



PROFESSOR EELCO ROHLING

Sea level change and climate sensitivity



Current Organisation: University of Southampton

Administering Organisation: The Australian National University

Primary Research Field: Palaeoclimatology

National Research Priority: An Environmentally Sustainable Australia

Professor Eelco Rohling is a Professor in the School of Ocean and Earth Science at the University of Southampton.

Eelco's Australian Laureate Fellowship will help push his research another level (or two) up from what would normally have been possible, "because I will have more time to devote to the research myself", Eelco says. The Fellowship will also help Eelco improve the understanding of climate and sea-level change on timescales relevant to longer-term planning, by characterising the relationship between past sea-level and ice-volume change and other key climate factors such as temperature and greenhouse gases, and by quantifying how rapidly sea level may adjust to climate change.

Australia has long been a leader in sea-level research and Eelco says Australia is a good place to set up his comprehensive project. He also says "The Laureate Fellowships are a fantastic way of doing this, because they are sizeable enough to allow setting up a group that has the critical mass to achieve ambitious goals; in other words, one can 'hit the ground running' without major set-up delays."

Eelco received his PhD in Paleoceanography and Paleoclimate from Utrecht University, The Netherlands, in 1991. He has held academic and administrative positions at the University of Southampton since 1994, including Oceanography Exams Officer and Director of the Oceanography Undergraduate and Masters of Science Curriculum. He has also been the Chair of the International Marine Global Changes Study program.

Eelco has received a prestigious UK Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award and been a visiting scientist to the Lamont Doherty Earth Observation in the United States, invited Professor at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris, the Vice President of Palaeoclimatology of the European Geoscience Union and a Corresponding Fellow at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.

His most significant research contributions have focussed on the processes of past climate change on decadal to millennial time scales and the consequences of hydrological change on ocean circulation, marine ecosystems, and organic carbon sequestration or burial.

Find out more about Eelco and his research by visiting the [University of Southampton website](#). Media may phone Martyn Pearce on 02 6125 5575 or 0416 249 245 for more information on Eelco's story and what this Australian Laureate Fellowship means for him.

For more information on the Australian Laureate Fellowships scheme visit the [ARC website](#) or phone the ARC media team on 0412 623 056.

To download the photo displayed at the top of this factsheet, please visit the [Australian Laureate Fellowships photo page](#) on the ARC website.