

Centre for Oceanography Symposium

(University of Otago, 16-17 March 2026)

Welcome to the inaugural New Zealand Centre for Oceanography Symposium. We are delighted to be hosting you in sunny Dunedin for the two-day event. If you have any questions or need help over the two days please email or call Miles Lamare (miles.lamare@otago.ac.nz, 0212797463)



Department of Marine Science, Otago University Campus Quadrangle

Programme overview

Day 1: Monday, 16 March (Portobello Marine Laboratory)

8:30AM	Bus Pickup from 84 Albany Street (see map 2)
9:20AM - 4:30PM	Symposium talks
4:30PM	Bus leaving PML to return to Campus
5:30PM - 6:30PM	Dr Rob Murdoch - Keynote address, Archway 1
7:00PM – 10:00PM	Social function, Ombrellos Café (see map 1)

Day 2: Tuesday, 17 March (St Margaret's College, 333 Leith Street, Dunedin North)

9:00AM to 9:45AM	Dr Pete Russell - Keynote address
9:45AM to 4:00PM	Workshops and discussions/planning

The following zoom link supports all symposium activities and talks:

Zoom meeting ID: 597-123-6376, Password: 039213

<https://otago.zoom.us/j/5971236376?pwd=UUUwbEtacWZuL2xMaktCazNqQVpPdZ09>

Day 1 (PML)			
8:30	Bus from Campus to PML	Pick up from the OUSA building, 84 Albany Street (map 1)	
9:20	Karakia/Welcome & Housekeeping	Miles Lamare	
9:35	Introduction to CfO	Cliff Law	
9:50	1st Session - Geology/Biogeochemistry Claudine Stirling	Cliff Law facilitating claudine.stirling@otago.ac.nz	Biogeochemical cycling of oceanic trace metals and their isotopes: links to past and present climate change
10:05	Sylvia Sander	ssander@geomar.de	Metals in the ocean – from marine mineral resources to micronutrients
10:20	Discussion	10 min	
10:30	Coffee break		
11:00	2nd session - Physical Oceanography Chris Moy	Mike Williams facilitating chris.moy@otago.ac.nz	Carbon cycling and burial in Aotearoa New Zealand’s fjords
11:15	Liv Cornelissen	liv.cornelissen@otago.ac.nz	NZ Physical Oceanography group
11:30	Denise Fernandez	denise.fernandez@niwa.co.nz	The ocean in motion: what decades of observations reveal about a rapidly changing region
11:45	Discussion	15 min	
12:00	Lunch (provided)		
13:00	3rd session - Biogeochemistry Alan Orpin	Richard O'Driscoll facilitating alan.orpin@niwa.co.nz	Overview of Future Oceans Flagship Programme at ESNZ
13:15	Sebastiaan van de Velde	sebastiaan.vandevelde@otago.ac.nz	Anthropogenically stimulated carbonate dissolution in the shelf seafloor.
13:30	Cliff Law	cliff.law@niwa.co.nz	Marine carbon dioxide removal around Aotearoa New Zealand
13:45	Sarah Seabrook	sarah.seabrook@otago.ac.nz	Antarctic seep emergence as a signal of change
14:00	Discussion	15 min	
14:15	Coffee break		
14:35	4th session - Biology Vonda Cummings	Miles Lamare facilitating vonda.cummings@niwa.co.nz	Overview of ES-NZ's Healthy Oceans Flagship Programme
14:50	Benjamín Durán-Vinet	ben.duran-vinet@otago.ac.nz	eDNA for marine biosecurity
15:05	Svenja Halfter	svenja.halter@niwa.co.nz	Zooplankton research from New Zealand to Antarctica and back
15:20	Richard O'Driscoll	richard.odriscoll@niwa.co.nz	Fisheries acoustics as a tool to study the changing ocean
15:35	Tom Brough	Tom.Brough@niwa.co.nz	Forecasting future species distribution in Aotearoa
15:50	Discussion and reflections on Day 1	30 min (Miles Lamare & Mike Williams)	
16:30	Return bus to campus		
17:30	Rob Murdoch Keynote address (ARCH1)	"Looking Back to Look Forward"	
1900	Social at Ombrellos		

Day 2 - St Margaret's College			
9:00	Pete Russell Keynote address	Introduction by Miles Lamare	Extreme South Pacific Phytoplankton blooms induced by tropical cyclones
9:45	Framing Day 2 - Committee view	Cliff Law	
10:00	Coffee break		
	Opportunities	Richard O'Driscoll facilitating	
10:30	CfO Committee views on opportunities	Richard O'Driscoll	
10:50	Breakout groups (4)		<i>How can Centre leverage funding? Research vessel opportunities? How to facilitate collaboration?</i>
11:30	Report back from breakout groups	<i>5 min per group</i>	
11:50	Discussion/synthesis	Miles Lamare & Mike Williams	
12:15	Lunch		
	Training and Networking	Steve Wing facilitating	
13:15	Perspectives on Training	Steve Wing	
13:30	Cassidy Collier (inter-institute student talk)	colca688@student.otago.ac.nz	Drivers of interannual mixed layer temperature variability and recent marine heatwaves on Campbell Plateau
13:45	CfO summer students short presentations		
13:50	Potential NZ cross-institute oceanography paper		
14:00	Breakout groups		<i>What do students want from the CfO? What does NZ need with regards to oceanography? What are national (& international) training opportunities?</i>
14:45	Coffee break		
15:05	Report back from breakout groups	<i>5 min per group</i>	
15:25	Discussion & synthesis	Miles Lamare & Steve Wing	
15:50	Summary/ Wrap Up & next steps	Cliff Law	<i>Call for new Committee members</i>