



Election of members of WIOMSA Board of Trustees

The time for members of WIOMSA to exercise their democratic right and vote for their Board of Trustees members has come. 2009 is an election year for the new Board of Trustees. Every member of the Association has the right to vote in the elections for the members of the Board of Trustees (According to the Article 9.1.3 (ii) of the WIOMSA Constitution). In this election only paid members and students (who have confirmed their studentship) will receive ballot papers and vote.

Candidates listed below have been nominated by WIOMSA members and have agreed to stand for election. A number of nominees do not appear on this list, either because they declined to stand or have not responded to the communication requesting them to confirm their acceptance of the nomination.

Host country (one seat)

1. Kassim Kulindwa
2. Margareth Kyewalyanga

Mainland States (two seats)

1. Salomao Bandeira (Mozambique)
2. James G. Kairo (Kenya)
3. Jacqueline Uku (Kenya)
4. Rudy van der Elst (South Africa)

Island States (two seats)

1. Pascale Chabanet (Reunion)
2. Daniel Marie (Mauritius)
3. Herilala Randriamahazo (Madagascar)
4. Nirmal Shah (Seychelles)

Outside the Region (one seat)

1. Per Berggren (Sweden)
2. Tim McClanahan (USA)
3. Nils Kautsky (Sweden)
4. Jose Paula (Portugal)

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!

Host country (one seat)



Kassim Kulindwa

Kassim Kulindwa is an economist and senior researcher employed by the University of Dar es Salaam at the Economic Research Bureau since 1983.

He is educated in Tanzania (University of Dar es Salaam), Canada (University of British Columbia) and Sweden (Göteborg University). He has done extensive research on natural resources and the environment with a focus on sustainable development issues, poverty reduction and livelihood issues in Tanzania. These include sustainable resources use and resources management of fisheries, forestry, water resources, wildlife, minerals. Environmental issues including wetland values and the economics of climate change. Presently he is involved, together with several other team members, in a long term NUFU funded research project on the Mafia Island (including the Marine Park) in Tanzania, where he especially focuses on resource use by local communities with a focus on marketing and value chain analysis of the small scale fishing communities fish business with the objective to find the best way small scale fishing communities could benefit from the fisheries resources around them in a sustainable way.

Margareth Kyewalyanga



I am a Senior Lecturer and currently the Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam, with effect from 1st April 2009. Before that I was the Head of Department of Marine Biology and Resources Management at the same Institution. I

did my post-graduate studies (MSc. & Ph.D.) in Biological Oceanography at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada. My studies there helped me acquire extensive knowledge in phytoplankton primary production and modeling productivity at large scale, through satellite remote sensing of phytoplankton chlorophyll-a. As such, I have good sea-going and research experience in various aspects related to phytoplankton ecology, physiology and productivity as well as in remote sensing and modeling primary production at large scale. I also have extensive international collaborations including being a member of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA); Member for the Nippon-Foundation / Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (NF/POGO) network, Member for the Mariculture Forum for the Western Indian Ocean Region and the Sustainable Aquaculture Research Networks in sub Saharan Africa (SARNISA); Contact Scientist for the Chlorophyll Ocean Global Integrated Network (ChloroGIN) for Eastern Africa; Focal point for the GEONETCast applications for and by Developing Countries (DevCoCast) for East Africa. In addition, I am doing collaborative work, as co-investigator, with Dr. Ray Barlow and his team from South Africa. I am also experienced in conducting capacity building activities such as training courses and workshops as well as organizing regional and international meetings, such as the WIOMSA Scientific Symposiums.

Having witnessed WIOMSA developing from its cradle, my vision as a member has always been to play a key role in nurturing it to achieve its Vision. My vision for WIOMSA is to dedicate my service to the association in the pursuit of its mission so that substantial gain towards the Association vision is achieved during my tenure as a member of the board.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!

Island States (two seats)

Pascale Chabanet



Pascale Chabanet, PhD, is a researcher in Reunion Island, French Overseas Department. For the past 20 years, her main research subject has been the ecology of fish associated with coral reefs in the SW Indian Ocean and West Pacific. She has published about 40 articles in peer-reviewed scientific publications.

Pascale was born in Reunion and spent much of her childhood exploring the coral reefs. She read Biology at the Université d'Aix-Marseille in France before obtaining a grant to do a Master in Marine Biology in the USA (University of California Santa Barbara).

After spending four years in the US, she returned to Reunion in order to work for her PhD, which she obtained in 1994, on the relations between benthic and fish communities on the island's coral reefs. She was then a Senior Lecturer at the Université de La Réunion between 1996 and 2003.

From 2003 to 2007 she carried out research for the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) in New Caledonia, where she studied the coral reefs of the Pacific. In 2005 she obtained her accreditation to supervise research (HDR), having presented her work on the impact of coral reef perturbations on reef fishes in the SW Indian Ocean.

In 2008 she resumed her research post at the IRD La Réunion, of which she has been assistant director since April 2009. She is highly involved in a number of organizations and projects, including:

- spokesperson for Reunion's forthcoming Regional Marine Institute, whose aim is to bring together bodies associated with marine sciences, to boost a global research strategy and to reinforce regional cooperation in the Indian Ocean;
- member of the scientific committee of the Marine Reserve of Reunion;
- member of the WIOMSA scientific committee and the committee in charge of organizing the WIOMSA symposium to be held in Reunion Island in August 2009.

Pascale remains active in supervising students in their research, at Master's and PhD levels. She is also fully involved in the community in increasing awareness of environmental issues relating to coral reefs, and is particularly interested in working with schoolchildren. She wishes to develop collaboration, via joint projects, between the scientists of the SW Indian Ocean, and to continue to energize the younger generations of the region.

Daniel Marie



I was born and brought up in a small fishermen village name Grand Gaube situated on the North North East coast of Mauritius. I was always fascinated with the sea and all the activities going on around it. I get enrolled at the University of Mauritius for a B.Sc. in Chemistry and Environmental Sciences and graduated in 1994. I won the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) scholarship and started research for an MPhil/Ph.D. in Chemistry. In the penultimate year of my doctoral research I won another scholarship from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU). This scholarship allowed my attachment at the Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland, finalising the experimental part of my research and starting the writing up of my Ph.D. thesis. I was awarded a Ph.D. degree in Chemistry in 2001. I joined the Mauritius Oceanography Institute as Project Officer in the field of Chemical Oceanography in 2000. I undertook research at the Université Catholique de Louvain in Brussels, Belgium, following my award of a postdoctoral fellowship in 2002 by the "Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie".

Since I joined the Mauritius Oceanography Institute, I was assigned different responsibilities tied in with marine research at local and regional level. The most important one was to look at the smooth running of the Shoal's of Capricorn which is based at Rodrigues. I was also the coordinator of the project entitled "Submarine Groundwater Discharge" under the aegis of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), International Hydrological Program (IHP) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The project was carried out in Mauritius in 2005. Additionally, I represented Mauritius during the last Project Steering Committee of the ASCLME project. Since 2004, I am the co-leader of a collaborative research with the University of Mauritius, the "Centre National Des Recherches Scientifiques (CNRS), Paris, France and the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands in an endeavour to find new pharmaceuticals from the marine fauna and flora living in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Mauritius. My enthusiasm for research resulted in my promotion to Principal Research Scientist at the Mauritius Oceanography Institute. Therefore, my involvement with marine research for nine years now, results in an increase of my fascination for marine research. This, compounded with my experience of working in collaboration, explains my wish to become an Island State member of the WIOMSA. My belief is that, to harness, protect and manage the marine resources in the Western Indian Ocean, lots of research need to be undertaken on a regional basis and this is realisable through the WIOMSA. Hence, my vision is that the WIOMSA has an enhanced role in the training of marine scientists, especially the youngsters, through marine research activities and that it carries on in the promotion of regional cooperation in all research fields with a particular attention to those fields which are rare but important for the Western Indian Ocean region.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!



Herilala Randriamahazo

Graduated from Antananarivo University in 1992, Herilala Randriamahazo was convinced that in order to further develop his professional career, he had to go abroad. He spent four years at Kyoto University to prepare his PhD [1996-2000]. He has over 20 years experience in biodiversity conservation, with particular interest on conservation policy, as well as

coastal zone management and MPA through designation to management. Before joining WCS in 2000, he worked for the Government of Madagascar. He was a researcher at the Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza as the head of the herpetology department whose main task was to help government agencies improving the wildlife trade through a better application of CITES regulations. He was an active member of the national exchange platform [Groupe de Travail et de Réflexion] that developed the white paper for the coastal zone development policy for Madagascar. He facilitated the piloting of the proposed approach in Antongil Bay. Being part of the co-management of Masoala National Park, he led the establishment of Sahamalaza – Nosy Radama Marine Park and Velondriake MPA with particular expertise in weighing the community involvement and scientifically driven process. He was a member of the steering committee who bridged the two sectors of fisheries and marine environment at national level [Commission Environnement – Pêche] in order to prevent management conflicts and to promote a better planning. He has participated in many IUCN, WIOMSA, IMPAC1 and IMCC training courses on MPA and CZM. He is currently the director of the WCS marine program in Madagascar. He is also facilitating the marine group that works closely with the two ministries, one in charge of fisheries and the other for the environment to define / improve national strategies and regulations for MPA network. He acts as a board member of Madagascar National Parks and oversees through a steering committee [Comité de Suivi et d'Orientation] for the fisheries project known as Projet d'Appui aux Communautés de Pêcheurs of Toliara aiming at establishing marine reserves.

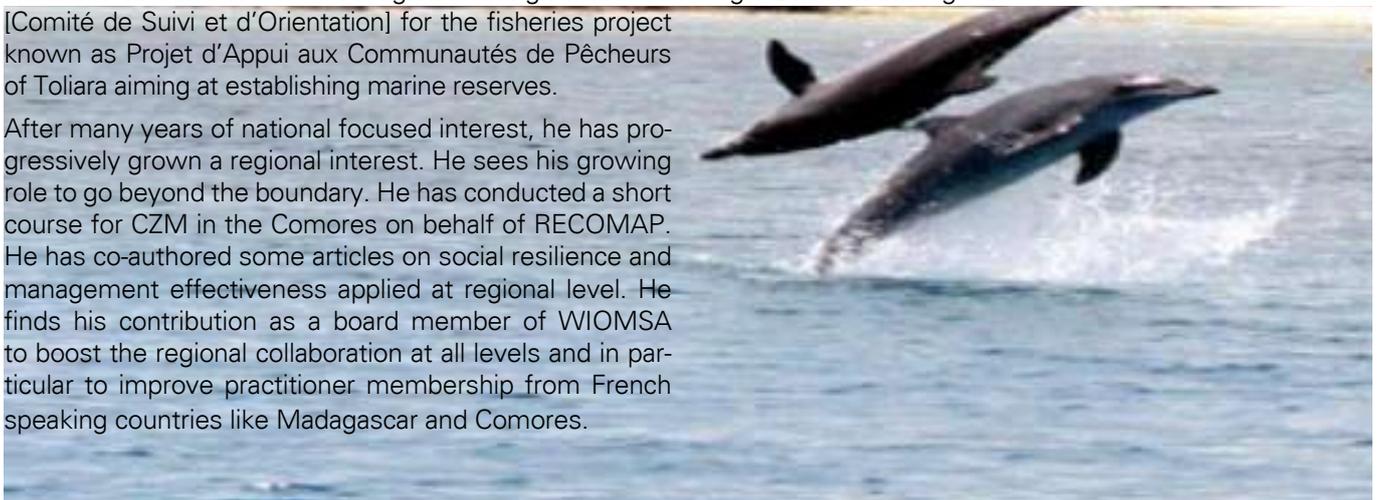
After many years of national focused interest, he has progressively grown a regional interest. He sees his growing role to go beyond the boundary. He has conducted a short course for CZM in the Comores on behalf of RECOMAP. He has co-authored some articles on social resilience and management effectiveness applied at regional level. He finds his contribution as a board member of WIOMSA to boost the regional collaboration at all levels and in particular to improve practitioner membership from French speaking countries like Madagascar and Comores.

Nirmal Shah

Nirmal Shah is an award-winning conservation biologist, coastal manager and science popularizer who has implemented internationally acclaimed projects that have restored degraded ecosystems and saved Critically Endangered species from extinction. He has



worked in the parastatal, governmental, private and NGO sectors in senior positions, as well as for international organizations such as the World Bank, IUCN, Sida and UN agencies both in Seychelles and in the region in many projects ranging from ICZM to climate change, fisheries to waste management. He is the CEO of Nature Seychelles which runs Cousin island Special Reserve, recently recognized as "one of the world's great conservation success stories". He works with European universities and agencies to implement scientific studies. He sits on the committees of several regional and international organizations and has represented Seychelles in some of the more important global summits of the last 25 years. He is also involved in private sector initiatives outside the region working to develop alternative fuels. He is a passionate science and conservation advocate through his columns in newspapers and numerous appearances on the media including ones such as CNN, BBC, Reuters, PBS, NBC-Today Show, SABC, CCTV, etc. He was a founding Board Member of WIOMSA and has contributed extensively to the development of WIOMSA activities and programs over the last 14 years including new ones such as COMPAS and the Magazine. He was the long time Chair of the Programme Committee of MASMA and has thus been instrumental in guiding national scientists and up-scaling research in our region. He would like WIOMSA to provide more support to its members, mobilize larger projects that involve members in implementation, and take its rightful place as the premier marine science and management organization of the region.



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!

Mainland States (two seats)



Salomão Bandeira

Salomão Bandeira, 43, has a strong interest in marine botany of Mozambique and WIO. He has published more than 20 peer-reviewed papers and co-authored two books covering mainly the field

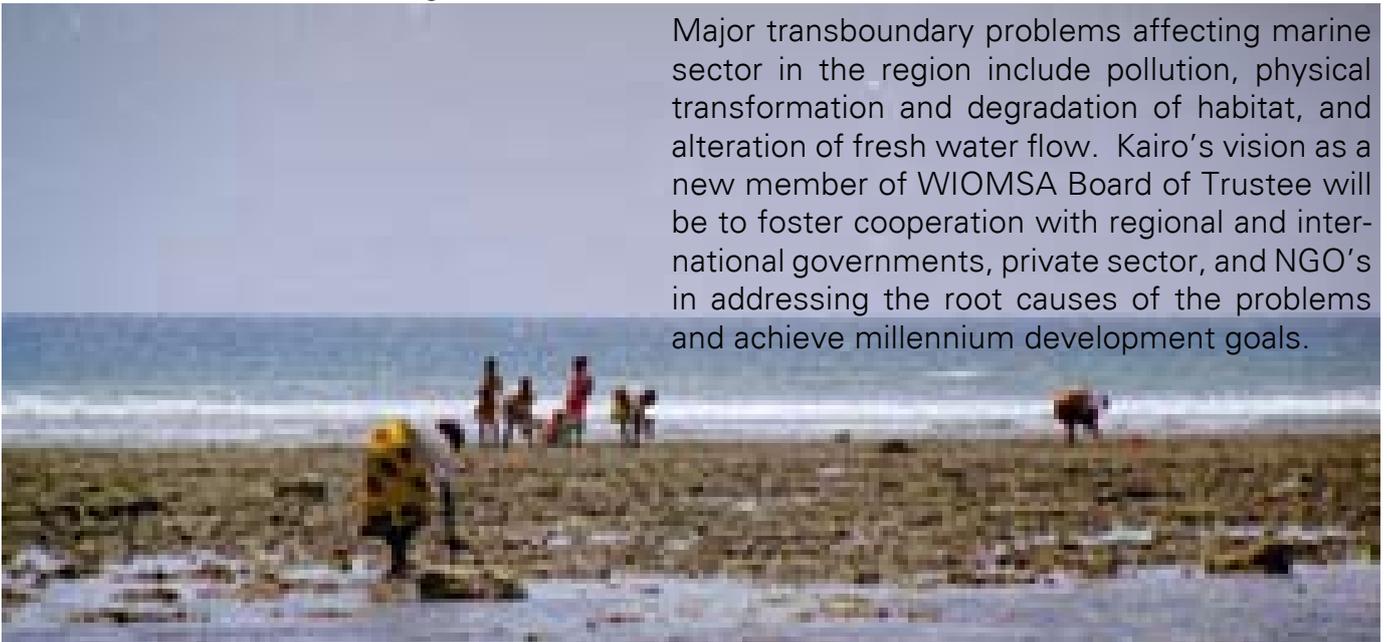
of seagrasses, mangroves and seaweeds taxonomy, structure and growth dynamics. His experience with the management includes technical advice to the MPAs, its design in Mozambique and was involved in initiatives such as the Nairobi Convention and CBD. Salomão Bandeira became, in early 2009, Associate Professor in Marine Botany (Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo). His best promise to WIOMSA is to support its continuous growth and catalyzing an increasing ownership of this regional organization within each WIO country. He is also committed to strengthen WIOMSA's role in emerging issues, for the benefit of sustainable prosperity and health of marine and coastal habitats in the region.

James Gitundu Kairo

James Gitundu Kairo is tropical ecologist who has worked in Kenya for more than two decades in areas of coastal and marine ecosystem restoration and community sustainable development.

He currently serves as a member of scientific committee for the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).

Dr. Kairo has a Bachelor degree in biology and master's degree in plant ecology from the University of Nairobi; and a Ph.D. in Marine ecology from Free University of Brussels (Belgium). His interest in the relationship between people and the marine environment has taken him to explore ways in which mangrove conservation projects can be linked to community livelihood improvement. In recognition of his work in promoting development cooperation and sustainable development, Dr Kairo has won several awards including; International Cooperation Prize (2002) and the WWF-Practitioner Award (2005).



Major transboundary problems affecting marine sector in the region include pollution, physical transformation and degradation of habitat, and alteration of fresh water flow. Kairo's vision as a new member of WIOMSA Board of Trustee will be to foster cooperation with regional and international governments, private sector, and NGO's in addressing the root causes of the problems and achieve millennium development goals.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!



Jacqueline Uku

I work as a Senior Research Officer at Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Mombasa and my specialization is the ecology and physiology of marine flora.

I have served as the WIOMSA Kenya Country Coordinator since 2006 during which time I have worked to strengthen linkages between different institutions involved in marine research activities in Kenya and to lay a foundation of activities as well as a framework of operations for the future.

I believe that my experiences as a Country Coordinator has enhanced my capacity to serve WIOMSA better, more so if elected to the WIOMSA Board. My vision for the Board is to strengthen country offices, build sustainable research capacity in the region and to raise the profile of WIOMSA within the member countries. I would also work to enhance the networks for WIOMSA and to tap into emerging opportunities that exist for the strengthening of WIOMSA activities within the member countries.

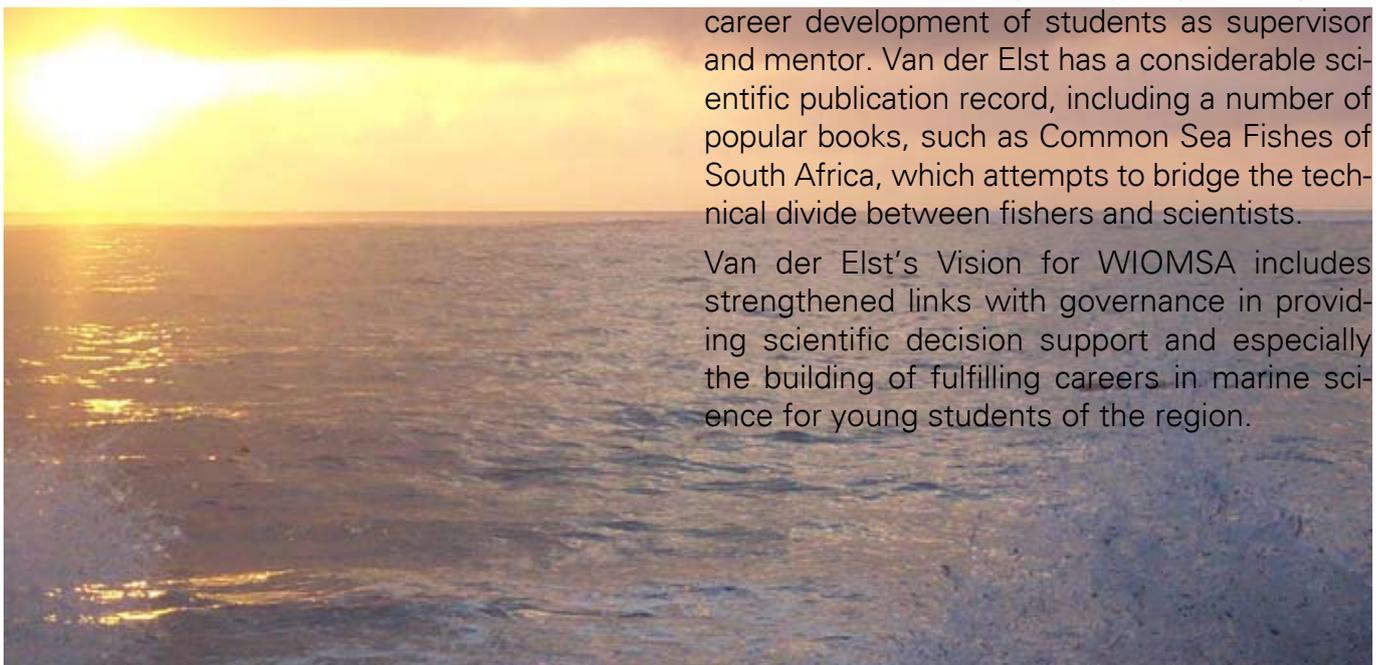
Rudy van der Elst

Prof. Rudy van der Elst has more than 30 years experience in the field of coastal and marine research in the West Indian Ocean and KwaZulu-Natal in particular.

As director of the Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), located at Durban's uShaka Marine World, he has been able to develop and implement programmes that have contributed to advancing marine science and conservation in the WIO region. Van der Elst is committed to sustainable use of natural resources in the WIO coastal and marine environment and in particular in a development context. He has facilitated the collaboration between ORI and a number of other agencies and institutions in the WIO, inter alia contributing to the development of the SWIOFP, Jakarta Mandate, Transmap and other regional marine science programmes.

ORI is a not-for-profit NGO and as its head van der Elst is overall responsible for its suite of about 45 research projects and 30 scientific staff. Together with his colleagues, he successfully generates substantial research funding annually. ORI's academic links with the University of KwaZulu-Natal has given the opportunity to contribute substantially to capacity building and career development of students as supervisor and mentor. Van der Elst has a considerable scientific publication record, including a number of popular books, such as *Common Sea Fishes of South Africa*, which attempts to bridge the technical divide between fishers and scientists.

Van der Elst's Vision for WIOMSA includes strengthened links with governance in providing scientific decision support and especially the building of fulfilling careers in marine science for young students of the region.



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!

Outside the Region (one seat)



Dr. Berggren

Dr. Berggren is an Associate Professor lecturing in applied marine conservation ecology at Stockholm University. He is a member of IUCN Species Survival Commission and has also worked actively in several other fora to protect marine diversity and to promote conservation. Dr. Berggren

has been involved in WIOMSA from its launch and conducted management related marine research in the Western Indian Ocean since 1998 when he initiated the marine mammal education and research project on Zanzibar. He was the initiator and advisor of the MASMA project Sustainable Dolphin Tourism in East Africa (WIOMA bookseries No. 7) and has just published the first guide book on Whales and Dolphins of East Africa in collaboration with WIOMSA. This field guide is written for the general public to assist in the identification of whales and dolphins and provide information about the animals and their role in the marine ecosystem. The guide is further aimed as a teaching aid for use in schools in the WIO region. Dr. Berggren supervises East African and international students in marine mammal research focusing on conservation and management issues and in particular assessment and mitigation of interactions between marine mammals and fisheries. The mitigation measures include modification of existing fishing methods and development of new alternative economic activities e.g. community based dolphin and whale watching. Underpinning Dr Berggren's work in East Africa is a strong belief in capacity building through education and giving responsibility to local researchers, managers and stakeholder groups and to implement activities. Such capacity building creates local ownership which is imperative for long-term sustainability of any activity. WIOMSA has been very successful in engaging local scientists in the WIO region and Dr. Berggren would now like to see WIOMSA developing closer ties with local communities to better disseminate and implement results from marine conservation and management research through active participation by stakeholder groups.

Tim McClanahan



Tim McClanahan is a Senior Conservation Zoologist at the Wildlife Conservation Society stationed in Mombasa, Kenya, where he has worked for the past 18 years. He works on the ecology, fisheries, climate change, social-ecological systems, and management of coral reefs and also enjoys interdisciplinary research with a view to solving broader conservation and science issues. During the past 25 years his research has evolved from a focus on prioritizing the effects of human disturbance on coral reefs, the role of marine protected areas, developing theoretical and simulation models of coral reefs, practical means to restore degraded reefs through manipulation of the food web and management, and understanding human organization around resources and management. Most recently he has been investigating the interaction between climate change, coral reef management, and human adaptive capacity. Most of his work has been focused in the western Indian Ocean in an effort to integrate socio-economics, environmental vulnerability to climate change, and the status of ecology of coral reefs. This work is undertaken to integrate and reconcile academic disciplines and lead to more realistic and successful policies and actions in this region. Participation on the WIOMSA board will further efforts to develop and integrate marine science disciplines and prioritize these activities.



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!



Nils Kautsky

I was scientific adviser to the SAREC/WIOMSA project and member of the Masma Research committee 2000-2007. Among other things I initiated the cooperation between WIOMSA and the International Foundation for Science (IFS) for linking young researchers in the WIO region and Sweden. I am, or have been, supervising 9 Ph.D and 30 M.Sc. students working in the region, and am/have been project leader of 8 regional Sida/SAREC research projects since 1999, and also participated e.g. in the EU Pumpsea-project. My focus is interdisciplinary management oriented research in tropical coastal marine areas involving both social and natural scientists.

I believe that it is urgent that the young generation of scientists are given the opportunity to take on the responsibility to do research aiming at a sustainable and prosperous socio-economic development in coastal areas of the region in an Era of global change.

José Paula

José Paula is Associate Professor at the University of Lisbon, responsible for the degree course in Marine Ecology, and the MSc courses in Coastal Systems and Research Project. He is author of over 70 scientific papers in refereed international journals and is experienced in coordinating research projects both in Europe and East Africa. The main research expertise and interests are Coastal and Marine Ecology and Biodiversity, Marine Conservation, and a strong particular interest in the WIO region. Collaborative actions include teaching in MSc courses and supervision of students at various levels in the Eastern African region. Has organized courses and established research partnerships with WIOMSA, being this collaboration a major interest. WIOMSA is viewed as the major pivotal institution for promoting marine and coastal research and capacity building in the WIO region. WIOMSA should continue and strengthen support for research, promote dissemination and publication, as well as the collaboration and exchange between WIO scientists and institutions. Its aims should continue to address sustainable development and capacity building in marine sciences. Focus should be made on the interaction between marine environment health and human livelihoods, interdisciplinary research, and local and global trends of change.



VOTING PROCEDURE

Only paid members and students who have confirmed their studentship are eligible to vote in this election. These are only members that will receive ballot papers either directly from the Secretariat or for the countries in the region, from your country coordinators. Members will select up to six names from the list of candidates, one from each category. Ballot papers, listing up candidates for each category, will be distributed by post to WIOMSA members. Original ballot papers should be returned duly completed directly to the Secretariat or through the country coordinators by 31 July 2009. The returned ballot papers will be anonymous.

The New Board will be announced during the Fourth WIOMSA General Assembly which will take place in Reunion in August 2009.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! YOUR VOTE DOES REALLY COUNT!