During his Honours project, Dennis aimed to provide one of the first insights on the effects of elevated CO2 on the physiology and behaviour of marine elasmobranches. He achieved this through investigation of the effects of ocean acidification on the behaviour and physiology of the benthic epaulette shark (*Hemiscyllium ocellatum*). He used video analyses to test foraging and shelter seeking behaviours and intermittent flow respirometry to investigate resting oxygen consumption rates and hypoxia tolerance.

Dennis found that *H. ocellatum* remained unaffected by elevated CO2, both physiologically and behaviourally. This result may be due to a cross-protection provided by the adaptation to life on shallow reef flats and the associated frequent encounters of severe short-term hypoxia.

The research falls within the research priorities of AIMS and JCU covering not only the urgent matter of ocean acidification caused by increasing anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, but also focusing on a species commonly found on the Great Barrier Reef.