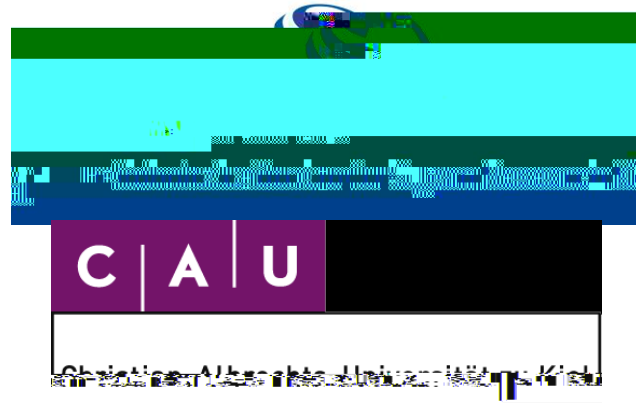


Press Release



35/2014

International Ocean Sampling Day in Kiel

Researchers at GEOMAR and Kiel University participate in a global measurement campaign

19 June 2014/Kiel. Saturday, 21 June, is "Ocean Sampling Day." Marine scientists will take water samples at over 170 locations worldwide to investigate the distribution and genetic diversity of microorganisms in the water. Also scientists from the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Kiel University and the joint Cluster of Excellence "The Future Ocean" will participate in this measurement campaign, the largest of its kind. The activities can be followed live on the internet.

What do Hawaii, Bermuda and Eckernförde Bay have in common? All three - along with about 170 other places around the world - will be part of a worldwide scientific project next Saturday. Researchers around the globe will take seawater samples on the international "Ocean Sampling Day" (OSD), which will then be analyzed regarding the composition of microorganisms using standardized methods. Thus, researchers can obtain a global view of the genetic diversity and distribution of microbes in the sea. "These microscopically small creatures are among the oldest forms of life. They also play an important role in the climate system of the earth. Without them there would, for example, be no atmosphere suitable for humans", says the marine biologist Dr.



