



**THE CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY
MID-YEAR MEETING**
*Stellenbosch South Africa
2026*

PROGRAMME



The Crustacean Society

Monday 01 June 2026

VENUE	Auditorium 1		Auditorium 2		
08:00	Registration Open Arrival coffee/tea				
	Session Chair: Prof. Savel Daniels, Stellenbosch University				
08:30	Welcome and Opening (Dr Nasreen Peer, Meeting Chairperson, Stellenbosch University)				
08:45	Plenary Session 1- Afrotropical crustacean systematics over the past 40 years - Prof. Neil Cumberlidge, Northern Michigan University				
09:15	GROUP PHOTO		VENUE SPLIT/PARTITIONED		
	Session 1.1a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Prof. Savel Daniels		Session 1.1b- Physiology and ecology Session Chair: Dr Magdalini Christodoulou		
09:35	Brandt, Angelika	(004) AleutBio expedition (SO293): Exploring deep-sea biodiversity in the Aleutian Trench	09:35	Duquenne-Delobel, Emma	(002) Substrate selection and performance of juvenile American lobster in area-based conservation measures: density effects and habitat quality
09:55	Daniels, Savel	(008) Navigating taxonomic confusion: three novel freshwater crabs (Brachyura: Potamonautidae: <i>Potamonautes</i>) nested within a species complex in the Drakensberg Mountains, South Africa	09:55	Thomas-Durand, Garance	(003) Ecological partitioning of cryptic copepods: spatiotemporal distribution and species-specific contributions to secondary production
10:15	Toledano Carrasco, la Atzimba	(010) Analysis of phylogenetic relationships among American sesarmid crabs with emphasis on the genera <i>Aratus</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1853 and <i>Armases</i> Abele, 1992 (Crustacea: Decapoda: Sesarmidae)	10:15	Chou, Chun-Chia	(005) Too noisy to flirt: How environmental complexity shapes courtship behaviour in fiddler crabs
10:35	Mid-morning refreshments				
	Session 1.2a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Prof. Savel Daniels		Session 1.2b- Physiology and ecology Session Chair: Dr Magdalini Christodoulou		
11:10	de Mazancourt, Valentin	(014) New insights on the diversity of South African freshwater shrimp (Decapoda- Caridea)	11:10	Johnstone, Antonia M.	(017) Silk production in deep-sea Amphipoda
11:30	Kunze, Mike	(016) Resolving the <i>Hydroneiscus vitjazi</i> complex (Isopoda: Haploniscidae) using ontogeny, biogeography, and advanced imaging	11:30	Brokensha, Rouane M.	(020) Why mantis shrimp matter: The ecology of <i>Pterygosquilla capensis</i> (Crustacea: Stomatopoda: Squillidae) in southern African territorial waters
11:50	Kohlenbach, Katharina	(019) Between hot hydrothermal vents and cold abyssal basins: Distributional studies of Arctic isopod species	11:50	Hawkes, Sarah	(028) Comparative feeding ecology of <i>Melita zeylanica</i> from estuaries and estuarine-like stromatolite pools
12:10	Balbino, Felipe C.	(022) Morphology reflects evolutionary history: male first gonopod supports phylogenetic relationships of the freshwater family Trichodactylidae H. Milne Edwards, 1853 to the marine groups (Decapoda, Brachyura)	12:10	Smit, Leigh-Ann	(029) Cascading effects of grapsoid crab density on salt marsh vegetation
12:30	Lunch				
	Session 1.3a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Dr Regina Wetzer		Session 1.3b- Physiology and ecology Session Chair: Prof Susan Dippenaar		
13:30	Shiraki, Shoki	(031) Molecular phylogeny and habitat transitions of the isopod <i>Cyathura</i> , including the discovery of an undescribed freshwater species	13:30	Davids, Muhammad Uzair	(036) Sizing up <i>Ampelisca</i> : Size class distributions of tube-building <i>Ampelisca</i> spp. in False Bay, South Africa
13:50	Knauber, Henry	(032) Across Trenches, Ridges and Plains- New revelations about the biogeography and diversity of deep-sea isopods	13:50	Takeno, Keisuke	(038) Male major cheliped dimorphism and its function in male-male competition in Ghost Shrimp
14:10	Löwenstein, Augustina	(048) New discoveries in coral-associated isopods: Exploring the unknown inhabitants of Aotearoa's deep-water corals	14:10	Zanetti, Giovanna	(050) Thermal stress as a disruptor of circadian organization of clock gene expression, heat shock proteins, and the reproductive neuroendocrine axis in the blue crab <i>Callinectes sapidus</i>
14:30	Reis, Giovanna O.	(052) Checklist of the order amphipoda (Amphilocheida and Senticaudata) for the intertidal zone of Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil	14:30	Xozumti, Ayanda P.	(057) Occurrence and ecological impacts of microplastics in Western Cape estuarine systems: The role of endobenthic ecosystem engineers in translocation
14:50	Mid-afternoon refreshments				
	Session 1.4a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Dr Regina Wetzer		Session 1.4b- Parasitic crustacea Session Chair: Prof Susan Dippenaar		
15:20	Rabet, Nicolas	(090) Cryptic diversity in branchiopodopsis from South Africa: Toward a strategy for addressing the problem	15:20	Dippenaar, Susan	(001) Counting the often unseen: reported biodiversity of marine symbiotic Siphonostomatoida off South Africa
15:40	Majingo, Zamabhis	(053) Systematics of <i>Ozestheria australis</i> (Crustacea: Branchiopoda: Spinicaudata) in South Africa	15:40	Boyko, Christopher B.	(011) An unexpected new species of Cabiropidae (Epicaridea) infesting <i>Aega psora</i> (Aegidae) from the fjords of Norway

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Session 1.4a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Dr Regina Wetzer			Session 1.4b- Parasitic crustacea Session Chair: Prof Susan Dippenaar			
16:00	Reis, Giovanna O.	(054) Revisiting the genus <i>Bathyporeiapus</i> Schellenberg, 1931 (Amphipoda: Exoedicerotidae) in the Temperate South America ecoregions	16:00	Williams, Jason D.	(025) Cryptic endoparasites: entoniscid isopods associated with mithracid crabs from Panama	
16:20	Wetzer, Regina	(055) Isopods everywhere: It is a wonderful time to be an isopod specimen	16:20	Audebert, Fabienne	(075) An interactive identification key for <i>Sacculina</i> sp. (Crustacean, Cirripeda, Rhizocephala) using Xper ³	
16:40	Palacios Theil, Emma	(051) Hiding in plain sight: Tanaidacean diversity in kelp holdfasts				
17:00	Close of Day 1					
17:00	Welcome Reception at STIAS (Dress code: come as you are!)					

Tuesday 02 June 2026

VENUE	Auditorium 1			Auditorium 2		
08:00	Registration Open Arrival coffee/tea					
Session Chair: Dr Nasreen Peer, Stellenbosch University						
08:30	Plenary Session 2- West Coast Rock Lobster – a blue lifeline for small-scale fisheries in South Africa - Prof. Moenieba Isaacs, Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies, University of the Western Cape					
09:15	VENUE SPLIT/PARTITIONED					
Session 2.1a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Dr Valentin de Mazancourt			Session 2.1b- Marine research: intertidal to deep ocean Session Chair: Dr Nasreen Peer			
09:35	Wetzer, Regina	(056) From deserts to mountains to the sea, who are the oniscids amongst 18 million Los Angelenos?	09:35	Klüh, Dennis	(009) Running up that Hill? Habitat-dependent diversity and connectivity of deep-sea isopods	
09:55	Antonio, Samantha Grace N.	(060) Speciation between grains of sand: A new Caribbean species of <i>Humesiana</i> (Crustacea: Cumacea)	09:55	Doorman, Amy J.	(021) Investigating methodological aspects of environmental DNA metabarcoding on the detection of fine-scale biogeographic patterns of Crustaceans	
10:15	Peart, Rachael	(063) A wealth of discovery: amphipods from the Bounty Trough, New Zealand	10:15	Rishworth, Gavin M.	(026) No place like home: modern microbialites, metazoan evolution and an endemic tanaid	
10:35	Mid-morning refreshments					
Session 2.2a- Systematics, taxonomic and biogeography Session Chair: Dr Valentin de Mazancourt			Session 2.2b- Marine research: intertidal to deep ocean Session Chair: Dr Nasreen Peer			
11:10	Tan, Zhi Wan	(062) Exploring the freshwater potamid diversity in karst systems of Southeast Asia	11:10	Christodoulou, Magdalini	(027) Patterns and drivers of decapod biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea	
11:30	Jakiel, Aleksandra	(077) Apseudomorpha worldwide: Distribution patterns or sampling artefacts?	11:30	Retief, Daniel J.	(030) Kelp holdfast associated crustacean assemblages on the Cape Peninsula: the pursuit for deeper understanding	
11:50	Arnold, Angel	(085) Exploring the diversity and distribution of calanoid copepods and branchiopods of temporary ponds of Var (Southern France)	11:50	Hu, Zhehao	(039) Effect of adult mobility on species distribution pattern of deep-sea isopods (Haploniscidae, Munnopsidae)	
12:10	Rabet, Nicolas	(087) Phylogenetic analyses of multiple South African populations assigned to <i>Leptestheria siliqua</i> Sars, 1898 reveal substantial molecular heterogeneity, supporting the hypothesis of a cryptic	12:10	Mdluli, Njabulo	(045) A comparative study of merozooplankton assemblages between management zones of the uThukela Banks MPA	
12:30			12:30	Miranda, Nelson	(046) Crab in the machine: Automated and standardised crab monitoring for global mangrove ecosystem assessments	
12:50	Lunch					
Session 2.3a- Ecotoxicology and diseases Session Chair: Dr Nelson Miranda			Session 2.3b- Marine research: intertidal to deep ocean Session Chair: Dr Emma Palacios Theil			
13:50	Drummond, Ari	(093) Flicking fibres: Microfibres act as sensory disruptors in a marine crustacean	13:50	Katharoyan, Chaitanya	(058) <i>Ecklonia maxima</i> holdfasts as natural microcosms: Foundations of ecological complexity in macrofauna communities	
Session 2.4a- Resource management Session Chair: Dr Nelson Miranda						
14:10	Theuerkauff, Dimitri	(071) Population structure and reproductive biology of spiny lobsters (<i>Panulirus</i> sp.) in Mayotte island (SW Indian Ocean)	14:10	Fennessy, Sean	(070) Mainly prawns and crabs! Reflections on South African east coast offshore megacrustaceans	

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14:30	van der Heever, Grant	(068) First insights into bycatch patterns in the West Coast Rock Lobster (<i>Jasus lalandii</i>) trap fishery	14:30	Landschoff, Jannes	(076) 1001 Seaforest Species: a novel online marine biodiversity platform to support marine research and ocean storytelling in the Great African Seaforest
14:50			Session 2.3b- Marine research: intertidal to deep ocean <i>Session Chair: Dr Emma Palacios Theil</i>		
			14:50	Mégevand, Laura	(080) Engineer crabs and ecophysiological investigations to better understand the effects of anthropogenic pollution on mangrove ecosystems
15:10	Mid-afternoon refreshments				
Session 2.5a- Reproduction, development and larval biology <i>Session Chair: Dr Nelson Miranda</i>			Session 2.4b- Marine research: intertidal to deep ocean <i>Session Chair: Dr Emma Palacios Theil</i>		
15:40	Wang, Chieh-Li	(015) Not all males are judged the same: Mixed mate choice strategies in milky fiddler crabs	15:40	Drummond, Ari	(094) Does noise elevation impact the foraging ability of intertidal hermit crabs?
16:00	Tsukimura, Brian	(097) Seasonal dominance, lunar effects and thermal stress on reproduction of a Rocky Intertidal Porcelain Crab	16:00	Nzama, Sazi F.	(095) Copepod response to metal contamination in Algoa Bay, South Africa
16:20			16:20	Pentcheff, N. Dean	(099) All the things: Every species on the California coast
16:40	POSTER SESSION				
17:30	Close of Day 2				
18:30	Public Talk at the Botanical Gardens - How knowledge about the ecology and evolution of crustaceans is changing how we look at life (George Branch)				

Thursday 04 June 2026

VENUE	Auditorium 1		Auditorium 2		
08:30	Registration Open Arrival coffee/tea				
Session Chair: Dr Jannes Landschoff, Sea Change Project- 1001 Seaforest Species					
09:00	Plenary Session 3- Unlocking biodiversity data for decisions that make a difference: two decades of research shaping ocean assessment, planning and protection - Prof. Kerry Sink, South African National Biodiversity Institute & Dr Lara Atkinson, Ecologist Marine Offshore Scientist (SAEON Egagasini Node)				
09:45	VENUE SPLIT/PARTITIONED				
Session 3.1a- Biodiversity, conservation and invasion: land to sea <i>Session Chair: Henry Knauber</i>			Session 3.1b- Phylogenetics and genomics: recent developments and advances <i>Session Chair: Dr Thomas Botha</i>		
10:05	Motitsoe, Samuel N.	(033) Zooplankton size matters: Testing the size-efficiency hypothesis in invaded freshwaters	09:35	Thoms Thorpe, Jessica A.	(012) (What) Can isopod genomes tell us about their ecological transitions?
10:25	Perroca, Julia Fernandes	(059) Life in the drift: Uncovering decapod larval diversity in Southeast Brazil with DNA metabarcoding	09:55	Nwekoyo, Vitalis E.	(034) Africa's first <i>Macrobrachium</i> mitogenomes: comparative mitochondrial genomics and phylogenetic insights from Nigerian waters
10:45	Ekpe, Sonigitu A.	(043) Evaluating marine protected areas management effectiveness in Sierra Leone and sustainable tourism potential in the Yellow Sea Ecoregion	10:15	Oliveira-Rogeri, Lucas	(079) Phylogenomics meets <i>Aegla</i> : phylogeny and biogeography of Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest aeglid species (Decapoda: Anomura) using genomic-scale data
11:05	Mid-morning refreshments				
Session 3.2a- Biodiversity, conservation and invasion: land to sea <i>Session Chair: Henry Knauber</i>			Session 3.2b- Phylogenetics and genomics: recent developments and advances <i>Session Chair: Dr Thomas Botha</i>		
11:40	Nsibandé, Lunelo	(073) Ecology and spatial distribution of crustaceans in Algoa and St Francis bays, Eastern Cape, South Africa	11:10	Dlamini, Sthembile	(096) Comparison study of the genetic diversity of an invasive crustacean genus <i>Megabalanus</i>
12:00	Błażewicz, Magdalena	(089) Environmental filtering and bathymetric structuring of tanaid assemblages in bass strait (se Australia)	11:30	Crustacean Genome Consortium	(088) The Crustacean Genome Project
12:20	Lunch				
13:20	TCS meeting & next conference bids				
14:15	Closing Session & Prize Giving				
15:00	Close of Meeting				
17:00	Depart from STIAS for Gala Dinner				
18:00	GALA DINNER @ GOLD				

Poster Session – Tuesday 02 June 2026, 16:40

Theme	Presenter	Abstract nr. and Title
Biodiversity, Conservation and Invasion: Land To Sea	Surroop, Bhuvaneshwaree	(007) Phylogenetic insights and occurrence patterns of marine crustaceans (superorder Eucarida and Hoplocarida; class malacostraca) associated with aquaculture net structures in Mauritius
	Costa, Rogerio C. Costa (presented by Perocca, Julia F.)	(083) Decapod diversity on tropical continental islands in Paraty, RJ, Brazil
Physiology and Ecology	Johnstone, Antonia M.	(018) Out of sight: the evolution of vision in the deep sea
	Ravaux, Juliette	(023) The sensory gene repertoire of deep-sea hydrothermal shrimp
	Bertin, Léandre	(061) Thermal tolerance under climate warming in the mangrove fiddler crab <i>Paraleptuca chlorophthalmus</i> : an integrative metabolic and behavioural approach
	Auerswald, Lutz	(065) Responses of the West Coast rock lobster, <i>Jasus lalandii</i> , to environmental stresses
Reproduction, Development and Larval Biology	Tudge, Christopher	(037) Comparative morphology of land hermit crab (Genus <i>Coenobita</i>) larval development
Resource Management	van der Heever, Grant	(066) From nearshore to offshore: Tracking size, sex, and population structure in West Coast Rock Lobsters (<i>Jasus lalandii</i>)
	Matshamba, Lulama L.	(072) Investigating spatial and temporal discard patterns of West Coast rock lobster <i>Jasus lalandii</i> across key fishing areas
Systematics, Taxonomic and Biogeography	Sato, Taigi	(024) Re-classification of hexapodid genera <i>Hexapinus</i> , <i>Mariaplax</i> and <i>Rayapinus</i> (Decapoda: Brachyura) based on molecular phylogeny and morphology
	Aranes, Tiago	(035) Molecular evidence for hidden diversity in Neotropical freshwater crab <i>Mikrotrichodactylus kensleyi</i> (Trichodactylidae)
	Moon, Ji-Young	(044) Checklist and distribution of symbiotic Brachyuran Crabs (Decapoda: Brachyura) from Korean Coastal and adjacent waters
	Peart, Rachael	(064) The curious case of the extraordinarily long goose barnacles (<i>Lepas</i> spp.)
	Theuerkauff, Dimitri	(069) Genetic structure and large-scale connectivity of the painted spiny lobster <i>Panulirus versicolor</i> across the Indo-Pacific

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