
Professor Lynnath Beckley



Environment and Conservation Sciences

Murdoch University

This year's Jubilee Award winner is **Professor Lynnath Beckley**, Environment and Conservation Sciences, Murdoch University, for her work on ocean and coastal environments in Western Australia and the Indian Ocean. Lynnath has an outstanding research record across fields as diverse as larval fish communities and biological oceanography to human use of coastlines. Lynnath pioneered the research to collect baseline information on human use patterns across marine protected areas and has established standard methodology that can be applied in monitoring programs. Establishing these benchmarks has informed the development and management of marine protected areas such as Ningaloo and the Kimberley, and supports ongoing monitoring through these protocols.

Lynnath had the vision to conceive the second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2), which retraced the original 110°E line, and the drive to pull together an international team to make the expedition a reality. The revisited 110°E line included investigations on multi-decadal ecosystem changes, the distribution of microbes, biogeochemistry, pelagic food webs, and bio-optics related to satellite remote sensing of the south-east Indian Ocean. Lynnath is an inspirational leader and mentor who encourages collaboration among students and colleagues. She invests heavily in ensuring her students go on to successful careers.