

International Pacific Marine Educators Conference

You are invited to be a part of an international effort to change the public attitude towards the ocean and to actively protect this ecosystem that keeps our world healthy. If the ocean isn't healthy, people are in jeopardy. Our kids deserve to be given a healthy legacy.

Pressures from a rapidly growing world population are increasing at an exponential rate. From CO₂ concentrations that accelerate global climate change to global depletion of fishery stocks, the problems are unprecedented and will require innovative solutions. A worldwide network of educators who focus on and are prepared to share knowledge and resources to solve these problems is essential.

Designing a network of educators for sustainable oceans was the goal of the One Ocean Marine Forum held in Hawaii in July 2005.

The International Pacific Marine Educators Conference (IPMEC) is an outcome of the Forum and aims to further the establishment of a worldwide network of marine educators by piloting a regional network for the Pacific. Approximately 100 marine educators will gather January 15 to 19, 2007, at the University of the South Pacific 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.

IPMEC Preliminary Program (July 2006)

Sunday, January 14, 2007

Registration

Monday, January 15, 2007

Educational Initiatives on Local Marine Issues

9:00 am opening ceremony and welcome
9:30 am keynote presentation 1
10:30 am morning break
11:00 am concurrent sessions 1a – Pacific Islands
12:30 pm lunch (at main campus)
2:00 pm concurrent sessions 1b – the Americas
3:30 pm afternoon break
4:00 to 5:30 pm concurrent sessions 1c – Australia and Asia
7:30 pm cultural feast

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Educational Initiatives on Global "One Ocean" Issues

9:00 am Keynote presentation 2
10:00 am morning break
10:30 am concurrent sessions 2a – Global Ocean Resources
noon lunch (at main campus)
1:30 pm concurrent sessions 2b – Climate Change & Natural Disasters
3:00 pm afternoon break
3:30 pm concurrent sessions 2c – Ocean Stewardship and Management
5:30 to 6:30 pm poster session and social hour

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Building a Network of Pacific Marine Educators

9:00 am keynote presentation 3
10:00 am morning break
10:30 am workshop sessions 3a – Local & Regional Standards of Ocean Literacy
noon lunch (at main campus)
1:30 pm workshop sessions 3b – Establishing & Expanding the Network
3:00 pm afternoon break
3:30 pm presentation of network session results
5:00 pm closing remarks
5:30 to 6:30 pm social hour

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Field Trips [Optional]

Dive at Pacific Harbour, visit island of Gau, visit Cousteau's ecotourism resort at Vanua Levu, boat to island of Kadavu, visit Mua Vusa, raft, surf, or snorkel, dive and visit Votua Village at Korelevu. Most field trips are overnight.

Friday, January 19, 2007

Field Trip Presentations

Field trips continue, overnight trips return by noon
12:30 to 1:30 pm lunch (at main campus)
1:30 to 3:00 pm group preparation of field trip reports
3:00 to 3:30 pm afternoon break
3:30 to 5:30 pm delivery of field trip presentations



travelling to Fiji

Most visitors to Fiji will fly into Nadi (pronounced Nandi). As the conference is in Suva, you will need to drive, bus or fly to Suva. Flight time to Fiji from Los Angeles is 10 hours (current estimate US\$1,000), from Auckland 3 hours (current estimate NZ\$570), from Sydney 3 hours 50 minutes (current estimate A\$500).



Fiji enjoys an ideal South Sea tropical climate but seldom reaches above 35°C (96°F). Trade winds from the east and southeast bring year long cooling breezes late afternoon and early evening. The season for tropical rain is from December through February coinciding with Fiji's warmest summer months.

The Fiji Islands Visitor's Bureau web site at www.bulaifiji.com/ is an excellent source of information for potential travellers. This web site provides details of visa and passport requirements and other elements of travel to Fiji plus useful information about clothing to bring, health and safety, electricity, postal services, internet services, currency and even tipping.

Conference Venue

The International Pacific Marine Educators Conference will be held at the Laucala Campus of the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva, Fiji www.usp.ac.fj/. A photo tour of the Laucala Campus is on the IPMEC web site www.ipmec.info (under Background).



Accommodation for the duration of the conference will be available in the USP halls of residence as a package (single or double rooms, meals included). The cost of this package is currently being finalized but should be in the order of US\$30 per person per night (total of US\$150 per person depending on

length of stay). A range of off-campus accommodation options in Suva motels and hotels (around US\$40 to US\$100 per night without meals) will be available as well as apartment style accommodation for couples or families.

Call for Papers and Registration

The IPMEC program is intended to be of value not only to school teachers and other formal educators but also to a much wider range of professionals and community group representatives interested in the role that education plays in the conservation of coastal and marine resources. This would include representatives from government and non-government agencies as well as members of community groups actively involved in coastal and marine conservation and education programs.

Call for Papers and Conference Registration forms are available at the IPMEC website at www.ipmec.info.

Scholarships

Scholarships may be available to allow participants unable to afford travel and conference costs, especially from developing and underdeveloped countries, to attend the conference. Scholarship recipients will be required to provide a presentation. For more information and application, visit the IPMEC website at www.ipmec.info.

Web Conferencing

Web conferencing sites will allow persons unable to fly to Fiji to participate in the plenary sessions. For a list of sites, visit the IPMEC website at www.ipmec.info. Persons interested in hosting a web conference site are asked to please contact the conference organizers.

For more information, contact

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Partners:



**International Pacific
Marine Educators
Conference**
January 15-19, 2007
University of the South Pacific
Suva, Fiji
www.ipmec.info