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**“IT WAS VERY EXCITING IN THOSE DAYS.
WE WERE EXPLORERS.”**

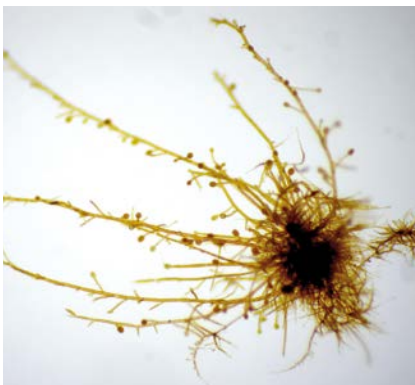
Marie-Tharp (1920-2006), Oceanographer, Faculty 1948-83

A pioneer of modern oceanography, Tharp was the first to map details of the ocean floor on a global scale. Her observations became crucial to the eventual acceptance of the theories of plate tectonics and continental drift in the earth sciences.

Thursday, 23rd April 2015, 2:15 p.m. [14:15 h]

GEOMAR Lecture Hall West (R.B54) | Düsternbrooker Weg 20, 24105 Kiel

Host-microbe interactions as a driver of brown algal acclimation to environmental changes



Brown algae are multicellular, mainly marine organisms that live along the coastlines of all continents, where they form the dominant vegetation in the intertidal zone and constitute important primary producers. Many brown algae are strongly impacted by human activities and climate change, underlining the importance of understanding how these organisms function and interact with their environment.

An important step towards understanding how brown algae acclimate to environmental changes has been the development of *Ectocarpus* as a genomic and genetic model for this lineage which led to a range of new approaches to study stress tolerance in this organism. *Ectocarpus* is an also cosmopolitan genus of small filamentous brown algae with a high capacity to acclimate to different environments and a long history of research. So far, studies of acclimation to environmental changes in algae have dealt primarily with the algae themselves, but very little is known about the reaction of the associated microbiome in response to these changes. In this talk I will focus on the impact of abiotic [here salinity] changes on the bacterial phycosphere and its potential role during the algal acclimation. I will highlight how the concept of holobiont has modified our vision of the biology of brown algae.