

## Preface

Kagoshima University Research Center for the South Pacific, established in 1981, focuses its major research on the South Pacific and surrounding area. Principal areas of research undertaken by the Research Center include studies of natural environment, ecology, resources, social structures and community health.

The Research Center's *Occasional Papers* publish the outcomes of research on certain limited topics conducted by full-time staff, associate academic staff and members of joint research projects of the Center.

The present paper, the first in a series of *Occasional Papers*, deals with the habitat of *Nautilus pompilius* in the Philippines. The research project on which this paper is based was headed by Dr. Shozo HAYASAKA, Professor at the Faculty of Science, Kagoshima University, and an Associate Academic Staff Member of the Research Center. Based on well-organized intensive field research and laboratory works, this paper is a significant contribution to the study of *Nautilus* ecology.

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. HAYASAKA and the members of the research project for their permission to publish this paper as *Occasional Papers No. 1*. Following this, I expect a series of papers will be included in our *Occasional Papers*.

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Director