

FACULTY LECTURE SERIES

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November 5
FALL 2014

The Wonderful World of Corals:
Harnessing Basic Science to
Address an Ecological Crisis
- Ruth D. Gates, *Research Professor*

Coral reefs in Hawai'i and across the globe continue to decline in health due to intensifying climate change, resource extraction, and pollution. Although the future looks bleak, certain corals and reefs are not only surviving, but also *thriving* in conditions that kill others.

Dr. Gates will unveil the complex biology that underpins this natural variation in response. She will then discuss how this knowledge can be harnessed to develop tools that build resilience on reefs, arresting and improving the prognosis for coral reefs.

11:30am - 12:30pm
Hamilton Library, Room 301
Admission Free | Refreshments Provided



Dr. Gates is a research professor with the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology. Her broad interests lie in the biological mechanisms and traits that dictate the environmental thresholds of marine organisms. Specifically, she focuses on defining attributes in corals that underpin inter- and intra-specific differences in their sensitivity to thermal stress, ocean acidification and pollutants.

She and her group work on coral reefs, tropical marine ecosystems that protect coastlines, support tourism and provide nutrition to many island nations.

Presented by:

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