



**International
Science Council**

The global voice for science

International Science Council (ISC) Talent Book

for the 2025 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC-3)





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The International Science Council (ISC) Talent Book for the 2025 UN Ocean Conference (UNOC-3) is designed to introduce you to some of the key experts from the ISC network who contribute their expertise to ensure that UNOC-3 and its outcomes are both science-based and action-oriented.

The Talent Book showcases profiles of individuals of various backgrounds and expertise within the ISC community. From established professionals to emerging leaders, each individual featured contributes meaningfully to the global mission of ocean sustainability.

For general inquiries and opportunities to speak at the UNOC 2025, contact:



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The ISC ocean expert group



PETER HAUGAN (Co-chair of UNOC-3)

Policy director at the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Professor at the Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen, Norway

Expertise: marine scientific research, oceanography, international ocean science, renewable energy

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Peter M. Haugan has more than 30 years of experience in marine scientific research and international ocean science coordination covering ocean, climate and energy issues. His professional merits include working as a research engineer in the petroleum industry and contributing to seagoing and polar oceanography as well as research on climate, carbon cycle and storage of CO₂ and international coordination of marine research infrastructures and science-policy interface. As a professor of oceanography, he has led research in renewable energy, including offshore wind and low-carbon maritime solutions. He is also the former chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC of UNESCO). Since 2018, he has co-chaired the Expert Group and now serves as Lead Expert for the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy. In 2021–2022, he was seconded to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



LYNNE SHANNON (Co-chair of UNOC-3)

Principal Researcher leading the Marine Sustainability group in the Department of Biological Sciences, and part of the Marine and Antarctic Research Centre for Innovation and Sustainability (MARIS) at the University of Cape Town, South Africa

Expertise: marine ecosystem-based management, marine sustainability

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Lynne Shannon undertakes ecological research and modelling to inform marine ecosystem-based management. She has developed trophic models of the Benguela region to analyze the dynamics and issues of the marine food webs off South Africa and Namibia. She explores ways to integrate ecosystem considerations into fisheries management using ecological indicators. Shannon co-chaired the international IndiSeas working group, and currently leads the Benguela case study for two All Atlantic Alliance (Horizon 2020) projects and contributes her expertise in biodiversity science policy to the One Ocean Hub UKRI project. She is also a Co-ordinating Lead Author for the IPBES Global Transformative Change Assessment. She has published 160 peer-reviewed papers and was awarded the 2022 Gilchrist Memorial Award for her contributions to marine science.

**KWAME ADU AGYEKUM**

Lecturer/Researcher and Fisheries Officer/Marine Earth Observation Analyst at the Regional Marine Centre at the University of Ghana, Co-Chair of the Geo Blue Planet, Ghana

Expertise: oceanography

Kwame Adu Agyekum holds a PhD in Oceanography. He carries out research and teaching in fisheries oceanography, satellite imaging and the application of marine living resource management, pollution, fisheries protection and maritime security and safety.

**MARITZA CÁRDENAS CALLE**

Professor and Researcher at the University of Guayaquil, Ecuador

Expertise: biodiversity

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Maritza Cárdenas Calle specializes in collecting biodiversity information on macroinvertebrates, macroalgae, and fish in marine protected and non-protected areas along the Ecuadorian coast for the Ministry of Environment. Her work contributed to the designation of a marine reserve, a new protected zone on the coast of Ecuador. She has also collaborated with PNG and the IDB to establish diving sites at the Galapagos Islands based on their environmental sensitivity.

**VALERIE MASSON-DELMOTTE**

CEA scientist in the Laboratory of Climate and Environmental Sciences of Paris Saclay, former co-chair of IPCC WG1, France

Expertise: climate change

Valerie Masson-Delmotte co-chaired the IPCC Working Group on the physical science basis of climate change from 2015 to 2023, co-supervising several reports that assessed the state of climate change knowledge. Since 2018, she has served on the French national climate change committee (Haut Conseil pour le Climat), evaluating public policies on climate adaptation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. She is also deeply engaged in climate change outreach and education.

**MICHELLE MYCOO**

Professor of Urban and Regional Planning in the Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago

Expertise: urban planning

Michelle Mycoo holds a PhD in Urban Planning and is the recipient of three international scholarships: the Commonwealth Scholarship, the Canadian International Development Agency Fellowship and the US Fulbright Fellowship. She received the University of the West Indies/Guardian Group Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence in 2014 and the same year, she was awarded The University of the West Indies/National Gas Company Research Award for the Most Outstanding Researcher in the Faculty of Engineering. In 2008, Michelle was also recognised by the University of the West Indies as one of 60 lecturers under 60 for excellence in teaching, service and research.

**ILKA PEEKEN**

Marine ecologist at the Alfred Wegener Institute, Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) Vice President, Germany

Expertise: marine biology, biogeochemistry, pollution of sea ice

Ilka Peeken specializes in the biology, biogeochemistry and pollution of sea ice. She studied Marine Biology at the University of Kiel, and for her PhD, she developed methods for directly recording difficult-to-measure ecosystem processes in the Antarctic and Arctic Oceans. At Scripps Institution of Oceanography, she devised a method of measuring stable isotopes in pigments from sediments. Returning to the Leibniz Institute of Marine Sciences, she studied the effect of the micronutrient iron on algae in the Southern Ocean and their role in producing climate-relevant trace gases.

**FANGLI QIAO**

Member of Academia Europaea (MAE), Co-editor-in-chief of Ocean Modelling, Deputy Director General of the First Institute of Oceanography (FIO), Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), China

Expertise: physical oceanography

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Fangli Qiao is a Chair Professor of Physical Oceanography and Academician at the International Eurasian Academy of Sciences. His research interests span ocean and climate model development, ocean dynamics, turbulence and air-sea interaction. He established the non-breaking surface wave-induced mixing (Bv) theory and developed the first-ever new generation of a fully coupled surface wave-tide-circulation ocean model (FIO-COM) and the coupled atmosphere-ocean-wave typhoon/hurricane model (FIO-AOW). As a former member of the Ocean Decade's Executive Planning Group and then the Decade Advisory Board, he also co-chairs IOC/WESTPAC, has received numerous academic awards and has over 380 peer-reviewed scientific journals.



AWNESH SINGH

Associate Professor and currently the Acting Director of the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (PaCE-SD) at the University of the South Pacific (USP), Fiji

Expertise: physical oceanography, tropical meteorology, climate science

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Awnesh Singh is a physical oceanographer with a PhD in Ocean, Atmosphere and Continental Surface from the University of Toulouse III Paul Sabatier in France. His scientific interests are in El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) dynamics, tropical cyclones, coastal hydrodynamics, climate dynamics, ocean colour remote sensing and modelling. He is passionate about capacity-building in quantitative data analysis and teaches postgraduate courses in physical oceanography, tropical meteorology and climate science. He is also the founder and coordinator of the long-running weekly PaCE-SD Seminar Series at USP.



SABRINA SPEICH

Full Professor of Physical Oceanography and Climate Sciences at Ecole Normale Supérieure of Paris, Co-chair of the Ocean Observations Physics and Climate Panel of GCOS, Italy/France

Expertise: physical oceanography, ocean modelling

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Sabrina Speich is a professor of Oceanography and Climate Sciences, a member of the Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique and the French Climate Institute Pierre-Simon Laplace. As a physical oceanographer, she is interested in ocean dynamics, air-sea interactions and their role in climate variability. She is an expert in ocean modelling and large-scale in situ observation programs. She has played a key role in the Argo profiling float programme and has led major international projects to improve ocean and climate monitoring. Her recent research focuses on ocean-atmosphere dynamics, climate adaptation, and the impact of global warming on marine ecosystems.



MIA STRAND

Ocean Nexus Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute for Coastal and Marine Research at Nelson Mandela University, South Africa

Expertise: cognitive equity in marine science and ocean governance

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Mia Strand researches cognitive equity in marine science and ocean governance, exploring opportunities to re-imagine processes that value and recognise a plurality of ocean knowledge systems. Centring transdisciplinary and arts-based research, her work explores how we can foster more equitable collaborations with non-academic co-researchers and partners.

**RASHID SUMAILA**

**University Killam Professor at the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries,
OceanCanada Partnership**

Expertise: environmental policy, oceanography

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Rashid Sumaila is a University Killam Professor and Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Interdisciplinary Ocean and Fisheries Economics at the University of British Columbia's Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries and the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs. He was also named an 'Extraordinary Professor' by the University of Pretoria in 2024.

His research focuses on bio-economics, marine ecosystem valuation and the analysis of global issues such as fisheries subsidies, marine protected areas, illegal fishing, climate change, marine plastic pollution, and oil spills. Sumaila is widely published and highly cited scholar: Clarivate has named him a "highly cited researcher" every year since 2021. His Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Bergen, Norway and B.Sc. in Quantity Surveying from the Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria. He has received numerous awards and honours, including the 2023 Tyler Prize in Environmental Achievement; and the 2017 Volvo Environment Prize. Sumaila was named one of "100 Most Influential Africans" in 2023.

ISC network of experts at the UNOC-3



PAL AHLUWALIA

Vice-Chancellor and President at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji

Expertise: political science

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Pal Ahluwalia is also the Co-Chair of the Pacific Islands Universities Research Network (PIURN), a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (FASSA) and Fellow of the Australia Institute of International Affairs (FAIIA). Ahluwalia is committed to the regional priorities of building a dynamic and empowering research culture that finds solutions, creates new knowledge across a broad array of disciplines, and helps to bring positive change, leading to innovative, cohesive, resilient and sustainable communities in the Pacific region.



CORRINE ALMEIDA

Biological Oceanographer at the Atlantic Technical University Institute of Engineering and Marine Sciences, Cabo Verde

Expertise: oceanography, climate change, marine science, biodiversity

Corrine Almeida has been primarily dedicated to lecturing, as research opportunities, especially in oceanography, are scarce in her country. Since 2019, she has been the director of a master's programme on Climate Change and Marine Sciences under the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL). Actively engaged in biodiversity science and ocean education, she also runs a master's school for West African students.



CLARISSA ANDERSON

Director at Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and NOAA Cooperative Institute for Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Systems (CIMEAS), USA

Expertise: biological oceanography, ecological forecasting, remote sensing, phytoplankton ecology

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Clarissa Anderson is a biological oceanographer with expertise in ecological forecasting and remote sensing. Her research has focused on the prediction of harmful algal blooms and toxins in estuarine and coastal ecosystems as well as the fate and transport of harmful toxins to deeper waters and sediments. Clarissa is now at Scripps Institution of Oceanography serving as the Director of the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and the Director of the NOAA Cooperative Institute for Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Systems (CIMEAS). She continues to conduct research at SIO on phytoplankton ecology in coastal California. She is Chair of the IOC-SCOR Global HAB Scientific Steering Committee, Co-Chair of the National HAB Committee, Co-Chair of the National HAB Observing Network Community of Practice, and a member of the UN Decade Programme on Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy (OASIS), U.S. CLIVAR Working Group on Coastal Climate Solutions, and the Science Advisory Team for the CA Ocean Protection Council (OPC).

For inquiries or to get in touch with the experts, contact Léa Nacache: lea.nacache@council.science

**TRANSFORM AQORAU****Vice Chancellor at the Solomon Islands National University,
Solomon Islands***Expertise: fisheries management* Attending UNOC-3

Transform Aqorau was the first Pacific Islander appointed as Legal Counsel and later Deputy Director General of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, serving for 11 years. From 2010 to 2017, he established the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office in the Marshall Islands and launched the Purse Seine and Longline Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), the world's largest and most complex fisheries management system. Under his leadership, the VDS boosted economic returns from US\$60 million in 2010 to US\$500 million by 2017, marking a transformative achievement in fisheries management.

**JORGE CORTÉS-NÚÑEZ****Professor Emeritus at Universidad de Costa Rica, Costa Rica***Expertise: marine ecology, marine science, biodiversity* Attending UNOC-3

Jorge Cortés is a researcher at the Center for Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology (CIMAR) and Professor Emeritus at the School of Biology, University of Costa Rica. Has over 40 years of experience in the study of the ecology of the main tropical coastal-marine ecosystems: coral reefs, seagrasses and mangroves. He is interested in research on marine biodiversity and recently on the deep regions of Costa Rica. He has published more than 300 scientific and popular works. Another of his interests is the dissemination of science and creating more awareness about the importance of the oceans for Costa Rica and the planet. He retired but is not leaving, he has continued with research projects, outreach initiatives, and promulgating the study, protection and conservation of the ocean.

**PETER CROOT****Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) Secretary, Ireland***Expertise: marine biogeochemistry, earth and ocean sciences* Attending UNOC-3

Peter Croot FRSC is a marine biogeochemist specializing in the role of biogeochemical processes impacting the concentration and distribution of trace elements and chemical species in the ocean. His work integrates different strands of ocean observations with laboratory studies to investigate the mechanisms underpinning the transformation of chemical species in the ocean. With a PhD from the University of Otago, he undertook postdoctoral studies at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Gothenburg University and was a researcher at NIOZ, IFM-GEOMAR and Plymouth Marine Laboratory. Since 2012, he has been the Established Professor of Earth and Ocean Sciences at the University of Galway. As an expert in the oxygen minimum zones of the Tropical Atlantic and Pacific and the iron-limited Southern Ocean, he is actively involved in GEOTRACES, IMBER and SOLAS. In 2014 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

**MINHAN DAI****Chair professor at Xiamen University, China***Expertise: marine environmental science, biogeochemistry, ocean dynamics, marine radiochemistry, science-policy interface* Attending UNOC-3

Minhan Dai is a chair professor of marine environmental science at Xiamen University, where he served as the Director of State Key Laboratory of Marine Environmental Science between 2005–2021. His primary research interests include ocean carbon/nutrients biogeochemistry and their coupling with ocean dynamics in the broad context of climatic and environmental changes. He is also well known for his work on marine radiochemistry. Recently, his research scope has expanded to the interface between science and policy. He has published >250 peer-reviewed papers in leading international journals. He was elected an Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2017 and won the 2022 Axford Medal Award (by Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society, AOGS in recognition of excellence in geosciences). He was elected AGU Fellow and won AGU Ambassador Award in 2024. He is a member of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Expert Group of the Global Ocean Oxygen Network (GO2NE), a member of the expert group of the High-level panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, and a council member of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). He was co-chair of the international program: Surface Ocean and Low Atmosphere Study (SOLAS) during 2021–2023. He is a leading PI of “Coastal Zones Under Intensifying Human Activities and Changing Climate: A Regional Programme Integrating Science, Management and Society to Support Ocean Sustainability (COASTAL-SOS)”, which was endorsed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development Program (2021–2030) as a project.

**ROBBERT DIJKGRAAF****President-elect of the International Science Council***Expertise: mathematics, theoretical particle physics* Attending UNOC-3

Robbert Dijkgraaf is a distinguished mathematical physicist and academic leader who has made significant contributions to international science advice and policy. He recently served as Minister of Education, Culture and Science of the Netherlands (2022–2024). Dijkgraaf's research focuses particularly on the interface between theoretical particle physics and mathematics, a blossoming field that has led to many unexpected breakthroughs in both disciplines. Dijkgraaf has a long track record in science policy and advice, as president of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (2008–2012), chief science advisor to the Dutch government, and in the Innovation Platform, advising the cabinet on research and innovation policies. He was co-chair of the InterAcademy Council (IAC), serving from 2009 to 2017 and co-president of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) from 2014 to 2017. As director and Leon Levy Professor of the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) in Princeton, New Jersey (2012–2022), he stewarded one of the world's foremost centres for theoretical research and intellectual inquiry. During his academic career Dijkgraaf has been very active in science communication and public engagement. Dijkgraaf is a (foreign) member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Academia Europaea and the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts, and is an ISC Fellow.

**XIAOYU FANG**

Assistant Researcher at the State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research (SKLEC) at the East China Normal University, China

Expertise: water-balance modelling, glacial morphology, marine biogeochemistry, ecosystem functioning, species distribution modelling and ocean observation

Xiaoyu Fang, an environmental scientist and sustainability advocate, has over 15 years of research experience in glacier, coastal, and marine ecosystems. She holds a joint PhD in Marine Ecosystem Health and Conservation from the University of Plymouth and the University of Ghent, specializing in biodiversity modeling and ocean observation. She strives to inspire individuals to connect with and appreciate our oceans, while advocating for positive changes towards a more sustainable future. With experience across fisheries, ocean management, marine spatial planning, cloud computing, and data management, she has a strong background in European marine science and science-policy engagement. She previously worked at the European Marine Observation and Data Network, coordinating international projects and facilitating oceanographic knowledge exchange and technical support. In her current role as Co-Executive Director of Future Earth Coasts, she is dedicated to fostering inclusive decision-making, cross-sector collaboration, and empowering the next generation of leaders for a sustainable, resilient planet. She strengthens global sustainability networks through initiatives like Empowering Future Leadership and the Meta-Network and co-founded Cyber-Coasts, Just Transitions, and Tour de Coasts to advance coastal sustainability. She also serves on the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre's Expert Group, the Science Steering Committee for the Sustainability Initiative in the Marginal Seas of South and East Asia, and the Future Earth Governing Council.

**THOMAS FRÖLICHER**

Full Professor at University of Bern, Switzerland

Expertise: climate science, oceanography, marine ecosystems

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Thomas Frölicher is a full Professor at the Climate and Environmental Physics Division of the University of Bern and the head of the ocean modelling group. He is interested in marine ecosystem-carbon-climate interactions with focus on ocean extreme events and their impacts on climate and on marine organisms and ecosystem services. He studied Environmental Sciences at ETH Zürich and graduated in Physics with summa cum laude at the University of Bern. He worked almost 3 years as a postdoctoral fellow at Princeton University and 4 years as a senior researcher at ETH Zürich. He is the recipient of the 2019 Theodor Kocher Prize of the University of Bern. Thomas authored or co-authored more than 120 peer-reviewed publications. He currently co-leads the work package 8 (WP8) of the HEurope project TipESM (tipping points in the Earth system). He is also the principal investigator in the AtlantECO H2020 consortium on Atlantic Ocean.



VÉRONIQUE GARÇON

Co-chair at International Ocean Carbon Coordination Programme (IOCCP), France

Expertise: environmental science, biogeochemistry

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Véronique Garçon is currently co-chair of the International Ocean Carbon Coordination Programme (IOCCP) and member of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Steering Committee. She graduated from the University of Paris VII in Environmental Science, then became a post-doc fellow at MIT (USA). Recruited at Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in 1985, she worked at 'Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris- IPGP' then moved down to Toulouse with a sabbatical stay at Princeton University in 1995-1996. She is now back at IPGP as an Emeritus CNRS senior scientist. Her research themes aim towards understanding and quantifying processes governing fluxes of carbon, oxygen and associated biogeochemical elements in the ocean, using in situ tracers observations, remotely sensed data, coupled physical biogeochemical modeling and data assimilation techniques. She served in the JGOFS SSC, SOLAS chair, member of the IFREMER SC and in many national (CNRS, National Navy), European (ESF, EC, EGU, ERC) and international scientific instances. She is a member of the Global Ocean Oxygen Network from IOC-UNESCO, and is co-leading the GO2DAT (development of global database and atlas of oxygen) effort, endorsed by the UN Decade programme Global Ocean Oxygen Decade. She is also one of the co-champions of the Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS) Outcome 3 on Observing Strategies. She received the Anton Bruun medal in June 2017, awarded by the IOC-UNESCO.



JEAN-PIERRE GATTUSO

CNRS Research Professor at Sorbonne University, France

Expertise: ocean acidification, marine ecosystems, climate science

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Jean-Pierre Gattuso is a CNRS Research Professor at the Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche (Sorbonne University) and Associate Scientist at IDDRI. His research focuses on the impacts of ocean acidification and warming on marine ecosystems, as well as ocean-based solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation. He played a leading role in launching the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre at the IAEA and coedited the first book on ocean acidification and the Best Practice Guide for Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement. A founding member of the European Geosciences Union, he has contributed to several IPCC reports (AR5 and AR6). Gattuso's work has been recognized with prestigious awards, including the Vladimir Vernadsky Medal, the Blaise Pascal Medal, and the Ruth Patrick Award. He is an elected member of the European Academy of Sciences, Academia Europaea, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

**MARYAM GHAEMI**

National Contact for Iran at the Integrated Marine Biosphere Research (IMBeR), Iran

Expertise: chemical oceanography, marine pollution, ocean acidification, coastal ecosystems

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Maryam Ghaemi is a marine chemist specializing in chemical oceanography, marine pollution, ocean acidification and coastal ecosystems. She holds a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry and is dedicated to understanding nutrient dynamics in coastal and offshore waters, particularly in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman. She serves as the Integrated Marine Biosphere Research (IMBeR) National Contact for Iran and is the Vice-Chair of IOCINDIO, actively contributing to international ocean research and sustainability efforts. As the Head of the Bushehr Oceanography Center, she leads different projects on Nutrient regime in the Persian Gulf, carbonate chemistry in mangroves and the assessment of heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants in marine protected areas. Her other notable contributions include serving as a Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) Visiting Scholar (2023) and as an Executive Guest Editor for a special issue of Deep Sea Research Part II: Topical Studies in Oceanography (2024–2025).

**LEANDRA R. GONÇALVES**

Assistant professor at the Institute of Marine Sciences at the Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP), Brazil

Expertise: coastal and marine management and governance

Leandra Gonçalves is a biologist with a PhD from the Institute of International Relations and a postdoctoral degree from the Oceanographic Institute of USP. For over a decade, she has researched coastal and marine governance, focusing on science-policy interfaces and gender issues in the ocean. A researcher with the Brazilian Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, she co-founded the Women's League for the Ocean and has worked with NGOs like Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica and Greenpeace. She was the Lead Author for the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) on Global Environment Outlook 6 and is currently the Lead Author for the IPBES Nexus Assessment. Her academic curriculum includes more than 30 scientific articles and other works organised in partnership with collaborating researchers.

**ALYCE HANCOCK****Executive Officer at Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS), Australia***Expertise: marine science, ocean acidification, Antarctic science, environmental microbiology, climate change* Attending UNOC-3

Alyce Hancock is the Executive Officer for the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) and oversees the running of the SOOS International Project Office (IPO): coordinating the delivery of all SOOS activities and products to stakeholders, facilitating the strategic planning and implementation of SOOS, managing the SOOS Network, and advocating for continued support for the IPO and SOOS activities. Alyce completed her PhD with the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania, focusing on the effect of ocean acidification on nearshore Antarctic marine microbial communities. Prior to her PhD, Alyce worked as a research assistant for the University of New South Wales, collecting lake microbial samples over an 18-month period in the Vestfold Hills and Rauer Islands, East Antarctic, as well as various researcher roles at the Australian Antarctic Division and University of Tasmania. Previously, Alyce was the president of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) Oceania national committee for Australia and New Zealand. Alyce remains on the APECS Oceania Executive Committee as a Senior Advisor.

**ELLYCIA HARROULD-KOLIEB****Marine social ecologist at the University of Melbourne, Australia***Expertise: ocean governance, international environmental law, conservation biology, environmental sociology* Attending UNOC-3

Ellycia Harrould-Kolieb is a marine social-ecologist at the University of Melbourne. Her work explores ocean governance through a socio-legal lens. Ellycia's research is broadly centred on architectures of governance, including treaty regimes and international organisations and their interactions, along with the roles that scientific knowledge and problem framing play in decision-making and the uptake of environmental issues on governance agendas. Her research is situated at the intersection of international environmental law, conservation biology and environmental sociology. Recent projects include work on deep-sea mining, the ocean acidification-food security nexus, and governance of the ocean commons. Ellycia co-leads both the Ocean-Climate Research Cluster for Melbourne Climate Futures and the Levers of Deep Change Research Group for the Melbourne Biodiversity Institute. Ellycia is a Research Fellow of the Earth System Governance Project, where she is a member of the Task Force on Earth System Law and the Working Group on Carbon Dioxide Removal. She is also a member of the Scientific Steering Committee of the Surface Ocean Lower Atmosphere Science (SOLAS) Project and co-leads the SOLAS Science and Society theme.

**SIAN HENLEY****Reader in Marine Science at the University of Edinburgh, UK**

Expertise: climate change, environmental change, polar oceans, marine biogeochemistry and ecosystem, science-policy interface, sustainable development

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Sian Henley is a Reader in Marine Science at the University of Edinburgh. She has a diverse range of research interests, from climate and environmental change in the polar oceans to climate change impacts on children worldwide. Her research in the polar regions focuses on marine biogeochemistry and ecosystem functioning in both the Arctic and the Antarctic. Sian is active at the science-policy interface with a focus on Earth's polar regions, making significant contributions to high-profile policy events such as the UN Climate Change Conferences COP26, COP27, COP28 and COP29 and the UN Ocean Conference 2022. Sian currently serves on the International Advisory Committee for the UN Ocean Decade Coordination Centre for the Southern Ocean Region, the UK National Committee for the Antarctica In Sync initiative, and was Co-Chair of the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) 2022–2025. In addition to her wide-ranging research, Sian is a passionate lecturer, educator and communicator on issues around climate and environmental change and sustainable development.

**FRANÇOIS HOULLIER****President & CEO at IFREMER, France**

Expertise: ecology, plant biology, environmental science, agriculture, sustainable management of natural resources

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Since September 2018, François Houllier has been Chairman and CEO of IFREMER, the French research institute dedicated to marine science and technology, which operates the French oceanographic fleet for the benefit of the entire scientific community. A graduate of the École Polytechnique and the École Nationale du Génie Rural, des Eaux et Forêts, with a doctorate from the Université Lyon I, he is a member of the Académie des Technologies and the Académie d'Agriculture de France. He served as President of INRA (2012–16), then of Université Sorbonne Paris-Cité (2016–18). In 2015 and 2016, he submitted three reports to the French government: on participatory science, on research and innovation in agriculture and on the forestry-wood industry.

**NATHALIE HILMI**

Section head of environmental economics at Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM), Monaco

Expertise: macroeconomics, international finance, sustainable development

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Nathalie Hilmi is an expert in Macroeconomics and International Finance. After doing research and giving lectures at the CEMAFI (Centre d'études en Macroeconomie et Finance Internationale), University of Nice-Sophia-Antipolis (UNSA), France, she obtained her PhD thesis with honours in 2000. She then joined Allergan, a pharmaceutical American group, as a financial analyst and continued giving lectures in economics and management in private business schools. Subsequently, she taught at EDHEC Business School and continued her research work with EDHEC Risk and Asset Management Research Centre. In 2006, she was employed at the International University of Monaco as Professor of Macroeconomics and Finance. Her research work encompassed academic studies and conference presentations to develop the network of the Hedge Funds Research Institute (HFRI), and applied research on investment strategies in Alpstar, a hedge fund in Geneva. She continued to teach in executive programs at EDHEC and a national training centre for banking executives. Concomitantly, she continued working at the CEMAFI as an associate researcher. She organised conferences for HFRI and UNSA: on "Bridging Mathematics, Social Sciences and Finance" and the "8th MEEA International Conference". She is a member of several international associations in economics and finance (elected board member of the Middle East Economic Association) and she actively participates in the reviewing and editing of specialised publications. In 2010, she joined the Centre Scientifique de Monaco as section head of environmental economics and collaborated with IAEA's Environment Laboratories to initiate correlation studies between environmental sciences and economics to better evaluate the socioeconomic extent of impacts and costs of action versus inaction with regard to carbon emissions. She is in charge of the coordination for the preparation and organisation of the workshop series "Bridging the gap between ocean acidification impacts and economic valuation" held in Monaco every two years. She passed her post-doctoral degree (HDR) in 2011 on "a multidisciplinary approach to sustainable development". She is lead author for IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) in the chapter 5 on "Changing oceans, marine ecosystems and dependent communities" and the cross-chapter box on "low lying islands and coasts" and for the WGII AR6 (Sixth assessment report) in chapter 18 on "climate-resilient development pathways" and cross-chapter paper on the Mediterranean. She was a reviewer for the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C and for the Special Report on Climate Change and Land and the IPBES reports. She was the lead author of the Medecc First Main Assessment Report and coordinating lead author for the Medecc Special Report on Coastal Risks in the Mediterranean.

**NIANZHI JIAO****Cheung Kong Scholar Chair Professor at Xiamen University, China***Expertise: carbon sequestration, marine ecology, aquatic ecology, biological oceanography, microbiology, phylogenetics* Attending UNOC-3

Nianzhi Jiao is a Cheung Kong Scholar Chair Professor at Xiamen University. He is a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the World Academy of Science (TWAS) for Developing Countries, the American Academy of Microbiology (AAM), USA, and the Chair of the United Nations "Global-ONCE (Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions)" International Science Program. Jiao has published more than 300 academic papers in Science, Nature series, PNAS, NSR, ISME-J, AEM, mBio and other first-class journals, which have been cited more than 20,000 times. He is on the list of Elsevier-Stanford "Career-long Impact" top scientists. Dr. Jiao proposed the new mechanism for carbon sequestration in the ocean – Microbial Carbon Pump (MCP), which has been continuously listed as a highly cited paper by ESI for more than a decade. The MCP was commented by Science as "the invisible hand behind a vast carbon reservoir". The MCP concept and related Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions (ONCE) approaches have been included in the IPCC assessment report (2019) and the United Nations Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Ocean Carbon Report (2021). The Global-ONCE program, led by Jiao was approved by UNESCO and IOC as an international program of the "United Nations Decade of the Oceans" in 2022, which has been joined by 33 countries.

**SUSHIL KUMAR****Director at the University of the South Pacific (USP), India/Fiji***Expertise: atmospheric and space physics*

Sushil Kumar holds an MSc in Physics with Electronics from St. John's College (Agra University), a PG Diploma in Space Science and Applications from Gujarat University, and a PhD in Space Physics from Barkatullah University, focusing on VHF ionospheric scintillations and the experimental and theoretical study of whistler and related phenomena at low latitudes. During his post-doctoral fellowship, he also participated in the XVIIIth Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica.



LI LI

Executive Director at Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study (SOLAS), China

Expertise: marine ecology, biology, environmental science, international relations

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Li Li is a marine ecologist and biologist with a diverse academic background. She earned her master's degree from Xiamen University, where she studied the ecology of marine virioplankton on a global scale, and later obtained her doctoral degree from the City University of Hong Kong, working on drug screening for estrogenic and chemotherapeutic effects using aquatic animal models. Her academic training also spans environmental science and international relations. In 2017, she joined the Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study (SOLAS) as a Project Officer and now serves as its Executive Director. Under her leadership, SOLAS is transitioning into its third decade with a new scientific and organizational framework to address pressing climate challenges and societal needs.



DONGYAN LIU

Deputy Director of Scientific Research for State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research (SKLEC) at the East China Normal University, IMBeR Chair, China

Expertise: marine ecology

Dongyan Liu is a scientist specializing in marine ecology. Her research focuses on exploring the mechanisms by which algae adapt to changing environments and mitigating algal blooms. She has published more than 200 peer-reviewed research articles. In recognition of her outstanding research achievements in marine sciences, she was honoured with the 2023 Ruth Patrick Award by the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography. She serves on the editorial board of Limnology and Oceanography-Letters, has been engaged in global research programmes, including LOICZ (now Future Earth Coasts), Mega-Delta, ONCE, co-chairing the IMBeR Eutrophication Study Group, and co-leading the Grand Challenge I of the IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy (2016-2025).



ROCÍO LÓPEZ DE LA LAMA

Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) at the University of British Columbia, Canada

Expertise: conservation leadership, social dimensions of conservation

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Rocío López de la Lama earned her PhD in Resources, Environment, and Sustainability, exploring people's different relationships with nature through a relational values lens and the motivations behind creating Privately Protected Areas (PPAs) despite the absence of economic incentives. She holds an MPhil in Conservation Leadership from the University of Cambridge and a BSc in Biology from Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia. Her previous work has focused on sustainable seafood, small-scale fisheries, gender studies and exploring people's relationship with nature.

**MACQUIN MAINO**

Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources at Papua New Guinea University of Technology, Papua New Guinea

Expertise: agriculture

Macquin Maino is Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources at the Papua New Guinea (PNG) University of Technology (PNGUoT), where he has served for more than 28 years. Maino is a member of the PNGUoT Academic Board, an affiliate member to the Australian Council of Deans of Agriculture, and former member to the Councils of PNGUoT and National Agricultural Research Institute. He was involved in formulating the National Agriculture Sector Plan 2024–2033 and has significantly contributed towards agricultural research, education, extension and policy developments in PNG.

**CLARA MANNO**

Biological Oceanographer and Lead of Microplastic group at the British Antarctic Survey, UK

Expertise: oceanography, polar marine ecosystem, biogeochemistry, microplastics

Clara Manno is a Biological Oceanographer at British Antarctic Survey, BAS (Cambridge, UK), and an honorary lecturer at the University of East Anglia (Norwich, UK). Manno has previously worked at the National Institute of Oceanography and Geophysics (Italy), the University of Tromsø (Norway) and at the University of Perpignan (France), where she developed a strong multidisciplinary expertise on Polar Marine Ecosystem. Her main research interest is to understand how human-induced environmental changes (i.e. ocean warming, ocean acidification, pollution) affect the marine ecosystem and biogeochemical cycle. She adopts a combined approach, merging laboratory analysis, in situ observation, field experiments and modelling. Manno is co-chairing the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) Plastics in Polar Environments expert group (SPEG) and she has been awarded the Future Leaders Fellowship by the United Kingdom Research and Innovation to evaluate the impact of microplastics on the oceanic carbon export (CUPIDO).

**CHRISTA A. MARANDINO**

Permanent scientist at GEOMAR, Germany

Expertise: marine and atmospheric chemistry, gas exchange

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Christa A. Marandino, PD, is a permanent scientist at GEOMAR and leader of the group “Trace gas air-sea exchange”. Her research focuses on the air-sea biogeochemical cycling of short-lived, atmospherically important trace gases, such as DMS and isoprene, as well as open ocean direct flux measurements using the eddy covariance technique. She teaches courses on marine/atmospheric chemistry and gas exchange at the Master and PhD level.

Marandino is a co-chair of SOLAS and has led several SOLAS initiatives, such as SOLAS Science and Society and the SOLAS International Summer School. In addition, Marandino is a co-chair of the UN Ocean Decade program Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy (OASIS). Christa is originally from the USA and received her PhD at UC Irvine Dept of ESS under the supervision of Eric Saltzman. She has lived for over 15 years in Kiel, Germany where she now raises a family.

**ULSÍA URREA MARIÑO**

PhD Candidate in Coastal and Marine System Science at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, a Crutchfield Fellow in the Community Resilience Group, USA/Mexico

Expertise: coastal and marine management, climate adaptation, urban planning

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Ulsía Urrea Mariño is a researcher specializing in integrated management of coastal zones in Latin America and the USA, Mexican policy on oceans and coasts, climate-resilient coastal urban development, and science diplomacy actions in the Gulf of Mexico. As a PhD candidate, her thesis examines strategies for building urban resilience to climate change through nature-, community-, and infrastructure-based solutions in coastal regions. She serves on the Executive Committee of the Ocean Knowledge Action Network (Ocean KAN) and co-organizes its “Listening Sessions” in Latin America and the Caribbean ahead of UNOC-3. In 2023, she received the “Research For Change on the Environmental Awareness Month” award from MAXQDA in Germany for her doctoral proposal.

**FRANK MIROBO**

Assistant Lecturer at University of Dodoma, Tanzania

Expertise: ecology, management, conservation of threatened and endangered marine megafauna

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Frank is a full-time Assistant lecturer at the University of Dodoma in Tanzania and serves as the Secretary-General of the Western Indian Ocean Early Career Scientists Network (WIO-ECSN), a youth-led network under the Western Indian Ocean Marine Association (WIOMSA). Frank is an appointed steering board member of the Global Ocean Knowledge Action Network (Ocean KAN) 2024–2026 which is under the Future Earth, a Black in Marine Sciences (BIMS) member from Africa, A Tidal wave fellow cohort 2023/2024, Tidal wave mentor 2024/2025, a Co-founder of the Sustainable Ocean Alliance Hub in Zanzibar and outreach programs for early career researchers in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) Region. As a marine ecologist, Frank specializes in the ecology, management, and conservation of threatened and endangered marine megafauna, including sea turtles, dolphins, and sharks. In addition to his academic work, Frank is actively involved in climate dialogues on loss and damage in Africa and is committed to raising awareness about the impact of deep-sea mining in Africa. He engages in ocean literacy programs for secondary school students in WIO and is a marine blogger, ocean science communicator, storyteller, and ethical dolphin trainer. Frank is a passionate advocate for early-career ocean professionals (ECOPs), using his platform to champion capacity building, youth inclusion, and equal opportunities for people of color and less-represented groups in the protection of our oceans. He strives to be a voice, not an echo, in the fight for a more sustainable and inclusive future for youth in Ocean Sciences.

**ELLA-KARI MUHL**

**Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Waterloo,
Canada/South Africa**

Expertise: ecosystem-based management, coastal governance, marine conservation, knowledge co-production

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Ella-Kari Muhl is an interdisciplinary marine scientist with interests in equity, co-production of knowledge, and the sustainable governance of marine resources. She is a postdoctoral research fellow with the Vulnerability to Viability Global Partnership for Small-Scale Fisheries, University of Waterloo, Canada and co-PI and Project Lead for the Blue Tenure Transitions initiative at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. She has taught and written on issues of coastal governance, marine conservation, knowledge co-production and fisheries, with over ten years of progressive inter- and transdisciplinary research and professional practice in the areas of conservation, indicator development, ecosystem-based management and sustainability assessment in diverse contexts.

**ALICE NEWTON**

**Professor at the CIMA-Centre for Marine and Environmental Research at
the University of Algarve, Portugal/the UK**

Expertise: chemical oceanography

Alice Newton is a chemical oceanographer focusing on the assessment of eutrophication in coastal lagoons and coastal social-ecological systems. She has more than 30 years of experience in coordinating several international and national research programmes across scientific disciplines, including Land-Oceans Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ), a forerunner of Future Earth Coasts. She advises various national and international organisations, as well as research funding agencies, on science-policy implementation, including the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Regional Seas Commissions and the UN 2nd World Ocean Assessment).

**LISE ØVREÅS**

**Vice-President (Environment Programme; External Stakeholders and
Partner Engagement) of EASAC, Austria**

Expertise: geomicrobiology, science for policy, Arctic research, biodiversity, climate change

Lise Øvreås serves as a Vice-President (Environment Programme; External Stakeholders and Partner Engagement) of EASAC from 2024–2026. She is a professor in Geomicrobiology at the University of Bergen, Norway. She served as the President of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in Norway (DNVA). She has been active in working with science for policy in the Arctic and in the EU, through the Science Advice Committee at DNVA and EASAC. From 2019 to 2022, she was the director of the Ocean Sustainability Center at the University of Bergen, a strategic tool to provide research and a meeting place for a sustainable ocean. She is also part of the Norwegian UN Ocean National Committee. She has been an active researcher within Arctic research for the last 25 years, attending research cruises and fieldwork, studying biodiversity and the effects of climate change.

**LINWOOD PENDLETON****Global Coordinator of the Ocean Knowledge Action Network, US/France***Expertise: environmental economy, ocean science*

Linwood Pendleton is an environmental economist whose professional merits include serving as Senior Vice-President for Science at the Centre for the 4th Industrial Revolution, Lead Scientist for the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Global Oceans, Director of Ocean and Coastal Policy for the Nicholas Institute, Acting Chief Economist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as well as founding the Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership. Since 2014, Pendleton has served as the International Chair of Marine Ecosystem Services at the Laboratory of Excellence and European Institute for Marine Studies at the University of Western Brittany. He is also a senior fellow at Duke's Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions (NIEPS) and Adjunct Associate Professor at the Duke University Marine Laboratory. Pendleton is also the founder of the Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership.

**SISIR PRADHAN****PhD scholar in Sustainability Management (SUSM) at the University of Waterloo, Canada***Expertise: sustainability management, natural resource management*

Sisir Pradhan is a researcher specializing in sustainability management through transdisciplinary perspectives. With 21 years of experience working with NGOs, international agencies, governments, and UN agencies, he has contributed to development initiatives in the areas of natural resource management, livelihoods, sustainable agriculture, social protection, environmental health, climate change, and disaster management. His research aims to challenge the present value chain concepts from a socio-ecological systems perspective for the wellbeing of resource communities. Pradhan has authored 11 publications and has received SSHRC and IDRC research grants, as well as the Waterloo Award for excellent academic performance.

**DEBORAH PRADO**

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Marine Sciences at the Federal University of São Paulo and Adjunct Professor at the University of Waterloo, Brazil/Canada

Expertise: environmental governance, knowledge co-production, ocean conflicts

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Deborah Prado is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Marine Sciences at the Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Waterloo, Canada. As a researcher specializing in environmental governance, she particularly focuses on strengthening participatory and community-based management processes within marine and coastal areas. She has extensive experience with transdisciplinary methodologies and knowledge co-production among researchers, protected area managers, and Indigenous communities. Her recent research examines ocean conflicts affecting small-scale fishing communities in Brazil, with a focus on conflict transformation. She collaborates with the Vulnerability to Viability Global Partnership to analyze primary conflicts and blue injustices affecting small-scale fishing communities in Latin America, exploring how they exacerbate vulnerability and how transformative initiatives can enhance the viability of small-scale fisheries.

**LAURA PEREIRA**

Professor at Global Change Institute, Wits University, South Africa

Expertise: sustainability, ecology, law, zoology, human geography

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Laura Pereira is a Professor in Sustainability Transformations and Futures at the Global Change Institute at Wits University and a researcher at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University. She is an interdisciplinary sustainability scientist, having been trained in ecology, law, zoology and human geography. She completed her DPhil in Geography at Oxford University in 2012, before working internationally at various institutions including the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, the University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch University, City University of London and Utrecht University. Laura was an ICSU Young Scientist and Future Earth fellow in 2012 and has been an Earth Commissioner since 2024, co-leading the workstream on Transformation Pathways as well as being invited to give various high-level talks, such as for the World Economic Forum, WWF Fuller and Lovejoy symposia. Laura has sat on the IPBES Task Force on scenarios and models since 2019 and has contributed to the intergovernmental assessment process in various roles since 2016. She is interested in the interface between indigenous and local knowledges and innovation, the role of futures techniques and visioning in enabling transformative change and developing innovative methods for knowledge co-production in Global South contexts. She is passionate about making stronger connections between the ocean community and work happening in terrestrial spaces, especially at the intersection between qualitative aspirational futuring and quantitative models, exemplified in her liaison role with the Earth Commission's Ocean workstream. Laura is the co-PI on the Blue Africa synthesis project that aims to feed outputs on blue carbon, marine biodiversity and livelihoods data from the African continent directly to the African Group of Negotiators for the UNFCCC and CBD, and has led various ocean visioning processes, including on the high seas, coral reefs and for ocean civil society leaders in a lead-up to UNOC-3.

For inquiries or to get in touch with the experts, contact Léa Nacache: lea.nacache@council.science

**JEAN-JACQUES RISSO****President of Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM), Monaco***Expertise: biochemistry, comparative physiology, neurochemistry, management* Attending UNOC-3

Jean-Jacques Risso was appointed President of the Centre Scientifique de Monaco in March 2025. An engineer in biochemistry (INSA Lyon), he holds a Doctorate of Science (Doctorat d'État ès Sciences, DSc, HDR) in marine physiology from the University of Lyon 1. Since 1980, his career has been dedicated to biophysiological and biomedical research, with a focus on the physiopathological effects of oxygen and inert gases and high-pressure nervous syndrome in deep diving. He is a researcher at the Centre de Recherche Biophysique Appliquée à la Marine, Head of the Research Department at the Institute of Naval Medicine of the French Health Service (IMNSSA), and Head of the Operational Medicine Research Pole of the French Armed Forces Biomedical Research Institute (IRBA). He will continue to lead the Underwater Operational Research Team in Toulon until September 2025. As Co-President of the International High Pressure Biology Group and Vice-President of the Medsubhyp Society, he organised several international congresses on diving medicine and physiology.

**KEZYIAH LUSA SAEPIOH****Assistant Lecturer in Fisheries at the Solomon Islands National University (SINU), Solomon Islands***Expertise: fisheries management, policy and governance, seafood marketing, aquatic food security, human rights in fisheries* Attending UNOC-3

Kezyiah Saepioh has served SINU for over seven years, particularly in the teaching areas of fisheries management, policy, governance, and seafood marketing. Her key collaborative research contributions focus on human rights in fisheries, the preservation of traditional Indigenous fishing knowledge, gender inclusivity and empowerment, and aquatic food security, among other areas. She aspires to further develop her professional qualities by harnessing mentorship and capacity-building opportunities within SINU and beyond. Nurturing young, upcoming fisheries and oceans professionals and leaders remains her passion.

**ALVARO SANTIAGO SCARDILLI****Frigate Captain, Head of the Meteorology Department at the Naval Hydrography Service, Argentina***Expertise: marine weather forecasting, polar meteorology, atmospheric sciences*

Alvaro Santiago Scardilli is a meteorologist with an MSc-equivalent degree in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Buenos Aires. He has experience in marine weather forecasting, polar meteorology, sea ice and icebergs operational advisory and operational applications of atmospheric sciences. With expertise in weather forecasting, ice charting, satellite imagery interpretation and evaluation, and environmental management, he lectures on the impacts of forecasts on human activities and climate change and directs multiple research projects.

**MARIE-ALEXANDRINE SICRE**

Senior Scientist at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Sorbonne University, Vice-chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-Unesco), and ISC Fellow, France

Expertise: marine science, oceanography, paleoceanography

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Marie-Alexandrine Sicre is a senior scientist at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique at Sorbonne University, Paris, France. She earned a PhD in Marine Sciences from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris. Her research focuses on the role of the ocean in climate variability over the Common Era. She is also involved in the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, serving as vice-chair of the French National Decade Committee. She is currently vice-chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and previously served as President of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) from 2016 to 2020 and as SCOR Past President from 2020 to 2024. She co-chaired the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition program from 2020 to 2024, was a Member of the Selection Committee of the Global Commission on Science Missions for Sustainability, and was appointed an ISC Fellow in 2022.

**SHIKHA SINGH**

Scientist at the Development of Skilled Manpower in Earth System Sciences (DESK) at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, India

Expertise: climate models

Shikha Singh completed a PhD titled "Role of biases in climate models in large-scale air-sea interaction". Her research explores how the large-scale oceanic biases in the climate model affect the simulated interannual variability. She is also interested in simulations and model development of ODTM. She has examined the Mixed Layer variability and governing mechanisms in terms of mixing energetics in the Arabian Sea of the north Indian Ocean. She is currently interested in examining the various mixing parameters causing the deep-ocean biases in climate models.

**TIM SMITH**

Dean of the Faculty of Environment, Society and Design at Lincoln University, New Zealand

Expertise: coastal management, climate change adaptation

Tim Smith is a human geographer specializing in coastal management and climate change adaptation. He is also an Emeritus Professor at the University of the Sunshine Coast (Australia), an Adjunct Professor at Brock University (Canada), and an Affiliated Professor at Uppsala University (Sweden). Previously, he was an Australian Research Council Fellow, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Business and Law and Director of the Sustainability Research Centre at the University of the Sunshine Coast. With experience at CSIRO and research projects in over 10 countries, he co-chairs Future Earth Coasts and serves as Executive Editor of Ocean & Coastal Management.

**SYLVIE TAMBUTTÉ****Scientific Director at Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM), Monaco***Expertise: marine biology, coral physiology* Attending UNOC-3

Sylvie Tambutté is a marine biologist and the Scientific Director of the Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM), a position she has held since January 2025. Her research has focused on coral physiology, with particular expertise in biomineralization and the effects of environmental stressors, such as ocean acidification, on coral health. Over the past 30 years, she and her group have developed an interdisciplinary approach combining cell biology, physiology, and ecology to better understand the functioning and resilience of coral reef ecosystems. She has regularly been invited to chair sessions on coral biology at the International Coral Reef Symposium and to present her work at the prestigious Gordon Research Conferences on Biomineralization. Before leading the Coral Physiology and Biochemistry team, she held positions within the Monegasque Public Service, notably as Executive Secretary of the RAMOGE Agreement, coordinating environmental protection initiatives in the Mediterranean. She was also appointed by the Government of Monaco as the National Focal Point for the PELAGOS Agreement. As Scientific Director, Tambutté oversees the coordination of research activities across CSM's departments in marine biology, polar biology, and medical biology and is actively engaged in international scientific cooperation. She has made significant contributions to the understanding of coral reef science and is the author of more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications.

**SALOME TAUFA****Programme Adviser and Team Leader for the Fisheries at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Fiji***Expertise: ocean and fisheries policy and management*

Salome V. Taufua has worked to enhance economic returns from fisheries which also involves collaborating with regional organizations such as the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO). As part of the Economics Team, she also supports the implementation of the Forum Economic Ministers' decisions and leads the development of the Pacific Roadmap for Economic Development in support of the implementation of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

**EMILY TWIGG**

Executive Director at the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR), USA

Expertise: environmental science and management, biology, ocean observing, offshore wind development, fisheries, ocean pollution, carbon dioxide removal, ecosystem restoration

📍 Attending UNOC-3

Emily Twigg is the Executive Director of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR), a thematic committee of the International Science Council (ISC). SCOR furthers international scientific activity in all branches of ocean science, including by co-operating with national and international organizations concerned with scientific and policy aspects of ocean research and related activities. SCOR also conducts activities to build the capacity for ocean science in developing countries, and every SCOR activity includes members from developing countries. Prior to taking the helm at SCOR, Twigg served as a program officer for the Ocean Studies Board of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She has covered topics ranging from ocean observing, offshore wind development, fisheries, ocean pollution, carbon dioxide removal, and ecosystem restoration. She previously held positions at the U.S. National Science Foundation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, among others. Twigg has a master's degree in environmental science and management from the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California, Santa Barbara and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of California, Berkeley.

**MITSUO UEMATSU**

Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute at the University of Tokyo, Japan

Expertise: atmospheric chemistry, marine biogeochemistry

Mitsuo Uematsu has over 30 years of experience in atmospheric chemistry and marine biogeochemistry. His research focuses on the Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study (SOLAS), an investigation of the dynamic processes occurring across the sea surface. He previously chaired the Japanese National Committee for IOC of UNESCO and currently co-chairs Future Earth Ocean KAN. As chair of the International Science Council/Regional Committee for Asia and the Pacific, he advises on strategic approaches for natural and social sciences in the region.

**MARTIN VISBECK****Chief Executive Officer of OceanQuest, Saudi Arabia***Expertise: marine science, physical oceanography, sustainable development* Attending UNOC-3

Martin Visbeck is the CEO of OceanQuest a Saudi Arabian not-for-profit foundation, incubated by KAUST, with a mission to accelerate ocean discovery, drive innovation in the field, support global cooperation, and excite the public. Currently on leave from Chair in Physical Oceanography, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel and Kiel University, Germany. His research interests revolve around ocean's role in the climate system, ocean circulation, upwelling systems, integrated global ocean observation, digital-twins of the ocean and the ocean dimension of sustainable development. He led the 'Future Ocean' Network in Kiel to advance integrated marine sciences by bringing together different disciplines to work on marine issues. He serves on a number of national and international advisory committees including the WMO Research Board, Joint Scientific Committee of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), leadership council of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Interim Decade Advisory Board for the UN Decade of Ocean Science Decade for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 and the Assembly supporting the development of the EU Horizon Europe Ocean Mission. He is the past President of The Oceanography Society (TOS), and was elected fellow of the AGU, AMS, TOS and the European Academy of Sciences. Visbeck is involved in strategic planning and decision-making processes about the ocean and sustainable development at a national, European and global level.

**JACQUI VOGEL****Joint doctoral student at the University of California, Santa Barbara and San Diego State University, USA***Expertise: ocean-climate science, marine governance*

Jacqui Vogel is an interdisciplinary marine scientist working to uncover and elevate the implications of climate change for marine ecosystems, fisheries, ocean governance, and human security. Her background is in ocean-climate science and marine governance and she also worked at the Environmental Defense Fund for several years as a climate-resilient fisheries analyst. Vogel holds M.S. and B.S. degrees in Earth Systems from Stanford University, where she researched ocean-climate interactions and international fishery governance.