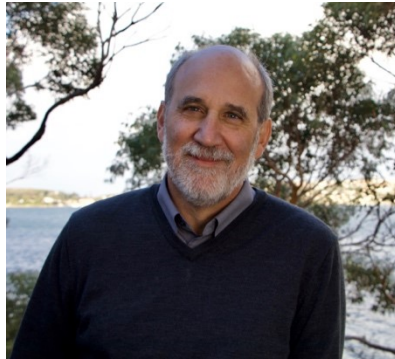

Professor Peter Steinberg



Director – Sydney Institute of Marine Sciences (SIMS)

Co-Director – The Centre for Marine Bio-Innovation (CMB)

School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences
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Professor Peter Steinberg is a renowned authority in the areas of marine chemical ecology and surface colonisation (including biofilms), as well as a leading proponent of the “macro-micro” approach to environmental microbiology. He received his Ph.D from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is currently a Professor in the School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences at the University of New South Wales as well as the Director and CEO of the Sydney Institute of Marine Sciences. Throughout his career he has blended traditional marine experimental ecology with natural products chemistry. Indeed, he is widely considered as one of the founders of marine chemical ecology. Moreover, Steinberg’s multidisciplinary approach to understanding the colonisation of surfaces integrated marine ecology with molecular microbiology, larval biology, biofilms and synthetic chemistry to fundamentally change the way we think about interactions of both prokaryotes and eukaryotes with surfaces in the sea. This work resulted in both the first natural inhibitor of bacterial cell-cell signalling (quorum sensing) as well as the first characterised and quantified natural chemical inducer of settlement for a marine invertebrate. Most recently, over the last 10 years Professor Steinberg has incorporated cutting-edge environmental sequencing and ‘omics into his work, becoming a leader in integrating ecological theory and concepts with environmental microbiology, or the “macro-micro” approach.