

Biodiversity and ecology of the deep-sea and polar benthos: Presentations in honour of Prof Craig R. Smith of the University of Hawaii

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We invite presentations in this special session of the 16th DSBS to honour the retirement of Prof Craig R Smith from the University of Hawaii, USA. We request abstracts in fields that are inspired by Craig's numerous achievements in abyssal plain, bathyal slope, fjord, canyon and polar benthic ecology, his pioneering work on biodiversity at wood, kelp and whale falls, and his leadership behind the development of vast no mining zones in the deep Pacific Ocean. Craig received his PhD in 1983 from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography which was followed by post-doc appointments at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (USA) and the University of Washington (USA). Craig has led numerous inspiring studies on deep-sea, polar and organic-fall ecosystems that have helped define the field over the last 40 years and has published over 180 peer-reviewed articles. His numerous graduate students and post-doctoral scholars have gone on to have their own successful careers in deep-sea ecology. We look forward to an inspiring session that celebrates these fields, Craig's career and also looks to future discoveries to be made.