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PREFACE

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PREFACE

The host of the 12th International Coastal Symposium (ICS) is the Coastal Processes Research Group (CPRG) of the School of Marine Science and Engineering at Plymouth University. CPRG has a rich pedigree with strong roots in Coastal Science which date back to the Institute of Marine Studies in the 1980s and the work of Professors Keith Dyer and David Huntley. The CPRG is a vibrant centre for research and teaching with an emphasis on field based studies designed to increase our understanding of coastal processes and their prediction and application in the coastal zone. We are honoured that the Board of the Coastal Education and Research Foundation (CERF) agreed to let us host this 12th incarnation of ICS and it is with great honour and pleasure that we bring ICS to our home here in Plymouth in the beautiful south-west of the United Kingdom.

The ICS is a unique forum for the exploration of a broad range of coastal issues and ICS2013 is no exception. With over 800 abstract submissions received and 369 full length peer reviewed papers in 16 broad topic areas published in the special issue, the full spectrum of coastal topics is represented. Physical and life scientists, engineers, economists and managers will be sharing their knowledge and questions on the floors of the 6 parallel sessions as well as within the pages of these volumes providing a stimulating and comprehensive forum for the exchange .of the latest knowledge on coastal science and its application.

It is appropriate that ICS2013 takes place in Plymouth with its long maritime tradition which has played such a strong role in the lives of Drake, the Pilgrims, Darwin and the countless others who took advantage of her superb harbour over the centuries. Plymouth is situated at the heart of Devon and Cornwall which are world renown for their beautiful and varied coastal environment including diverse estuaries, extensive sandy beaches and archetypical 'shingle' beaches representing a coastal setting which experiences among the world’s largest tides and some of Europe's finest surf.

We therefore expect that ICS2013 and this special issue of the Journal of Coastal Research will serve as fertile grounds for the exchange of international knowledge and expertise which will have a lasting impact on this fascinating and vital field.

Plymouth April 2013

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