



## International Pacific Marine Educators Conference

*www.ipmec.info*

**January 15 to 20, 2007  
Suva, Fiji**

Marine educators worldwide will gather January 15 to 20, 2007, in Suva, Fiji, to share resources and build a network aimed at ensuring the health of the Pacific Ocean and the communities who depend upon it. Web conferencing will allow educators who are unable to travel to Fiji to participate.

The International Pacific Marine Educators Conference is an outcome of the One Ocean Marine Forum (OOMF), held in July 2005 at Kahului, Maui, Hawaii. This meeting focused on building an international network of marine educators. The upcoming conference will further that goal by piloting the Pacific.

Pacific islands are early warning indicators of problems, changes and issues facing our ocean. These small, sensitive and fragile islands are microcosms where the interplay of issues such as sustainability, stewardship and climate change becomes readily apparent.

Marine educators—using the widest sense of the word—are invited to participate in this conference focused on the Pacific.

The conference will be held at the University of the South Pacific and is supported by local, regional and international organizations, including the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific's Marine Sector Working Group.

The conference organizing committee includes representatives from the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (USA), University of the South Pacific (Fiji), Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (Fiji), Marine Education Society of Australasia (Australia), National Marine Educators Association (USA), Ocean Futures Society, University of Hawaii (USA), Howard County Public School System (USA), Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center (USA), and College of Exploration (USA).

For more information or to provide suggestions to the organizing committee, please contact Harry Breidahl (Australia) at [nautilused@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nautilused@optusnet.com.au), Sylvia Spalding (USA) at [info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov](mailto:info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov) or Joeli Veitayaki (Fiji) at [veitayaki\\_j@usp.ac.fj](mailto:veitayaki_j@usp.ac.fj). Sponsors are needed to help send participants from developing and underdeveloped countries to the conference and to provide web conferencing sites outside of Fiji.