

NELSON MANDELA

UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR COASTAL
AND MARINE RESEARCH
(CMR)

QUARTER 1
NEWSLETTER

2023

CMR

COASTAL & MARINE
RESEARCH



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome back to all our members in 2023! After a well-deserved and much enjoyed break until 9 January 2023, the CMR hit the ground running. This year is already well under way and we have not been inactive. In this report we share CMR member activities and successful events held in the first quarter.

An important reminder:

The CMR spans across six of the seven Nelson Mandela University Faculties and its membership includes external stakeholders and international collaborators. The CMR is the administrative host of five NRF Chairs, as well as administrates 14 research projects. The CMR also includes two units, the Marine Apex Predator Research Unit (MAPRU) and Research Diving Unit (RDU).



CMR BY NUMBERS – 2022

Members:

Staff Members: 57

RA's & H/A Professors: 59

Associate Members: 44

Students: 83 (17 graduated)

Support Members: 12

News Members: 60

Total Members: 315

Member Outputs:

Publications: 154

Conference Presentations: 123

Admin Duties Conducted by the CMR Staff:

Contracts Drawn: 143

Payment Requisition Submitted: 493

CMR QUARTER 1 SEMINAR



The Quarter 1 seminar took place on 22 February and was presented by Dr Tegan Carpenter-Kling on the topic *From High Seas to Coastal Islands: From Counting Seabirds to Spatial Analyses in R*. Dr Carpenter-Kling highlighted her past, present and future research. This included her work on sub-Antarctic seabird species as well as how she applied her skills to contribute towards efforts to conserve South Africa's seabirds. This was a hybrid event with a total of 43 attendees. The recording of the talk and presentation are posted on the CMR website: <https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/News-and-Events/Quarterly-Seminars>



OCEAN ACCOUNTS WORKSHOP

The Ocean Accounts Stakeholder Engagement workshop took place on 27 and 28 February. This was a hybrid workshop with a total of 45 attendees. On 27 February those in attendance reported back on work achieved in the CoP to date and identified lessons learned. On 28 February the way forward for the OAF, in South African and across the Western Indian Ocean and the rest of Africa, was mapped.

SUMMER GRADUATION

Well done to our CMR student members who graduated at the 2022 Summer Graduation ceremony! We congratulate you, your supervisors and mentors, families and support structures.

The CMR congratulates the following student members on this fantastic achievement:

Master of Science (Research):

Botany

- Emily Cailyn Whitfield (*Cum Laude*)

Master of Science (Research):

Biological Oceanography

- Melindi Frances Engelbrecht

Master of Science (Research):

Zoology

- Praxedes Vimbai Rukuni

Doctor of Laws: Public Law

- Foluke Mary Dare

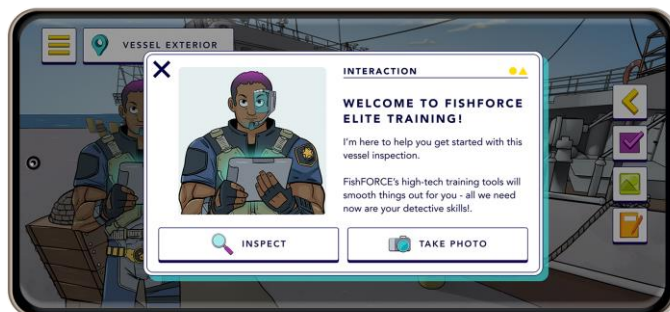
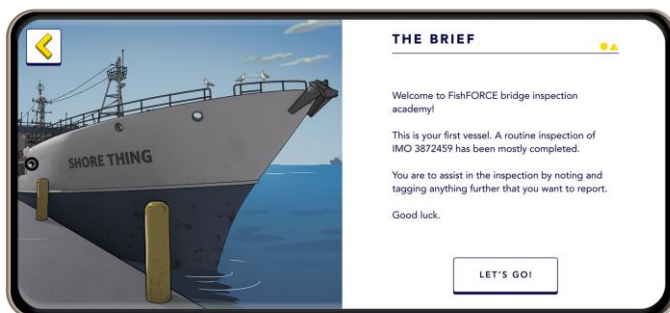
Doctor of Business Administration

- Yusuf Adam

We also congratulate our CMR office member, Mr Landile Mondile, on graduating with his Master of Science degree in Botany!

FISHFORCE VIRTUAL GAME

FishFORCE recently developed a virtual law enforcement game to assist law enforcement officers with fisheries crime. They developed the game for the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and the Marine and Ocean Crime Priority Crime Committee (Operation Phakisa). The game is mobile-based and features a virtual simulation environment of inspecting a fishing vessel to ensure compliance with the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA). The game focuses mainly on bridge inspections and the skills required to inspect key documents, such as permits, logs, registrations and transhipments. The game was developed by SeaMonster, an animation, gaming and immersive technologies company based in Cape Town and the music for the game was developed by Ngasiirwe Katushabe, who is the technical manager at Madibaz Radio.



COASTAL URBAN RELIANCE ON GROUNDWATER DURING DROUGHT CYCLES

Carla Dodd, CMR PhD candidate, is currently working on answering water-related questions as the drought in Nelson Mandela Bay worsens. A recent article written by her and Dr Gavin Rishworth, CMR staff member, looks at *Coastal urban reliance on groundwater during drought cycles: Opportunities, threats and state of knowledge* (<https://doi.org/10.1017/cft.2022.11>).



DEEPENING OFFSHORE RESEARCH CAPACITY IN SOUTH AFRICA

CMR Honorary Professor Kerry Sink and a team of marine scientists embarked on a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary offshore expedition to enhance the capacity of young southern African scientists and to collect data in outer shelf and deep-sea habitats. The cruise is funded by the One Ocean Hub Project.

MARINE AND CONSERVATION EDUCATOR CONFERENCE

Professor Lorien Pichegru, CMR Acting Director, was invited to give a plenary talk at the Marine and Conservation Educator Conference in Gqeberha on 9 January.





SAMOS (SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS IN OCEAN SCIENCE) PROGRAMME

The development of the SAMOS Programme has progressed tremendously in 2022. This Masters is designed to be a unique, international, and transdisciplinary master's course involving previously disadvantaged local universities. It will contribute towards providing skilled students to develop Ocean Sciences and Management in South Africa. This programme is intended to run over 18 months, across 7 South African Universities, with the Nelson Mandela University as the host, and in collaboration with the Universities of Bretagne Occidental and Montpellier in France, University of Algarve in Portugal, and the University of Bergen in Norway. The proposal to finalise the development of the programme (Memorandum of Agreement between institutions, accreditation) and the enrolment of the first cohort of students has been submitted to Erasmus + CHET funding in February, with outcome due in October 2023.

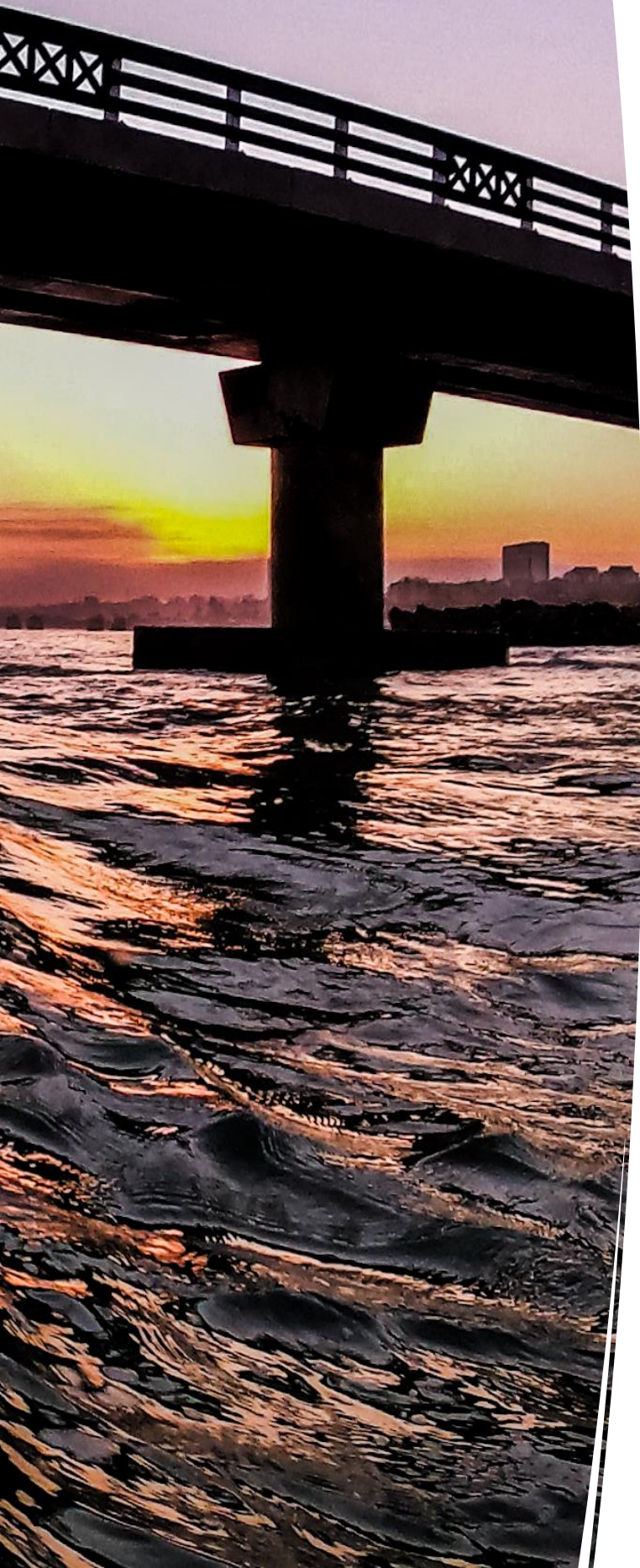
HOUSEKEEPING

CMR Booklet of Expertise

Please note that the CMR's Booklet of Expertise has recently been updated and is available for download from the CMR Teams & Expertise page on the CMR website:

<https://cmr.mandela.ac.za/cmr-team-expertise>

This booklet provides details on the CMR's most active research members and collaborators. The details captured in this booklet should facilitate the identification of possible research capacity and expertise for developing CMR research and collaborations. This booklet is updated as new research members are added to the CMR research team.



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All messages to the CMR should now be directed to the CMR's dedicated cmr@mandela.ac.za email address. All CMR registered Research Associates and Professors who require admin support should also direct their queries to cmr@mandela.ac.za.



Institute for Coastal
and Marine
Research - CMR



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