

# PORTWIMS

Your quarterly bite of Project News – November 2019



## Message from the Project Coordinator

It has been a busy period with lots of activity for the project including the annual meeting, a key research cruise and staff exchanges. As we complete the first year of the project I'm delighted with the progress so far and excited to see what the next 2 years will bring. I hope you enjoy reading our bitesize project news. For more information about the project and our activities please visit [www.portwims.org](http://www.portwims.org)



## A Productive PORTWIMS Meeting

Project partners got together on 7-8 November at AWI's headquarters in Bremerhaven for the 2nd annual project meeting. The group reviewed progress so far and discussed how to address any prevailing gaps in delivery of the programme. Key plans are for more staff visits, a workshop on socio-economics in Jan 2020, a 3rd summer school in late spring 2020 and more training and staff exchanges.

[read more.](#)



## 1st student visit to focus on socio-economics

Alice Santos from Lisbon University visited Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) in the Autumn to work with PML's socio-economists and attend a training course that helped partner countries to build resilient marine and coastal socio-ecological systems and support blue economies. Alice found the 'experience of the exchange extremely positive'. She was able to 'acquire useful skills and learn new perspectives and approaches' ([read more](#)).



## Students on AMT29 explore the effects of dust on a key species of phytoplankton

PORTWIMS has funded students from Lisbon University to take part in the Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) for the second year running. Over the 6 week cruise in Oct/Nov the team collected daily dust samples to compare to biological communities. Insights into their experiences of the cruise are below ([read more](#)).



## Guilia's rewarding experience on AMT29

"Participating in the Atlantic Meridional Transect has been one of the most enriching experiences I have ever had. As a master student in Marine Science, being in a research vessel across the Atlantic Ocean for more than a month surrounded by experienced scientists has been like a full immersion of everything I've studied in books. I am really thankful to the PORTWIMS project for giving me the opportunity to take part in this unforgettable experience" ([read more](#)).



## Perspectives from Andreia and Carolina

Along with Guilia Sent, Andreia Tracana and Carolina Sá were funded by PORTWIMS to join AMT29. Andreia found the experience "helped her to grow as a scientist and as a person". Carolina remarked on how enriching it was to share her days with people from different cultures (more than 10 different nationalities on board!) and understand that the ocean can contribute to a world with no "walls" ([read more](#)).



## Positive feedback on 2019 summer schools

All of the students who took part in PORTWIMS summer schools during 2019 were asked to provide feedback on their experience so that the organisers can learn lessons for planning future events. The responses were extremely positive with all of the students stating that the training was useful. In particular many of the students remarked at how beneficial the practical elements of the course had been. More summer schools will be held next year - watch this space.



## University of Lisbon event

On the 30th October the Faculty of Sciences at the University of Lisbon held its first Science Research Day, where several oral communications and posters were presented, highlighting the institute's work. Portwims leaflets were available and distributed.

## PORTWIMS on Social Media

For more frequent project news please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



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