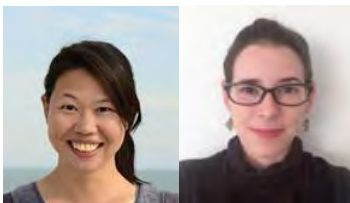


### Staff Turnover and Promotions



*Joyce Ong and Liesbeth Frias recently joined ASE...*



*... as did Hanna A Rauf and Ho Qian Yi.*



*Dr Weiran Li (Alex) secured a post-doc position in Cambridge.*

First we are pleased to welcome a new faculty hire, Dr Joyce Ong, who recently joined the ASE as an Assistant Professor. Dr Ong is a marine fish ecologist, her research is focused on the connections between fish populations, climate change and human systems (e.g., fishers and fishery agencies). She is passionate about fish otoliths (ear stones), tropical reef systems and open data science tools, and misses diving in Singapore waters (!). More new hires include Dr Liesbeth Frias, Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow who will be working with Asst Prof Janice Lee's team, Hanna A Rauf, new Research Associate with Asst Prof Perrine Hamel's team, and Ho Qian Yi, new Research Assistant working with Asst Prof Kelly Andersen's team. A warm welcome to you all and also to all our new PhD students joining ASE in January!

Dr Natasha Bhatia has been appointed as ASE Associate Chair, (Academic), effective 1 January 2021. She will be assisted by Asst/Prof Judith Hubbard, who is the current Assistant Chair (Academic). Dr Bhatia replaces Associate Professor Adam Switzer, who has been appointed Assistant Dean (Development), College of Science and Deputy Director, Undergraduate Research Experience on Campus (URECA) program. Many thanks to both Dr Bhatia and Assoc Prof Switzer for all their valuable contributions to ASE in their previous roles.

Recent PhD graduate Dr Weiran Li (Alex) is moving on to a post doc at the department of Earth Sciences in Cambridge, UK. Best of luck to her and to any other ASE staff or students who landed a new job that we did not hear about yet.

*Correction for the last newsletter: Former ASE PhD student Steven Pansino secured a post doc position in the UK, not the US.*

## Awards, Recognition, and Grants



Butterfly art by Alexis Goh.



Foraminifera art by Yan Yu Ting.

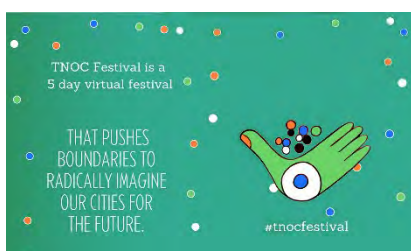
- Dr Adel Emadzadeh has won the prestigious [Karl Emil Hilgard Hydraulic Prize](#) from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).
- PhD student Christaline George was selected session [best presenter](#) in the 7th International Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture.
- Two contributions from the ASE were recently awarded in the CoS Art Competition: [First prize to Alexis Goh](#) for beautifully delineating some of her URECA study objects in oilpastel (9 common butterfly species in Singapore) and the [Merit Prize to Yan Yu Ting](#) for her stunning photographs of the foraminiferas she is doing her PhD on.
- Dr Sri Budhi Utami has won first prize in the NTU Graduate Student Association Creative Writing Competition 2020, on the theme of "Graduate Life". Her piece, that relates to environmentalism, will be published in the next issue of NTU College of Humanities' magazine "Constellation".

**CONGRATULATIONS ALL!** 😊

## Meetings and Events



Amit Gourav Ghosh at the GYSS.



TNOF Festival



Merapi volcano in Java  
(shutterstock\_1190133376)

- ASE PhD student [Amit Gourav Ghosh was selected among many nominees to attend the Global Young Scientists Summit 2021](#), where he got to discuss scientific matters with Noble Prize winners and other distinguished scientists from different scientific disciplines.
- **Upcoming February 18 – 22: Workshop on volcano monitoring infrastructure on the ground and in space.** International workshop on current capabilities and limits of volcano monitoring from the ground and space. Participants will contribute to the development of a Global Volcano Monitoring Infrastructure Database ([GVMID](#)) to be hosted at WOVodat, learn about satellite tools for volcano monitoring, and contribute to improving the utility of satellite data for volcanoes. Please register [here](#) by Feb.15.
- **Upcoming February 22-26: The Nature of Cities Festival (TNOF) "Better Cities for Nature and All People"**. ASE is involved through Asst Prof Perrine Hamel and Devansh Jain, Research Associate at ASE's Resilient and Liveable Cities Lab, who is also TNOF regional curator for Asia. Visit [www.tnoc-festival.com](http://www.tnoc-festival.com). Register here: <https://cvent.me/bO1nm5>

## Some recent publications and outreach from ASE



Adriana Lopes dos Santos [sampled plankton in Antarctica](#) for her latest publication.



In Clementi Forest with Louisa May Fung.



Federico Lauro could explain the purple waters and dead fish. Photo from Straits Times.



Happy Chinese New Year! Wishing you good health and much wealth during the year of the bull!

- He Shaoneng, Dominik Jackisch, Dhrubajyoti Samanta, Phyllis Kho Yu Yi, Guangxin Liu, Xianfeng Wang, Nathalie F. Goodkin. *JGR Atmospheres*, [Understanding tropical convection through triple oxygen isotopes of precipitation from the Maritime Continent](#)
- Nagur Cherukuru, Patrick Martin, Nivedita Sanwani, Aazani Mujahid and Moritz Müller. *Remote Sensing* [A Semi-Analytical Optical Remote Sensing Model to Estimate Suspended Sediment and Dissolved Organic Carbon in Tropical Coastal Waters Influenced by Peatland-Draining River Discharges off Sarawak, Borneo](#)
- Nicole Trefault, Rodrigo De la Iglesia, Mario Moreno-Pino, Adriana Lopes dos Santos, Catherine G rikas Ribeiro, G n sis Parada-Pozo, Antonia Cristi, Dominique Marie & Daniel Vaulot. *Scientific Reports*, [Annual phytoplankton dynamics in coastal waters from Fildes Bay, Western Antarctic Peninsula](#).
- Lian Pin Koh, Yuhan Li & Janice Ser Huay Lee. *Nature Sustainability* [The value of China's ban on wildlife trade and consumption](#).
- Keven Roy, Nicole S. Khan, Timothy A. Shaw, Robert E. Kopp and Benjamin P. Horton. *Climanosco Research Articles*, [Sea level under climate change: Understanding the links between the past and the future](#).
- Ngo Kang Min and Shawn Lum. *Biological Conservation*, [Lessons in ecology and conservation from a tropical forest fragment in Singapore](#)
- Karen T. Lourdes, Chris N. Gibbins, Perrine Hamel, Ruzana Sanusi, Badrul Azhar and Alex M. Lechner. *Land*, [A Review of Urban Ecosystem Services Research in Southeast Asia](#)
- Janice Lee. *Environ. Res. Lett.* [Does oil palm certification create trade-offs between environment and development in Indonesia?](#)
- Xin Wang, Qi-Fu Chen, Fenglin Niu, Shengji Wei, Jieyuan Ning, Juan Li, Weijun Wang, Johannes Buchen, Lijun Liu. *Nature Geoscience*, [Distinct slab interfaces imaged within the mantle transition zone](#)

### Outreach

- ASE final year student Louisa May Fung in SG Magazine: [Clementi Forest: Why nature in the heartlands of Singapore has never been so precious and beautiful](#)
- Dr Shawn Lum on Channel News Asia: [Climate change activists face challenges in sustaining the movement](#)
- Federico Lauro explained the pink waters of Sentosa cove in several news media: [Sentosa Cove's pink waters could be caused by algae bloom due to recent heavy rain, experts say](#), and [Pinkish-purple waters at Sentosa South Cove waterway after dead fish found near banks](#)
- Ngo Kang Min on CNA Heart of the matter: [What's so special about Dover Forest? When love of nature meets urban planning](#)

Have a recent publication or some other news? Drop Anna a line at: [alagerstroem@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:alagerstroem@ntu.edu.sg)