

Postdoctoral research fellow Deakin University, Australia

### **APPOINTMENTS**

## ALFRED DEAKIN POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Deakin University (VIC)
Improving the resilience of
farm dams to climate change
Supervisor:

Prof. Peter Macreadie 2020-ongoing

# POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AT THE CENTRE FOR GEOMETRIC BIOLOGY

Monash University (VIC)
Eco-evolutionary dynamics of
cell size in phytoplankton
Supervisor:

Prof. Dustin Marshall 2016-2020

#### **Private Statistical Consultant**

James Cook University (QLD) Supervisor: Emeritus Prof. Rhondda Jones 2015-2016

## CONTACT

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+61 (4) 2060-9231

## FIRST-AUTHOR ARTICLES

\*[Impact Factor]

- 1. MALERBA, M.E., Ghedini G., & Marshall, D.J. (2020) Genome Size Affects Fitness in the Eukaryotic Alga Dunaliella tertiolecta. *Current Biology*, 30, 3450-3456 [9.6]
- 2. MALERBA, M.E., Marshall, D.J. Palacios, M. M. Raven, J. A. & Beardall, J. (in press) Cell size influences inorganic carbon acquisition in artificially selected phytoplankton. *New Phytology*, [8.5]
- 3. MALERBA, M.E. & Marshall, D.J. (2020) Testing the drivers of the temperature-size covariance using artificial selection. *Evolution*, 74,169-178 [3.7]
- 4. MALERBA, M.E., White, C.R. & Marshall, D.J. (2019)
  The outsized trophic footprint of marine urbanization. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 17, 400-406 [9.3]
- MALERBA, M.E. & Marshall, D.J. (2019)
   Size-abundance rules? Evolution decouples body size, energy and demography. *Ecology Letters*, 22, 1407-1416 [8.7]
- 6. MALERBA, M.E., Palacios, M.M. & Marshall, D.J. (2018) Do larger individuals cope with resource fluctuations better? An artificial selection approach. *Proc. R. Soc. B.*, 285, 1-9 [4.6]
- 7. MALERBA, M.E., White, C.R. & Marshall, D.J. (2018) Eco-energetic consequences of evolutionary shifts in body size. *Ecology Letters*, 21, 54-62. [8.7]
- 8. MALERBA, M.E., Palacios, M.M., Delgado, Y.M.P., Beardall, J. & Marshall, D.J. (2018) Cell size, photosynthesis, and the package effect: An artificial selection approach. *New Phytol.* 219, [8.5]
- 9. MALERBA, M.E., White, C.R. & Marshall, D.J. (2017) Phytoplankton size-scaling of net-energy flux across light and biomass gradients. *Ecology*, 98, 3106-3115. [5.8]
- 10. MALERBA, M.E., Heimann, K. & Connolly, S.R. (2016) Nutrient utilization traits vary systematically with intraspecific cell size plasticity. *Funct. Ecol.*, 30, 1745-1755. [5]
- 11. MALERBA, M.E., Connolly, S.R. & Heimann, K. (2016) Standard flow cytometry as a rapid and non-destructive proxy for cell nitrogen quota. *J. App. Phycol.*, 28, 1085-1095. [3.2]
- 12. MALERBA, M.E., Heimann, K. & Connolly, S.R. (2016) Improving dynamic phytoplankton reserve-utilization models with an indirect proxy for internal nitrogen. *J. Theor. Biol.*, 404, 1-9. [2.3]

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### **EDUCATION**

## PHD IN ECOLOGICAL MODELLING

James Cook University (QLD) Prof. Sean R. Connolly Thesis: Modelling nitrogenlimited dynamics in phytoplankton populations. 2012-2015

## HONOURS IN ECOLOGICAL MODELLING

James Cook University (QLD)
Prof. Sean R. Connolly
Thesis: Modelling the effects of
cell size on demography and
nutrient dynamics in
microalgal cultures
2010

## MARINE BIOLOGY ADVANCED MAJOR

James Cook University (QLD) Awarded with Academic Medal for Coursework 2007-2009

- 13. MALERBA M.E., Connolly, S.R. & Heimann, K. (2015) An experimentally validated nitrate-ammonium-phytoplankton model. *Ecological Modelling* 317: 30-40. [2.4]
- 14. MALERBA, M.E., Connolly, S.R. & Heimann, K. (2012) Nitrate-nitrite dynamics and phytoplankton growth: Formulation of a dynamic model. *L&O*. 57, 1555-1571. [3.8]

## **COLLABORATIONS**

- 15. Ghedini, G., MALERBA, M.E. & Marshall, D.J. (2020) How to estimate community energy flux? A comparison of approaches. Proc. R. Soc. B. [4.6]
- Malara, D., MALERBA, M.E., Heimann, K. (2019) Sensitivity of Live Microalgal Aquaculture Feed to Singlet Oxygen-Based Chemotherapy. J App. Phycol. [2.6]
- 17. Sezmis, A.L., MALERBA, M.E., Marshall, D.J. & McDonald, M.J. (2018) Beneficial mutations from evolution experiments increase rates of growth. *J Mol Evol*, 86, 111-117. [2]
- 18. Palacios M.M., MALERBA, M.E. and McCormick M. (2018) Multiple predator effects on juvenile prey survival. *Oecologia*, 188, 417-427. [3.1]
- 19. Dubuc, A., Waltham, N., MALERBA, M.E. & Sheaves, M. (2017) Extreme dissolved oxygen variability in urbanised tropical wetlands. Estuar Coast Shelf Sci, 198, 163-171. [2.6]
- **20**. Cameron, H., Monro, K., MALERBA, M.E., Munch, S. & Marshall, D.J. (2016) Why do larger mothers produce larger offspring? A test of classic theory. Ecology, 97, 3452–3459. [4.6]

## **RESEARCH INCOME**

- Fellowship. Alfred Deakin Research Fellowship at Deakin Uni.
   (2020-2022) AU\$ 228,692 (salary + funds)
- Fellowship. Centre for Geometric Biology Fellowship at Monash Uni. (2016-2020) AU\$ 399,760 (salary + funds)
- PhD scholarship. Aus. Institute of Marine Science PhD scholarship (2012-2015) AU\$149,743 (salary + funds)
- Course scholarship. Enhancing Linkages between Math and Ecology, Michigan State Uni. (2013) US\$ 10,000
- Grant. Science-IT-Engineering ECR Interdisciplinary Research Grant, Monash University (2018) AU\$ 10,000
- Grant. Seagrass Mapping project, Parks Victoria #RPP 1920 P14 (2020) AU\$ 30,000 (CI: Dr Paul Carnell)
- *Grant*. Floating wetlands for wastewater treatments, Wannon Water grant (2019) AU\$ 20,000 (CI: Dr Tim Tutt)

## POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

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## **TEACHING**

- Lecturer. Postgraduate courses SIT764 and SIT782, School of Information Technology (20 hours completed across 3 trimesters) Deakin Uni. 2020-ongoing
- Guest lecturer. Undergraduate course BIO3021 on Marine Biology with Prof Dustin Marshall
   Monash Uni. 2016-2020
- Guest lecturer. Undergraduate course on Env. Biology (BIO1042) with Prof Dustin Marshall Monash Uni. 2018
- Workshop coordinator. I prepared all materials for a 3-hour workshop and a 1-hour lecture on "Bayesian statistical methods" at James Cook University as part of the Master course "Ecological Dynamics: Modelling With Data" (MB5340)
- Teaching assistant for undergraduate and Master course on Ecological Modelling (MB5340) with Prof Sean Connolly James Cook Uni. 2015
- Teaching assistant for undergraduate and Master courses on Quantitative Methods in Biology (BS2001-BS5001) with Prof Simon Robson James Cook Uni. 2012-15
- Teaching assistant for first-year course on Modelling Natural Systems (SC1102) with A/Prof Yvette Everingham · James Cook Uni. · 2013-15
- Teaching assistant for first-year course on Botany (BT1001) with Prof Joseph Holtum James Cook Uni. 2011

## DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

- EAWAG research station, ETH Zurich, Switzerland. Title: Energetic Consequences of an Evolutionary Shift in Body Size. Host: A/Prof Francesco Pomati (2018)
- Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. Title: Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics of Body Size in Phytoplankton. Host: Prof Dustin Marshall (2018)
- University of California, Berkley, USA. Title: The Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics of Cell Size: a Case Study on the Green Alga Dunaliella Tertiolecta, Host: Prof Anastasios Melis (2016)

## **CONFERENCES (ORAL PRESENTATIONS)**

- Microbial Ecology-Environmental Microbiology (MEEM) conference. Melbourne, Australia (2020)
- Australasian Evolution Society. Sydney, Australia (2019)
- Second International Joint Congress on Evolutionary Biology, as part of the symposium "In vivo, in vitro, in silico experimental evolution. Convergence and insights into evolution" France 2018
- Australasian Evolution Society. Hobart, Australia (2017)
- Western Society of Naturalists. Monterey, USA (2016)
- Ecological Society of America. Baltimore, USA (2015)
- Australasian Society for Phycology and Aquatic Botany. Sydney, Australia (2014)
- Asia-Pacific Conference on Algal Biotechnology. Adelaide, Australia (2012)

## **AWARDS**

- Presentation Award. Early-Career Researcher Symposium, Monash University (2018) AU\$ 2,000
- Presentation Award. Postgraduate Conference, Australian Institute of Marine Science (2014) AU\$ 1,000
- Presentation Award. Postgraduate Conference, James Cook University (2014) AU\$ 300
- Presentation Award. Postgraduate Conference, Australian Institute of Marine Science (2013) AU\$ 2,000

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### **ACADEMIC ROLES**

#### **Panel Member**

PhD milestone Monash University, 2019

#### **Committee Member**

Australasian Society for Phycology and Aquatic Botany (ASPAB) 2013-2016

#### Reviewer

Various ecological scientific journals, including Ecology Letters, Ecology, Functional Ecology, J. of Theoretical Biology, Proc. R. Soc. L. B., J. of Phycology, Algal Research

## **OUTREACH**

Writer for The Conversation 2019

Writer for the Australasian Science Magazine

2017-2019

### **Radio Interviews**

SBS radio (2019) Triple R (2019) 3CR community radio (2018)

## REFERENCES

#### **PROF. DUSTIN MARSHALL**

Postdoc Mentor (2016-2020)
Head of Marine Evolutionary Ecology Group
School of Biological Sciences, Monash University Clayton
P: (+61) 4 1886 7242
E: dustin.marshall@monash.edu

#### **PROF. SEAN CONNOLLY**

PhD and Honours Supervisor (2010-2015)
Head of Ecological Modelling Group at James Cook University
College of Science and Eng., James Cook University, Townsville
P: (+61) 7 4781 4242
E: ConnollyS@si.edu

## **PROF. PETER MACREADIE**

Fellowship Mentor (2020-ongoing)
Head of the Blue Carbon Lab, Centre for Integrative Ecology
Deakin University, Burwood, Melbourne
P: (+61) 4 2254 8672
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#### **PROF. RHONDDA JONES**

Supervisor for private statistical consultant position (2015)
Graduate Research School, James Cook University, Townsville
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