

## ELWANDLE NODE

### Monthly Update FEBRUARY 2011

#### Key Achievements in February

##### **Algoa Bay LTMRP**

- Dr. Matt Dickon carried out his monthly fieldtrip to Bird Island on the 13 February aboard R/V uKwabelana.
- PE-LTEMP monthly sampling was carried out on the 26 February.
- uKwabelana booking and Plankton Group meeting scheduled for the 24 February was postponed due to field work commitments. Both meetings will be rescheduled for the last quarter in March.
- Field logistics meeting held with Dr Matt Dickon at Bayworld, Port Elizabeth on 25 February.
- Penguin monitoring experimental design meeting held with Mr Rowan Van Eeden at UCT on the 25<sup>th</sup> February.

##### Data Management

- Shaun Deyzel scheduled a meeting with Ms Victoria Goodall to discuss information sharing and training on online project registration, METACAT and MORPHO techniques.

##### Fort Hare University Honours Research Programme

- The second year of the UFH Honours Research Programme kicked off on a positive note with three new students joining the 2011 programme. The first workshop took place at SAEON on 16 February.

##### Laboratory Parataxonomy Interns

- Interns are conducting sample analysis of benthic samples on behalf of Oceanographic Research Institute, Principle Scientist is Ms Viona Mckay.

##### Proposed activities for March

- Shaun is currently participating on the iSimangiliso field trip 28 February to 11 March.
- PE-LTEMP monthly sampling 12-31 March.
- Plan and mediate first quarter (2011) meeting with Algoa Bay LTEMRP Plankton group (12-31 March).
- Plan and mediate annual uKwabelana booking meeting with Sentinel Site affiliated researchers (12-31 March).
- Service Gully Temperature Probes (Port Alfred to Woody Cape).
- Deploy 80 m and 60 m UTR east of Bird Island for the Penguin Monitoring Programme (Mr Rowen Vaneeden, Dr Lorien Pichegru, UCT).

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### **South African Estuaries Information System (SAEIS)**

- Nuette has been contracted to bring the program to finalization. A draft product is available.

### **Marine Protected Areas:**

Anthony Bernard undertook the following activities whilst on the TNP and TMNP fieldtrips.

#### Tsitsikamma National Park (TNP)

- Controlled angling (LTM).
- Jump camera data collection.
- In situ invertebrate surveys.

#### Table Mountain National Park (TMNP)

- Weekend FIN volunteer dives.

#### Isimangaliso

Sean Bailey still needs to work up the 2010 invertebrate data. He is currently participating on the iSimangaliso fieldtrip.

#### Proposed activities for March

- During March, Dr. Albrecht Gotz will be attending the faculty of science meeting and finalise the WWF financial report.
- Additional mapping by the council for geosciences will be taking place at TMNP.
- Anthony will complete the summer Atlantic surveys.
- He will also be finalizing the report for the TMNP project.

### **ACEP:**

- 1 February: Dr. Tommy Bornman attended the South African Data Buoy Co-operation Panel meeting at South African Weather Services, Cape Town.
- 1 February: Dr. Bornman met with DAFF at Foreshore, Cape Town, to discuss the use of the R/V Algoa
- 2 February: Dr. Bornman also met with Ian Calvert of Smit-Amandla Marine to discuss future cruises.
- 10 February: Had a meeting with Agulhas Current group in Stellevosch to discuss progress and the way forward.
- 1 – 11 February: Ryan Palmer and Elodie Heyns participated and successfully completed the ROV pilots course.
- 14 February: Dr. Bornman attended Bernadette Snow's PhD proposal seminar at NMMU and had a meeting with Prof Eileen Campbell.
- 15 February: Dr. Bornman, Sean Bailey and Peter Claasen met with Subtech in Durban to discuss ROV field trip in Sodwana Bay and visit the vessel, *Angra Pequena*.
- 15 – 25 February: Dr. Bornman sent inshore monitoring equipment to three ASCLME countries, i.e. Tanzania, Seychelles and Kenya.

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- 16 February: Dr. Bornman and Sean write and passed their Code 10 Learners exam.
- 20 – 28 February: Dr. Bornman finalised the SAMSS invoice from Rhodes University.
- 21 February: Dr. Bornman presented a talk on Phytoplankton species in the Mozambique Channel during the MESOBIO Workshop in Cape Town.
- 22 – 23 February: Dr. Bornman attended the EAF-Nansen workshop in Pretoria to discuss cruise data plans and future cruises.
- 25 February: Met with Prof Campbell and Tinus Sonnekus to discuss his PhD.
- 28 February: Dr. Bornman and Ryan departed on the ACEP biodiversity field trip to Sodwana Bay.

### Proposed activities for February

- 1 – 8 March: Tommy and Ryan - ACEP Sodwana Bay Field trip, KZN.
- 9 – 10 March: Tommy to attend the SAIAB Financial Management training workshop.
- 10 – 31 March: Ryan to write his Code 10 Learners exam and < 25 ton skippers exam.
- 10 – 31 March: Tommy and Ryan to complete Code 10 Licence.
- 10 – 31 March: Ryan to complete < 9 m surf launches.
- 10 – 31 March: Ryan to attend < 25 ton skippers course.
- 10 – 31 March: Tommy and Ryan to finalise ROV field trip to Sodwana in May 2011.

### **Education**

- The weather stations at 4 schools have been reconnected.
- Currently in the process of re-connecting at Nombulelo High, quotations have been received and work is in progress.
- Outreach components to local primary schools are being considered to use up all the material bought using Murray and Robert funding.
- Further interaction with other Nodes will take place after the education team meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2011.

### Proposed activities for February

- 09 March 2011 – Nozi Hambaze will be attending a meeting in JHB to discuss the way forward with Murray & Roberts.
- The rest of the month will be focused on preparations for Sci-fest.

### **Staff and Student Matters**

- A PhD review meeting was held with Prof Andrew Leitch, Prof Tris Wooldridge and Dr Angus Paterson on the 16<sup>th</sup> February and they jointly approved registration and the completion / submission schedule for Shaun Deyzel's PhD.
- Mr Ntuthuko Masikane submitted his MSc on Thursday, 6 January 2011. Feedback from reviewers expected by mid-March.