



Blue Futures Spring seminars

Weekly conversations every Thursday at 12:30pm

Blue Futures is a Global Challenges keystone project: a partnership between the University of Wollongong and Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council. The project includes scientists, data modellers, economists, policy makers, social geographers, writers and artists.

Central to our research is the question:

How can ocean based sustainable development be achieved in the context of coastal change?

We believe that a sustainable economy works best when we acknowledge our entangled connections with both Land Country and Sea Country.

Together, we are planning for a future that is sustainable for governments, industries, ecosystems and communities.

In these lunchtime conversations, we share the discoveries we've made – and the challenges we've faced – to develop strategies that allow for a values-based approach to policy and industry.



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Photo credit: Joshua Lobb



Thursday 4th

Introducing Blue Futures

12:30pm - 2:00pm AEDT

This seminar asks you to imagine what a Blue Future might look like and how we can work together to achieve it. Members of the team discuss three streams of Blue Futures:

- **Anticipating & Imagining**
- **Governing & Guiding**
- **Developing & Enabling**

Our focus is on the ways Aboriginal approaches to Country can inform, challenge and extend research practice.

Photo credit: Anna Flannery



Thursday 11th

Moolawang Ngayagang Yanba (Come to the mouth of the lake with me)

12:30pm - 2:00pm AEDT

This interactive session discusses the work we have been doing with Lake Illawarra and the people that make decisions on its behalf.

Join us for a yarn about the way in which Aboriginal ways of knowing might inform and guide environmental decision-making processes, with a focus on building meaningful relationships with Country. The seminar will feature members of the Blue Futures team and partners from the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council (ILALC) and Southern Cross University.

Photo credit: Matthew De Feudis



Thursday 18th

What's it worth? Exploring the value and values of mangroves using ocean accounts

12:30pm - 2:00pm AEDT

This seminar examines the ways in which different forms of knowledge and data can help us understand the value of our marine environment from a range of perspectives.

Using Lake Illawarra as a case study, we explore the 'worth' of the Lake, and in particular the mangroves of Lake Illawarra. The mangroves can be understood in monetary terms, as an environmental service, a community asset, a controversial or unwelcome intruder or as Kin. We ask the question: which values should be considered when we make decisions about the future of our marine and coastal environments?

Photo credit: Randa Sacedon



Thursday 25th

Relationships: the forgotten aspect of ocean governance

12:30pm - 2:00pm AEDT

This session traces the different ways in which we as humans relate to our marine environment, with a focus on the ways Creative Arts and Humanities can provide a different perspective on how we interact with marine places. We discuss four projects that highlight connections with the coast and the ocean, including the Ways to Water exhibition, showing at Wollongong Art Gallery.

Photo credit: Jo Stirling



Thursday 2nd

A community based Blue Economy for a Blue Future

12:30pm - 2:00pm AEDT

This seminar considers ways the Illawarra and South Coast might better engage with the marine environment to build environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits for our coast and our communities.

We look at innovative approaches to improving the environmental sustainability of maritime businesses in our region and opportunities for Indigenous led and community based approaches to a Blue Economy.

Photo credit: Michael Adams

...more dates to come

December

What does a Blue future look like to you?

Many of us have connections with the places where the land meets the sea. We breathe the salt air; we swim and surf; we snorkel and fish; we walk and think and dream.

Our aim is to create a Blue Futures public event in 2022, where we continue the conversation.

Other Blue Futures events



Poetry Award 2022

Theme: *Ways to Water*

Through poetry, tell us about your experiences on the coast, at the beach, in the ocean.

Open competition.

Submissions close 1st January 2022. \$1000 First prize



Photo credit: Joshua Lobb



Ways to Water Exhibition

Ways to Water connects creative, cultural, and scientific disciplines in order to consider different ways of seeing the Illawarra and South Coast. The exhibition brings together historical and contemporary works from Wollongong Art Gallery - as



open Tues-Fri 10am-5pm
weekends 12-4pm
corner Kembla & Burelli
streets Wollongong
phone 02 4227 8500
www.wollongongartgallery.com
www.facebook.com/wollongongartgallery

November 2021 - February 2022

well as new works and digital design modes. The exhibition includes an Augmented Reality component: researchers from Blue Futures talk further about our interrelationships with coastal places.

Partners and Sponsors

The Blue Futures keystone project was funded by the University Of Wollongong Global Challenges program, with co-contributions from the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council, Wollongong Art Gallery and the NSW Government under the Marine Estate Management Strategy.

