

Prof. Richard Coleman



Prof. Richard Coleman is Executive Director at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies and ProVice Chancellor (Research Collaborations and Infrastructure) at the University of Tasmania. He also is Director of the ARC SRI for Antarctic Gateway Partnership. His research covers the areas of geodesy, physical oceanography and glaciology, focusing on understanding the role of the oceans and cryosphere in the global climate system using observations, theory and modelling. He has a Bachelor of Surveying (Hons1) and PhD in geodesy from The University of New South Wales.

Prof. Richard Coleman has held academic positions at The Australian National University (Research School of Earth Sciences), The University of Sydney (School of Civil & Mining Engineering) and the University of Tasmania. From July 2009 to Sept 2012, he was Executive Director, Physical, Mathematical and Information Sciences at the Australian Research Council, an Australian Government funding agency.

LSGI Distinguished Lecture

Topic: Understanding Global Climate Issues from Antarctic Research



It was our pleasure to invite Prof. Richard Coleman, from University of Tasmania, Australia, to be our speaker in the LSGI Distinguished Lecture Series on 16 March 2016.

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided \$24M over 3 years (2015-17) for a new research initiative to facilitate scientific collaboration between the University of Tasmania (UTAS), CSIRO and the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) through the ARC's Special Research Initiatives (SRI) scheme. The ARC SRI aims to increase the capacity for collaborative research across a variety of projects covering the physical, chemical, atmospheric, cryospheric and biosciences.

This multidisciplinary proposal has four integrated research themes, which enhance existing Antarctic research. The research will advance our understanding of how the oceans influence basal melting of Antarctic ice shelves (Theme 1); provide estimates of Antarctic ice sheet contributions to sea level change over the last 20,000 years (Theme 3); enhance our understanding of the different functioning of open-water and under-ice ecosystems (Theme 2); develop world-leading autonomous vehicles for measurements within the polar environment (Theme 4); and establish a near-real time, sea ice charting capability for polar mariners in the Southern Ocean (Theme 4). The talk will highlight some of the research within each of the Themes, why this research is important in a global climate context and challenges in working in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic environment.