



MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR MARINE AND ANTARCTIC STUDIES

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Hot Topics in IMAS – free short public talks

How important is it to measure changes in the marine environment and why are our oceans and its inhabitants stressed out?

Find out the answer to these questions and hear about some other exciting topics at a special afternoon talk series this **Thursday 5 September** as part of the University of Tasmania's Research Week.

UTAS's specialist Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) will offer a number of 15 minute talks with the theme *Hot Topics in IMAS: Oceans and Ecosystems in a Changing Climate*.

"This series of short talks will outline some of the exciting research within IMAS covering some key aspects of oceans and marine ecosystems,' said Professor Richard Coleman, IMAS Deputy Director.

"Here at IMAS we have a core group of highly regarded researchers many of whom enjoy talking about their areas of expertise and who do so in engaging ways. Professor Phillip Boyd for example, who has recently joined us, is an international expert in ocean acidification and his talk is curiously titled *Stressed Out* as part of the series."

Professor Boyd has a keen personal interest in communicating science simply, succinctly and directly. Among other things, he has contributed articles to popular science journals like *Scientific American* and *New Scientist* and has developed a truly novel climate change atlas of the ocean. He has also worked extensively in the science advocacy and policy space.

"Professor Boyd's talk, along with the others, will be a great way for anyone interested in some of IMAS' capabilities and research to learn more about what we do and to take the opportunity to talk directly with some of our academics," said Professor Coleman.

The following series of short talks on Thursday 5 September will run from 2-4:30pm in the Alan Bray room at the University Staff club, Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart.

- 2:00 PM** **Prof. Nathan Bindoff- IPCC Perspective: why assess climate change**
- 2:15 PM** **A/Prof. Pete Strutton- The Southern Ocean's role in global climate**
- 2:30 PM** **Dr Helen Phillips- Ocean Currents**
- 2:45 PM** **Dr Maxim Nikurashin- Ocean Mixing**
- 3:00 PM** *Tea/Coffee Break*
- 3:10 PM** **Prof. Philip Boyd- Stressed Out**
- 3:25 PM** **Dr Scott Ling- Kelp bed collapse and management of local resilience**
- 3:40 PM** **Dr Sophie Bestley- Relating marine predator movements to environmental factors**
- 3:55 PM** **Prof. Gustaaf Hallegraef- Algal Blooms in the Australian Region**
- 4:10 PM** **Questions and Answers with the panel members**

RSVP to IMAS reception please imas.sandybay.reception@utas.edu.au

For more information about UTAS Research Week, please visit:
<http://www.utas.edu.au/research/researchweek>

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