

**Marine Research Institute**  
**University of Cape Town (UCT)**  
([www.ma-re.uct.ac.za](http://www.ma-re.uct.ac.za))

**Introduction:**

Founded in 1829, UCT has a proud tradition of academic excellence, promoting social change and development through its pioneering scholarship, faculty and students. It is also renowned for its striking beauty, with its main campuses located on the slopes of Devil's Peak, one of Cape Town's iconic mountains. The more than 5,000 staff members are spread across six faculties and the Centre for Higher Education Development. There are approximately 26,000 students at UCT, with two-thirds registered for undergraduate and one-third for postgraduate degrees. There are also several hundred clinical joint staff in the Faculty of Health Sciences. UCT's staff and students come from more than 100 countries in Africa and the rest of the world.

**The Marine Research Institute (Ma-Re)**

Ma-Re was constituted in 2006/7 as a signature theme at UCT, in recognition of marine science as one of UCT's areas of research excellence. Ma-Re exists as a virtual institute connecting UCT staff and students from 13 departments in three faculties. The greatest marine research and teaching capacity is through the Departments of Biological Sciences and Oceanography, but Ma-Re supports interdisciplinary research and training across the university campuses.

**Teaching Opportunities:**

The University of Cape Town offers Bachelor's degrees with majors in Marine Biology (Department of Biological Sciences) and Oceanography (Department of Oceanography). At postgraduate level, approximately ten students per year in each department register for marine BSc Honours degrees, and approximately 15 register for marine Master's degrees by coursework and dissertation. There is also a large group of students doing Master's degrees (by dissertation only) and PhD degrees.

The Marine Research Institute would like to attract a Fulbright Specialist or Scholar to teach at either the undergraduate or postgraduate levels, and to interact with postgraduate students, postdocs and staff. Experts in all disciplines of oceanography are welcome, including physical, biological, chemical, ecological, geological and satellite sub-disciplines.

**Research Opportunities:**

Ma-Re has many research links within South Africa and internationally. On campus, there are formal collaborations through the French-South African joint venture, ICEMASA (*International Centre for Education, Marine and Atmospheric Sciences over Africa*), and the Norwegian-South African research centre at UCT, the Nansen-Tutu Centre. There are also a number of MOUs and informal agreements with institutions in other countries, and Ma-Re hosts international students and researchers from all backgrounds. Current marine

research fields at UCT are broad, with a strong interdisciplinary focus on issues relating to global change in three major ocean systems around southern Africa: the Benguela coastal upwelling system, the Agulhas system and the Atlantic and Indian sectors of the Southern Ocean.

### **Research and teaching facilities:**

Ma-Re has two small research vessels (the *Ma-Re* and the *Sargasso*), which can be used for day-long field trips close to the shore. There is also a store of basic field equipment, as well as partner organisations with whom we share and exchange equipment. South Africa's coastal and offshore research fleet is managed by government departments and parastatal organisations, which provide access to vessels for university-based researchers. The research vessels include the recently built *S.A. Agulhas II*, a 134m icebreaking polar supply and research ship owned by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

The University of Cape Town has first-class library and Internet services. The university buys its high-speed Internet bandwidth via TENET, a body that supplies Internet and related services to higher education institutions in South Africa. Most of the campuses have wireless connectivity through *eduroam*. UCT also is a partner in the national Centre for High-Performance Computing and the university's *Information and Communication Technology Services* offer various kinds of support for these and other facilities.

### **Accommodation:**

The University of Cape Town has a guest facility (All Africa House) located on the university campus. There are also numerous Guest Houses, and Bed and Breakfast facilities in nearby suburbs.

### **Contact:**

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