

UWA Oceans Institute Member Handbook



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1. Introduction to the Oceans Institute

Welcome to the UWA Oceans Institute

This handbook contains information and resources to help members get started with the UWA Oceans Institute (OI) and become an active member.

Established in 2010, the OI brings together the collective strength of the University's best and brightest researchers into a multidisciplinary, integrated research organisation across the disciplines of oceanography, ecology, engineering, resource management, social sciences and governance. Since then it has become a major centre for marine research, not only in Western Australia and nationally, but across the Indian Ocean region and worldwide.

The Institute sits within UWA's Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, with our members spanning all UWA Schools, Centres and Institutes. The OI works particularly closely with the School of Engineering, Oceans Graduate School and the School of Biological Sciences but seeks to engage all UWA marine researchers, recognising that its strength is in a multidisciplinary approach to research and problem solving.

The Institute is also actively engaged in promoting all forms of marine-related research at the UWA and OI staff have a role helping UWA researchers to engage effectively with external stakeholders, including via the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre (IOMRC) partnership. The IOMRC partners UWA with the Australian Institute of Marine Science ([AIMS](#)), the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation ([CSIRO](#)), the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development ([DPIRD; fisheries](#)). The OI also has a close relationship with the West Australian Marine Sciences Institute ([WAMSI](#)), a joint venture partnership that includes the IOMRC members as well as other WA universities and institutions, all united by a common interest in marine research.

See Section 9 for more information.

Contact information:

Phone: +61 8 6488 8116

Email: oceans@uwa.edu.au

Website: www.uwa.edu.au/oceans-institute

OI Staff

Prof Christophe Gaudin	Director	christophe.gaudin@uwa.edu.au
Prof Nicki Mitchell	Deputy Director	nicola.mitchell@uwa.edu.au
Ms Monica Mackman	Executive Assistant	monica.mackman@uwa.edu.au
Ms Emily Glover	Business Support Manager	emily.glover@uwa.edu.au
Ms Vivienne White	Communications Officer	vivienne.white@uwa.edu.au

2. Location

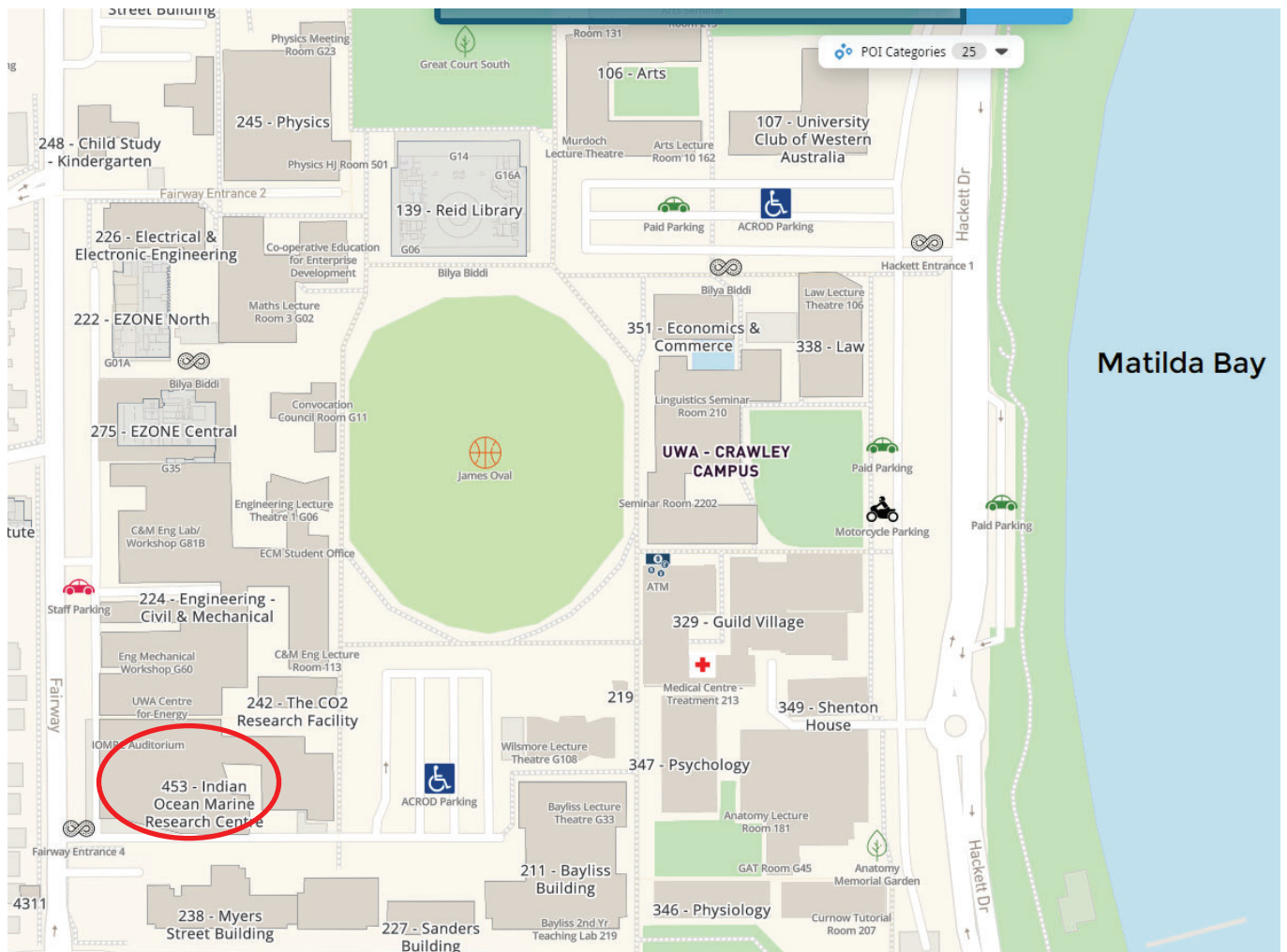
OI staff are located in the IOMRC building on the UWA Crawley campus. Some UWA members of the OI are also located in this building, others have offices and laboratories in schools across the UWA campus, including UWA's Albany Centre in WA's Great Southern Region.

Physical address:

5th Floor, Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre
Cnr. Fairway and Fairway Entry 4
Crawley WA 6009

Mailing address:

M470, UWA Oceans Institute
35 Stirling Highway
Crawley WA 6009



3. The OI Strategy

The primary purpose of the UWA OI is to enhance the capability and capacity of The University to undertake world leading marine research. The OI is uniquely placed to provide ocean solutions to real-world challenges – through its breadth and depth of marine expertise, state of the art facilities and geographic reach. Its focus is aligned with UWA’s ‘Vision 2030’ and ‘Strategic Plan 2020-2025’ which emphasise the importance of marine research to The University. See oceans.uwa.edu.au for further information on the OI’s vision and goals.

3.1 STRATEGIC RESEARCH THEMES

The OI’s [Research Strategy](#) provides a high-level outline of the OI’s research profile and our research themes:

- Coastal and Ecosystem Resilience
- Ocean-based Decarbonisation
- Nature Positive Oceans

The OI is a participating research organisation in the CRC Blue Economy.

3.2 STRATEGIC FOCUS

The OI research themes align with our goals, to:

- Transform ocean science and engineering by developing best practices for transdisciplinary research, holistic thinking, translational collaboration, and fostering opportunities to deliver Nature Positive outcomes
- Generate the knowledge needed to understand and track changes in marine ecosystem health and biodiversity
- Increase resilience of coastal communities to climate change through identifying sustainable pathways for innovative and nature-based adaptation
- Embed First Nations perspectives, culture, and knowledge of their land and sea countries into collaborative design of research initiatives, and build meaningful partnerships with First Nations and other Indigenous populations in the Indian Ocean basin
- Become a partner of choice in Australia and internationally when seeking rapid and integrated solutions to pressing ocean challenges
- Champion evidence-based and forward-thinking ocean science, and proactively counter misinformation
- Develop financial autonomy to enhance capabilities and rapidly respond to opportunities

3.3 STRATEGIC PRIORITY PROJECTS

The OI has a range of Strategic Priority Projects designed to deliver outputs within the framework provided by the OI’s research themes and its ‘Research Strategy’. These projects will evolve and change over time.

As a member of the OI you have the opportunity to identify new projects and to benefit from OI support where your work aligns with current foci.

4. Membership

The OI supports multi-disciplinary, marine-related research across UWA and beyond, enhancing opportunities for collaborative research, education and engagement. Members are highly valued contributors to the OI.

OI Membership is available to: UWA academic staff, postgraduate HDR students and Adjuncts.

4.1 BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

There are many benefits in becoming a Member of the OI, including but not limited to:

- Increased opportunity for cross-disciplinary interaction and collaboration within and beyond The University
- Furthering academic exchange and generating access to a wide variety of expertise;
- Access to OI marketing and communications in order to promote events and academic successes
- Support and development opportunities for postdocs and PhD students;
- Opportunity to engage in community outreach programs
- Access to minor funds to support your time sensitive activities (e.g. to pilot new project ideas and respond to new opportunities) where investment from the OI is likely to enhance the capacity of the UWA in marine research
- Opportunities to help develop the OI and steer marine research at UWA by working with the OI staff
- Access to a range of facilities such as workspaces, laboratories including the Waterman's Bay facility and the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre (IOMRC) building, where space and priorities allow
- Increased opportunities to access programs facilitated by the OI and the UWA Institute of Advanced Studies
- Access to a wide range of events such as seminars, workshops and visitor sessions that are hosted or co-hosted by the Institute
- Increased interactions with IOMRC partners and external collaborators

4.2 EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership is a two-way commitment to the OI. We will support your marine research and we ask that members observe the following:

- Include the OI in by-lines and publication attributions where appropriate. This by-line will often be additional to your School or other Institution
- Include the OI as part of your profile on the [UWA Intranet](#) and the [UWA Profiles and Research Repository](#) where applicable
- Provide updates to the OI on key achievements and information such as publications, grants, collaborations, awards, media references, students, postdocs and visitors related to marine research
- Participate and/or collaborate in OI events within your area of expertise
- Engage and promote the OI through your networks, both within UWA and beyond
- Share any ideas you may have for enhancing the OI Membership

4.3 GUIDELINES ON OI PUBLICATION BY-LINES

Members of the OI should recognise their membership in publications or when quoted in the media.

Please note, the full name 'University of Western Australia' is required to be included in by-lines referencing the University. Below are some examples:

For manuscripts the address should be typed:

The UWA Oceans Institute and School of X,
The University of Western Australia, Crawley
6009, Western Australia.

Other research publications requiring a by-line, OI affiliation only:

UWA Oceans Institute, University of Western Australia

OI and School affiliation:

UWA Oceans Institute and School of X, University of Western Australia

OI and external organisation affiliation:

Australian Institute of Marine Science and UWA Oceans Institute, University of
Western Australia
(example only)



FISH SWIMMING AMONG CORAL
PHOTO CREDIT: JOAN COSTA

5. Postgraduate Students

5.1 MEMBERSHIP

Postgraduate students with a supervisor who is an OI member are expected to become OI Members.

It is the responsibility of your OI Member supervisor to advise the OI at the commencement of your candidature. An OI staff member will be in contact with an OI Membership application form.

Upon registration, students will be added to the following OI distribution lists and will be included in notifications for all OI members, student events and programs of interest.

- **eNewsletter:** a regular email publication highlighting upcoming opportunities, events and news relevant to OI members.
- **Student email list:** used by the OI student representatives and OI staff only to disseminate information about OI events, activities, projects and opportunities to our current postgraduate student members.
- **IOMRC email list:** if you have a desk in the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre, you will receive emails of interest to building occupants.

5.2 POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES

There is an opportunity for two student members to become OI Postgraduate Representatives.

These representatives organise various activities for OI postgraduate students throughout the year, such as the Annual Postgraduate Symposium. The Postgrad Symposium allows OI postgrads to showcase their research to the Oceans Institute community. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow OI members and to practice presentation skills. Information about this will be sent out via email.

Students who have ideas for activities or would like to make their voice heard within the Institute are encouraged to contact the representatives.

Updates and opportunities will be shared via the OI student email list and the Oceans Institute e-Newsletter.

6. Events

6.1 OI VISITOR SEMINARS AND ENGAGEMENTS

The OI is available to assist with promotion and organisation of visitor seminars. Please contact oceans@uwa.edu.au for more information. Alternatively, the Institute can hold a round table with interested researchers.

6.2 POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR SERIES

The Postgraduate Seminar Series surrounds the areas of civil engineering, oceanography, marine biology and offshore engineering. The series is coordinated by OI member postgraduate representatives and is generally held in the IOMRC auditorium. The series is advertised in the OI e-Newsletter and also through the OI student email list.

6.3 IOMRC EVENTS

The UWA OI holds a range of events for OI members and IOMRC partners at various times during the year as an opportunity for development and networking with colleagues.



BELOW A SCHOOL OF FISH SWIMMING
PHOTO CREDIT: JOAN COSTA

7. Marketing and Communications

At the OI, we use a range of communication tools to engage members, students and external stakeholders; as well as the local, national and international community. The OI's Communications Officer is responsible for the management of the following communications tools and products with the primary goal of sharing marine related research with OI Members and the broader community.

7.1 WEBSITE



oceans.uwa.edu.au

The OI website is the first port of call for information on research at the OI, and the strategic focus and objectives for the Institute. The website is updated with information about OI events and links to other relevant webpages, enabling visitors to explore the activities of the Institute in depth.

7.2 SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook (www.facebook.com/UWAOceansInstitute)



Twitter ([@uwaoceans](https://twitter.com/uwaoceans))



YouTube ([@OceansInstitute](https://www.youtube.com/@OceansInstitute))



Instagram ([@uwaoceans](https://www.instagram.com/uwaoceans))

Social media is an important outreach tool for community engagement at the OI. We maintain Facebook and Twitter accounts and YouTube Channel and update these regularly with information on the OI's research themes, upcoming events and relevant news and issues relevant to the marine environment. An informal Instagram account also exists.

7.3 E- NEWSLETTER

The OI e-Newsletter is the regular communication tool for our members, providing a monthly update of upcoming events and key information relevant to the Institute's stakeholders. Content is often provided by members, staff and students and should be emailed to oceans@uwa.edu.au. You will be automatically subscribed to the e-Newsletter upon becoming a member of the OI.

7.4 PRINT MATERIAL

A wide range of print and PDF materials about the OI is available to our members, including About the Oceans Institute, OI Annual Reports and Capability Statements.

8. Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre

The Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre (IOMRC) is a collaboration that brings together four of Australia's leading research organisations working in and around the Indian Ocean:

- [Australian Institute of Marine Science \(AIMS\)](#)
- [CSIRO](#)
- [Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development \(Fisheries\) WA](#)
- [UWA, via the Oceans Institute](#)

The collaboration includes the development of new multi-disciplinary research teams and a graduate training environment designed to significantly advance Australia's marine science capacity, capability, and profile. Research collaborations are supported by co-funding of a number of major research initiatives, multiple inter-organisational research projects, co-supervised HDR students, and a rolling cycle of co-funded postdoctoral research posts.

The IOMRC Crawley building is a purpose-built facility opened at the UWA Crawley campus in 2016. Major refurbishments were also undertaken at the existing Department of Fisheries' marine centre approximately 24kms from Crawley, now also known as the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre, Waterman's Bay.

As a member of the Oceans Institute, you have the opportunity to benefit from the IOMRC collaboration and to play your part in the development of the IOMRC partnership.

8.1 IOMRC WATERMAN'S BAY

IOMRC Waterman's Bay is a significant seawater facility for broad marine research into the Indian Ocean.

The facility offers world-class laboratories including constant temperature rooms, a quarantine facility, aquaria, dark room, fresh seawater delivery system and meteorological and radar monitoring systems.

The beachside hub has capacity for more than 40 scientists and research staff under the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre partnership and the potential to support a wide range of experimental and observational science projects.

8.2 IOMRC CRAWLEY

IOMRC Crawley houses researchers undertaking critical work in areas including oceanography, marine ecology, fisheries, geochemistry, governance, marine technologies and engineering.

The facility provides a foundation for world-class research with state-of-the-art laboratories, specialised equipment, offices and meeting spaces, executive boardrooms, an Auditorium and breakout areas.

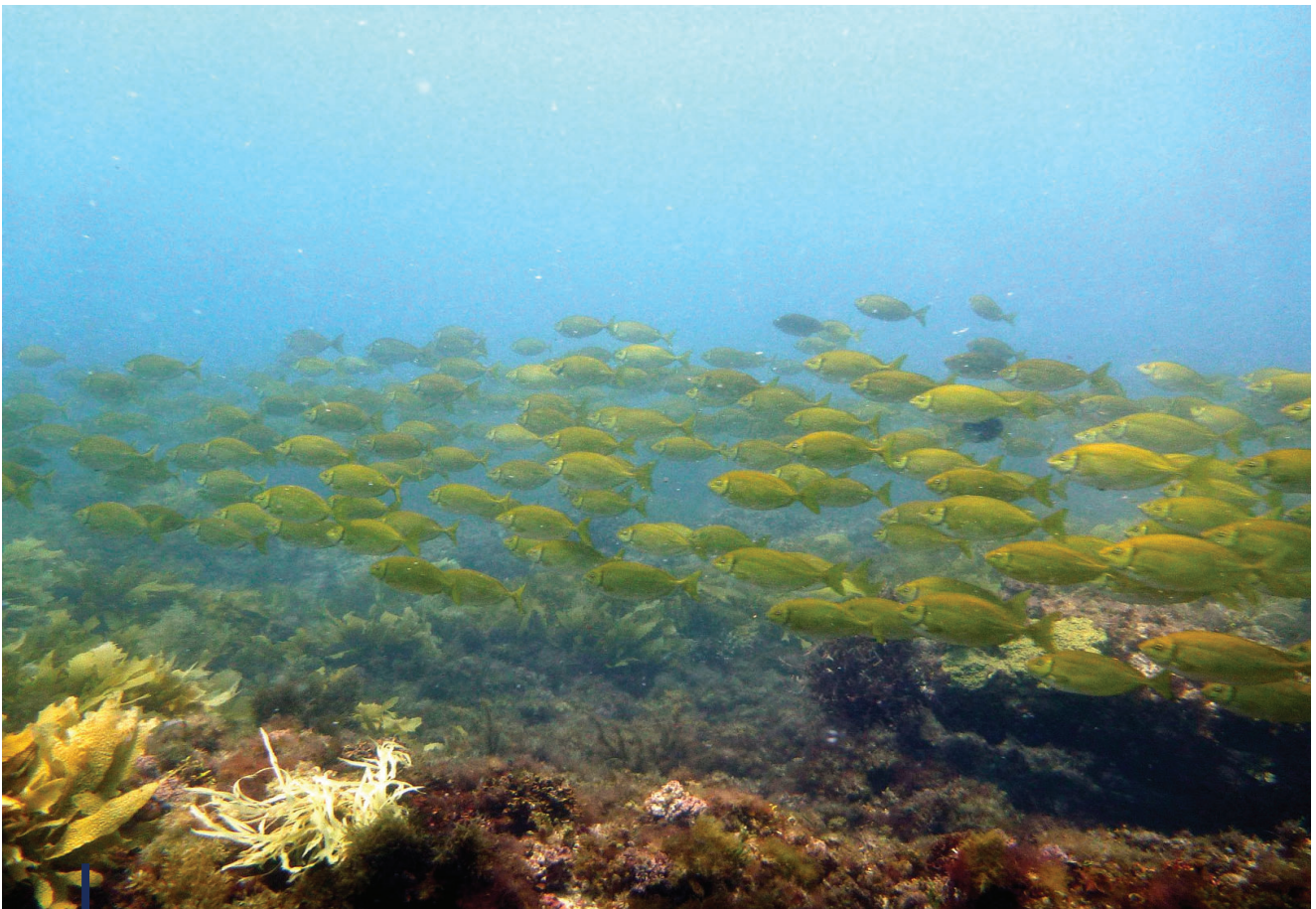
In addition, there are purpose-built boat and storage facilities and, staff and students, labs and executive offices are co-located, enhancing the strong research culture.

IOMRC Crawley has meeting rooms and a boardroom that are available for members to use. Please contact oceans@uwa.edu.au to check availability and book a room.

8.3 IOMRC PERSONNEL

The IOMRC staff comprise:

- IOMRC **Administrative Assistant**, (iomrc-administration@uwa.edu.au) whose responsibility is for the reception of the IOMRC Crawley facility and communications within the building.
- IOMRC **Senior Administrative Officer**, Linda Raynor-Thomas (linda.raynor.thomas@uwa.edu.au) who coordinates the IOMRC committees and oversees the smooth running of the IOMRC partnership.
- IOMRC **Operations Manager**, oceans.uwa.edu.au (araya.abera@uwa.edu.au) who is the first point of contact for UWA staff or postgraduate students wanting to run experiments in either of the IOMRC buildings.



SCHOOL OF TROPICAL RABBITFISH
PHOTO CREDIT: THOMAS WERNBERG



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