Unisa's 10 Catalytic Niche Areas

1. Marine Studies



INVITATION: Working Group

1. Marine Studies, 2. Aviation and Aeronautical Studies, 3. Automotive, 4. Energy, 5. Space Study and Square Kilometer Array, 6. Fourth Industrial Revolution and Digitalisation, 7. Natural Sciences (Biotechnological studies), 8. Health Studies/Medicine, 9. Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi Theorisations, 10. Student Support and Co-Curricular Activities.

Working Group Session

You are cordially invited to the 4th 2026 series of CGS-facilitated Catalytic Niche Area Working Group meetings for Marine Studies. The theme for series 4 is "Future-Focused, Adaptive and Sustainable Catalytic Niche Areas". In this series, we explore emerging trends, risks and opportunities, and we consider the sustainability and adaptability of our niche area engagements.

Contested Ocean Futures: Anticipating Change, Negotiating Competing Priorities and Sustaining Marine Research
As marine environments and ocean economies confront accelerating ecological, technological and socioeconomic change, how can Unisa's Marine Studies Catalytic Niche Area strengthen its capacity to anticipate emerging risks and opportunities, navigate competing priorities and sustain a multidisciplinary research agenda that remains responsive to African marine and coastal futures?

Strategic reflection:
Which emerging marine challenges or opportunities are not yet receiving sufficient attention within the CNA, and what changes in research priorities, disciplinary partnerships or ways of working would position it to respond more effectively over the next decade?

Reading:
Carpenter-Kling, T., Truter, H., Lemahieu, A., Snow, B., Strand, M., Rivers, N., Nupnau, L., & Lombard, A. T. (2025). Scenario planning from the bottom up: Supporting inclusive and ecosystem-based approaches to marine spatial planning. npj Ocean Sustainability, 4
https://www.nature.com/articles/s44183-025-00140-7

GUEST PRESENTER:
Prof Titus Msagati

Monday, 9 November 2026
11:00 – 12:00

Join the Session on MS Teams
https://tinyurl.com/ys8cnbrw OR
Teams Link

ENQUIRIES:
CGScatalyticnicheareas@unisa.ac.za

FACILITATOR:
Prof Jessica Murray

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