 2019. The save-the-date can be downloaded from the CMR's website:

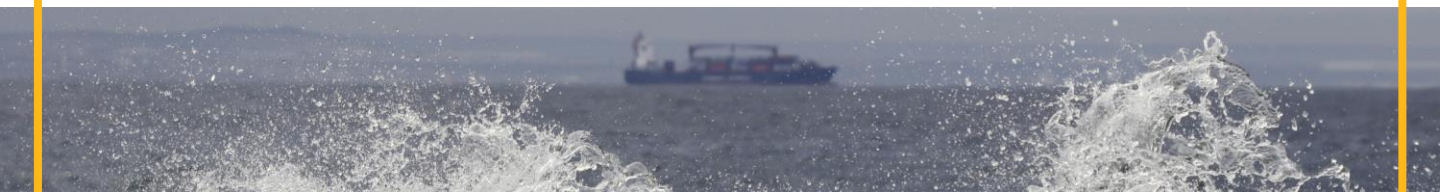
<https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/cmr/media/Store/documents/News/CMR-Diversity-Symposium-Save-the-Date.pdf>

Be sure not to miss the RSVP deadline of 5 November! RSVPs can be sent to cmr@mandela.ac.za.



Professor Mandy Lombard was invited by the **Antarctic Institute of Uruguay** to collaborate on a climate change project in Antarctica from 3-16 December. While in Uruguay, she will meet with Institute and Government scientists to discuss their new Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Protected Areas strategy, working towards building research and policy links between them, DAFF and the CMR.

The CMR's second proposal for SASUF funding was successful, and together with the University of Gothenburg (Sweden), the CMR will host a workshop in January 2020 around the topic **Rural, community-driven, small-scale aquaculture solutions for food security**. Details for this event will be shared in due course.



The CMR, together with the SARCHI Law of the Sea and Development in Africa, SARCHI Marine Spatial Planning, International Ocean Institute (IOI) and One Ocean Hub (OOH), are hosting the **Transformed and Transformative Ocean Governance (TTOG) Conference** from 22-24 January 2020 at the North Campus Conference Centre. Confirmed speakers include Professor Katrina Brown (University of Exeter), Dr Kimberley Peters (University of Liverpool), Dr Paul Holthus (World Ocean Council), Professor Peter Jones (University College London), Professor Phil Levin (University of Washington), Dr Wesley Flannery (Queens University) and Professor Kevern Cochrane (Rhodes University). For more information and to download the registration form, please visit the CMR website:

<https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/Events,-Initiatives-and-News/Transformed-and-Transformative-Ocean-Governance-Co>

Housekeeping

CMR members are kindly reminded to include the CMR in all affiliations and addresses. This is particularly important with regards to academic publications. Please use the full **Institute for Coastal and Marine Research** title. Information on CMR membership and templates for documents and presentations are available at: <https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/Members-Page>

CMR postgraduate students make up a large portion of the CMR's overall membership. We value our students, and aim to create opportunities for them to receive exposure in terms of public and stakeholder engagement, the arranging of events, participation in initiatives, festivals etc. We strongly urge all our postgraduate students to become more actively involved in CMR and other such occasions. Dr Denning Metuge (Post-Doctoral Fellows Representative) and Dr Nina Rivers recently hosted a lunch for our Post-Docs for everyone to meet and to network.



Thank You

Best of luck with the remaining months for 2019!

If you have any news or exciting events to share, please send details to Liza by e-mail (Liza.Rishworth@mandela.ac.za) and she will include this in the next newsletter.

Kind regards,
Berny Snow
CMR Director



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