The United Kingdom and Ireland Regional Student Chapter of the Society for Marine Mammalogy

13th Annual Conference
Swansea University
24th-26th January 2019

Conference Timetable
#UKIRSC19

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Thursday 24th January

18:00 - 20:00 Communicating Your Research using Social Media
(Taliesin Building, Singleton Campus)
*Dr Stephanie Januchowski-Hartley*

*All welcome to attend.*

20:00 - 22:00 Icebreaker Event
(Taliesin Building, Singleton Campus)
*Sponsored by the British Ecological Society*

Friday 25th January

08:30 - 08:50 Registration (Wallace Building - Ground Floor Foyer)

08:50 - 09:00 Welcome from the UKIRSC Committee
(Wallace Building – Wallace Lecture Theatre)

09:00 - 09:10 Welcome from Head of Department
*Professor Dan Eastwood*

09:10 - 09:50 “How to be a (marine mammal) scientist in tomorrow’s world”
Invited Speaker: *Dr Hanna Nuuttila, SEACAMS Research Officer, Swansea University*

09:50 - 10:50 SESSION 1: POPULATION BIOLOGY
(Wallace Building – Wallace Lecture Theatre)
*Session Chair: William Kay, Swansea University*

09:50 - 10:05 Tanya Riley – “Predicting the distribution of *Lutra lutra* (Eurasian otter) on the Isle of Anglesey, Wales”

10:05 - 10:20 Michael Weiss – “Modelling disease spread in endangered cetaceans”

10:20 - 10:35 Tilen Genov – “Drivers of unique social partitioning in a dolphin social network”

10:35 - 10:50 Hélène Mazière – “Cetacean, seal and sea turtle strandings in Greece: spatio-temporal distributions and correlations with environmental factors”
10:50 - 11:10  COFFEE BREAK  
(Wallace Building – Science Central, 1st Floor Foyer)

11:10 - 11:40  S2: MARINE MAMMAL & HUMAN INTERACTIONS  
(Wallace Building – Wallace Lecture Theatre)  
Session Chair: Katherine Whyte, University of St Andrews

11:10 - 11:25  Linas Svolkinas – “Socio-economic models for marine conservation: the illegal wildlife trade in Caspian seal (Pusa Caspica) products”

11:25 - 11:30  María Pérez Tadeo – “Assessment of anthropogenic disturbances due to ecotourism on a grey seal (Halichoerus grypus) colony in the Blasket Islands, SW Ireland”

11:30 - 11:35  Tom Grove – “Whale Wise: assessing and mitigating the impact of whale watching encounters on whale populations in north Iceland”

11:35 - 11:40  Cynthia Barile – “Habitat modelling of deep-diving species in Irish waters, through the use of static acoustic monitoring (SAM)”

11:50 - 12:30  LUNCH BREAK

12:30 - 14:30  Workshop 1: Parallel Session A  
(Margam Building – Room 318)

Past present and future of marine mammal monitoring – standardising existing data and discussing possibilities for novel techniques from drones or eDNA.  
Dr Hanna Nuuttila, SEACAMS Research Officer, Swansea University

Capacity: 45  
Sign up via: https://doodle.com/poll/mn9uuvr3vzykxig

You are welcome to bring along your lunch to this session.  
If you're a student working on UAV or eDNA data you are invited to contribute to the workshop - please contact the workshop organising team through h.k.nuuttila@swansea.ac.uk
12:30 - 14:30 Workshop 1: Parallel Session B
(Wallace Building – Room 113)

12:30 - 14:00 An Introduction to Policymaking for Ecologists
William Kay, PhD Student, Swansea University

14:00 - 14:30 Imposter Syndrome Workshop
Ben Whittaker, PhD Student, Swansea University

You are welcome to bring along your lunch to these sessions.

Capacity: 35
Sign up via: https://doodle.com/poll/yr3y5keyeq99fq9e

14:30 - 14:50 COFFEE BREAK (Science Central – 1st Floor Foyer)

14:50 – 17:00 Workshop 2: Harbour Porpoise Necropsy
(Wallace Building – Room 115)

Rob Deaville, Matthew Perkins and Rod Penrose
UK Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme (CSIP)

All welcome.

19:00 - 22:00 Conference meal at Brewstone
33 Uplands Crescent, Uplands, Swansea SA2 0NP

Saturday 26th January

08:45 - 09:00 UKIRSC Announcements (Wallace Lecture Theatre)

09:00 - 09:40 “Title TBC”
Invited Speaker: Professor Rory Wilson, Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor, Swansea University

09:40 - 10:35 SESSION 3: ACOUSTICS
Session Chair: Heather Vance, University of St Andrews


09:55 - 10:10 Nicole Todd – “Using passive acoustic monitoring to investigate the occurrence of cetaceans in a protected marine area in Northwest Ireland”
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:10 - 10:25</td>
<td>Caitlin Allan</td>
<td>“Modelling the Habitat Preferences of Sperm Whales (<em>Physeter macrocephalus</em>) off the North-west Coast of Scotland”</td>
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<td>10:25 - 10:30</td>
<td>Katie Welsh</td>
<td>“The use of Passive Acoustic Monitoring to localise sperm whales off the west coast of Scotland”</td>
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<td>10:30 - 10:35</td>
<td>Emma Longden</td>
<td>“The use of passive acoustics to detect the presence of individual bottlenose dolphins, <em>Tursiops truncatus</em>, in a coastal population”</td>
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<td>10:40 - 11:20</td>
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<td>COFFEE BREAK &amp; POSTER SESSION</td>
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<td>11:20 - 11:55</td>
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<td>SESSION 4: PHYSIOLOGY &amp; GENETICS</td>
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<td><em>Session Chair: Claudia Allen, Swansea University</em></td>
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<td>11:20 - 11:35</td>
<td>Laura Oller</td>
<td>“Understanding oxygen management in grey seal blubber”</td>
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<td>11:35 - 11:50</td>
<td>Kayleigh Jones</td>
<td>“Stable isotopes in Antarctic fur seal whiskers reveal sexual segregation in foraging distribution”</td>
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<td>11:50 - 12:05</td>
<td>Adam Cogan</td>
<td>“The evolution of cetacean cultural intelligence”</td>
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<td>12:05 - 12:10</td>
<td>Kristina Steinmetz</td>
<td>“Population genetics of seals in Irish waters: a tool for management and conservation”</td>
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<td>12:15 - 13:10</td>
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<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<td>SESSION 4: BEHAVIOUR &amp; MOVEMENT</td>
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<td><em>Session Chair: William Kay, Swansea University</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>13:40 - 13:45</td>
<td>Natalie Sinclair</td>
<td>“The cultural transmission of humpback whale (<em>Megaptera novaengliae</em>) song in the central and eastern South Pacific Ocean”</td>
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Virginia Iorio – “Marine top predator inter-specific interactions in a dynamic environment

14:00 - 14:40 COFFEE BREAK & POSTER SESSION

14:40 - 15:00 Prize Giving (Wallace Lecture Theatre)

15:00 - 16:30 Workshop 3 (Margam Building - Room 318)

Biologging Workshop
Dr Hannah Williams, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Swansea University

16:30 Conference close

Sunday 27th January Activities to be confirmed.

POSTER TITLES

Amy Jones “Investigating the effect of season and time of day on the behaviour and distribution of Irrawaddy dolphins (Orcaella brevirostris)”

Franca Eichenberger “The enigma of humpback whale song: getting to the bottom of complex male mating behaviours”

Deborah Vicari “A study on cranial variation in Beluga whales (Delphinapterus leucas), Narwhals (Monodon monoceros) and their hybrids”

David Orr “Evolutionary Genomics of Lactation Strategies in Pinnipeds”

William Kay “Grey seal (Halichoerus grypus) pup dispersal in Wales: Spatio-temporal overlap with a tidal stream turbine”