

About the Authors

Peter Castro, Ph.D.

Peter Castro realized that he had to become a marine biologist during a high school field trip to the coral reefs in his native Puerto Rico. He obtained a B.S. in biology from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, but left the warm Caribbean for warm Hawaii to obtain a Ph.D. in marine zoology from the University of Hawaii, Manoa. His first experience with cold water was a year of post-doctoral research at Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University in Monterey Bay, California. He is currently professor at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He also holds a B.A. in history and art history from his home institution, something that took him eighteen years to accomplish as a part-time student. He is fluent in five languages and taught marine biology (in English and Spanish) as a Fulbright Scholar at Odessa State University in the former Soviet Union. His research specialty is the biology of crustaceans symbiotic with reef corals and other invertebrates, research that has taken him anywhere where the water is warm enough to dive. He has also been doing research for almost the last two decades on the systematics of deep-water crabs, mostly, of all places, in Paris, France. His research has also taken him in the last couple of years to Singapore, the Netherlands, and Hong Kong. Dr. Castro has published over 45 scientific papers on his research.



Michael Huber, Ph.D.

Michael was immediately fascinated by aquatic organisms when he caught his first trout on an Alaskan lake at age two. His interest in marine biology continued to grow over his ensuing school years, and he went on to obtain B.S. degrees in zoology and oceanography from the University of Washington in Seattle. After spending an Alaskan winter managing a laboratory for the trans-Alaskan oil pipeline project, he entered graduate school at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. In 1983 he received his doctorate for research on a group of crabs that live symbiotically with corals. He remained at Scripps as a research biologist, working on such diverse research topics as the genetics and cell biology of unicellular algae and bioluminescence in midwater organisms. In 1988 he moved to the Biology Department at the University of Papua New Guinea, where he had the opportunity to work on some of the world's most spectacular coral reefs and was Head of the University's Motupore Island Research Station. He also became increasingly involved in marine environmental science, especially with regard to reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, and other tropical systems. This interest continued to grow when he left Papua New Guinea in 1994 to become the Scientific Director of James Cook University's Orpheus Island Research Station on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. In 1998 he became a full-time environmental advisor, providing scientific information and advice on marine environmental issues and the development of conservation programs to international agencies, governments, and private industry. Dr. Huber is the Chair of GESAMP, an international scientific body that advises the United Nations system on marine environmental issues, and he is currently assisting with the establishment of a permanent UN system to assess and report to governments on the state of the global marine environment. Since the seventh edition, his work has taken him to Belgium, Chile, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Korea, Mauritius, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Switzerland, and Thailand.

Dr. Huber lives in Brisbane, Australia, with his wife and two children. His hobbies are fishing, diving, swimming, jazz and rock music, reading, and gardening.