

**Perspectives on river and coastal floods in tropical environments.  
Combining recent insights and novel approaches for vulnerability and  
risk assessment.**

**Speaker:** Dr. James Terry  
Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

**Chair:** Prof. Stephen Gale  
School of Geography, Earth Science & Environment, USP

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, 26 June 2012  
4.00 – 5.15 pm, followed by refreshments

**Place:** Marine Lecture Theatre, Lower Campus, USP



### **Abstract**

This research seminar provides insights from recent work on a number of issues relating to river and coastal floods caused by tropical storms in the South Pacific. Field results are presented for a variety of locations in Fiji, New Caledonia and the Cook Islands where high-magnitude floods have caused significant geomorphic and hydrogeological effects through various processes associated with energetic discharge peaks, storm surge and sediment mobilization. Post-event modelling and simulations are helpful in illuminating several implications for island hazard assessment, and in particular for evaluating the fate of water resources in future scenarios of possibly increasing inundation linked to sea-level rise.

The talk is sponsored by the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS) and will be followed by a presentation on opportunities for Pacific Scientists to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the AOGS, which will be held in Brisbane in June 2013.

### **About the Speaker**

James Terry is Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore and Adjunct Professor at USP. His specialist interests lie in tropical geomorphology, hydrology and island geoscience. He has over 20 years of research and consulting experience on natural hazards, climatic variability, fluvial and coastal responses to large-magnitude events, and water resource issues. Current responsibilities include Treasurer of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS) and Chair of the Steering Group on Natural Hazards and Disasters with the International Council for Science (ICSU). Recent book publications include:

‘Natural Hazards in the Asia–Pacific Region. Recent Advances and Emerging Concepts’ (with James Goff), Geological Society of London: UK, 2012.

‘The Marshall Islands – Environment, History and Society in the Atolls’ (with Frank Thomas), USP: Fiji, 2008.

‘Tropical Cyclones: climatology and impacts in the South Pacific’, Springer: New York, 2007.

**ADMISSION IS FREE – ALL ARE WELCOME**

ENQUIRES: Dr Tolu Muliaina, 3232542