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PREFACE

As chairs of the 13th International Coastal Symposium, we would like to warmly welcome our delegates to the sunny east coast of South Africa. It was with great honour that we accepted the invitation, in 2012, from the Board of the Coastal Education and Research Foundation (CERF) to play host to this prestigious event, especially since it is the 30th Anniversary of the Journal of Coastal Research. We are very pleased to use this occasion to introduce to you some of the local research in coastal and marine sciences here in Durban.

This event is hosted by the University of KwaZulu-Natal’s (UKZN) School of Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Sciences’ Discipline of Geological Science. Geological Sciences at UKZN is a small unit concerned primarily with mineral exploration and the mining sectors. It has, however, maintained a strong focus on sedimentology and geomorphology since the pioneering work of the late Prof. Lester C. King. In the last four years, the emergence of a vibrant and productive Marine Geology Research unit at UKZN has led to a resurgence in the study of the coastal and marine areas of southern Africa. It was within this small unit that this conference was organised.

Out of the initial 820 abstracts submitted, 220 abstracts were accepted for presentation. Based on these abstracts, 136 full length, peer-reviewed papers now appear in Special Issue 70 of the Journal of Coastal Research. The production of this special issue could not have taken place without the assistance of the ICS2014’s scientific committee, the anonymous reviewers and the small team of willing postgraduate students who went above and beyond to copy edit and proof every paper therein.

Of course, no event could take place without logistical and financial backing. In this light, we wish to thank the University of KwaZulu-Natal for providing the financial manpower, together with a large donation from the College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, in order to ensure the ultimate success of ICS2014. We also wish to thank the Oysterbox, our host venue, for providing the sumptuous fare and surroundings within which the conference will take place. We are extremely grateful to Charlie Finkl, CERF President, for sponsorship of the conference dinner. He and Senior Vice President, Chris Makowski, provided constant support for the organisation of this conference since its inception.
Last but not least, we wish to thank you the delegates. Many have made a very long trip to be here in Durban. Without you, there would be little point to the conference. We hope that you will take this opportunity to renew old friendships, forge new ones, and establish new connections. Enjoy your stay.

Welcome, Welkom, Siyaalemukela, Amogela, Amohela, Amogela, Sondzela, Mi amukeriwile, Vho tanganedzwa, Amkela, Emukela

Dr. Andrew Green and Prof. Andrew Cooper

Conference co-chairs ICS2014