Welcome to the fifth issue of the ANCORS Newsletter. Following the tradition of previous ones, this issue continues a people-oriented focus with the fascinating personal profiles and perspectives from Advisory Board members, staff, fellows, alumni and students. In addition, the issue includes updates on ANCORS’ research and new institutional and industry linkage initiatives, including with Lockheed Martin, the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (a satellite organisation of the Nippon Foundation of Japan) and Absolute Communications. I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of the ANCORS staff, fellows and students who continue to produce outstanding quality of research and publications.

Finally, it is my pleasure to announce the commencement of a new master degree in fisheries policy (see back of Newsletter for details) which will be offered from February 2010. The course, which will fill a major gap nationally, regionally and globally, will be run with active consultation and collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Enjoy reading!

Since the late 1990s until relatively recently, tensions in the South China Sea had been downplayed and disputes placed on the backburner. However, a combination of factors has led to the region again rising to the fore amongst regional political and security concerns. These factors include growing energy security fears and the concomitant interest in exploring disputed areas for hydrocarbon potential; the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) process – in particular the joint submission by Malaysia and Vietnam; an increasingly assertive diplomatic and military posture displayed by China, the largest player in the disputes; and an expansion of naval capabilities and operations by both local and extra-regional powers, which have already led to incidents at sea.

As a result of the renewed interest an International Conference on Issues in the South China Sea was convened in Taipei by Professor Nien-Tsu Alfred Hu of the Centre for Marine Policy Studies, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, and sponsored by Taiwan’s Ministry of the Interior and Coast Guard Administration. The conference was a good opportunity to once again strengthen the longstanding relationship between ANCORS and the Centre for Marine Policy Studies. The conference involved both Taiwanese and international presenters, including participation by ANCORS, and was attended by a number of Taiwanese government officials.

The conference addressed issues such as regional cooperation in the South China Sea, biodiversity in the Spratly Islands and marine environmental protection, maritime delimitation and the CLCS process, naval and strategic perspectives, and the position and future role of Taiwan. The conference was highly successful with excellent presentations from a range of different perspectives. The concluding roundtable discussion was notable for raising potential future avenues for cooperation in the region and ways to ameliorate growing tensions.

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Mr Sammy Malvas and Fisheries officials: Ms Elaine Prof Tsamenyi, Dr Palma and ANCORS Newsletter

David Shackleton, AO
Vice Admiral (Rtd)
Chair, ANCORS Advisory Board

“We are centrally placed to be intimately engaged in the maritime affairs of the Asian Century, and my vision as Chair of ANCORS is that our Board will help the Director achieve that engagement.”

David Shackleton

ANCORS started life as the Centre for Maritime Policy (CMP) in partnership with the RAN; in part because the idea of what an island continent meant seemed to be irrelevant to those developing government policies in Canberra. A place was needed where ideas on maritime security in its broadest context could grow and be nourished; and particularly in an environment where serious intellectual rigour was applied and any sense of working to already decided outcomes was prevented. CMP worked hard to achieve an entreé to the intellectual dimension of maritime matters. In the interim the RAN formed what is now the Sea Power Centre, and the two organisations have tended to work in parallel to promote such ideas; in time we may need to see how well we are complementing each other. But in 2005, our Director, Professor Martin Tsamenyi, felt the need to achieve a deeper penetration of the ‘maritime world’. We undertook a survey of potential clients who might benefit from the kind of work we could do, and indeed we needed to find out what in fact is wanted. After some time working on a strategic direction, ANCORS and the formation of an Advisory Board received the blessing of the Vice Chancellor. ‘We particularly wanted our Advisory Board to be made up of people whose collective knowledge covered the ocean and what it means to Australia. We have done that.

What our client research showed, and what remains the situation, is that the kind of work done by ANCORS is primarily needed by the government; but will eventually be needed by the commercial sector. Nobody else has our capability, and we have spent the last two years working toward achieving visibility and credibility with those in Canberra, especially those who work in the national security space. ANCORS covers the entire gamut of ocean resources and security, which comprises a vast area of knowledge and an equally vast area of importance to our island continent. We are centrally placed to be intimately engaged in the maritime affairs of the Asian Century, and my vision as Chair of ANCORS is that our Board will help the Director achieve that engagement.

Philippine fisheries officials visit ANCORS

Officials from the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and National Fisheries Research and Development Institute visited ANCORS on 22-24 August 2009 to plan the implementation of a new project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) on handline fisheries in the Philippines. Handline fishing, which mainly targets large tunas, is a significant component of the Philippine fishing industry generally supporting small scale fishers. This 18-month project will carry out a preliminary assessment of the nature of the handline fishery in the Philippines and investigate the opportunities, challenges and information gaps in the management of the fishery. It hopes to bring together the industry and national and regional governments to discuss possible pathways in order to improve the management of the handline fishery sector.

For more information about the project, you may contact the Project Leader, Associate Professor Ron West: ron@uow.edu.au.
ANCORS to play a Leading Role in CSIRO Coastal Zone Management

An Inception Workshop for the CSIRO Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Cluster was convened at the University of Queensland, Brisbane 20-21 July. Leaders attended from the many participating organisations including the CSIRO Wealth from Oceans and Climate Adaptation Flagships, University of Wollongong, Curtin University of Technology, University of the Sunshine Coast, University of Tasmania, Adelaide University, Deakin University and Flinders University. Plans are progressing for what is expected to become a significant project for systemic improvement of coastal zone management in Australia.

The CZM Cluster is unique in that it brings together many social science and CSIRO researchers from around Australia to explore “Clearing the path for science impact; identifying and overcoming the social and institutional barriers to effective and integrated management of Australia’s coastal zone in the face of future change”. The essence of the Cluster is close collaboration. The Cluster will employ several areas of intellectual endeavour and consider numerous national coastal areas in order to derive practical, workable strategies for progressing improved integrated management and communication between the many players with diverse needs, expectations and perspectives involved in the coastal zone.

ANCORS is co-leading the Integration, Analysis and Synthesis project, which is the CZM Cluster keystone project. The project will enable growth of ANCORS research capacity in this important area. The CZM Cluster will be launched nationally once contractual agreements are finalised. Please contact Associate Professor Lee Cordner for further information: lcordner@uow.edu.au

Fifth GEF Biennial International Waters Conference

In May 2009 ANCORS Senior Fellow, Quentin Hanich, was invited to be part of the Host Country Steering Committee for the Fifth Global Environment Facility (GEF) International Waters Conference. The biennial conference brings together key stakeholders from GEF International Waters projects to share their experiences and enhance the overall success of such partnerships.

The GEF International Waters portfolio consists of 180 projects in 149 different GEF recipient countries with some US$1.1 billion of GEF grants and US$4.5 billion in co-financing. These projects target many of the world’s most threatened and damaged transboundary surface water, groundwater and coastal and marine ecosystems.

Approximately 300 participants are expected to attend the conference, including leaders from government ministries, project managers, transboundary basin commissions, private sector, civil society, donor agencies, the GEF Secretariat and its partner agencies (FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank, and the regional development banks).

The fifth biennial portfolio conference will take place in Cairns from 26-29 October 2009, with pre-conference workshops on the 24-25 October 2009. The conference aims to facilitate cross-sectoral and regional learning and experience sharing across the GEF International Waters portfolio with a special emphasis on climatic variability and results-based management. The pre-conference workshops will comprise a range of sessions that address marine issues relating to climate impacts. These sessions will include participant from the various GEF funded projects, plus invited experts. Quentin Hanich will chair a session on Solutions to Issues of Marine Management and Governance. If you would like to know more, please contact Quentin Hanich on + 612 4221 3389.

International Cooperation in Maritime Security

The essence of successful maritime security is close international cooperation. To this end, Associate Professor Lee Cordner participated in the Seventh International Security Workshop hosted by the National University of Singapore and the US Naval Postgraduate School held in Singapore in July 2009. This followed from his participation in the inaugural International Maritime Security Conference hosted by the Republic of Singapore Navy held in Singapore and the Border Security Conference 2009 held in Melbourne, both in May 2009. Issues arising from the Seventh International Security Workshop that offer prospects for ANCORS collaborative research activity include the maritime aspects of energy security and global vessel monitoring and tracking to promote safety and security at sea.
Staff Profile

Quentin Hanich
ANCORS Senior Fellow

I attribute it to Joseph Conrad and a childhood spent playing on the beach. That’s what probably sparked my interest in all things marine. Like many Australians, I grew up on the beach. Bodysurfing, poking around in rock pools and building sandcastles. In my early 20s, I lived in Alice Springs for a while and grew to love the desert – but always missed the smell of the sea. In a fit of desperation, I drove through night and day over 1800 kms to swim in the sea and wash some of the dust off.

I studied a lot of post-colonial literature during my first degree – and in so doing became madly obsessed with Joseph Conrad. This inspired me to go to sea and soon I was sailing up and down the Australian coast – night watches on quiet evenings with a dark coastline drifting slowly by.

In 1995, I sailed halfway across the Pacific on a private yacht to join a flotilla of 30-odd yachts and ships to protest against nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll. Along the way, we were bunkered by the RANZ Tui and humbugged by French jets, helicopters and frigates. After 5 weeks at sea, we subsequently sailed to Papeete where I landed and worked alongside French Polynesian activist groups, and was greatly inspired by Oscar Temaru at a rally one dark nervous night.

My passion for the sea remained largely recreational until my second degree when I researched and wrote an honours thesis on the governance challenges posed by illegal fishing in the southern ocean. I did well that year and was soon swallowed up by the Australian Commonwealth public service, working for the Department of Environment and Heritage in their sustainable fisheries and marine protected areas sections. Now I was hooked.

Later, I joined Greenpeace as an Oceans Campaigner and coordinated their Ocean Campaigns in the Pacific and Southern Oceans. During this time I had the good fortune to work with multi-national teams of passionate and talented individuals from across the Pacific islands region. We launched a new Sustainable Fisheries campaign in the Pacific islands and focused global attention on the threat posed by illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in both the Southern Ocean and the Western and Central Pacific. These campaigns looked beyond the marine environment and focused on the long-term interests of Pacific island communities.

While travelling and working in the Pacific, friends told me of an inspirational Professor of Law who was an expert in the Law of the Sea and worked on Pacific fisheries governance and management. I soon met Professor Martin Tsamenyi and was immediately inspired to study for a PhD at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (then the Centre for Maritime Policy).

In 2005, I began consulting for the Centre in the areas of Oceans Governance and Fisheries Management; working with Professor Tsamenyi and colleagues to provide regional governments and fora with practical advice. Over the years I have been highly fortunate to work with a variety of governments and fora across the Pacific islands region and Southeast Asia. Initially, much of this work focused on the negotiation and implementation of international fisheries and marine conservation treaties. Increasingly, this work now focuses on capacity-building and addressing the governance challenges at the national level that are key obstacles to realising sustainable and profitable development of the region’s marine resources.

My research and the experiences gathered from almost a decade of working in the Asia-Pacific region have given me a tremendous respect for the many individuals who work in governments and international fora throughout the region. Most of these individuals manage massive and highly complex fisheries threatened by global pressures of overfishing, with minimal resources in tiny administrations. These individuals represent their countries at international negotiations and debate the future of critical fisheries against delegations up to twenty times their number. Despite the overwhelming imbalance, these small delegations are the primary drivers behind almost all the region’s fisheries management initiatives.

This is what interests and inspires me. Under enormous pressure and with minimal capacity - the Pacific is developing answers to the tragedy of the commons that have global ramifications. ANCORS is a wonderful base from which to research and support these developments given the Centre’s strong expertise in the Law of the Sea and regional cooperation.

Congratulations to Quentin and Jacinda on the birth of their daughter, Lilian Hanich Forster on 19 June 2009.
Lockheed Martin Australia Visits ANCORS

Mr Paul Johnson, CEO of Lockheed Martin Australia, visited ANCORS on Friday 24 July. He was accompanied by Mr Andrew Tarpley, recently appointed Submarine Adviser to Lockheed Martin Australia. The visit followed from the highly successful Lockheed Martin sponsored and ANCORS hosted Indian Ocean Maritime Security Symposium held at the Australian Defence College, Canberra in April this year. The ANCORS team briefed Mr Johnson on the Centre’s current and emerging strategic research and capacity building activities which are in many respects consistent with Lockheed Martin’s growth path in Australia and the region. Mr Johnson was hosted to lunch with University of Wollongong Chancellor Mr Michael Codd, Vice Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton, ANCORS Advisory Board Chairman Vice Admiral David Shackleton and ANCORS Director Professor Martin Tsamenyi.

ANCORS-Ocean Policy Research Foundation Collaboration

ANCORS is engaged in a collaborative program of small symposia with the Japan Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF). These are conducted as small workshops with a total participation of around 50 people, a small number of 30 minute papers and a programme allowing substantial active discussion of each presentation. The first symposium held in Tokyo in January 2009, was co-organised by Professor Martin Tsamenyi and Dr Arthur Webb, Manager of the Ocean and Islands Program of Pacific Islands Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) to discuss issues of island and ocean management in the context of climate change. The proceedings are available at: http://www.sof.or.jp/en/report/pdf/200903.ISBN978-4-88404-217-2.pdf.

The second ANCORS/OPRF symposium to be held at the University of Wollongong on 11-13 November 2009, will discuss Australian and Japanese approaches to Oceans Policy. The first day will focus on Australian experience from the development of Australia’s Oceans Policy in 1994, to its implementation and reflection on Oceans Policy issues after 15 years. The second day will focus on Japanese experience and issues in the development of its Oceans Policy. The third day will draw together the issues and consider future research and possible further collaborations. A third symposium is being planned for January 2010 in Tokyo to follow up on issues of island and ocean management.

ANCORS Supports RPOA Implementation

When the Fisheries Ministers of eleven countries in the Southeast Asian region met in 2007 to adopt the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing, ANCORS also made a commitment to support the participating countries in ensuring that the objectives of the RPOA are achieved. Amongst the 12 action areas addressed by the RPOA, participating countries have agreed to work cooperatively on five priority areas in the next few years, namely (a) the strengthening of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) systems; (b) implementing coastal State responsibilities; (c) regional capacity building; (d) determining the current resource and management situation in the region; and (e) adopting port State measures. This year, two workshops were conducted in line with the RPOA priority areas. The Port Monitoring Techniques Workshop was held in Penang, Malaysia on 15-17 June 2009 and the Capacity Building and MCS Curriculum Development Workshop was conducted in Manado, Indonesia from 12-14 August 2009. These workshops identified necessary skills and collaborative arrangements in the region, as well as recommendations for adoption by the Coordinating Committee, the decision-making body which provides strategic advice and direction to the RPOA participating countries. The Manado workshop also discussed an MCS curriculum and training programme developed by ANCORS. The RPOA participating countries maintain their confidence in Professor Martin Tsamenyi in facilitating these intergovernmental meetings and continue to seek his advice on various matters pertaining to the implementation of the RPOA.
n honours degree in Marine Ecology from London University, and an MSc for studies on coastal marine zooplankton from the University of North Wales led to an appointment in 1968 as a founding staff member of the Department of Marine Biology at James Cook University. At that time, the coral eating Crown of Thorns Starfish was identified as a controversial threat to the Great Barrier Reef. A fellowship to study the biology and possibilities of control of the starfish, started a research interest in marine ecosystem management. In 1977, my appointment as planner and researcher at the newly established Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GRMPA) presented the urgent challenge of turning little explored theory into practice in one of the world’s most iconic marine ecosystems.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act of 1975 provided a robust basis for addressing the conservation objectives which included regulating use and activities that exploit resources, while allowing reasonable use which protects and has minimal effect on the Reef. The Act also provided for the reservation of Reef areas for appreciation and enjoyment by the public; and reservation of areas in their natural state for scientific research purposes.

Despite strong tensions between the federal and state Governments, the GRMPA Board was able to work with Ministers to establish an active collaboration with specific joint working groups of officials. A feasibility study was part of preparatory work to develop a methodology to apply relevant experience of land use planning in the different and complex legislative context of coastal and marine management. Between 1979 and 1987, when I was Director of Planning, this methodology was applied and evolved in an exciting and urgent program that saw the Great Barrier Reef declared a World Heritage Area in 1981. After a first round of declaration and zoning, the Marine Park was operational in time for the 1988 Australian Bicentennial celebrations.

At that point, international interest led to my involvement in UNESCO advisory missions to the Republic of Maldives and the Galapagos Islands, and a Pew Foundation Fellowship at the Marine Policy Center of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, USA. These provided a time for reflection and engagement with international scientists and policy specialists working on sustainability and conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems. One outcome was the establishment of an External Services Section to meet continuing demand for GRMPA advice and capacity development. Funded entirely by consultancy or contracts, this enabled the Authority and staff to contribute to other programs and to benefit from understanding the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in the broader regional and global context.

In 1990, my appointment as Secretary to the Coastal Zone Inquiry of the Resource Assessment Commission provided more substantial awareness of the problems of coastal and marine management in Australia, away from the special circumstances of the Great Barrier Reef. It also introduced me to Sam Bateman as he was establishing the Centre for Maritime Policy.

On my return to the
ANCORS-Seapower Centre Seminar on Somali Piracy

On 29 July 2009, ANCORS and Navy's Seapower Centre-Australia (SPC-A) co-hosted a seminar jointly coordinated by Mr Andrew Forbes (SPC-A) and Dr Robin Warner (ANCORS) for government officials in Canberra to examine the motives, political context and international responses to pirate attacks. Commodore Jack McCaffrie (SPC-A and ANCORS) chaired the proceedings providing incisive commentary on the presentations and handling questions from the audience.

In the opening presentation, Professor Sam Bateman (ANCORS and S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technical University, Singapore), gave an overview of global trends in piracy distinguishing the smaller scale and covert piratical attacks experienced in Southeast Asian waters from the more prevalent and blatant attacks against a wide range of vessels off the Horn of Africa. Dr Robin Warner, Senior Research Fellow at ANCORS followed with a discussion of the historical and geopolitical context of the piratical attacks off the Horn of Africa and Somalia’s maritime jurisdiction. A trio of legal presentations followed from Professor Stuart Kaye of Melbourne Law School and ANCORS Professorial Fellow, Mr Cameron Moore of the University of New England Law Faculty and Dr Warner. Professor Kaye outlined the historical development of the crime of piracy and its current elements in international law and emphasised the strong international law foundation for the anti-piracy activity taking place off the Horn of Africa. Mr Moore analysed the legal basis for anti-piracy operations under Australian law and highlighted some of the potential limitations in the domestic law powers available to ADF members engaged in anti-piracy operations commenting on relevant constitutional provisions and Australian domestic legislation. Dr Warner concluded the legal panel with a presentation on the challenges involved in bringing the Somali pirates to justice including the less than universal criminalisation of piracy in domestic jurisdictions and the need to strengthen criminal justice cooperation links between States involved in the anti-piracy operations and States willing to investigate and prosecute the piracy offences. The final presentation by Commander Letitia Van Stralen, Staff Officer 1 Legal from the ADF’s Joint Operations Command provided a fascinating insight into the operational and legal issues facing Defence planners involved with the ADF’s contribution to the counter-piracy deployments off the Horn of Africa.

The seminar was attended by officials from Defence, the Australian Federal Police, the Attorney General’s Department, Border Protection Command and the Parliamentary Library who contributed a variety of perspectives to the discussion based on their operational experience and policy responsibilities. It is planned to publish an edited version of the papers given at the seminar.

Indian Ocean Strategic Focus: Maritime Security Symposium a Great Success

A high-level Indian Ocean Maritime Security Symposium (IOMSS) was convened by ANCORS at the Australian Defence College, Canberra, Australia, 15-17 April 2009. This by invitation event brought together senior officials and leading academics from countries around the IO rim, and from some external powers. The Symposium was supported by the Indian Ocean Research Group and the Sea Power Centre – Australia; major sponsors were Johns Hopkins University and Lockheed Martin.

The primary aim of the Symposium was to improve understanding of the issues and challenges for maritime security in the IO with a view to identifying options for enhancing cooperation. The Symposium was hailed as a great success by the Symposium Director and ANCORS Principal Research Fellow, Commodore Lee Cordner RAN Retired. Many issues of common security concern were considered in depth including law and order at sea, dealing with the impacts of climate change, energy security and human security along with traditional maritime security issues like maintaining freedom of navigation.

There was strong support from the Symposium for developing improved informal maritime security dialogue arrangements that would include participants from IO rim states along with external powers. Such a “second-track diplomacy” forum (or a number of interrelated sub-regional forums) could provide useful support for progressing formal collective security cooperation. A further IO Maritime Security Symposium, to be held in an IO rim country, is under consideration.

For information on the IOMSS, including the Symposium Proceedings, contact Associate Professor Lee Cordner atANCORS: lcordner@uow.edu.au.
**Kresno Buntoro**

PhD Candidate

Kresno Buntoro is from Indonesia and commenced his PhD studies with ANCORS on a full-time basis in 2007. His thesis is entitled “An Analysis on the Legal Issues relating to Navigational Regimes through and over Indonesia’s Waters” with supervisors Prof Martin Tsamenyi and Dr Clive Schofield. His research will include an analysis of current Indonesian policies and legislation on navigation and identify reforms needed within Indonesia’s national legal and policy frameworks. He is a recipient of an Australian Leadership Award for his PhD.

Kresno has served in the Indonesian Navy since 1989 and currently holds the rank of Commander. He finished his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Diponegoro, Indonesia in 1991, and his Masters of Laws (Public International Law) from the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, in 1995. He received a British Achieving Awards for his Masters.

Prior to his PhD studies, Kresno Buntoro has been part of various initiatives contributing to ocean legal framework for the Indonesian government in his work as an Indonesian Navy Officer. He was actively involved in legal

**Maktoum Alhouqani**

Masters Student

I was only 18 years old when I first connected with the sea. I went on board an oil tanker anchored off the coast of the United Arab Emirates about 150 km from my home. I come from a city whose residents are mainly farmers and livestock breeders, which made my decision to become a seafarer particularly challenging. Not only that; I also had to travel thousands of miles to Launceston in Tasmania to study at the Australian Maritime College in order to continue my seafaring life, further expand my experience, and acquire the required knowledge. Coming from a Bedouin background, I was very enthused to learn more about the maritime industry. I was motivated to achieve success in my new career. I spent much of my career on board oil tankers and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) carriers navigating the surface of the oceans, loading and discharging cargoes from one port to another, crossing the equator and the international date line, undertaking trips that would take months to complete.

It is then that I realised that the maritime industry is huge and I would gain new understanding if I moved to another sector. So, I decided to work in ports and terminal operations. I started with harbour tugs handling, assisting berthing and un-berthing, and then I trained as a marine pilot maneuvering many types of ships in and out of the ports of Abu-Dhabi. For some time, ship-handling was my favorite profession until I was appointed Marine Operations Superintendent and put in charge of all port and terminal activities as well as shipping movements within the port. This position allowed me to gain more knowledge which made me a more skilled and useful employee. I started by reading many of the port management text books that enriched my knowledge, but I also wanted to be certified as such. This is when I started looking for a degree course that would meet my ambition.

At the beginning I was merely looking for courses in port management or maritime management. I was even fortunate enough to obtain offers from universities in Europe. However, while I was searching the internet, I saw the post-graduate courses in maritime studies and maritime policy being offered at the Australian National Centre for Oceans Resources and Security (ANCORS) at the University of Wollongong. I took a closer look at the structure of the degree courses and the available subjects, and I found them more interesting and felt certain that the courses at ANCORS would give me a better understanding of the maritime world.

I didn’t take too long to make my decision. I knew many things about shipping and ports management and I wanted to look at the maritime industry from a broader perspective. I figured from the subjects listed on the course that studying at ANCORS would add different aspects and dimensions to my existing maritime knowledge.

This in fact, became a reality when I attended the degree program. I learned more about the maritime domain, examined territorial disputes, learned maritime resources management, expanded my understanding of transnational crimes, security concerns, maritime law, maritime regulation and enforcement, and oceans management. These important aspects were not well considered prior to my enrolment, but I am now aware that they are absolutely the driving forces behind the maritime industry.

I am delighted to gain this new awareness of the maritime sector which certainly expanded my knowledge and will be very useful for my future career development.
ANCORS Hosts UN-Nippon Fellow from Indonesia

ANCORS is one among 38 institutions worldwide chosen for the United Nations-The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Program. The program aims to provide opportunities for advanced education and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea to government officials and other mid-level professionals from developing coastal States for them to obtain the necessary knowledge to assist their countries to formulate comprehensive ocean policy and to implement the legal regime set out in UN Law of the Sea Convention and related instruments.

Every year, since 2005, 10 people from developing countries are selected to participate in the program. ANCORS has previously hosted three other UN-Nippon Fellows in 2005, 2006 and 2007. This year, ANCORS hosts Sora Lokita from Indonesia. He joined ANCORS in May 2009 and he will be in the Centre for six months (May-November 2009) before continuing on to the second phase of his fellowship at the UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea office, in New York, USA.

Sora Lokita will be undertaking research on the role of archipelagic baselines in maritime boundary delimitation. The research will identify and analyse the legal and technical issues, and examine relevant case studies, in order to illustrate and highlight key complexities in maritime boundary delimitation faced by archipelagic States in respect of their archipelagic baselines. ANCORS staff, Dr Clive Schofield, an international expert on maritime boundary issues, is supervising Sora’s research.

Sora holds a Bachelor’s degree in International Law from the Faculty of Law, Trisakti University, Jakarta, Indonesia; and a Master of International Law degree from the University of Sydney, Australia. Since 2003, he has been working for the government of Indonesia as a legal officer in the Centre for Boundary Mapping, Indonesian National Coordinating Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL). In this capacity, he provides legal analysis and advice for his institution in relation to national policies and issues in respect of Indonesia’s international/national boundaries. He has also served as a member of the Indonesian delegation in several negotiations and meetings between Indonesia and its neighbouring countries.

ANCORS Staff at the ASIL Conference in Tokyo

Dr Robin Warner and Dr Mary Ann Palma participated in the Second Biennial General Conference of the Asian Society of International Law (ASIL) held at the University of Tokyo on 1 and 2 August 2009 with the theme “International Law in a Multi-polar and Multi-civilisational World: Asian Perspectives, Challenges and Contributions.” The conference, attended by international law scholars and practitioners from around the world, discussed the role of Asia in the transformation of the international legal order in the 21st century and the increasing diversification of power and values in the global community. Parallel sessions were held on Asian perspectives on power, culture and civilisation, conflict of laws, international trade and investment dispute settlement, international human rights and humanitarian law, feminist international legal studies, oceans and the law of the sea, international climate regime, and human security. Dr Warner and Dr Palma led the discussions for the panel on the oceans and the law of the sea which focused on the stewardship of common marine spaces in the Asia Pacific region. Dr Warner discussed the role of Asian States in joining the global efforts to protect the marine environment beyond national jurisdiction while Dr Palma addressed the challenges in applying international legal principles and measures for sustainable fisheries in the region.

ANCORS PhD Students at WOC Symposium in Manado, Indonesia

In May 2009, thousands of delegates from all over the world gathered in Manado, Sulawesi, Indonesia for the World Ocean Conference (WOC) and the Coral Triangle Initiative Summit. The International Ocean Science, Technology and Policy Symposium 2009, was an important WOC side event. The International Symposium featured presentation of over 500 scientific and policy papers on a variety of themes, including: aquaculture; marine resources and conservation; marine trade, industry and technology; maritime hazards and pollution; oceanography and climate change; governance and capacity building; and spatial planning.

Two ANCORS PhD students presented papers at the International Symposium: Kresno Buntoro, presented his paper entitled, ‘Archipelagic State Regime: Implications for Indonesia’ and Lowell Bautista, presented his paper on ‘The Legal Status of the Philippine Treaty Limits and Territorial Water Claim in International Law: National and International Legal Perspectives.’
James Aston

“All in all, post-graduate study at UOW has been a most satisfying and worthwhile venture in my life – one that I would recommend highly!”

Dr James Aston
ANCORS Alumnus

My passion for the marine environment developed from growing up adjacent to waterways in Sydney and Papua New Guinea where I would spend far too much time staring at the sea, messing around in sail boats, fishing and reading exotic books such as Robert Louis Stephenson’s ‘Treasure Island’. As a young adult, I crewed on my parent’s yacht on their voyage around the world. After narrowly surviving a typhoon in the South China Sea, I jumped ship in Singapore and took up a job as a navigator on a seismic survey vessel for a few years, eventually returning to study full time for a Bachelor of Science (Griffith University) and later a Master of Science (James Cook University) and Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management (Griffith University) on a part-time basis whilst working with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in Townsville.

On returning to Australia, I again worked at the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, this time leading the Shipping Program. As the work required a good understanding of the interaction of local and international laws over the Marine Park, I did all of the Law of the Sea Short Courses offered by the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) at the University of Wollongong. I was so fascinated by how the law of the sea works, both in theory and in practice. I later enrolled in the PhD programme and wrote my dissertation entitled, ‘Regulating the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of shipping and other vessel based activities in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area’ under the supervision of Professor Tasmeyni.

Working full-time and studying part-time was made much easier due to the wonderful support and encouragement I received from all of the staff and students at ANCORS. The multidisciplinary perspective offered by ANCORS allowed me to integrate my knowledge and experience of marine policy, law and science into the dissertation and continues to do so in my day-to-day work life.

Looking back, my PhD degree has been a nice way of getting recognition for all my previous study. It has also helped me secure an influential position with the Australian Government developing policy on maritime safety as well as issues such as whaling, illegal fishing and greenhouse gas storage. All in all, post-graduate study at University of Wollongong has been a most satisfying and worthwhile venture in my life – one that I would recommend highly!

Master of Maritime Policy Class of 2009

The Master of Maritime Policy is a two-semester course offered by ANCORS, designed specifically to meet the professional development requirements of those working in marine fields, such as navies, relevant government departments and agencies, NGOs and the private sector, or those who intend to pursue a career in a maritime or related field. The program incorporates subjects which reinforce ANCORS’ growing reputation as the leading maritime centre of excellence in Australia. Over the years, the program has attracted students from all over the world.

This year’s Master of Maritime Policy class is another rich harvest of participants from across the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East, including those from government agencies such as the Navy, Air Force, Marine Police, Fisheries department, Coast Guard, and Maritime Transportation Ministry. The students participate in seminars and lectures given by leading experts on topics which include current issues relating to the Law of the Sea, maritime regulation and enforcement, international fisheries law, oceans policy, maritime security issues and other contemporary issues relating to the maritime domain. The program is also a forum for the course participants to discuss issues in the maritime domain which are unique to their individual countries.
Selected Recent Staff and Student Publications


Tsamenyi, M; Palma, M A; Milligan, B.; and Mfodwo, K (2009). Fairer Fishing?: The Impact of Developing Countries of the European Community Regulation on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fisheries, Commonwealth Secretariat Economic Paper Series No 86.


Tsamenyi, M; Palma, M A; Milligan, B. and Mfodwo, K (2009). Fairer Fishing?: The Impact of Developing Countries of the European Community Regulation on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fisheries, Commonwealth Secretariat Economic Paper Series No 86.


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The Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), University of Wollongong, is pleased to offer a new Masters degree in fisheries policy from Autumn (February) 2010, to complement its existing Master of Maritime Policy and postgraduate research degree programmes.

The Master of Fisheries Policy degree is a one-year (full time) multi-disciplinary programme designed for fisheries and environmental policy officers, mid-level managers and enforcement officers from governments, and regional and international organisations. The degree covers international, regional and national frameworks for sustainable fisheries management and provides the fisheries policy knowledge and skills necessary for the management of fisheries and aquatic resources.

The Master of Fisheries Policy degree consists of a specialised programme of six subjects:

Fisheries and Development examines the inter-relationship between science, economics, law and policy in the management of fisheries resources. It appraises the global nature of fisheries and fishing activities, issues related to the globalisation of fisheries, and the challenges facing fisheries management in developing States.

Fisheries Management examines the international principles for sustainable fisheries management, indigenous fisheries issues, ecological aspects of fisheries, fisheries economics, and fisheries and coastal resource management.

Integrated Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) explains the concept and role of MCS in supporting sustainable fisheries management. It examines the practical and operational aspects of fisheries data collection methods, licensing procedures, enforcement and prosecution. It explores the use of technology in the implementation of fisheries regulations, including a training component on vessel monitoring systems (VMS), and surveys existing regional MCS schemes.

Law of the Sea offers a comprehensive examination of the main international instrument for the management of all living marine resources: the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOSC). Particular emphasis is placed on the fisheries provisions of the LOSC and its interactions with other ocean uses.

International Fisheries Law examines the international and regional frameworks established to manage fisheries resources in areas under national jurisdiction and on the high seas, enforcement rights and problems, including the right of hot pursuit and bilateral and multilateral enforcement cooperation, and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. It analyses the role of regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) in promoting the conservation and effective management of fisheries resources and addresses issues related to fishing by vessels of non-parties, cooperating non-parties and fishing entities.

International Fish Trade provides an understanding of the globalised nature of international trade and fish markets. It examines the interaction of international fisheries law and trade law, including health and sanitary requirements for fish processing and trade, and World Trade Organisation (WTO) fisheries and environment-related disputes.

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The University of Wollongong is a leading Australian university with an international reputation for academic excellence. The City of Wollongong is approximately 80 kilometres from downtown Sydney, and is set in a magnificent coastal environment.