



Mentor Profiles

PhD Students



Chloë Boote
James Cook University
1st Year
chloe.boote@my.jcu.edu.au

Chloë's PhD focuses on all things coral –omics, particularly in relation to spawning, development, microbiome and bleaching response. A friendly human, always happy to get her nerd on and discuss molecular/microbial biology. Chloë is an international student finishing up her first year so is happy to help on the trials and tribulations/logistical horrors that come with moving abroad, commencing a PhD, and starting fieldwork.



Tory Chase
James Cook University
2nd -4th year
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Tory's PhD is focused on examining the effects of coral-associated fish on coral population dynamics, with Dr. Mia Hoongboom and Prof. Morgan Pratchett. He feels like he has been at JCU forever (completed his Master's in 2012, worked at TropWater, tutored every possible science course, and now completing a PhD), feels like he knows most of the ins and outs of JCU (emeritus PG CSE Student Representative), can't stop going on research field trips, and enjoys picnic lunch chats.



Jon Day
James Cook University
Post-career PhD Student
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Jon was an Australian protected area planner and manager for 39 years; 28 years were in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park until his retirement in 2014. Jon is currently undertaking a post-career PhD writing up many of the lessons learned for the future planning of the GBR and implications for MPAs elsewhere.



Margaux Hein
James Cook University
2nd – 4th Year
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Margaux grew up in Monaco playing basketball, skiing in the Alps, and eating croissants. She graduated with a BSc (Hons) (UQ) in 2010 after researching dung beetles' responses to fragmentation in QLD rainforests. She then volunteered on various global marine conservation programs before returning to Australia to study Marine Biology. Her MSC (JCU) project in 2014 was on the 'Effects of newly implemented marine protected areas on coral health and diversity in Koh Tao, Thailand'. She is now doing her PhD on the potential long-term socio-ecological benefits of active coral restoration and application to the GBR.



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**Katie Motson**

James Cook University

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Katie graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 2012 with a BSc in Geography and obtained her MSc in Marine Biology & Ecology at James Cook University in 2014. For her MSc, she investigated the capacity for thermal developmental acclimation in three tropical wrasse species. Under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Hoey and Dr. Kate Hutson, Katie's PhD looks at habitat degradation on coral reefs and its effect on the parasite communities infecting herbivorous fish on the Great Barrier Reef.



Mentor Profiles

ECRs



Kristen Anderson
James Cook University
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Kristen is undertaking her first postdoc jointly funded by the ARC CoE JCU and AIMS after completing her Honours and PhD at JCU studying the impacts on climate change on corals. She knows the struggles with being an overseas student and the daunting task of what to do post PhD. Happy to chat and assist others in any way possible.



Michele Barnes
James Cook University
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Michele, currently a Research Fellow in Program 1, is an environmental social scientist with a passion for all things network (oh, and she loves sharks). She completed her PhD in Natural Resources & Environmental Mgmt and a graduate certificate in Ocean Policy at the University of Hawaii in 2015. She is a first generation college student and a mother, and is passionate about supporting others in reaching their academic, career, and personal goals.



Peter Cowman
James Cook University
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Peter, originally from Ireland, completed his PhD at James Cook University in 2012. Since then, he has held postdoctoral positions at the Australian National University in Canberra and Yale University in the USA. Currently he is a Senior Research Fellow in Ecosystem Dynamics and an ARC DECRA fellow at the ARC CoE for Coral Reef Studies. His research focuses on the evolutionary dynamics of fishes and corals on tropical reefs. From a deep time perspective, he and his research group use phylogenies and comparative methods to explore patterns of diversification, ancestral biogeography and molecular evolution.



Jenni Donelson
James Cook University
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Jenni is an ecologist interested in the impacts of climate change to marine organisms as well as the potential for organisms to cope with environmental change through plasticity and adaptation.



Mentor Profiles

ECRs



Hugo Harrison
James Cook University
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Hugo is a molecular ecologist in Program 2 investigating dispersal and connectivity in marine systems. Hugo completed his PhD at JCU in 2014 and is now a DECRA Fellow in the CoE in Townsville.



Nils Krueck
University of Queensland
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My work is focused on fish population dynamics, fisheries management, and marine protected area design (see also <https://researchers.uq.edu.au/researcher/9045>).



Verena Schoepf
University of Western Australia
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Verena, originally from Austria, completed her PhD at the Ohio State University in the U.S., and is now a postdoctoral Research Fellow and Research Program Co-Leader at the Centre. Research interests: coral physiology, bleaching, OA, calcification mechanisms, geochemical proxies