

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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JANUARY 2007

### BREAKING NEWS—

#### **Reminder: New Phone Numbers at NSGO**

New phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory: <http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

#### **Response Integration Team**

Jim Murray will serve as committee chair of the Response Integration Team (RIT), which has been organized for the purpose of assessing the range of recommendations from the National Research Council Committee Evaluation of the Sea Grant Program Review Process (NRC Report). The RIT is comprised of two members from the SGA (P. Andersen and J. Kramer) and two members from the NSGO (Murray and K. Garber). The RIT has appointed three subcommittees (strategic planning, program assessment and NSGO operations) each comprised of two members from the SGA and NSGO. The National Sea Grant Review Panel will also be providing advice on how best to address the recommendations of the NRC and Murray will serve as liaison between the RIT and NSGRP to ensure communications between the two parallel efforts.

#### **NSGO Solicits Your Expertise and Welcomes Ralph Rayburn (TX SG) and Sharon Walker (MS-AL SG)**

Given staff shortages at the National Sea Grant Office, we are filling gaps by tapping the talents of our network. Over the past few years, we've heard from you that NSGO needs to draw upon the network to help address priorities at the national level. In response to your requests, we at NSGO invite others in the Sea Grant family who are interested in working as part of a "national Sea Grant team" to offer your talents and expertise. Please let us know if you wish to offer your skills in order to help ensure that important needs and priorities are addressed at the

national level. In order to provide some subject areas/needs, NSGO will gather a list of topics (areas in which help is needed) and distribute it to the network. We also welcome your ideas.

To this end, we are delighted to announce that Ralph Rayburn and Dr. Sharon Walker have just joined NSGO (part-time) in order to support national extension and educational undertakings. Ralph Rayburn will serve in an Extension Program liaison capacity to help with special projects. For example, he will work with high-level partners including FEMA, work with the network in determining the future of fisheries extension enhancement, and help organize a search process for the program leader for extension for the National Sea Grant College Program. Ralph will visit NSGO as needed, but work from his office at Texas A&M. He can be contacted at: [ralph-rayburn@tamu.edu](mailto:ralph-rayburn@tamu.edu) Sharon Walker's duties will include representing the Sea Grant Education Network on the NOAA Education Council and in the development of a Sea Grant National Strategic Plan, assisting the NOAA Office of Education with ocean literacy issues, ensuring that the Gulf of Mexico Alliance's education activities are aligned with NOAA's education priorities, and more. Sharon can be contacted at: [sharon.walker@usm.edu](mailto:sharon.walker@usm.edu)

### **Michelle Harmon Takes Lead for NOAA Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program**

For the next year, the NOAA Aquatic Invasive Species Program will have a new manager. Michelle Harmon ([michelle.harmon@noaa.gov](mailto:michelle.harmon@noaa.gov), 301-734-1066 ext. TBD) from the NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science has started a developmental rotation to act as Program Manager for the NOAA AIS Program during 2007. In this role, she will work closely with the Sea Grant invasive species community, which she says was one of the attractions of the assignment. Michelle is known for her scientific experience, managerial prowess and enthusiasm. Please welcome her aboard. Dorn Carlson's role in the AIS Program will be significantly reduced this year, and he will take up more Sea Grant duties.

### **Final Evaluation Week, January 29-February 2**

NSGO staff and two members of the National Sea Grant Review Panel will conduct final evaluation reviews of the eight Sea Grant programs reviewed in 2006: Maine, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico, Alaska, Louisiana, Delaware, Connecticut and New Hampshire.

### **TAT Reports**

The Topical Advisory Team (TAT) Report for National Sea Grant Law Center has been transmitted to the National Sea Grant Review Panel by the Chairman of the review, Mr. Jeffrey Stephan.

The Topical Advisory Team (TAT) Report for the Coastal Community Development Program has been transmitted to the National Sea Grant Review Panel by the Chairman of the review, Dr. John Woeste.

Once these reports are accepted by the National Sea Grant Review Panel, they will

be forwarded to the National Sea Grant Program Director for action (and at that time, made available for all).

### **Performance Measures**

A few programs were contacted regarding their performance measures for 2007 (submitted in October 2006). Thanks to all of you for your speedy responses.

### **Quarterly Highlights: Sea Grant's 1st Quarter**

Please view them at: <http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/aboutsg/sghighlights.html>

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Continuing Resolution (CR)**

The CR will continue through February 15<sup>th</sup>. As a result, we will provide partial funding for omnibus awards allocated under the CR to the Sea Grant program. Releases of funds have been forwarded to NOAA's Grants Management Division (GMD). New omnibus awards are expected to be forwarded to GMD by the end of this week.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

For assistance with Grants Online, the toll-free number is 1-877-662-2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **NSIs**

### **Due January 18**

Full proposals for National Strategic Investments are due to the National Sea Grant Office by January 18, 2007 via Grants.gov. (Oyster Disease Research Program, Gulf of Mexico Oyster Industry Program, and Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Outreach Program). The peer review panel for each competition will be held in March.

Mail reviews are due February 2, 2007 to the following email address:

[/oar.hq.nsgo.competitions@noaa.gov/](mailto:/oar.hq.nsgo.competitions@noaa.gov/)

### **Aquatic Invasive Species**

The SG Programs reported to the National Office that they received ten full proposals for the 2007 aquatic invasive species NSI. This number is much smaller than in previous AIS competitions, but commensurate with the anticipated AIS budget in 2007. Peer reviews of these proposals by the Programs are ongoing. We're anticipating making two or three awards, to projects that reflect regional aquatic invasive species priorities as determined

by the regional panels of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.

### **Ballast Water**

The submission deadline for treatment technology full proposals to the Ballast Water Technology Demonstration Program has arrived. We are sorting through the submissions to remove the duplicates and non-responsive applications, and expect to have received about 25 ballast water treatment technology proposals.

### **SBIR due January 17, 2007**

The Department of Commerce (DOC) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) invites small businesses to submit research proposals. Objectives of the program include stimulating technological innovation in the private sector and strengthening the role of small business in meeting Federal research and development (R&D) needs. This program also seeks to increase the commercial application of innovations derived from Federal research and to foster and encourage participation by socially and economically disadvantaged and woman-owned small businesses. To learn more, visit: <http://www.ago.noaa.gov/ad/solindex.shtml> (scroll down to SBIR).

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **OAR-NMFS Research Retreat**

A joint research retreat for NOAA (NMFS and OAR) leadership will be held January 23-24. The purpose is to explore common areas of interest and potential partnerships across the line offices.

### **Regional planning workshop**

We are in the process of planning a regional workshop that will bring in PIs from seven regions (those who submitted regional proposals) to coordinate with each other in the development of regional proposals; to meet with NSGO PO representatives for each region; and, to meet with other NOAA staff members working on regional initiatives. Details will follow.

### **Integration of NOAA's Coastal Programs**

Discussions are underway to integrate NOAA's coastal programs. The NOS Office of Coastal and Resource Management (OCRM) is working on a strategic plan and hopes to work together with Sea Grant to identify goals and priorities. They will soon solicit comments on a draft document. Stay tuned.

## **RESEARCH**

See NSI's, above.

## **OUTREACH**

### **NOAA Science Advisory Board**

This month, Jim Murray provided an overview of Sea Grant extension, education and communications to a working group on Extension, Outreach and Education organized under the auspices of the NOAA Science Advisory Board. The purpose of this working group is to support the SAB in providing advice to NOAA to strengthen, coordinate, organize and improve its extension, outreach, and education activities to fully engage its constituents. The working group is co-chaired by Frank Kudrna of the NSGRP and includes three other Panel members (John Byrne, Jerry Schubel and Jeff Stephan) and Ohio Sea Grant Director Jeff Reutter.

### **Extension**

See Ralph Rayburn announcement in "Breaking News."

### **Communications**

#### **Daniel Perry joins OAR Public Affairs**

We are pleased to announce the addition of Daniel Parry to the NOAA Research Headquarters Public Affairs staff. Dan has served in public affairs in NOAA Fisheries and in NOAA Ocean Service. Dan has been a public affairs specialist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a public relations intern for the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. He holds a bachelor's degree from Bowie State University in Bowie, Md., and has completed some graduate coursework in Public Relations Management. To start, Dan will focus on some of the NOAA Research grant-making entities, such as Sea Grant and the joint and cooperative institutes. Dan began on January 8<sup>th</sup> and can be reached at 301-734-1092.

#### **David Bryant becomes Communications Chair**

This month, Kurt Byers (AK SG) completed his tenure as Chair of the Sea Grant Communications network. David Bryant (GA SG) has assumed this position for 2007 and Elizabeth LaPorte will serve as Chair beginning in 2008. We would like to thank Kurt for his service to the Sea Grant network. We are also pleased to welcome David and look forward to working with both he and Elizabeth this year and next. Our thanks to each of you, and welcome!

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, Washington Sea Grant, and Wisconsin Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

### **Education**

See Sharon Walker announcement in "Breaking News."

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

The class of 2006 completes its fellowship on January 31. The class of 2007 begins its fellowship February 1.

The application window is now open for the class of 2008. The deadline for programs to submit their applications through Grants.gov is April 5, 2007.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATS**

**National Sea Grant Review Panel Meeting**, February 20-22, at the office of the Consortium of Oceanographic Research and Education which is located at 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

### **Sea Grant News**

**January 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**

**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

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Review Panel/PO Updates  
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FEBRUARY 2007

## **BREAKING NEWS—**

### **Final Evaluation Week**

The NSGO completed the Final Evaluation Week (January 29<sup>th</sup> – February 2<sup>nd</sup>), which concludes the second cycle of PAT Reviews. In 2007, there will be no reviews due to the need to assess recommendations from the National Research Council Committee Evaluation of the Sea Grant Program Review Process Report (NRC Report).

### **Quarterly Senior Research Council (SRC) Retreat**

OAR/NOAA Research lab directors met with line office program directors to go over budget and OAR management issues. One session focused on the importance of the open communication of NOAA science. The meeting reinforced the Agency's role in communicating science in an open and transparent way—something that Sea Grant does well.

### **OAR-NMFS Research Retreat**

A joint research retreat for NOAA (NMFS and OAR) leadership was held January 23-24. The purpose was to explore common areas of interest and opportunities for collaboration across the line offices. The meeting brought together NMFS Science Center directors and OAR leadership and program directors (close to 40 people) to discuss current and future partnerships, including fisheries extension and education. Terry Smith reviewed education proposals submitted for the meeting and made the education presentation; Jim Murray presented on fisheries extension; and, Nikola Garber facilitated the event.

### **Senior Executive Service (SES) Retreat**

The Senior Executive Service retreat focused on NOAA's regional planning activities. NOAA has formed teams to look for ways to increase regional collaboration. The Agency's regions include both coastal and inland areas. Sea Grant is keeping these

teams apprised of our regional planning efforts and activities. We will continue to update the SG network with information about these efforts.

### **NOAA and OAR Leadership to Meet with Sea Grant**

Scott Rayder (NOAA Chief of Staff) and Dr. Rick Spinrad (Assistant Administrator, OAR/NOAA Research) will present to both the Sea Grant Review Panel and the Sea Grant Association in the next few weeks. Jamie Krauk and Nikola Garber are working on talking points and pre-brief materials.

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

This process (in response to the NRC Report) is off to a strong start and is generating many fresh ideas. SGA and NSGO sub-teams are coming up with an open and transparent process for evaluation in order to continue to improve our programs, and exploring how best to approach strategic planning at the national and state levels.

**Strategic Planning Process Sub-Team:** This RIT sub-team has completed a working draft plan (set of recommendations) for strategic planning.

**Program Assessment Process Sub-Team (February 13 & 14<sup>th</sup>):** This sub-team met to discuss a number of recommendations from the NRC Report. The team is making headway in formulating recommendations for a new approach to program evaluation.

**National Sea Grant Office Operations Sub-Team:** This sub-team is beginning to categorize appropriate recommendations to begin outlining possible responses.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Continuing Resolution (CR)**

The budget has been passed to cover the remaining portion of the year. Unfortunately, we will not receive the final allocation of funding for some time. We are mindful of the fact that this will have a real impact on your programs and we are committed to minimizing the effects as much as possible.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

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## **REVIEW PANEL & PROGRAM OFFICER UPDATES**

**National Sea Grant Review Panel Meeting, February 21-22**, at the office of the Consortium of Oceanographic Research and Education located at 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Panel website:

[http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/leadership/review\\_panel.html](http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/leadership/review_panel.html)

### **Panel Federal Official**

Jim Murray was appointed as the Designated Federal Official for activities associated with the National Sea Grant Review Panel and has been working on several Panel related issues including working with Panel Chair Nat Robinson to organize the next panel meeting scheduled for February 21 & 22 in Washington, DC.

### **Regional Restoration Planning Project Presentation**

Megan Agy delivered a presentation to the NOAA Habitat Program on the Regional Restoration Planning Project in Coos Bay, Oregon that was competitively awarded in 2005 to Oregon Sea Grant and the Coos Watershed Association with Estuary Restoration Act funds.

### **Regional Planning PI Workshop**

Many Program Officers are involved with the current Sea Grant Research and Information Planning effort. We started last month to plan for a Regional PI workshop here in Silver Spring. The workshop will provide PIs with an opportunity to meet with each other as well as with NOAA leadership involved in NOAA's regional efforts. Megan and Jamie Krauk are working together to plan this workshop for March or April.

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **NOAA Science Advisory Board Working Group**

A working group of the NOAA Science Advisory Board has been appointed for the purpose of providing advice to NOAA to strengthen, coordinate, organize and improve its extension, outreach and education activities to fully engage its constituents. The working group consists of ten members and has excellent Sea Grant representation, including four members from the Sea Grant Review Panel (F. Kudrna, co-chair, J. Byrne, J. Schubel and J. Stephan) and J. Reutter (OH SG Director). Murray provided an overview of Sea Grant extension, education and communications at the first meeting of the group which will be meeting at least two more times over the next several months.

#### **Sea Grant/Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Partnership**

In response to high-level political and agency leaders who urged the NSGO to

explore collaboration with FEMA at the national level (based on the success of the SG/FEMA post Katrina partnership), we have met with FEMA leaders to discuss Sea Grant's assets, common ground and general thoughts about a partnership. FEMA national leadership suggested that we begin with a project small in scope—specifically, developing a regional-based prototype partnership at Region VI headquartered in Denton, TX. Region VI includes Louisiana and Texas. On February 8th, a meeting was held with leadership of FEMA Region VI to explore elements of a potential partnership. FEMA emphasized that the conduit for federal emergency management funds must be the state emergency management office(s). Therefore, the key next step is to continue discussion at the state emergency management office and seek cooperation in building the proposed prototype for Sea Grant's involvement in emergency management at that level. We will continue to update members of the Sea Grant network on this pilot project as it unfolds.

See also **Workshop on Climate Science and Services: Coastal Applications for Decision Making**, below.

## Communications

### NOAA Spotlight Article

Michigan Sea Grant is this month's Spotlight for NOAA. Joyce Daniels did a wonderful job putting together the article and pictures. The title of the article is: "Michigan Sea Grant project enhances habitat for native lake sturgeon." When you have time, please check the article out at [http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_sturgeon.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_sturgeon.html)  
Thank you again Joyce!

### NOAA 200<sup>th</sup>

As many of you know, NOAA is celebrating the 200th anniversary of our predecessor agency Coast Survey. Jamie Krauk has the lead on one of the celebration events—Discovery Day at Dauphin Island Sea Lab—Discovering 200 Years of NOAA. The event will be held April 14, 2007. Jamie is working with LaDon Swann and MS-AL Sea Grant as well as other NOAA partners. If anyone is interested in participating in the event, please let Jamie know.

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, California Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, South Carolina Sea Grant, USC Sea Grant, and Virginia Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## Education

**Sea Grant Extension/Education:** Sharon Walker and Jack Thigpen will be giving a Sea Grant Education/Extension Network update to the National Sea Grant Review Panel on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATS**

**National Sea Grant Review Panel Meeting, February 21-22**, at the office of the Consortium of Oceanographic Research and Education, located at 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

### **Workshop on Climate Science and Services: Coastal Applications for Decision Making**

Sea Grant Extension and Outreach, April 10-12, 2007, in Charleston, South Carolina  
This workshop will explore and foster the use of the Sea Grant extension, communications and education networks as a facilitator of climate science and services in coastal decision making at the local level. The workshop will facilitate a dialogue among representatives of the Sea Grant climate extension network and the climate research and services communities. An opportunity will be provided for Sea Grant extension specialists to develop a better understanding of some of the current and future impacts of climate in coastal regions and the range of existing and emerging decision support resources available for coping with these impacts. In addition, the workshop is intended to generate insight related to the climate information needs of the Sea Grant extension network, as well as to foster collaboration among climate research and service providers, and the Sea Grant community. Several marine educators and communicators will be invited via a separate process. Each state program is invited to send one Sea Grant extension specialist to participate in this workshop. For additional information, contact (301-734-1266; [Lisa.Vaughan@noaa.gov](mailto:Lisa.Vaughan@noaa.gov)).

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### **Reminder: New Phone Numbers at NSGO**

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### **Sea Grant News**

**February 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

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**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

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MARCH 2007

### Breaking News—

#### **Rear Admiral Richard D. West, U.S. Navy (Retired) Joins National Sea Grant Review Panel**

The National Sea Grant Office is pleased to announce the appointment of Rear Admiral Richard D. West, U.S. Navy (Retired), to the National Sea Grant Review Panel (NSGRP) in 2007. Admiral West became President and CEO of the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) in August 2002. Admiral West came to CORE from the Department of the Navy where he served as Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy. During his three years as Oceanographer and Navigator, he managed a \$440 million annual program providing oceanographic, meteorological, geospatial information and navigation support to the Navy. He was designated the "first" Navigator of the Navy and lead the Navy transition from paper to electronic navigation. Prior to serving as Oceanographer, he was the Deputy Director for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. As President of CORE, Rear Admiral West leads and manages the Washington, DC-based association of 92 of the country's leading oceanographic research institutions, universities, laboratories, and aquaria. CORE's mission is to promote, develop, and support efforts to advance knowledge and learning in the science of oceanography and to disseminate such knowledge to the scientific community and to the public. The NOAA National Sea Grant College Program's Review Panel was established in 1976 and is authorized by statute (33 U.S.C. 1128) to advise the Secretary of Commerce, the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere (NOAA), and the Sea Grant Director on the direction, operations, and performance of the National Sea Grant College Program.

#### **Law Center and Coastal Community Development Topical Assessment Team Reports Available**

Two Topical Advisory Teams (TATs) reviewed the National Sea Grant Law Center and the Sea Grant Coastal Community Development (CCD) program, providing written

recommendations. The team reports are now online.

[http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/leadership/review\\_panel.html](http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/leadership/review_panel.html)

### **Lautenbacher Calls for Stakeholder Input**

As NOAA begins its strategic planning process for Fiscal Years 2010 - 2014, the Agency is inviting your input up front. The Agency wants to learn about external developments that could affect NOAA's strategic priorities, and how NOAA's priorities should be modified to reflect these developments.

Input received from NOAA programs and NOAA leadership over the course of the year will be used to help shape priorities for the FY 2010-2014 planning period. NOAA's Office of Program Planning and Integration (PPI) uses a systematic decision methodology to synthesize all input and identify the most urgent priorities for NOAA to address during the planning period. PPI will present this analysis to NOAA leadership in April.

The two issues that NOAA wants to understand are:

External developments that impact your relationship with NOAA, and  
How NOAA's priorities should be adjusted to meet your needs.

Using the current focus areas in the FY 2009 - 2013 Annual Guidance Memorandum (AGM) as a reference point for input, please consider what issues and trends impact your need for NOAA products and services and how NOAA's focus areas might need to be modified to reflect these developments.

Please submit your thoughts by March 30, 2007, by e-mailing

[strategic.planning@noaa.gov](mailto:strategic.planning@noaa.gov). You will find NOAA's current strategic priorities and focus areas at [http://www.ppi.noaa.gov/pdfs/AGM\\_2009\\_2013publicfinal.pdf](http://www.ppi.noaa.gov/pdfs/AGM_2009_2013publicfinal.pdf)

### **NOAA 200<sup>th</sup> April Event & GEOSS Roundtable**

NOAA 200th April event, Discovery Day: Discovering 200 Years of NOAA is shaping up. Jack Kelly, Bill Hogarth, and Rick Spinrad will attend from NOAA. Rick will hold a GEOSS roundtable on Friday April 13th and then the Discovery Day Festival will be held on April 14th. The festival will feature children's activities, Gulf coast chefs, and a variety of marine educational and outreach activities. In addition, we will hold the groundbreaking with Senator Shelby for his new Integrated Fisheries Assessment facility on Dauphin Island.

### **Congressional Report on New Programs**

The NSGO has drafted a report on new programs that is working its way up through the NOAA chain. The document will soon be approved and sent to Congress.

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

In response to the NRC Report, SGA and NSGO teams are coming up with an open and transparent process for evaluation in order to continue to improve our programs, and exploring how best to approach strategic planning at the national and state levels.

**Strategic Planning Sub-Team:** Finalizing a draft "Plan for the Plan." Met on Monday March 5th before the SGA meeting.

**Program Assessment Sub-Team:** Met on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the current preliminary draft report and our SGA presentation. The next meeting will be scheduled sometime later this month.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Omnibus Proposals**

Due October 1, 2007 (announced it at the SGA Meeting).

### **Grants Management Division Changes**

Rimas Liogys is now director of the Grants Management Division, NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office. Mike Nelson will assume a new role, assisting Helen Hurcombe and Dan Clever in the continuing evolution of the Agency's Grants function. He will represent NOAA in several inter-agency working groups that are helping develop the federal grants processes and policies for the future.

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## **REVIEW PANEL & PROGRAM OFFICER UPDATES**

Please see the Program Officer list, attached.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **NOAA Collaborations**

Working with other NOAA Coastal Programs (CZM, Coastal Services Center, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science) to find ways to enhance collaboration and better integrate our activities.

### **Messaging and Support**

Met with representatives of most coastal programs in NOAA and EPA to discuss innovative ways of getting a unified message across to the public and stakeholders in order to increase support for coastal issues.

### **Spring Review Panel Meeting**

The Panel discussed its recommendations for Sea Grant's planning and evaluation process to respond to the NRC review. I presented several overlying issues for the Sea Grant Program that the Panel might be able to take on (what to do about the declining research portfolio, the potential role of extension in partnering with other agencies, where we go with international Sea Grant, and how to facilitate Sea Grant's ability to respond to regional problems).

### **Sea Grant Association (SGA)**

At the spring meeting of the SGA, I reviewed the substantial progress that has been made in developing the NRC Response and Integration Team planning and evaluation process; provided an update on the reorganization of the National Sea Grant Office; and presented the current list of Program Officers including their regional assignments (attached).

## **RESEARCH**

### **NSIs**

Full proposal technical review panels for the Gulf of Mexico Oyster Industry Program and the Oyster Disease Research Program will take place in April.

### **Ballast Water**

The Panel Meeting for the Ballast Water Facility competition was completed in early March.

### **Social Sciences**

The Social Science Committee of the NOAA Research Council will meet for the first time this coming week.

## **OUTREACH**

### **Chesapeake Bay Regional Conference Call**

Jamie Krauk and Nikola Garber participated in a Chesapeake Bay regional conference call with other NOAA folks trying to find better ways to coordinate efforts within the Bay region. The group hopes to meet again in person, in March.

### **Extension**

#### **NEMO Briefing**

Representatives of NEMO (Chet Arnold & Dave Dickson) visited the NSGO in early March to provide an update on NEMO activities.

### **Communications**

#### **Winter *E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/winter/index.html>

## **NOAA Communications Strategy Forum**

NOAA recently created a new Office of Communications to better coordinate NOAA's message across line offices and communications functions. On Tuesday March 13, Sea Grant participated in the first NOAA Communications Strategy Forum. This day-long strategy session in the NOAA Science Center in Silver Spring brought together public affairs specialists, outreach professionals and communicators to discuss NOAA's new Office of Communications. Through these discussions, participants explored how each group can bring its strengths to bear to improve NOAA's communication to the media, the public and stakeholders.

## **Ocean Hall**

Efforts are well underway for development of the final Smithsonian Ocean Hall Gallery - the Global Climate Change interactive exhibit. OAR has the lead on this and Jamie Krauk is working with OAR-nominated climate expert Diane Stanitski on the effort.

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, California Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant and Wisconsin Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## **Education**

### **Ecosystem Goal Team**

Sami will meet with Ecosystem Goal Team folks to discuss Ocean Literacy within the Ecosystem Goal Team. She will also attend an EGT Ocean Literacy workshop for Sea Grant on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

**March 16: NOAA 101 Briefing Day** for the class of 2007 Sea Grant Knauss Fellows (44 Fellows). Speakers include: VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA Administrator Assistant Administrators (or their designees); Leon Cammen, Director, National Sea Grant College Program; Jacques (Jack) Oliver, Program Director, Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship Program; and, Felipe Arzayus, NOAA Program Coordination Office.

**May 2-4: 2008 Knauss Selection Panel;** Oliver

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATs (involving NSGO staff)**

March 5-6: SGA meeting. Hilton, Silver Spring

March 6: Knauss Alumni reception, sponsored by SGA and NAML, 6-8 pm, Botanic Gardens

March 12-14: Gulf Extension Agents meeting, Biloxi, MS; Kola

March 15: Coastal Storms Program roundtable, Biloxi, MS; Kola

March 10-11: GOIP Technical Panel; Oliver

March 17-18: ODRP Technical Panel; Oliver

March 30: Policy Roundtable with Duke University/Nicholas School of the Environment; Oliver

April 3-5: Pathways to Resilience: Sustaining Pacific Salmon in a Changing World, Portland, OR; Agy

April 13: GOESS roundtable, Mobile, AL; Jamie

April 14: 200<sup>th</sup> Event, Dauphin Island, AL; Jamie

May 1: Law Roundtable with National Sea Grant Law Center; Oliver

July 17-19: OAR Management Conference, Norman, OK; Murray/Kola

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### **Reminder: New Phone Numbers at NSGO**

New phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory: <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

### **Sea Grant News**

**March 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

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**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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Review Panel & Program Officer Update  
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APRIL 2007

### Breaking News—

#### **NSGO Welcomes Aquaculture Specialist and Database Developer**

Please welcome Dr. Andy Lazur, who joins the NSGO on detail for 80 percent of his time. Since 2001, Dr. Lazur has served as an Associate Professor/Aquaculture Specialist with the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. In his new capacity as the national aquaculture specialist, he will provide and distribute aquaculture information to Sea Grant agents and other NOAA offices, coordinate the National Marine Aquaculture Initiative and other OAR aquaculture research competitions, orchestrate international aquaculture exchange programs (China, Japan and Korea), and coordinate aquaculture research and extension activities with USDA CSREES. Dr. Lazur will also serve as the Sea Grant representative on: the NOAA aquaculture matrix team in developing program plans, the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture, and the National Aquaculture Extension Steering Committee. Dr. Lazur served as Aquaculture Extension Specialist with University of Florida from April 1990-May 2001, and as Aquaculture Research Coordinator with Louisiana State University from 1985-1988. His areas of expertise include: sturgeon restoration, fish hatchery and culture systems technology and management, aquatic plant culture and integrated nutrient management applications, water quality management, aquaculture economic and marketing considerations, and good aquaculture management practices. Dr. Lazur can be contacted at [Andy.Lazur@noaa.gov](mailto:Andy.Lazur@noaa.gov)

We are also pleased to announce the addition of Roopesh Das to the NSGO team. Mr. Das will complete development of the National Information Management System (NIMS) and will work with the Sea Grant programs to test and continue enhancing the system. He has over 11 years of experience in the information technology field with roles as Senior Information Analyst, Lead Designer and Developer, Architect and Project Manager for clients ranging from commercial to federal, financial and

consulting. He provides expertise in database mining and modeling using SQL Server, Oracle TSQL, PL/SQL, Stored Procedures, Packages and Functions, and offers over six years experience in architectural and designing (GSD/SOA), object oriented Analysis/Design, Logical Design, Statement of Work Development, Requirements Analysis, Software Development & Project Management, Team Work, Testing & QA. He joins NSGO from the IRS where he served as a lead information analyst for the development of a critical application used for the investigation of violations of the tax laws. Mr. Das can be contacted at [Roopesh.Das@noaa.gov](mailto:Roopesh.Das@noaa.gov)

### **Annual Report Guidance**

Annual Report Guidance was sent out by Jim Murray. The guidance is posted online at: <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/admininfo.html> (under the Annual Progress Reporting subhead). If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Kola Garber ([Nikola.Garber@noaa.gov](mailto:Nikola.Garber@noaa.gov)), Jon Eigen ([Jonathan.Eigen@noaa.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Eigen@noaa.gov)) or Sami Grimes ([Sami.Grimes@noaa.gov](mailto:Sami.Grimes@noaa.gov)).

### **NOAA Research Chief Hosts GEOSS Roundtable; Kicks Off Discovery Day at Dauphin Island Sea Lab:**

Dr. Richard W. Spinrad, Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, convenes a high-level roundtable of decision-makers April 13 in Mobile, Alabama, to address the value and benefits of a Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS). The following day, Dr. Spinrad and Timothy R. Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere will help the Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL) in Alabama kick off its annual Discovery Day Open House. The Sea Lab is partnering this year with NOAA just as the agency is celebrating 200 years of science, service and stewardship. Discovery Day also features a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Richard Shelby Center for Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management, a NOAA Fisheries lab, and offers an opportunity for attendees to explore the rich coastal heritage along the Gulf as NOAA and its Gulf partners look ahead to rebuilding resilient coastal communities and pastimes. NOAA's Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium joins other NOAA representatives, state and local agencies, and the U.S. Coast Guard, among others, in putting on Discovery Day this year.

*Significance:* NOAA is a leader in the global effort to expand and improve observing systems. The GEOSS initiative fosters a better understanding of, and ability to predict, the Earth system, for the benefit of all humanity and economies across the world. This activity also serves NOAA's mission goal to protect, restore, and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through ecosystem-based management. Contact: Jamie Krauk (301) 734.1077 x1074 [jamie.krauk@noaa.gov](mailto:jamie.krauk@noaa.gov)

### **Marine Debris Funding Opportunity**

This funding opportunity, through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is open to non-Federal applicants. (Fisheries Councils are considered Federal, but Commissions are not.) Note that the focus areas are very specific so not everyone may be eligible based on what they want to do. Details and how to apply can be found at <http://www.nfwf.org/marinedebris>. This grant program is supported with NOAA Marine Debris Program funds.

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

In response to the NRC Report, SGA and NSGO teams are coming up with an open and transparent process for evaluation in order to continue to improve our programs, and exploring how best to approach strategic planning at the national and state levels. We will continue to update the network on the progress of the Strategic Planning and Program Assessment Sub-Teams.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Grants Processing**

Rich Fales (Grants Management Division) is now sitting in the NOAA Sea Grant Office part time to assist in processing grants faster. To contact Rich, call 301-734-1077 or [Rich.Fales@noaa.gov](mailto:Rich.Fales@noaa.gov)

### **Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **REVIEW PANEL & PROGRAM OFFICER UPDATES**

None.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

On leave.

## **RESEARCH**

### **Ecosystem Research Program (ERP)**

NOAA's FY2010-2014 planning exercises have begun. In order to answer all of the ERP requests for Sea Grant, the Sea Grant programs may be asked to assist. We are told that the planning exercise this year will not be as labor intensive as in past years.

## OUTREACH

### Extension

#### **Kola Garber Attended the Gulf of Mexico Extension Agents meeting**

The Gulf agents met in Biloxi, MS, March 12-14, 2007. Check out the agenda and presentations at: <http://www.seagrantfish.lsu.edu/people/biloxi07.htm>

### Communications

#### **Winter E-Currents**

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/winter/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, California Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Washington Sea Grant, and Wisconsin Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

### Education

#### **Ecosystem Goal Team (EGT)**

Sami Grimes attended EGT's Ocean Literacy workshop last Monday (3/26). For NOAA's FY2010-2014 planning exercise, EGT is trying to work with program educators to find best ways to meet the NOAA objective of attaining "A well-informed public that acts as a steward of coastal and marine ecosystems." The decision was made that folks should have an education component for each EGT theme area (1-Climate and Ecosystems, 2-Resilience to Hazards, 3-Regional Collaborative Approaches, 4-Ocean and Coastal Security and 5-Resource Management Effectiveness). Sami will be working with folks from ERP and other EGT Programs to develop these alternatives in the next coming weeks.

## FELLOWSHIPS

### Knauss

**March 16: NOAA 101 Briefing Day** for the class of 2007 Sea Grant Knauss Fellows (44 Fellows). Speakers included: VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA Administrator Assistant Administrators (or their designees); Leon Cammen, Director, National Sea Grant College Program; Jacques (Jack) Oliver, Program Director, Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship Program; and, Felipe Arzayus, NOAA Program Coordination Office.

The 2008 Knauss Selection Panel will be held in early May.

## CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATS (involving NSGO staff)

April 3-4: Annual NMFS-SG fellows meeting at the SEFSC (Miami); Smith  
April 3-5: Pathways to Resilience: Sustaining Pacific Salmon in a Changing World, Portland, OR; Agy  
April 9-12: Charleston, Climate Applications Training; Murray  
April 13: GEOSS roundtable, Mobile, AL; Krauk  
April 14: 200<sup>th</sup> Event, Dauphin Island, AL; Krauk  
April 23: Scott Rayder to attend MIT Sea Grant Earth Day Event, "Robots on the River;" Krauk  
April 25-27: New Jersey Sea Grant on-site Special Review Team - Ross Heath, chair; John Woeste, and Russ Lea (Krauk)  
May 1: Law Roundtable with National Sea Grant Law Center; Oliver  
May 7-8: Regional Planning PI workshop (all are welcome)  
May 9-11: Working Waterways & Waterfronts 2007 Symposium, Norfolk, Virginia; Murray  
July 17-19: OAR Management Conference, Norman, OK; Murray/Garber

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## Breaking News—

### Regional Planning Workshop

On May 7-8, Sea Grant regional coordinators and PIs are participating in a workshop in Silver Spring to highlight NOAA Sea Grant's Regional Research and Information planning efforts. Representatives of all of the regional planning teams will share their progress, learn from each other, and discuss ways of improving the value of the process to the stakeholders. The workshop will also feature a panel discussion with NOAA regional planning leadership as we strengthen the connection with NOAA's emerging regional activities. Kudos to Jamie Krauk and Megan Agy for organizing the workshop. The agenda is posted online at:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsevents/newsevents.html>

### NOAA Stakeholder Forum

The forum will be held on Wednesday May 23, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in Arlington, VA. Registration Deadline is May 11th. To register, please go to:

<http://noaaregistration.fedworx.org/noaa/stakeholderreg.nsf/Person?OpenForm>

### Rhode Island Sea Grant Researcher Featured in NOAA's "In the Spotlight"

Congratulations to Rhode Island Sea Grant! URI researchers Scott Nixon and Wally Fulweiler are featured in NOAA Research's "In the Spotlight." Please visit:

<http://www.oar.noaa.gov>

### Reminder: Annual Report Guidance

Annual Report Guidance was sent out by Jim Murray. The guidance is posted online at: <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/admininfo.html> (under the Annual Progress Reporting subhead). If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Kola Garber

([Nikola.Garber@noaa.gov](mailto:Nikola.Garber@noaa.gov)), Jon Eigen ([Jonathan.Eigen@noaa.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Eigen@noaa.gov)) or Sami Grimes ([Sami.Grimes@noaa.gov](mailto:Sami.Grimes@noaa.gov)).

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

Members (from the Sea Grant Review Panel, SGA, NSGO, NOAA and one university representative) are being identified for participation on the steering committee for development of the next National Sea Grant College Program Strategic Plan. The Committee will be appointed and begin its work in early May.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **New Standard Award Condition**

There have been occasional problems in extending individual projects within an omnibus award even though the project extension did not extend the overall omnibus award. In order to correct this, we have worked with the Grants Management Division to fix this problem. The solution is all omnibus awards will have a new Standard Award Condition (SAC) added beginning with the release of funds for FY07. The new SAC is: "Sea Grant Omnibus '2 year' (Project extension) Special Award Condition: Authority is delegated to the Recipient to extend any projects or subawards incorporated in this Sea Grant Omnibus award up to, but not beyond, the grant period without prior approval by the NOAA Grants Officer. NOAA's Sea Grant Program must be notified in writing of any such task extensions in the annual performance reports." If you have any questions, please contact Kola Garber at [nikola.garber@noaa.gov](mailto:nikola.garber@noaa.gov) or Jon Eigen at [Jonathan.eigen@noaa.gov](mailto:Jonathan.eigen@noaa.gov)

### **Financial Reporting**

Financial Reporting is now live in Grants On Line. Please use the feature in Grants On Line to submit your financial reports.

### **Reminder: Grants Processing**

Rich Fales (Grants Management Division) is now sitting in the NOAA Sea Grant Office part time to assist in processing grants faster. To contact Rich, call 301-734-1077 or [Rich.Fales@noaa.gov](mailto:Rich.Fales@noaa.gov)

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NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **PROGRAM OFFICER UPDATES**

### **Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting**

Sami Grimes and Jamie Krauk attended the Sea Grant Mid-Atlantic regional meeting in April and presented a talk that included national updates and information. The meeting featured a “Social Marketing” training session which was a unique way to think about outreach—not in terms of simply providing information and raising awareness but really focusing on behavior change—a very “Sea Grant” concept.

### **New Jersey Sea Grant On-Site Special Review Team**

Jamie Krauk, as New Jersey Sea Grant Program Officer (PO), participated in an On-Site Special Review Team. The team met with New Jersey Sea Grant leadership, members of the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium Board of Trustees Executive Committee, and members of the New Jersey Sea Grant Advisory Committee.

### **Update on Sea Grant Reauthorization**

NSGO staff and the SGA are marking up current legislation for possible changes in preparation for reauthorization in 2008. By mid-summer, we will work with the Administration to prepare a draft bill that can begin its way through the clearance process.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

I wanted to bring you up to date on some upcoming staffing changes in the National Sea Grant Office.

### **Jacques Oliver Departs**

As you may have heard, Jacques Oliver will be leaving Sea Grant on May 11 to take a position with EPA. In his brief time with Sea Grant, Jacques has made significant contributions to the Knauss Fellows Program as well as to many other areas within the office. We are sorry to lose him as a staff member and a colleague. This move represents an opportunity for Jacques to move into a role that will utilize his research background, and we wish him all the best.

### **Fellowship Program Manager**

We are well underway in the process of hiring a new person to manage the Knauss Fellows Program. We have received a pool of strong applications and will begin interviewing in early May. Funding for this position comes mainly from reimbursements from the offices that host Knauss Fellows.

### **IPA Position**

The call for an IPA to assist in the activities of the National Sea Grant Office for six months or longer (deadline was April 24) has closed. We received strong applications from a number of folks in the network and are currently reviewing resumes. We will keep you informed re. the hiring process.

### **Extension Director**

We are recruiting an Extension Director for the National Office to fill the role Jim Murray has held. This person will serve as a Program Officer and will have responsibility for national leadership and coordination of the Extension Network. That advertisement will be on the street shortly.

Although there are many changes, there is also opportunity for new ideas and approaches. We look forward to bringing new folks into the fold.

## **RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS**

### **Ballast Water**

The budget is \$1.5M (~1/2 of the anticipated number). In FY2007, two competitions were held. The implications are: (1) the Treatment Technologies competition is cancelled; (2) an award in the competition to fund a Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation (RDTE) Facility will be funded. Cancellation notifications went out on April 30th, and we will notify the winner of the RDTE competition shortly.

### **Ballast Water Exchange Report to Congress**

A report to Congress on the Effectiveness of Ballast Water Exchange is complete and has been submitted to NOAA for clearance. Once cleared, we will issue a press release to announce the report.

### **International Aquaculture**

Andy Lazur co-chaired the US-China Living Marine Resources Panel in April.

### **Offshore Aquaculture**

The Offshore Aquaculture Act is in front of Congress.

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

See "Director's Office," above.

### **Communications**

#### **Sea Grant Network Address Directory**

<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>) Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgo* - these are case sensitive.

### **Online Sea Grant *Experts' Guide* Coming Soon**

We are finalizing the online Experts Guide (moved from the old media relations website to [seagrant.noaa.gov](http://seagrant.noaa.gov)). We will let you know when it is available for searching and updates.

We are grateful to Dan Jacobs and the Maryland Sea Grant program for hosting these resources for many years. We are also grateful to our webmaster, Amy Bucci and OAR's Todd Pearce for moving these systems to the NOAA Research server.

### **Rip Current Awareness Week, June 3-7**

The education working group (a sub-committee of the Task Force with members from National Weather Service, Sea Grant and the United States Lifesaving Association), met on April 10 & 11. The team has developed additional materials to add to the rip current portfolio (including a sign, PSA, news releases, and brochure). The new materials include: a sticker (ideal for distribution to kids); a fact sheet and talking points; and, coming soon, a DVD with 30-second, 1-minute and 7-minute segments. The products are available online at:

<http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov/signs-brochures.shtml>

### ***E-Currents***

The Spring *E-Currents* is coming in mid-May. The issue will feature Rip Current Awareness Week and working waterfronts.

### **Winter *E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/winter/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, Wisconsin Sea Grant and WHOI Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

### **Education Data Call**

Sharon Walker sent a data call to the Sea Grant Educators Network requesting information for the House Committee on Science & Technology, Subcommittee on Research & Science Education about teacher professional development and teacher training for FY2006 (October 1, 2005-September 30, 2006). A compilation of these data will be helpful to Sea Grant and for future Professional Development Programs for increased funding and sustained funding. Responses were due April 13.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

The 2008 Knauss Selection Panel is being held May 2-4.

### **First Annual Ocean and Coastal Law Crash Course**

This course, hosted by the National Sea Grant Office and presented by the National Sea Grant Law Center, was held on May 1st. This course was designed to provide the Knauss fellows with a very general overview of some of the major federal laws affecting ocean and coastal resources and the current policy debates. Although far from exhaustive, it provided enough of a background to help the fellows know how to approach an issue. A secondary purpose of the workshop was to introduce the Knauss fellows to the legal resources available to them through the Law Center. Special Thanks to Stephanie Showalter for leading this law workshop.

See also "Director's Office," above.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATS (involving NSGO staff)**

April 30-May 4 National Aquaculture Extension Conference; NOAA-USDA Aquaculture Steering Committee; Lazur

May 1: Law Roundtable for Knauss fellows with National Sea Grant Law Center; Oliver

May 2-4: Knauss Selection Panel; Oliver

May 7-8: Regional Planning PI workshop (all are welcome); Agy, Krauk

May 9-11: Working Waterways & Waterfronts 2007 Symposium, Norfolk, Virginia; Murray

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### **Sea Grant News**

#### **May 2007**

#### **National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**  
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### Breaking News—

#### **Congressional Staffers and Bill Hogarth (NOAA Fisheries Assistant Administrator) Visit Alaska Sea Grant**

On Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, Congressional staff from the offices of Senator Stevens, Senator Murkowski and Congressman Don Young hosted some of the International Whaling Commission delegation, including Amy Fraenkel and Amanda Hallberg (Senate Commerce Committee) on a field trip to Seward, Alaska. The group visited the Alutiik Pride Shellfish Hatchery and met with Dr. Brian Allee, Director, Alaska Sea Grant. The visitors enjoyed a tour of the red and blue king crab enhancement project (a project involving NOAA Fisheries) and a tour of the Alaska Sea Life Center.

#### **NOAA chief of staff to convene Rhode Island roundtable on marine issues**

Scott Rayder, NOAA chief of staff, will meet with Rhode Island executives involved in economic development, aquaculture, agriculture, and environmental management to discuss local issues associated with natural hazards, ocean observing systems, and aquaculture on June 25th at the Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown. Following the roundtable, Rayder will host a forum for a broader group of invited participants. We are grateful to Barry Costa-Pierce and to his staff for working closely with Jamie Krauk to plan this event.

#### **Smithsonian Ocean Hall Proposal Update**

Congratulations to both Florida and Puerto Rico Sea Grant! Their proposals were selected to move forward for the final level of review and selection at the Smithsonian for the National Museum of Natural History's Ocean Hall exhibit entitled

"Where in the World Do We Do Science?" We are grateful to each of the Sea Grant programs who submitted to this request.

### **Rip Current Awareness Week, June 3-7**

NOAA's National Weather Service released a 2007 "Break the Grip of the Rip" press release on June 1 announcing Rip Current Awareness Week (sent to the Communicators' network). The press release features a quote from Dr. Thomas Herrington (formerly with NJ Sea Grant and now with the Stevens Institute of Technology). New products include: stickers, talking points, a fact sheet and a forthcoming DVD with 8 minute, 1 minute and 30 second segments. See: <http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov>

To view the press release, visit:

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2007/s2867.htm>

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **National Strategic Plan Steering Committee Underway**

The Response Integration Team (RIT) provided to Leon Cammen a process for developing the national Sea Grant strategic plan as described in the report, "National Sea Grant College Program Strategic Planning: Phase 1 Guidance." Leon has endorsed the process which was conceptualized by the Strategic Planning Sub-Team whose members include Barry Costa-Pierce, Mike Voiland, Megan Agy and Jamie Krauk. The Steering Committee has been appointed for the purpose of leading the development of the plan and we are fortunate to have a highly esteemed committee of five who have agreed to serve on the committee. The members include John Byrne, (Panel representative and Chair of the Steering Committee and President Emeritus of Oregon State University), David Kennedy (NOAA Representative and Director of OCRM), John Pennock, (SGA representative and NH SG Director), Peter Betzer, (University Representative and Dean, College of Marine Sciences, University of South Florida) and Sami Grimes, (NSGO representative and Director of Program Planning and Evaluation). The Committee will be supported by Elizabeth (Bitsy) Waters who has significant strategic planning and facilitation experience and has done previous work for Sea Grant at both the state and national level. The Committee held its first conference call last week. Members have begun synthesizing the "bottom-up" planning landscape, looking at state strategic plans, and other pertinent information, as well as examining the "top-down" planning landscape, focusing primarily on the Ocean Research Priorities Plan. Thank you to all involved for donating your time to this critical exercise.

### **Strategic Planning Sub-Team Draft in Circulation**

In response to the NRC report, the strategic planning sub-team has developed a draft framework (now circulating throughout the network) that outlines the process for how state programs will align their strategic plans with the new national plan. Jon Kramer, as Response Integration Team (RIT) liaison to the sub-team, has agreed to collect input on this draft plan from the SGA, NSGO and Panel. Jon

will make the comments available to the RIT. Please submit your comments to Jon Kramer ([kramer@mdsg.umd.edu](mailto:kramer@mdsg.umd.edu)), by Wednesday, June 13.

### **Performance Evaluation Sub-Team**

The RIT Program Assessment sub-team is moving forward with its planning process. The team's next conference call is scheduled for June 7, 2007. The team hopes to complete its final report this month outlining a performance evaluation process responsive to the NRC recommendations. Members of this sub-team include: Sami Grimes and Terry Smith for the NSGO; Russ Moll, chair; Chuck Wilson; and Paul Anderson, liaison for the SGA.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Searching for Delinquent Reports**

Please note that you can now search for delinquent reports in Grants Online. Note: No awards will be made to an existing grant that has delinquent reports.

To Search reports: Go to "awards" and then: Search Reports

<https://grantsonline.rdc.noaa.gov/flows/home/Navigation/navigateToPage.do?goToPage=39>

The Search Reports feature allows you to search for Project Progress Reports, Federal Financial Reports, and SF270 reports by Award Number, Recipient Name, Period Start Date, or Program Officer Name. You can also click the Delinquent only button to find all reports.

Financial reports can now be entered directly into Grants Online.

### **NOAA and DOC Standard Terms and Conditions Updated**

NOAA's standard terms and conditions for grants includes two new sections (H and I), as well as an update on financial reporting via Grants Online. New Department of Commerce standard terms and conditions reflect the same language as the NOAA standard terms and conditions for sections H and I.

### **Reminder: Grants Processing**

Rich Fales (Grants Management Division) is now sitting in the NOAA Sea Grant Office part time to assist in processing grants faster. To contact Rich, call 301-734-1077 or [Rich.Fales@noaa.gov](mailto:Rich.Fales@noaa.gov)

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **Regional Research and Information Plans Workshop Follow-up**

Leon and Jamie Krauk met with Paul Doremus (Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator & Director of Strategic Planning, NOAA Office of Program Planning and Integration) to discuss how to enhance coordination among the NOAA regional team leads and Sea Grant Regional Plan coordinators and PIs. The idea is to help each stakeholder better understand the level of interaction that is allowed and encouraged between them. In addition, NSGO will provide the specific points of contact for each NOAA regional team lead to the appropriate Sea Grant regional contacts.

### **Sea Grant Legislation**

The process for updating our Sea Grant legislation is underway. Leon and Jamie Krauk met with Dr. Spinrad to review suggested changes for the legislation. We are now in the process of meeting with representatives from both the SGA and the Sea Grant Review Panel to identify the suggested changes that we agree on, and those that we do not agree on, before working with the lawyers to develop an Administration bill.

## **RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS**

### **Aquaculture**

#### **The NOAA–USDA Aquaculture Extension Steering Committee**

This working group, formed in 2003, includes USDA, NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program, and regional state aquaculture extension specialists, met at the 4<sup>th</sup> National Aquaculture Extension Conference in Cincinnati in early May. The committee's goal is to improve the coordination and integration of programs and resources to support aquaculture extension activities in the U.S. Plans developed at this year's meeting include: enhancing communication of state programming activities through development of web-based state profiles; coordination of extension-related presentations at the 2008 Aquaculture America Conference to be held in Orlando; and, discussion on enhancing professional development opportunities for aquaculture extension personnel.

#### **The 4<sup>th</sup> National Aquaculture Extension Conference**

Held in Cincinnati on April 30-May 3, the conference was well attended with extension professionals from 32 states, including 14 Sea Grant representatives. The plenary session highlighted the research and extension programming of the five USDA Regional Aquaculture Centers and the NOAA Aquaculture Program. Featured speaker, Steve Otwell, University of Florida, discussed aquaculture and extension's role in communicating the various benefits of seafood consumption. Other professional development opportunities included sessions on: media relations, seafood consumption issues, international opportunities, risk management, new

developments in fish disease, open ocean culture, information technology tools, aquatic plant management and shellfish culture.

### **National Marine Aquaculture Initiative (NMAI) Project Update**

Commercialization of Black Sea Bass Aquaculture: Nursery, Growout and Marketing. University of North Carolina (Wilmington) scientists have successfully cultured black sea bass in captivity in indoor culture facilities leading to the first commercial crop. Local seafood markets are involved in evaluation of the product.

### **Ship Time**

#### **Reminder:**

A grants.gov portal has been set up for applications for 2007 ship time. Please submit a proposal for the amount you were allocated. The proposal narrative should include the number of days requested, the cost basis for that request, and a schedule (by month) for the cruises. These are pass-through funds, so no match is required. Proposals should be submitted through Grants.gov to the Funding Opportunity Number, OAR-SG-2007-2001164. Please try to have it submitted by June 8. If you can't make it by June 8, please contact Dorn Carlson at [Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov](mailto:Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov)

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **Waterfront Summit**

Jim Murray presented a Sea Grant overview at the Waterfront Summit 2007, the inaugural event of the American Waterfront Revitalization Coalition, a new organization.

#### **NOAA Outreach and Environmental Literacy Panel**

Jim Murray will participate as part of a federal panel to look at how extension, training, decision support and outreach contribute to environmental literacy and whether/how we would address these issues as part of the NOAA Education Council. The group will help prepare a response to the Science Advisory Board (SAB) Extension/Outreach/Education subcommittee.

### **Communications**

#### **National Sea Grant One-Pager**

The new (relatively) National Sea Grant College Program one-pager, developed with input by the Communications network is ready and available for use by the network. Kudos to Jamie Krauk, David Gordon and Kristen Weir for drafting this attractive and useful resource. To download, visit:

[http://www.seagrants.gov/aboutsg/NationalOnePager\\_010407.pdf](http://www.seagrants.gov/aboutsg/NationalOnePager_010407.pdf)

**Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online**  
**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrants.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

**Directory** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>) Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgr* - these are case sensitive.

We are grateful to Dan Jacobs and the Maryland Sea Grant program for hosting these resources for many years. We are also grateful to our webmaster, Amy Bucci and OAR's Todd Pearce for moving these systems to the NOAA Research server.

### **Spring E-Currents**

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to oar.sg.news@noaa.gov (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, Wisconsin Sea Grant and WHOI Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

In addition, congratulations to the California, New York, Louisiana and Ohio Sea Grant programs, all of whom were recently featured in Admiral Lautenbacher's weekly EMT Reports. Please continue to send us your news.

### **Education**

#### **Sea Grant Educators' Network (SGEN)**

Sharon Walker is working with the SGEN ExCom via conference call (Steve Stewart, Jim Lubner, Lynn Whitley, Robin Goettel, Chris Verlinde, and Lundie Spence) to develop our Professional Development Program for Sea Grant Week and based on input from the entire SGEN. This effort may involve LOGIC Model Training/Bennett Model for Evaluation and Assessment.

#### **NOAA Education Council**

Sharon Walker helped the NOAA Ed Council submit its Final Annual Management Plan. The Objectives designed to achieve Council fiscal year priorities are: Objective

1—Promote environmental literacy by increasing understanding and use of NOAA data, information and programs; Objective 2—Build NOAA's capability to engage audiences and enable informed decision-making; and Objective 3—Increase the number of people, particularly in underserved and underrepresented groups who choose education and career's supporting NOAA's mission.

### **Centers for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE)**

Drs. Leon Cammen, Jim Murray, and Sharon Walker met with NSF-Geosciences Directorate/Ocean Sciences Division Program Managers, Lisa Rom and Don Elthon to discuss NOAA-Sea Grant's role in the COSEE Review Process.

- The COSEE National Council met in May. Sharon led a Panel discussion on COSEE's Role in Ocean Literacy, Challenges and Opportunities.

### **Professional Development Data Call**

Sharon submitted the SGEN's Professional Development involvement for FY 06 with 22/31 programs providing these data, i.e., over 4,200 educators trained, involving nearly 28,000 hours. All NOAA Line Offices provided this information for teachers' data via NOAA's Office of Education. These data were requested by the House Committee, Subcommittee on Research and Science Education.

### **Gulf of Mexico Alliance/Joint Ocean Commission Initiative**

Representing the NOAA Office of Education, Sea Grant, and the University of Southern Mississippi, Sharon Walker attended a meeting between the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative (JOCI) and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance-Environmental Education Network (which involves Sea Grant personnel within the GOM, as well as other agencies, NGOs, academia, the military, and businesses and industry) to discuss the manner in which the GOMA-EEN can serve as a potential testbed in its Public Awareness campaign to complement the JOCI Strategic Communications Plan.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

#### **Class of 2008**

Selection for the class of 2008 is complete. Jack Oliver has notified all programs. If you have any questions, please contact Kola Garber at [oar.sg.fellows@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.fellows@noaa.gov) or 301-734-1079.

#### **Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Fellowship Update**

Four graduate fellows have been selected. Two fellows are studying population dynamics (fishery stock assessment) and two are focused on marine resource economics. This year's finalists were chosen from very competitive pools of applicants reviewed by two technical panels of experts (one for each discipline).

Selected for 3-year population dynamics fellowships were Kiersten Curti at the Univ. of Rhode Island and Carey McGilliard at the Univ. of Washington. Selected for two-year marine resource economics fellowships were Min-Yang Lee of the Univ. of Illinois and Elizabeth Smith of the Univ. of Rhode Island. Congratulations to these

applicants, schools and Sea Grant programs, and thanks to all who participated in the process.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/PATs (involving NSGO staff)**

June 4-6 Waterfront Summit in Washington, DC; Murray

July 17-19 OAR Management Conference, Norman, OK; Murray/Garber

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### **Reminder: New Phone Numbers at NSGO**

New phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director:

301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

### **Sea Grant News**

**June 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**

**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



### Inside:

Breaking News  
Reauthorization  
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Program Officer Update  
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JULY 2007

## Breaking News—

### Personnel Updates:

#### **Miguel Lugo Named Fellowship Program Manager**

Former Sea Grant Knauss Fellow (Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Class of 2003), Miguel Lugo joined the NSGO staff on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Lugo replaces Jacques Oliver as Fellowship Program Manager. Since 2005, Lugo has worked as a Management and Budget Analyst for the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Management and Budget. He gained experience in budget formulation and program performance measurement working with the fisheries enforcement, aquaculture and fisheries management programs. Mr. Lugo received a Master of Science (M.S.) from the University of Puerto Rico, Department of Marine Science with research specializing in population dynamics of the black sea urchin and coral reef ecology. In Puerto Rico, he was a research assistant for the Puerto Rico Sea Grant College Program for nearly six years and an educator for the Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment Program. Lugo will administrator and develop policy for the Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program, including managing selection competitions; processing grants; mediating situations involving funding, research, and timelines; and, organizing a one-week intensive interview process for Knauss finalists. Other duties will include assisting the NSGO with budgeting activities. To contact Miguel Lugo, please call: 301/734-1075 or e-mail: [Miguel.Lugo@noaa.gov](mailto:Miguel.Lugo@noaa.gov)

#### **Joe Brown Named Assistant to the Director, NSGO**

We are pleased to announce that Joe Brown has accepted a new position with the NSGO as Assistant to the Director and Program Manager for the National Sea Grant Review Panel. As Assistant to the Director, Joe works closely with Director, Leon Cammen in a variety of capacities. From maintaining the Director's calendar to providing research and background materials to serving as a liaison between the National Office staff and the Director, Joe has proven himself highly capable, efficient, and indispensable to the NSGO. As Program Manager of the Review Panel,

Mr. Brown works effectively with Jim Murray to provide executive services to each panel member individually and to the group as a whole. This includes facilitating both the spring and fall meetings and working on various projects throughout the year. In addition to these duties, Mr. Brown assists the National Office in the areas of budget, contracts and personnel. Congratulations, Joe!

### **Mike Liffmann and Jim Hurley Join NSGO for One-Year Appointments**

**Mike Liffmann** will join the NSGO beginning in August. Liffmann will serve in the role of Extension Leader (former Extension Leader, Jim Murray now serves as Deputy Director). Liffmann has been with Louisiana Sea Grant since 1983 and has served as the program's Associate Executive Director since 2002. As Associate Director, he has assisted in program planning and proposal preparation processes, and provided leadership and program direction to 26 staff members. He has also served as principal investigator on several other Sea Grant extension-related projects, including Fisheries Extension Enhancement, Sustainable Communities and Economies, and Marine Recreation and Tourism. During his tenure as **Extension Leader for the National Sea Grant College Program**, Liffmann will perform a variety of program officer and extension duties. As a Program Officer (PO), he will provide leadership to and oversight for, several Sea Grant programs, manage and process awards, and assume other PO responsibilities. As Extension Leader, he will work in a national capacity to enhance communications between the NSGO and the extension network; provide coordination and leadership for the fisheries extension enhancement program; work with theme teams; coordinate NOAA's climate applications with Sea Grant's outreach infrastructure; and, represent Sea Grant extension activities associated with the EPA/NOAA Smart Growth communities partnership. Contact information will be provided in August.

**Jim Hurley** will also join the NSGO beginning in August. Hurley will serve as an Associate Research Director for one or more state Sea Grant Programs. Hurley currently serves as Senior Scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Assistant Director for Research and Outreach at the University of Wisconsin (UW) Sea Grant Institute, a position he has held since 2002. He also serves as Assistant Director of the UW Water Resources Institute, a program administered through the U.S. Geological Service (USGS), and serves as peer review coordinator for the USGS-National Institutes for Water Resources national research competition. He has been active in mercury research for almost 20 years. Hurley is Chair-Elect of the Assembly of Sea Grant Extension Program Leaders. **During his tenure with the NSGO**, his responsibilities will include research and program officer duties, including facilitating and overseeing grant awards, observing technical selection panels, and representing the NSGO on state program visits. In addition, he will serve as the NSGO lead in a Sea Grant thematic focus area; provide a link between Sea Grant and the management teams of NOAA Programs in Coastal Science, Coastal Zone Management, Ecosystem Research, Fisheries Management, Mercury, and others; represent the National Office and NOAA on activities conducted under the NOAA Regionalization effort; and, assist with the National Office response to the National Research Council Evaluation of the Sea Grant Program Review Process. Contact

information will be provided in August.

### **Kristin Rasmussen joins NSGO for the Summer**

Kristin Rasmussen (daughter of Jay Rasmussen, Oregon Sea Grant) is working as an administrative analyst for the summer in the NSGO. She is assisting with the strategic planning process, OMB integration and NSGO filing systems. Kristin recently defended her thesis in *Water and Conflict: Water Privatization*. She is a graduate of the American University School of International Service (SIS) in Washington, DC, and holds a degree in International Development. She has worked in London, Italy, and India, as well as here in the U.S. with Senator Wyden. To contact Kristin Rasmussen, please call: 301/734-1271 or e-mail:

[Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov)

### **Megan Agy on Maternity Leave**

Megan Agy and husband Chris Glew welcomed twin boys, Liam and Conor in late June. Everyone is doing well.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **2007 Budget**

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, I sent the Sea Grant Directors a 2007 Sea Grant Budget Plan via e-mail that updates the May 3rd partial release of funding for your FY2007 omnibus awards. The final FY2007 budget plan for the Sea Grant Program reduces the base funding cut to 3.4%. NOAA added over \$700K above the FY2006 appropriation to our allocation, a 1.3% increase in funding. Without those additional funds, the impacts would have been more severe. Overall, the FY2007 budget allocation represents a 10% decrease from the FY2005 appropriation. I also provided comments on merit and bonus funding, NSIs, the Law Center, Regional Research and Information Planning, the Bridge, Ports & Harbors, and joint programs with federal partners. Please contact your program officer if you have any questions.

### **NOAA 5-Year Research Plan Comments Due by July 18th**

The Federal Register Notice (FRN) opening the public comment period for the draft NOAA 5-Year Research Plan was published this morning. The Research Plan will be available for a 30-day comment period at <http://www.nrc.noaa.gov/plans.html>. A copy of the FRN containing instructions for commenting on the Research Plan is attached here and will also be available on the website. **Please send any comments to [noaa.review.5year@noaa.gov](mailto:noaa.review.5year@noaa.gov) by July 18, 2007.**

### **Congressional Visits**

On Wednesday and Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, Jim Murray, Jaime Krauk and I met with House Resources majority staff and Senate Commerce Committee staff to discuss Sea Grant's upcoming re-authorization in 2008. Next week, we will meet with House Resources minority staff, and future meetings will include House Science Committee staff. Sea Grant's current reauthorization expires at the end of fiscal year

2008 and the Senate Commerce Committee as well as committee staff in the House have expressed an interest in addressing reauthorization in the next session of Congress which begins in January of 2008.

## **SEA GRANT REAUTHORIZATION**

### **Updates**

Based on numerous discussions with the SGA and the Sea Grant Review Panel, as well as input from our Hill visits, our office will be preparing draft Sea Grant reauthorization language to be placed into the NOAA clearance process within a few weeks.

### **Bill**

Rep. Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa) introduced a Sea Grant Reauthorization bill in late June. This bill makes no changes with the exception of extending the authorization period and funding. The House Natural Resources Committee is aware that the National Sea Grant Office is working on a bill. Leon Cammen, Jim Murray and Jamie Krauk are meeting with several House and Senate Committees to discuss the reauthorization (see *Director's Report*, below, for more).

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **Program Assessment Sub-Team**

The sub-team submitted a draft report to the RIT on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The Sea Grant Network submitted comments on the draft report to Paul Anderson. The RIT held a conference call on July 11<sup>th</sup>, and will provide guidance to the sub-team regarding further action.

### **National Strategic Planning**

#### **Steering Committee**

The committee's first face-to-face meeting was held on June 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting covered both the "top-down" and "bottom-up" approaches discussed in the strategic planning sub-committee report. The committee also discussed the stakeholder forum meeting, which will take place on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **National Stakeholder Forum**

The national stakeholder forum will take place on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) in Washington, DC. The purpose is to engage a broad range of stakeholders and their innovative ideas as we develop the new National Sea Grant Strategic Plan. The forum will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input on major oceans and coastal challenges, tailor Sea Grant's future role in addressing those challenges, and identify potential alliances.

## GRANTS & BUDGET

### Grants Processing

NSGO Program Officers have worked hard to meet the June deadline for all grants to be processed for the Grants Management Division (GMD). Of the 270 grant actions, GMD has only 22 more to go. We are grateful to Rich Fales of GMD for his hard work processing the grant awards so quickly. Questions about outstanding award actions should be directed to your program officer.

### Fiscal Officers Meeting

The Fiscal Officers are working with the NSGO, GMD and Grants Online system personnel to create an informative FO meeting that will take place during the September Sea Grant gathering in San Diego. To see the draft agenda, visit: <http://www.sgmeet.com/seagrant/seagrant2007/default.htm>

### Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### Reminder: Pass Through Policy

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## PROGRAM OFFICER UPDATES

### Grants Processing

See *Grants & Budget*, above.

### Oyster Hatchery Tour (MD SG)

Sami Grimes visited the Horn Point Laboratory in Cambridge, MD with Jonathan Kramer to see the Oyster Hatchery and the work of Sea Grant and partners. Donald Meritt (Sea Grant Extension Agent) gave a tour of the hatchery.

### Technical Reviews

This is the time of year when many programs are finalizing their portfolio of research proposals for the next two years. For upcoming review information, please see *Conferences/Meetings* at the end of the newsletter.

## NOAA NEWS

### **Climate Program Funding Opportunity**

NOAA's Climate Program Office (NOAA/CPO) announced its FY 2008 funding opportunity, which includes several programs focused on applied impacts, adaptation and decision support research. One of these programs, the Sectoral Applications Research Program (SARP), includes an explicit focus on climate and coastal resource management (in addition to water and drought). SARP is designed to catalyze and support interdisciplinary research, and the development of innovative outreach and education methodologies that enhance the capacity of key socio-economic sectors to respond to and plan for climate variability and change through the use of climate information and related decision support resources. The program encourages proposals from interdisciplinary teams of researchers that demonstrate an active partnership with planners and/or resource managers in coastal regions. For examples of the types of projects SARP has funded to date, please see: [http://www.climate.noaa.gov/cpo\\_pa/sarp/](http://www.climate.noaa.gov/cpo_pa/sarp/).

For further details about the FY 2008 funding opportunity, please visit the CPO website at <http://www.climate.noaa.gov/>.

Letters of Intent are due by July 23, 2007. Full proposals must be submitted through Grants Online by September 24, 2007.

### **Florida Partnership Update**

The South Florida Ecosystem Outreach Project is a joint partnership between Florida Sea Grant and the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML). Florida Sea Grant Extension agent, Pamela Fletcher is based at AOML and is assisting NOAA in some of its key mission activities. Most recently, Fletcher coordinated several successful water quality workshops. She will host a "Human Dimensions Science Workshop" for managers and scientists involved in Comprehensive Everglades Restoration later this month.

### **NOAA International Coral Reef Grants**

The NOAA International Coral Reef Conservation Grant Program provides matching grants of financial assistance for international coral reef conservation projects. The Program solicits proposals under four funding categories:

- 1) Promote Watershed Management in the Wider Caribbean, Brazil, and Bermuda;
- 2) Regional Enhancement of Marine Protected Area Management Effectiveness;
- 3) Encourage the Development of National Networks of Marine Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean, Bermuda, Brazil, Southeast Asia, and the South Pacific; and
- 4) Promote Regional Socio-Economic Training and Monitoring in Coral Reef Management in the Wider Caribbean, Brazil, Bermuda, the Western Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, the South Pacific, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Eligible applicants include all international, governmental (except U.S. federal agencies), and non-governmental organizations. The proposed work must be conducted at a non-U.S. site. The Federal Funding Opportunity contains all details regarding criteria for each category, pre-application format, funding amounts, etc. Please log on to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and do a Basic Search for Opportunity # NOS-IPO-2008- 2001058.

## **NOAA's Ecosystem Research Program (ERP)**

The Ecosystem Research Program is developing its first strategic plan. Sami Grimes is the Sea Grant representative on the Strategic Planning Team.

## **NOAA Hires New Director for Program Analysis and Evaluation (PA&E)**

Stephen D. Austin has been hired as NOAA's Director for Program Analysis and Evaluation. Steve replaces Bonnie Morehouse who retired last month.

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **Fisheries Extension**

Fisheries Extension, established as a five-year program, is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year. The future of the program should be part of our strategic planning discussions. NSGO is trying to interest NMFS in providing some funding. The funding level is \$1,600K per year. (The FY05 funding level appears higher because we prepaid some FY06 projects with FY05 funds.) This year, we are treating it the same as base funding—a 3.4% reduction from \$1,600K. We recognize that for many programs, the fisheries extension effort is tightly integrated with other components, so Sea Grant programs have discretion on how handle the reduction. There is no requirement to make up the difference by transferring funds from the rest of the core program, but programs are allowed to do so.

### **Communications**

#### **Online Communicator Photo and Bio Page**

The Sea Grant Communicators photo and bio page is now live. You can find it at:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/communicators/>

You can also reach the page through the "Research, Education, Outreach" portion of the website by clicking on Outreach and looking at the Communications section.

Many thanks to Jamie Krauk and Kurt Byers for their efforts, and to the Communicators for providing photos and bios. Thanks also go out to Melissa Pearson in the National Sea Grant Office and Amy Bucci in OAR for their web skills.

#### **Third Quarter Highlights**

Please see the latest highlights, featuring news and impacts from Sea Grant programs. Visit: <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/aboutsg/sghighlights.html>

#### **In the Spotlight**

Washington Sea Grant submitted a story on oyster drill research:

[http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_oyster.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_oyster.html)

#### **Steering Committee Call**

Communications network chair, David Bryant led a conference call to discuss the Communications Retreat for the September San Diego gathering. The Steering

Committee has crafted a strong draft agenda for this working meeting. We hope that all of the Sea Grant Communicators will be able to participate. See: <http://www.sgmeet.com/seagrant/seagrant2007/default.htm> for more information on the meeting.

### **National Information Management System (NIMS) Annual Reporting**

We are nearing the final stages of development for the Annual Reporting functionality. More information coming soon.

### **Reminder: Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online**

**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

**Directory** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>) Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgo* - these are case sensitive.

### **Spring *E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, California Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, and Washington Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

### **Education**

#### **Updates**

The Sea Grant Educators' Network (SGEN) has been actively involved in providing NOAA's office of Education with statistical data concerning Professional Development Programs for Teachers, i.e., numbers of teachers participating and total numbers of hours in which the teachers participated in these programs. And, the SGEN also provided input to NOAA's Office of Education relative to its DRAFT Educational

Priorities for 2007-2012. The SGEN Executive Committee is working toward developing and implementing an Evaluation Professional Development Program for our Sea Grant Gathering in San Diego, beginning in late September.

### **Professional Development Programs**

Of the 18 out of 20 Sea Grant Programs reporting, Sea Grant provided Professional Development Programs for 4,227 teachers for a total of 27,636 hours. Many thanks to those who took the time to provide these numbers.

### **NOAA Education Priorities Comments**

Sharon Walker sent DRAFT Education Priorities Document to the SGEN for comments, due July 9th. We are grateful to the educators who took the time to comment on the following draft priorities:

#### **The NOAA Education Council identifies the following five-year education priorities.**

1. Strengthen NOAA's environmental literacy program to encompass components of extension, outreach, education (K-12 to adult), and decision support
2. Increase support for NOAA education from Congress and the Administration
3. Create and promote education frameworks for understanding NOAA related science
4. Develop key messages for core NOAA topics
5. Enhance delivery of real-time data and cutting edge research as usable products for a wide range of audiences in ways that satisfy varying levels of interest and educational background
6. Maximize NOAA's ability to directly deliver content to targeted audiences
7. Create and enhance partnerships to deliver key messages and other NOAA content to a wide range of audiences
8. Strengthen education in NOAA's place based programs
9. Develop a well prepared and diverse workforce
10. Demonstrate effectiveness of NOAA's education programs through field-testing and evaluation

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss Fellowship Updates**

#### **Knauss Trip Class of 2007**

Finalizing travel plans for the 2007 John Knauss Class Trip (travel, lodging, car rental, etc.).

#### **Schedule Class of 2007**

Mid-term reviews are in process.

#### **Class of 2009 FFO**

Miguel and Kola are working to release the FFO in the next few weeks. The announcement will be posted on the NSGO website when available.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

## **Jul-07**

- 9-13 GoMex Alliance meeting, St. Petersburg, FL (Garber)
- 10 Ohio Sea Grant Pre-Proposal Process (Grimes by phone)
- 17-19 OAR Management Conference, Norman, OK (Murray/Garber)
- 24-26 Visiting Pennsylvania Sea Grant (Grimes)
- 30-Aug. 3 Alaska Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)

## **Aug-07**

- 3 South Carolina Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Charleston (Smith)
- 6-9 Oregon Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)
- 8-9 Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Dauphin Island, AL (Garber)
- 13-16 California Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)
- 16-17 Texas Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, College Station, TX (Garber)
- 19-24 NOAA Congressional Staff Visit to Alaska
- 20 New Jersey Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Sandy Hook, NJ (Krauk)
- 21-22 Florida Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, (Garber)
- 21 Georgia Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Atlanta (Smith)
- 21-23 Rhode Island Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, TBA
- 28-30 RIT writing session, RI (Murray, Garber, Painter)
- 26-31 Knauss Class Trip, OR (Grimes, Lugo)

## **Sep-07**

- 2-6 AFS Annual Meeting, San Francisco (Smith)
- 10-14 New Hampshire Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (TBA)
- 14-15 Puerto Rico Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Mayaguez (Smith)
- 19 Maine Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (TBA)
- 29-30 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

## **Oct-07**

- 1-3 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

## **Nov-07**

## **Dec-07**

- 3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)

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### **Reminder: New Phone Numbers at NSGO**

New phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory: <http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

## **Sea Grant News**

### **July 2007**

### **National Sea Grant College Program**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301/734-1066/1077  
fax 301/713-0799  
<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>  
Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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AUGUST 2007

### Breaking News—

#### **Jamie Krauk Accepts NOAA External Affairs/Constituent Services Position**

After four years with the NSGO, Jamie will join NOAA's Communications Office in downtown Washington, DC on August 7th. She will serve in an External Affairs/Constituent Services capacity, helping to build this new program and to cultivate new (and maximize existing) partnerships for the Agency. We will miss Jamie's energy, her vision, her versatility and her positive attitude. During her tenure as Communications Director, Jamie has done an outstanding job of working with the Sea Grant network, with staff and officials from across the Agency and DOC, and with external partners, stakeholders and decision-makers. In doing so, she has earned the respect and admiration of those who have had the pleasure of working with her. She has made great strides in raising Sea Grant's visibility and in promoting the program's many impacts and accomplishments. From program officer duties to the promotion of Sea Grant/Agency partnerships to communications leadership to regional planning and coordination to her work on the RIT strategic planning sub-team and steering committees, Jamie has demonstrated her skillfulness, diplomacy, adaptability and ingenuity in a variety of capacities. Although we look forward to working with Jamie in her new position, she will be greatly missed. Please join us in congratulating her on a job well done. You may continue to e-mail Jamie at: [Jamie.Krauk@noaa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Krauk@noaa.gov) She may be reached by phone at (202) 482-6090.

#### **Annual Reports**

##### **Deadlines**

For electronic submissions through the National Information Management System (NIMS), the deadline has been extended to September, 18, 2007. We will make the NIMS available to the Sea Grant programs as soon as possible in order to input

Annual Reports electronically. The deadline for submissions not made through NIMS is August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

### **Sea Grant Recognition**

**Delaware Sea Grant Featured in NOAA Research's "In the Spotlight." Don't miss this article about wind energy.**

[http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_windenergy.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_windenergy.html)

### **Connecticut Sea Grant and North Carolina Sea Grant Featured in *Update from the Under Secretary***

Congratulations to **Connecticut Sea Grant** for two mentions in the Admiral's e-newsletter for Project Sea Urchin, an educational program that introduces the kids to the world of sea creatures and marine arts and crafts; and, for *Quick Silver*, an educational play about the physiological damage suffered by hatmakers ("mad hatters") in the 18th and 19th centuries when they inhaled mercury vapors produced during the manufacturing process. **North Carolina Sea Grant's** "FerryMon," or ferry monitoring project, was highlighted as well. The project was launched several years ago with the installation of oceanographic instruments on ferries traversing Pamlico Sound. Water quality and fisheries agencies look to FerryMon for early warnings about harmful algal blooms, nitrogen loading, hurricane impact and other vital coastal events.

### **Washington Sea Grant Featured in the August 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Management Team (EMT) Report**

A Washington Sea Grant-funded geologist discovered the sponge reef – at least 2,000 feet long and up to 10 feet tall – this summer about 30 miles west of Grays Harbor. Researchers thought until fairly recently that they had gone extinct 100 million years ago, squeezed out by microscopic marine algae that gobbled up the glassy silica the sponges need to build their skeletons. Instead, the creatures went to depths too dark for the tiny algae plants but where the single-celled sponges could still get oxygen and build reefs.

### **San Diego Meeting, September 29 - October 3, 2007**

<http://www.sgmeet.com/seagrant/seagrant2007/default.htm>

The web site provides the draft schedule, information about the accommodations, an on-line registration mechanism, among other things. Please register early, and be sure to book your room soon. The hotel is only holding the block of rooms at this rate until August 29. More details regarding the strategic and implementation planning will be forth coming as the National Sea Grant Strategic Planning Steering Committee continues its work in the coming weeks. It is critically important that we get participation from all parts of Sea Grant and from all across the country in order for our planning efforts to be as effective and relevant as possible.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **National Stakeholder Forum**

The national stakeholder forum took place on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) in Washington, DC. The purpose was to engage a broad range of stakeholders and to hear their innovative ideas as we develop the new National Sea Grant Strategic Plan. The forum provided an opportunity for stakeholders to offer input on major oceans and coastal challenges, to tailor Sea Grant's future role in addressing those challenges, and to identify potential alliances.

### **Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Integration**

On Thursday and Friday, August 9 and 10, Sami Grimes from NSGO, along with Peter Rappa (HI SG) and John Jacob (TX SG), will participate in a NOAA workshop designed to develop a logic model on land use and water quality. This is one of several meetings (focusing on different topical areas) designed to respond to OMB's request to identify ways for NOAA's four largest coastal programs to work more closely together at the national level. The programs include: Sea Grant, Coastal Zone Management, Coastal Services Center and the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (which includes the former Coastal Ocean Program).

### **World Wildlife Fund Meeting**

Jim Murray and I met with World Wildlife Fund staff on July 25, 2007. They are interested in domestic and international climate-related extension.

### **NOAA Environmental Cooperative Science Center (ECSC)**

I have been invited to serve on the Center's Advisory Board. The ECSC is composed of eight academic institutions, including five Minority Serving Institutions and four National Estuarine Research Reserves that collaborate to provide education and research opportunities for students and faculty in NOAA related sciences. They are interested in working with Sea Grant. Doug Lipton (MD SG) serves on the Center's Science Advisory Board and recently attended a meeting held in Florida.

### **OAR Compiling Inventory of Ecosystem Modeling Efforts**

OAR is compiling an inventory of current ecosystem modeling efforts within NOAA. Sea Grant supports a wide diversity of projects that can be classed as ecosystem modeling and we would like to have these activities included in this effort. For details, please see my message sent to the Sea Grant Directors and Research Coordinators on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Alaska Visit**

NOAA is planning a Congressional staff visit to Alaska the week of Sunday, Aug. 19 - Friday, Aug. 24th.

## **SEA GRANT REAUTHORIZATION**

The draft Administration package, as prepared by the National Sea Grant Office, has entered the NOAA clearance process. All line offices will have the opportunity to

review the draft legislation before it is passed to downtown NOAA and to the Administration. The clearance process is estimated to be four to nine months.

## **RESPONSE AND INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **National Strategic Planning Steering Committee**

On August 1<sup>st</sup> the Committee developed a timetable for completing the NSGCP strategic plan, began discussing focus areas, and discussed the schedule for the San Diego meeting.

See also, **National Stakeholder Forum**, above, under "Director's Office."

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Annual Reports**

See "**Breaking News**," above.

### **Omnibus Guidance**

Omnibus Guidance is coming later this month.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **NOAA NEWS**

### **Ecosystem Research Program (ERP)**

Sami Grimes is representing Sea Grant in the development of the Ecosystem Research Program Strategic Plan.

### **NOAA Fisheries Supports Extension Agent to Serve Vietnamese Fishermen**

Thanks to generous support from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, and the efforts of NSGO's Nikola Garber, Peter Nguyen has been hired for an additional two-year term by the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium. Nguyen serves as a fisheries technologist, working closely with the Gulf Coast's Vietnamese fishing community. Following Hurricane Katrina, Nguyen, a 15-year veteran shrimper, was hired to work with Vietnamese fishermen by providing information about new

regulations and proposed legislation. He has been a valuable asset in the Gulf, successfully engaging Vietnamese fishermen in important fishing industry issues, and helping communicate the fishermen's concerns back to NOAA and other agencies, organizations and researchers. Nguyen's office is located at the Mississippi State University's Coastal Research and Extension Center in Biloxi.

## RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS

### Ecosystem Research Funding Opportunity

In the NOAA Federal Register Notice of grants opportunities (July 2, Volume 72, Number 126, page 36244-36274), the Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research (CSCOR) released a federal funding opportunity (FFO) for the Regional Ecosystem Prediction Program. This FFO covers ecosystem research in three areas:

1. Invasive Species in the Great Lakes--A Regional Scale Approach
2. Cumulative Impacts of Stressors at the Land-Water Interface in the Mid-Atlantic
3. Ecosystem Goal-Setting in Coastal Waters and Reefs of South Florida

More information on this opportunity is available through Grants.gov, or at the following CSCOR website:

[http://www.cop.noaa.gov/opportunities/grants/fundingarchive/fy2008/Reg\\_Eco\\_ffo\\_08.html](http://www.cop.noaa.gov/opportunities/grants/fundingarchive/fy2008/Reg_Eco_ffo_08.html)

## OUTREACH

### Communications

#### Request for Submissions on International Activities

A number of state Sea Grant programs are involved in various and diverse international activities, and we would like to highlight these experiences in *E-currents* and through other communications outlets. Please send us stories or information about the types of activities, focus of the work, location, and outcomes of your program's international involvement. This information can be submitted via our news list: [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov), or to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

#### Reminder: Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online

**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

**Directory** <http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>) Under

the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgo* - these are case sensitive.

### ***E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Lake Champlain Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, Washington Sea Grant, Wisconsin Sea Grant and WHOI Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

### **Education**

#### **Updates**

#### **NOAA Education Authorization**

Sharon Walker sent this bill to the Sea Grant Educators' Network (SGEN) on August 6, 2007.

### **FELLOWSHIPS**

#### **Knauss**

Applications from prospective fellows to the State Sea Grant College Programs (SGCP) are due February 29, 2008.

Selected applications from the sponsoring SGCP are to be received in the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) through [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) no later than 5 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on April 10, 2008.

### **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

#### **July-07**

- 30-Aug. 3 Alaska Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)
- 30-Aug. 3 Visit NOAA Fisheries Science Centers, Milford, CT & Miami, FL (Lazur)

#### **Aug-07**

- 2-3 South Carolina Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Charleston (Smith)
- 6-9 Oregon Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)
- 8-9 Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Dauphin Island, AL (Garber)
- 13-16 California Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Murray)
- 16-17 Texas Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, College Station, TX (Garber)
- 19-24 NOAA Congressional Staff Visit to Alaska
- 19-20 New Jersey Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Sandy Hook, NJ (Carlson)
- 20-21 Georgia Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Atlanta, GA (Smith)
- 21-22 Florida Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Gainesville, FL (Garber)
- 21-23 Rhode Island Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Hurley/Carlson)
- 24 Connecticut Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Carlson)
- 22-27 Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center (Lazur)
- 28-30 RIT writing session, RI (Murray, Garber, Painter)
- 26-31 Knauss Class Trip, OR (Grimes, Lugo)
- 29-30 Co-chair NOAA-USDA Aquaculture Extension Steering Committee, Baltimore, MD (Lazur)

#### **Sep-07**

- 2-7 AFS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (Smith/Liffman)
- 4-5 New Hampshire Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Carlson)
- 13-15 Puerto Rico Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Mayaguez, PR (Smith)
- 14 MIT and Maine Sea Grant Technical Review Panels, Boston, MA (Carlson/Liffman)
- 16-19 Great Lakes Meeting (Eigen, Hurley)
- 17-18 North Carolina Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Raleigh, NC (Smith)
- 29-30 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

#### **Oct-07**

- 1-3 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

#### **Nov-07**

#### **Dec-07**

- 3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)

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#### **Phone Numbers at NSGO**

Phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory: <http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

#### **Sea Grant News**

#### **August 2007**

#### **National Sea Grant College Program**

#### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

#### **1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**  
**301/734-1066/1077**  
**fax 301/713-0799**  
**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**  
**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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SEPTEMBER 2007

### Breaking News—

#### **Response Integration Team (RIT) Draft Report & Final Sub-Team Reports Online**

To view the Draft RIT and Sub-Team Reports, please visit:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/rit/>

(Note that the url for the Sub-Team Reports listed in the Draft RIT Report sent to the network on 9/14/07 should be replaced with the above web address.)

#### **Annual Reports**

#### **Due October 19<sup>th</sup> (if submitting through) National Information Management System (NIMS)**

The system went live on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Notification was sent to directors, research coordinators and fiscal officers. Fiscal officers and others responsible for submitting Annual and Progress Reports are encouraged to begin working with the system prior to the San Diego meeting. The NSGO is continuing to make ongoing corrections and modifications to the system in order to enhance functionality. We welcome your questions and suggestions over the next few months via

[oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov)

We are working hard to incorporate ongoing suggestions provided by members of the Sea Grant network. To that end, NIMS will be offline from October 1-4 for enhancements. The system will be restored on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

NIMS url: <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/nims/NimsHome/Default2.aspx> (two users per program)

#### **International News**

**NOAA, Indonesian Ministry Sign Agreement to Advance Coastal, Marine Efforts**

The U.S. and Indonesia have pledged to collaborate on climate and fisheries sciences, as well as Earth observations as NOAA and Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies to formalize the transfer of technology, data and information in mid-September.

"Our agencies share a history of cooperation that spans over many years," said [Richard W. Spinrad](#), NOAA director of oceanic and atmospheric research, who represented NOAA at the signing ceremony in Jakarta. "This agreement demonstrates a renewed commitment for partnership between our two nations." Spinrad noted that Indonesia made an important contribution to the Global Earth Observation Systems of Systems (GEOSS) by launching the [Indonesia Ocean Observing System](#) in support of regional and coastal observation efforts to help meet needs for new forecasts and predictions. "We also will support mitigation of coastal hazards, as well as the [Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System](#) efforts in Indonesia and regionally," Spinrad said. That legislation will help long-term programs, such as the [Sea Partnership Program](#) and the [U.S. Sea Grant program](#) to collaborate, and provide educational opportunities that foster the next generation of leaders in science and technology," Spinrad said.

NOAA: <http://www.noaa.gov>

### **Technical Panels**

NSGO Program Officers have been participating in a number of university-based program technical reviews as these programs prepare their omnibus proposals for submission.

### **Sea Grant Recognition**

**Ohio Sea Grant Featured in NOAA Research's "In the Spotlight."** Check out Cleaner Water Increases Lake Erie Waterfront Property Values by Jill Jentes Banicki. [http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_hotcommodity.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_hotcommodity.html)

### **Summer E-Currents**

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/summer/>

### **Reminder:**

**San Diego Meeting, September 29 - October 3, 2007**

<http://www.sgmeet.com/seagrant/seagrant2007/default.htm>

The web site provides the schedule, information about the accommodations, an on-line registration mechanism, among other things.

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **San Diego Meeting**

I look forward to our meeting in San Diego and to discussion about our strategic focus and integrated planning and assessment. In addition to my plenary talk, I will

address the Panel, the SGA and the Assembly. I look forward to productive and lively working sessions and to embarking on a new strategic direction.

## **SEA GRANT REAUTHORIZATION**

The draft Administration package, as prepared by the National Sea Grant Office, has entered the NOAA clearance process and is working its way through the Agency.

## **RESPONSE INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **RIT Releases Draft Report**

Following a three-day RIT retreat at the University of Rhode Island in late August for the purpose of drafting a response to the NRC recommendations, the RIT released its draft report to the Sea Grant network for comment. The RIT (Paul Anderson, Nikola Garber, John Kramer and Jim Murray) is grateful to Russ Moll, Barry Costa Pierce, Jon Eigen and Frank Kudrna for representing their sub-teams and committee at the retreat, and for helping the RIT to talk through a number of complex issues. The RIT distributed its draft report, "Defining an Enhanced and Integrated Strategic Planning and Program Assessment Strategy for the National Sea Grant College Program" to the network for comment on September 14. The draft report responds to the National Research Council (Ocean Studies Board) Committee on the Evaluation of the Sea Grant Program Review Process. The report presents the RIT's analysis, and offers guidance that will be useful for both the NSGO and the university-based Sea Grant programs as the Sea Grant network implements measures to improve its strategic planning and evaluation process.

The RIT will make a series of presentations about the report at the Sea Grant gathering in San Diego. Because the focus of that meeting is strategic planning, discussion will be limited to major issues and questions in San Diego. However, the network is encouraged to make detailed comments on the draft report and to send them to the RIT by email. Comments will be accepted until October 15, 2007. The RIT will consider all input received from the discussions in San Diego, and written comments received by October 15 before finalizing the report to the NSGCP Director on November 1, 2007. Please provide your comments to Jim Murray, [jim.d.murray@noaa.gov](mailto:jim.d.murray@noaa.gov) and Jon Kramer, [kramer@mdsg.umd.edu](mailto:kramer@mdsg.umd.edu) by October 15.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Annual Reports**

See "**Breaking News**," above.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **NOAA NEWS**

### **Ship Time**

Ship time information from programs is due by Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the e-mail sent by Jim Hurley on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, (to directors, research coordinators and fiscal officers) which includes the 2008 NOAA form and evaluation criteria. We realize that this is a busy time for all in the network and hope that this is not too much of a burden. However, our ability to secure funding for ship time is enhanced by receiving this information from you.

## **RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS**

### **Competitions**

The RFP for competitions in FY 2008 is available on our website:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

The following five projects were awarded by NOAA for the **Gulf Oyster Industry Program** with a start date of June 1, 2007:

1. Detection of *Vibrio vulnificus* by immunomagnetic separation and real-time PCR - PI Marlene Janes, Louisiana State University
2. Production of Founder Stocks and Breeding Population of Tetraploid Eastern Oyster *Crassostrea virginica* for the Gulf of Mexico Region - PI Terrence Tiersch, Louisiana State University
3. A Bacteriophage Linked Immunosorbent Assay for Rapid Detection of Pathogenic *V. parahaemolyticus* - PI Lawrence Goodridge, Colorado State University
4. The Effects of Freezing Temperatures and Times on the Inactivation of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in Gulf Coast Oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) - PI Daniel Holliman, Virginia Institute of Marine Science
5. The Use of High Hydrostatic Pressure to Inactivate *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* in Gulf Coast Oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) - PI Daniel Holliman, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

The following five projects were awarded by NOAA for the **Oyster Disease Research Program** with a start date of June 1, 2007:

1. Evaluation of the health and reproductive status of older,

post-market size *Crassostrea virginica* as a key to *Perkinsus marinus* resistance in natural oyster populations - PI Ryan Carnegie, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

2. The Influence of disease on oyster generation time and implications for fecundity and habitat maintenance - PI Eileen Hofmann, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

3. Validation of disease-resistance markers for marker-assisted selection in the Eastern oyster - PI Ximing Guo, Rutgers University

4. Mapping expression QTL for genes associated with summer mortality resistance in Pacific oysters, *Crassostrea gigas* - PI Chris Langdon, Oregon State University

5. Building gene expression-based predictors of oyster summer mortality syndrome - PI Andrew Gracey, University of California San Diego

### **Sea Grant Aquatic Invasive Species NSI**

As per e-mail notification from Michelle Harmon in early September, the FY 2008 FFO is different than the FY 2007 FFO: project funding limits have significantly increased and the regional priorities have been slightly modified. Because of these changes, all interested PIs, even if they submitted a full proposal last year, should submit a new preproposal and full proposal for the FY 2008 competition. Sea Grant programs should communicate this to PIs who submitted full proposals through your Program to the FY 2007 Aquatic Invasive Species NSI. For details, please contact Michelle Harmon at [Michelle.Harmon@noaa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Harmon@noaa.gov)

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **Smart Growth EPA Meeting**

Jim Murray and Mike Liffmann met with EPA's Geoff Anderson and Lynn Richards to discuss the portfolio of Smart Growth projects that EPA and Sea Grant have co-sponsored. The group agreed to assess these projects and to consider developing a revised plan with a new set of goals and objectives. This may culminate with a new RFP for the Sea Grant network.

#### **Institute of Food Technologies Meeting**

Mike Liffmann attended the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) meeting in Chicago. He participated in a "Point Counterpoint: Where Science Meets Funding" panel discussion with Dr. Tyre Lanier (Professor, Dept. of Food Science at North Carolina State University and past recipient of NC Sea Grant College Program awards).

#### **American Fisheries Society**

The annual American Fisheries Society meeting took place in San Francisco. The meeting attracted a record number of attendees (2700 registered) and featured concurrent symposia (23). The symposia, "Mitigating the Impacts of Natural Hazards on Fishery Ecosystems," included 32 presentations (on topics such as hurricanes, tsunamis, harmful algal blooms, coastal storms) with a diverse set of speakers,

including eight Sea Grant employees. Ron Baird, retired Sea Grant director, provided an introduction to the symposium and facilitated the closing. Brian Baird, Assistant Secretary for Coastal and Ocean Policy for the California Natural Resources Agency, gave the keynote address. The proceedings of the symposium will be published by AFS later this year. Terry Smith and others from the network participated in a planning meeting for the sixth symposium in the biennial AFS-Sea Grant special symposia—to take place in 2009 in Nashville. Smith, who will co-convene that symposium, led a brainstorming session attended by Sea Grant directors and extension leaders, and NMFS and NOAA leadership. Also discussed was the joint Sea Grant extension-AFS Socioeconomic Section sponsored symposium in Ottawa (at the next AFS meeting). Attendees explored the idea of a symposium on seafood eco-labeling. A group led by Ralph Rayburn, TX Sea Grant, and Palma Ingles, NMFS, agreed to take the lead in putting together a symposium proposal.

## Communications

### Request for Submissions on International Activities

A number of state Sea Grant programs are involved in various and diverse international activities. We would like to highlight these experiences in *E-currents* and through other communications outlets. Please send us stories or information about the types of activities, focus of the work, location, and outcomes of your program's international involvement. This information can be submitted via our news list: [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov), or to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

### Reminder: Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online

**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

**Directory** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>) Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgr* - these are case sensitive.

### *E-Currents*

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea

Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, South Carolina Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant, Washington Sea Grant, Wisconsin Sea Grant and WHOI Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## **Education**

### **NOAA Education Council**

Sea Grant is represented on the Education Council Working Group (Working Group) that was established to help NOAA address the issue of environmental literacy as a cross-cutting priority. The Working Group is drafting an Options Paper for the NOAA Office of Education and the Education Council.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

#### **Knauss Class of 2007 Trip to Portland**

The trip was a success with informative talks, lectures and site visits throughout Oregon.

#### **Career Workshop**

A "Career Workshop" for the current Knauss class was hosted on September 20th.

#### **Knauss Host Database**

We are making progress with this database and are pleased with the continuing enhancements. So far, our host programs and incoming fellows have found it useful.

#### **Federal Register Notice**

The FY09 Knauss Fellowship Federal Register Notice has been published and can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) under the Funding Opportunity Number OAR-SG-2009-2001198 or on the Sea Grant website

<http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

#### **Placement Week**

The NSGO has finalized the hotel contract for Placement week December 2-8, 2007 as per Miguel Lugo's email sent on 9/24 (to directors, fiscal officers, Knauss program contacts and incoming Knauss fellows). The Marriot Residence Inn will charge the government rate of \$201.00 per night which includes complementary hot buffet breakfast served daily, buffet dinner Monday-Wednesday, and desert night Thursday. For more information please visit [www.Marriott.com/WASCP](http://www.Marriott.com/WASCP)

Incoming Knauss fellows are advised to contact their sponsoring State Sea Grant Program to coordinate/proceed with travel arrangements. Please feel free to call Miguel at 301-734-1077 or email Miguel.Lugo@noaa.gov for questions.

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

### **Sep-07**

- 2-7 AFS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (Smith/Liffman)
- 4-5 New Hampshire Sea Grant Technical Review Panel (Carlson)
- 13-15 Puerto Rico Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Mayaguez, PR (Smith)
- 14 MIT and Maine Sea Grant Technical Review Panels, Boston, MA (Carlson/Liffman)
- 16-19 Great Lakes Meeting (Eigen, Hurley)
- 17-18 North Carolina Sea Grant Technical Review Panel, Raleigh, NC (Smith)
- 29-30 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

### **Oct-07**

- 1-3 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

### **Nov-07**

### **Dec-07**

- 3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)

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### **Phone Numbers at NSGO**

Phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

### **Sea Grant News**

#### **September 2007**

#### **National Sea Grant College Program**

#### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**

**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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OCTOBER 2007

## Breaking News—

### Network E-Mail Lists

This e-mail list, [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov) was established by the NSGO, and can be used by members of the network. The list includes the following sub-groups:

Sea Grant CCD Extension  
Sea Grant Communicators (leaders)  
OAR Sea Grant Directors  
OAR Sea Grant Educators  
OAR Sea Grant Extension (leaders)  
OAR Sea Grant Fiscal Officers  
OAR Sea Grant Research Coordinators  
OAR Sea Grant Review Panel  
NSGO Staff

**To Join:** If you do not currently receive e-mails directed to [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov), and would like to be added, please specify which sub-group, and e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

**To Change or Delete an E-mail Address:** Please e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov) Specify which sub-group you are a part of, so we are able to locate and then delete or change your e-mail address.

**To Send Messages to this List:** Members of the network may use the [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov) list to distribute e-mails to the network.

### National Address Book/Sea Grant Directory

This is the web-based, searchable address book/staff directory that is accessed from the NSGO website and updated by each program as needed.

<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information (including address, phone and e-mail) is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link:

<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>

Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgo* - these are case sensitive.

### **Annual Reports/Progress Reports**

#### **Annual Reports Due October 19<sup>th</sup> (if submitting through) National Information Management System (NIMS)**

The system went live on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Notification was sent to directors, research coordinators and fiscal officers. Fiscal officers and others responsible for submitting Annual and Progress Reports are encouraged to begin working with the system. The NSGO is continuing to make ongoing corrections and modifications in order to enhance functionality. We welcome your questions and suggestions over the next few months via [oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov)

At present, we are further developing our instructions (available in the system under the *Help* menu), business rules and report generation functionality. We will let you know via e-mail as soon as these changes and updates are made.

**NIMS url:** <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/nims/NimsHome/Default.aspx> (two users per program)

### **Sea Grant Recognition**

**Ohio Sea Grant Featured in NOAA Research's "In the Spotlight."** Check out Cleaner Water Increases Lake Erie Waterfront Property Values by Jill Jentes Banicki. [http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_hotcommodity.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_hotcommodity.html)

### **E-Currents**

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/summer/>

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **San Diego Meeting**

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Sea Grant Gathering for thoughtful and collegial discussions on a variety of issues that will affect Sea Grant in the near and long-term future. We made significant progress on developing a national strategic plan that will provide focus over the next five to 10 years and will help establish a national identity that we will use to promote the Sea Grant program. There is no question we are already making a significant difference in the lives of those who live on the coasts or who benefit from our Nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. Hopefully, we will be able to do even more over the next five years as we put this plan into action!

I thought the discussions on how best to integrate our planning and assessment process to strengthen Sea Grant were very constructive and look forward to

continuing that dialogue over the next two months as we finalize the process. Please make sure to send your comments and suggestions to the NRC Response Integration Team (Jim Murray, [jim.d.murray@noaa.gov](mailto:jim.d.murray@noaa.gov) and Jon Kramer, [kramer@mdsg.umd.edu](mailto:kramer@mdsg.umd.edu)), the National Review Panel (Frank Kudrna, [fkudrna@kudrna.com](mailto:fkudrna@kudrna.com)), and me; I encourage you to share your comments since that will help move the dialogue along.

For those of you unable to attend, I hope you will take the time to talk with participants to learn about the content, tone and tenor of the discussions. We have a lot to accomplish and we need to have everyone on board. If you have suggestions on what came out of the "Gathering," please let us know.

I'm excited about the progress we have made. The challenge now is to carry that energy forward over the next few months and finish up what we worked so hard on in San Diego. If we do this right, and I'm convinced we will, it's going to pay off with a better and more effective Sea Grant Program that will be able to provide even greater service to our stakeholders.

## **SEA GRANT REAUTHORIZATION**

The draft Administration package, as prepared by the National Sea Grant Office, has been cleared by each NOAA line office and is now being reviewed by NOAA's Office of Legislative Affairs.

## **RESPONSE INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **RIT Releases Draft Report**

The RIT distributed its draft report, "Defining an Enhanced and Integrated Strategic Planning and Program Assessment Strategy for the National Sea Grant College Program" to the network for comment on September 14 and presented its recommendations during the San Diego meeting. Comments will be accepted until October 15, 2007. The RIT will consider all input received from the discussions in San Diego, and written comments received by October 15 before finalizing the report to the NSGCP Director on November 1, 2007. Please provide your comments to Jim Murray, [jim.d.murray@noaa.gov](mailto:jim.d.murray@noaa.gov) and Jon Kramer, [kramer@mdsg.umd.edu](mailto:kramer@mdsg.umd.edu) by October 15.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Annual Reports**

See "Breaking News," above.

**Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

**Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **NOAA NEWS**

**OAR/Sea Grant Extension Seminar**

Sea Grant and OAR recently hosted a seminar and ancillary meetings with the NOAA National Severe Storms Lab (NSSL)/Sea Grant extension specialist, Montra Lockwood.

**Education Celebration**

NOAA's Office of Education celebrated the authorization of Education in NOAA.

## **RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS**

**Competitions**

The RFP for competitions in FY 2008 is available on our website:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

**Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Outreach**

The deadline for preliminary proposals to be received by the local Sea Grant programs is October 11, 2007. Preliminary proposals must be forwarded to the National Office via email to [oar.hq.nsgo.competitions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.hq.nsgo.competitions@noaa.gov) by October 18th.

Your email message to the National Office should include a list of all preliminary proposals received and separate attachments for each proposal (preferably as one PDF file per preproposal). Please include a statement in the email certifying that all attached preliminary proposals were received by 4:00 PM EDT October 11, 2007.

Applicants from last year's aborted competition must submit a preproposal again by the deadline to be considered for this year's competition.

## **OUTREACH**

**Communications**

**Request for Submissions on International Activities**

A number of state Sea Grant programs are involved in various and diverse international activities. We would like to highlight these experiences in *E-currents*

and through other communications outlets. Please send us stories or information about the types of activities, focus of the work, location, and outcomes of your program's international involvement. This information can be submitted via our news list: [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov), or to [Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov)

### **Reminder: Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online**

**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

### ***E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maine Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, and Rhode Island Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

#### **Knauss Host Database**

The Host Database for the Knauss Class of 2008 will be open Oct 11, 2007. Host offices offering positions for the incoming class will be able to update and post the new job descriptions for the incoming class.

#### **Federal Register Notice**

The FY09 Knauss Fellowship Federal Register Notice has been published and can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) under the Funding Opportunity Number OAR-SG-2009-2001198 or on the Sea Grant website

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

#### **Knauss Placement Week**

Placement week for the Knauss Class of 2008 will be held December 2-7, 2007. For more information visit

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/knauss/knaussplacementweek.html>

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

### **Oct-07**

1-3 Sea Grant Gathering, San Diego, CA (Tech staff)

### **Dec-07**

3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)

**\*\*\***

### **Phone Numbers at NSGO**

Phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

### **Sea Grant News**

**October 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**

**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



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## Breaking News—

### Annual Reports

Sami Grimes and Amy Painter have been reviewing the 2007 state Sea Grant annual reports for impacts, accomplishments, performance measures and metrics to develop a 2007 Annual Report and a 2008 Annual Operating Plan for NOAA. Thank you for your submissions.

### Progress Reports

Fiscal officers and others responsible for submitting Annual and Progress Reports are encouraged to begin working with the National Information Management (NIMS) system. The NSGO is continuing to make ongoing corrections and modifications in order to enhance functionality. We welcome your questions and suggestions over the next few months via [oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov)

**New Developments:** At present, we are seeking a new developer. Roopesh Das recently accepted a job at IRS. We hope to have someone in place as soon as next week. We are also refining our reporting mechanism so that programs can upload progress reports to Grants Online. Once this functionality is complete, we will revise our instructions (available in the system under the *Help* menu). We will let you know via e-mail as soon as these changes and updates are made. Finally, we just ported 2007 project information into the system. You are welcome to review your 2007 projects and to make corrections to everything except for funding amounts and funding source information—we will make funding corrections in the system and are reviewing this information now. For questions, please e-mail:

[oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov)

**NIMS url:** <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/nims/NimsHome/Default.aspx> (two users per program)

## **Sea Grant Recognition**

### **Puerto Rico Sea Grant Project to Be Featured in Smithsonian Ocean Hall**

The PUERTO RICO/ FISH FARM (Dallas Allston) project will be featured as part of the Smithsonian Ocean Hall exhibit titled, "Offshore Bounty." Filming of the farms will begin on November 26-28<sup>th</sup>.

### **History Channel to Film Florida Sea Grant research project**

A Florida Sea Grant researcher developed a one-step forensics technique to identify shark species from fins, carcasses and other body parts through a rapid and reliable method of DNA analysis. This project received attention from the History Channel as a result of FL SG's submission of a one-page story to the Smithsonian Ocean Hall. A video shoot is in the works.

### **Get Your Upcoming Events on the NOAA Calendar**

The downtown NOAA Office of Communications (headed by Anson Franklin) is developing a calendar of events for the next year. They are looking for events at which there may be opportunities for NOAA leadership to attend/speak & events that might also present media opportunities. Franklin does not have a formal written request or criteria, but is interested in a variety of types of events, though not major conferences ala AFS and Coastal Zone, which NOAA is already aware of. If you wish to submit upcoming events, simply note the name of the event, sponsors, location and date along with a one or two sentence description. Please e-mail this information to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov) by November 9.

### **Call for Impacts**

Dr. Cammen sent a message to the network re. impacts last week. We are culling your Annual Reports for new impacts, metrics and performance measures in order to develop several documents highlighting Sea Grant. If you wish to submit additional impacts in order to ensure that your top accomplishments are featured in our outreach efforts and success stories, please submit them to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

### **E-Currents**

Fall is coming soon. To view the summer issue, visit:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/summer/>

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **VADM Lautenbacher Honors Dr. Robert Abel**

NOAA Administrator VADM Lautenbacher observed the passing of Dr.

Robert Abel, the first Director of the National Sea Grant College

Program and a long-time head of New Jersey Sea Grant and the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, in an all-hands letter on November first. He characterized Dr.

Abel as a man of great vision and integrity, and offered his personal thanks and the thanks of all of NOAA for the many years of service Dr. Abel gave to marine science.

### **Lake Champlain Visit**

Lake Champlain PO Dorn Carlson and I visited the Lake Champlain Sea Grant (LC SG) project in Burlington, Vermont on October 17-18. We met with the Director and staff of the LC SG project, as well as the Provost and several Deans from the University of Vermont, and several investigators, stakeholders and fiscal officers. The purpose of the visit was to get better acquainted with project participants and University officials, and to discuss the status and possible evolution of LC SG.

### **Megan Agy Resigns**

If you missed my e-mail, sent earlier today, I am sorry to announce that Megan Agy Glew moved to Seattle in late October with her husband and two new twin boys. The family is settling into life on the West Coast near Megan's family and doing well. Megan made numerous contributions during her tenure with Sea Grant. From running national competitions with meticulous attention to detail to managing joint partnerships and initiatives with other NOAA line offices and within Sea Grant to working closely with the West Coast programs as an outstanding and committed program officer, Megan has been a tremendous asset to our network. We will miss her sharp mind, her positive attitude, her versatility, her dedication and her wonderful personality. We are much indebted to Megan for her hard work and for the many improvements she brought to Sea Grant, and we wish her all the best in Seattle.

## **PROGRAM OFFICER NEWS**

### **PO Duties for the Pacific**

Jim Murray has assumed Megan Agy's Program Officer duties for the Alaska, Washington, Oregon and the University of Southern California Sea Grant programs.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & RESPONSE INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **Strategic Planning Steering Committee**

The committee has been reviewing the notes from the Sea Grant Gathering in San Diego and participated in a conference call on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **RIT Final Report**

On October 26, the RIT submitted its final report "Defining an Enhanced and Integrated Strategic Planning and Program Assessment Strategy for the National Sea Grant College Program" to Director Cammen. Based on the many comments received from the Sea Grant network, the final report includes several modifications from the September 14 draft. The changes are as follows:

- A brief site visit is included. The visit focuses on institutional setting and management, the context for local strategic planning and alignment with national goals, and strategic engagement.

- Site visits will commence during the second quarter of 2009 with all programs receiving visits by the second quarter of 2012 (approximately 10 programs per year).
- A narrative-based site visit report contributes to program assessment by informing the Program Review Panel process.
- The NSGCP Director's visit is replaced by having the NSGCP Director or Deputy Director participate as an ex-officio member on the site visit team.
- TATs, while encouraged, are voluntary, not mandatory.

## GRANTS & BUDGET

### **Foreign Travel (Update for the Fiscal Officers following discussion in San Diego)**

All travel deemed relevant by NOAA program officers will be approved by the NOAA Grants Officer regardless of the location (provided that there are no budgetary constraints). If foreign travel is not detailed in the award, then an Award Action Request must be initiated and approved prior to travel. Even if the travel is paid with the 10% of allowable re-budgeted funds, an Award Action Request will still need to be initiated, or GMD will consider this a change in scope and disallow the expense at closeout.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## NOAA NEWS

### **Ship Time**

The NOAA Charter Ship Time Allocation Panel is in the final stages of determining the funding level that the National Sea Grant College Program will receive for charter ship support of research, outreach and education programs in FY2008. PIs and state programs will be notified about the success of their applications, allotted amounts, procedures for receiving these funds (subject to appropriations) and importantly, procedures for reporting on the use and effectiveness of the funding. Thanks to all programs and PIs who provided detailed information in proposals that allowed Sea Grant to effectively compete for an allotment.

### **NMFS-Sea Grant Partnership Discussion**

Plans for a meeting between NOAA Fisheries leadership and fisheries-oriented Sea Grant leaders have been finalized. The meeting will take place at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in Seattle on January 8, 2008 in conjunction with a meeting of the NMFS Science Board (a management group that oversees the science side of the agency). The gathering is a follow up to a similar meeting in Seattle in 2003 and will focus on opportunities for regional partnerships between the two organizations. About a dozen Sea Grant representatives are expected to attend.

### **NOAA Marine Debris Forum**

#### *Advancing Science through Information Sharing*

The NOAA Marine Debris Program's "NOAA Marine Debris Forum 2008," in partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, is being held April 1-3, 2008 in Bethesda, Maryland. Over the last few years, a number of marine debris research and reduction projects have been conducted around the country. These projects have resulted in a significant number of shoreline and submerged debris mapping products, debris assessments, prevention campaigns, and successful removal operations. This information forum has been developed specifically to provide Principal Project Investigators the opportunity to present the results of their studies and to share valuable information with other researchers and interested parties. Invites include NOAA and non-NOAA partners involved in marine debris related activities around the country. Potential session titles include: Derelict gear/obstruction mapping and identification, Removal techniques, Outreach/education, Debris impacts and Prevention. To learn more, contact [Sarah.Morison@noaa.gov](mailto:Sarah.Morison@noaa.gov)

### **NOAA Science Camp Recently Featured in *Postcards from the Field***

This summer, NOAA partnered with Washington Sea Grant and the University of Washington Joint Institute for the Study of Atmosphere and Oceans to host the fifth annual NOAA Science Camp in Seattle. During the week-long camp, 53 middle-school-aged campers worked on a hypothetical fish kill in the Puget Sound and learned about NOAA science through hands-on activities. Joining the WSG camp staff were scientists from NOAA Fisheries Service, NOAA Ocean Service, National Weather Service, NOAA Research, NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, and JISAO. The camp was featured in a recent *Postcards from the Field* newsletter sent to NOAA employees.

## **RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS**

### **Aquaculture Competition**

The 2008-09 National Marine Aquaculture Initiative competitive grants program received 244 pre-proposals requesting a total of \$85 million. The National Marine Aquaculture Initiative program supports proposals for the development and demonstration of innovative and applied technologies to foster sustainable marine aquaculture development in the United States. Research priorities for the program included: 1) site specific projects demonstrating production and economic feasibility; 2) evaluation of environmental impacts of shellfish and fish culture; 3) nutrition research on alternative protein sources; 4) development of environmental models

and site selection; 5) disease diagnostics and control; 6) development of hands-on hatchery training programs; and 7) development of synthesis papers on environmental impacts of aquaculture, alternative protein feeds, disease transmission and genetic technologies and environmental risk analysis. It is anticipated that \$1.6 to 6 million will be available each year of the two year program. Depending on final funding, approximately 30 pre-proposals will be selected for full proposal development, and 10-15 full proposals will be selected for funding by March, 2008.

### **AIS Competition Update**

We received 120 research pre-proposals and 15 outreach pre-proposals. The research pre-proposal panel is composed of 20 individuals from government and academia. Reviews are due on the 16th and the conference call will be held on the 28th. Our intent is to discuss a subset of the pre-proposals in order to keep the call more manageable. A conference call to discuss the outreach pre-proposals (with 7 reviewers) is planned for the end of November.

### **Regional Research & Information Plans**

The NSGO has drafted a Funding Opportunity Notice to support the three remaining regional research and information planning efforts that were not funded in 2006. The FFO, which is planned to come out in the NOAA December omnibus funding notice, will offer support to the Greater New York Bight region, the Mid-Atlantic region, and the Caribbean region. Dorn Carlson will be the point of contact for programs interested in learning more. Please e-mail [Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov](mailto:Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov)

### **Competitions**

The RFP for competitions in FY 2008 is available on our website:  
<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **Climate Extension**

Jim Hurley, Mike Liffmann, Jack Thigpen and Gary Zeileski attended joint meeting with NOAA's Climate Office to discuss Sea Grant's role in climate extension. Hurley will be working with the Sea Grant Assembly to develop a white paper on climate extension within the context of our developing strategic plan.

#### **Fisheries Extension Enhancement Review**

The Assembly's Fisheries Extension Committee, co-chaired by RI SG's Kathy Castro and VA SG's Chris Hager, has begun the process of summarizing and reporting on the Fisheries Extension Enhancement (FEE) initiative which expires in April 2009. The committee's first step is administering a questionnaire that will be sent to the 18 state programs that received Fisheries Extension Enhancement (FEE) funding in 2004. The questionnaire results and other information will be used to

produce a program status report. That report will be provided to a review team appointed by the National Sea Grant Review Panel in April 2008. The panel will then provide a report to the National Sea Grant College Program Director with their evaluation and recommendations. Decisions on the future of the program should be made by late spring/early summer.

### **Beltway Brown Bag Presentation on Smart Growth**

The NSGO and the Assembly of Sea Grant Extension Leaders (Assembly) will host a Beltway Brown Bag (BBB) presentation on the 27th of November. The one-hour chat entitled "Waterfront and Coastal Smart Growth Elements" will feature RI SG's Pam Rubinoff and our EPA-Smart Growth partner, Lynn Richards. Pam and RI SG's Jennifer McCann, Extension Leader for Coastal Programs, will also meet with NOAA colleagues from the Office of Coastal Resource Management and the Coastal Services to discuss their projects. An evening presentation to the DC area's Women's Aquatic Network is also planned.

### **Communications**

#### **Request for Submissions on International Activities**

Thank you for sending information about Sea Grant international activities. We would like to highlight these experiences in *E-currents* and through other communications outlets. Please continue to send us stories or information about the types of activities, focus of the work, location, and outcomes of your program's international involvement. This information can be submitted via our news list: [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov), or to [Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov)

#### **Publicity & Recognition**

Please continue to send your news and information regularly to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov). We package this information each week for the Admiral's EMT report, Hot Items and for many other outlets. In case you missed this information that Sami compiled (presented at the San Diego meeting), you may be interested in the following:

Number of Hot Items for Sea Grant:

2001-2002: 20

2002-2003: 48

2003-2004: 92

2004-2005: 125

2005-2006: 240

2006-2007: 475 (WOW!) :)

FY 05 = 6 out of 24 VADM memos, SG was mentioned = 25%

FY 06 = 14 out of 38 VADM memos, SG was mentioned = 37%

FY 07 = 16 out of 41 VADM memos, SG was mentioned = 39%, including one entire memo dedicated to SG accomplishments.

#### **Reminder: Sea Grant *Media Experts' Guide* and Address Directory Available Online**

**Media Experts' Guide** <http://experts.seagrant.noaa.gov/>

Contact information is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link: (<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/>) Choose "Update your entry." Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *news* – these are case sensitive.

### **National Address Book/Sea Grant Directory**

This is the web-based, searchable address book/staff directory that is accessed from the NSGO website and updated by each program as needed.

<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/sea-bin/SGDirsearch.pl>

Contact information (including address, phone and e-mail) is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link:

<http://experts.seagrants.noaa.gov/SGDirectory/>

Under the Sea Grant Programs, click on the link (underlined blue text that says "this section") which will take you to the interface for updating. Type in your username (Program name) i.e. *name of state* and password *nsgo* - these are case sensitive.

### **E-Currents**

<http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

### **Network E-Mail Lists**

This e-mail list, [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov) was established by the NSGO, and can be used by members of the network. The list includes the following sub-groups:

Sea Grant CCD Extension

Sea Grant Communicators (leaders)

OAR Sea Grant Directors

OAR Sea Grant Educators

OAR Sea Grant Extension (leaders)

OAR Sea Grant Fiscal Officers

OAR Sea Grant Research Coordinators

OAR Sea Grant Review Panel

NSGO Staff

**To Join:** If you do not currently receive e-mails directed to [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov), and would like to be added, please specify which sub-group, and e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

**To Change or Delete an E-mail Address:** Please e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov) Specify which sub-group you are a part of, so we are able to locate and then delete or change your e-mail address.

**To Send Messages to this List:** Members of the network may use the [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov) list to distribute e-mails to the network.

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, California Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Delaware Sea Grant, Florida Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New Hampshire Sea Grant, New Jersey Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea

Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Washington Sea Grant, Wisconsin Sea Grant, Woods Hole Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

#### **Placement Week**

Placement week for the Knauss Class of 2008 will be held December 2-7, 2007. For more information visit:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/knauss/knaussplacementweek.html>

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

### **Oct-07**

27-11/1 UN Industrial Development Organization - Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (UNIDO-GESAMP), Glasgow, Scotland (Hurley)

### **Nov-07**

12-16 Participate in several stakeholder meetings for the purpose of developing Hawaii SG's strategic plan, plus other meetings (Murray, Hawaii)

### **Dec-07**

3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)

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### **Phone Numbers at NSGO**

Phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

### **Sea Grant News**

**November 2007**

**National Sea Grant College Program**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**1315 East-West Highway**

**Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**301/734-1066/1077**

**fax 301/713-0799**

**<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov>**

**Questions: contact [amy.painter@noaa.gov](mailto:amy.painter@noaa.gov)**



# NOAA NATIONAL SEA GRANT

## NEWS



### Inside:

Breaking News  
Director's Office  
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Strategic Planning  
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NOAA News  
Research and Competitions

Outreach  
Fellowships  
Conferences

DECEMBER 2007

### Breaking News—

#### **NOAA *In Your State* Updates Due by December 12th**

Please take a moment to review the entry for your state program. The NOAA *In Your State* website can be found by going to:

<http://www.legislative.noaa.gov/NIYS0107/noaainyourstate.html>. This clickable map is not only for use by the general public, but entries are provided to Senators and Representatives during NOAA budget briefings. Many people within NOAA also utilize this information when preparing documents. Sea Grant entries enjoy prominent spots toward the top of state pages. Keep in mind that entries are more effective when short and to the point. If someone wants more information he/she can go to the featured link. Please send any updates you may have to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov) by December 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Sea Grant Regional Initiative Workshop, May 7-8**

**Background:** The Regional Marine Research Program (RMRP) was established 15 years ago to set priorities for regional marine and coastal research in support of efforts to safeguard the water quality and ecosystem health of 10 ocean and coastal regions around the U.S. (the Great Lakes was covered under separate legislation). For each of the RMRP regions, research plans were developed by regional committees that involved an array of regional stakeholders and were chaired by Sea Grant Directors. These regional plans serve as useful examples of a well-designed planning process, and help inform research priorities toward NOAA's goals. RMRP activities, however, were limited to planning, with the exception of the Gulf of Maine, where funds were made available to implement the plan that was developed. The Regional Sea Grant Initiative is intended to provide support to develop regional research and information plans that will complement the national planning efforts by

providing a bridge between national and local research and information needs for U.S. ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes areas.

To learn more about the Regional Planning Workshop, May 7-8, please visit:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/regional/index.html>

### **NIMS Update**

We are pleased to welcome John Bates, who has replaced Roopesh Das as our new programmer/analyst. John is highly skilled and brings a wealth of experience to this project. He is working on a number of exciting projects, including a NIMS feedback/reporting system, a tutorial that walks users through the system, and a number of other modifications suggested by the network and NSGO staff members. John can be reached at [John.Bates@noaa.gov](mailto:John.Bates@noaa.gov). We will continue to e-mail NIMS users as system modifications are made.

**Reminder:** please do not enter new (2008) projects into the system. Programs are, however, free to edit existing projects—with the exception of funding amounts and fund source information. We recently ported your 2007 project information into the system. You are welcome to review your 2007 projects and to make corrections to everything except for funding amounts and funding source information—we will make funding corrections in the system and are reviewing this information now. For questions, please e-mail: [oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.nims.suggestions@noaa.gov)

**NIMS url:** <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/nims/NimsHome/Default.aspx> (two users per program)

### **Sea Grant Recognition**

#### ***In the Spotlight***

**November:** Congratulations to Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (Irene Miles) for submitting a fascinating November NOAA Research *In the Spotlight* story titled, *Unwanted Medications: A Prescription for Troubled Waters*. Check it out on the web: [http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot\\_medications.html](http://www.oar.noaa.gov/spotlite/2007/spot_medications.html)

**December:** Sea Grant once again was awarded the *In the Spotlight* feature for two consecutive months (a first). Louisiana Sea Grant (Paula Ouder) submitted an article about Hassan Mashriqui, a Louisiana Sea Grant researcher whose extraordinary modeling efforts helped officials decide how and where to evacuate citizens of Bangladesh before Cyclone Sidr. After the storm passed, his work guided aid and rescue efforts to locations that had been hardest hit. The story is featured on the NOAA Research home page:

<http://www.oar.noaa.gov/>

#### **Weekly Reports to Admiral Lautenbacher and NOAA Leadership**

Congratulations to Michigan Sea Grant for submitting news items (a story on botulism and info. on a new report highlighting a significant ecological recovery for the Detroit River and Western Lake Erie)—both of which were included in the last two weekly *EMT Reports* from the NOAA Line Offices to the Admiral.

#### **Call for Impacts**

Dr. Cammen sent a message to the network requesting impacts last month. We are culling your Annual Reports for new impacts, metrics and performance measures in order to develop several documents highlighting Sea Grant. If you wish to submit additional impacts in order to ensure that your top accomplishments are featured in our outreach efforts and success stories, please submit them to [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

## **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**LEON CAMMEN, DIRECTOR**

### **Sea Technology Magazine**

I submitted a "Review and Forecast" article to Sea Technology magazine for its January issue discussing regional planning efforts and the national strategic plan.

### **Senior Executive Service (SES) Retreat**

This week, Leon is attending the SES leadership retreat in Chantilly, Virginia.

## **PROGRAM OFFICER NEWS**

### **Reminder: PO Duties for the Pacific**

Jim Murray has assumed Megan Agy's Program Officer duties for the Alaska, Washington, Oregon and the University of Southern California Sea Grant programs.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & RESPONSE INTEGRATION TEAM (RIT) UPDATE**

### **Strategic Planning Steering Committee**

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee met on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss a draft of the National Sea Grant College Program Strategic Plan. A draft plan was sent to the Network on December 5<sup>th</sup> (from NSGRP member, John Byrne), with comments due to Bitsy Waters ([ewaters@cstone.net](mailto:ewaters@cstone.net)) by Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **GRANTS & BUDGET**

### **Fiscal Officers Reminder: Financial Forms**

Recipients have 90 days after an award ends to draw down funds and to submit final financial forms (SF-269 and SF-272). If a recipient needs more time, you may submit an extension to the closeout period *before* the closeout period ends. This extension is done through an award action request in Grants Online. This extension does not extend the award, just the closeout period. The extension can be for 30, 60 or 90 days, but is solely for the purposes of reconciling accounts and will not be granted solely because funds remain. Only closeout-related work may be performed during this period. The Grants Officer has discretion as to whether or not to allow

the extension, and the request must be justified in detail. Retroactive extensions cost NOAA time and money and will not be granted in the future. If you have questions, please e-mail [Rich.Fales@noaa.gov](mailto:Rich.Fales@noaa.gov)

### **2008 NOAA Grants Workshop, January 15-16 & NIMS Seminar, January 17**

The deadline for registration is December 21, 2007.

Please register **today** at <http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/workshop/>  
<<http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/workshop/>>

On January 17, NOAA Sea Grant will meet with the Sea Grant fiscal officers to demo NIMS, discuss improvements for the future, and hold the fiscal officer business meeting.

### **Project Application Forms**

The NSGO will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew the Sea Grant 90-1, 90-2, and 90-4 project application forms with no changes. During the public comment period, we received no official comments. On a related note, the National Science Foundation (NSF) recently sought public comment on a standard form for reporting research project progress. This form could eventually become a standard form for NOAA as well. Dorn Carlson will provide the public comment notice and the draft NSF form upon request. He would also like to hear what the Sea Grant network thinks of this form, and whether anyone is considering submitting official comments about it (official comment period ends January 8). To learn more, please e-mail [Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov](mailto:Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov)

### **Reminder: Foreign Travel (Update for the Fiscal Officers following discussion in San Diego)**

All travel deemed relevant by NOAA program officers will be approved by the NOAA Grants Officer regardless of the location (provided that there are no budgetary constraints). If foreign travel is not detailed in the award, then an Award Action Request must be initiated and approved prior to travel. Even if the travel is paid with the 10% of allowable re-budgeted funds, an Award Action Request will still need to be initiated, or GMD will consider this a change in scope and disallow the expense at closeout.

### **Reminder: Grants Online Help Desk**

A toll free number for the Grants Online Helpdesk is available for users outside the Washington Metro region: The phone number is 1-877-NOAA-GRT or 1.877.662.2478.

### **Reminder: Pass Through Policy**

NSGO will assess an administrative fee for processing pass through awards through Grants Online: \$2,000.00 or 1 percent—whichever is greater—up to \$10,000.00 per grant.

## **NOAA NEWS**

**Reminder: Request for Proposals**

The NOAA Preserve America Initiative Grant Program (PAIG) is announcing its FY08 request for proposals. This mini-grant program is designed to stimulate efforts within NOAA to preserve, protect, and promote the agency's heritage assets. Projects from FY05 through FY07 have varied in scope from interpreting historic and cultural resources in NOAA's care, to capturing oral histories of NOAA stakeholder groups, including fishermen and Native Americans. Subject to the availability of funds, FY08 NOAA PAIG will be awarded only to NOAA offices, although other federal, state, tribal, Native Hawaiian, academic, and non-profit organizations can act as partners. A one-page Pre-Proposal is due by December 28, 2008. Full proposals (no more than 5 pages) are due by February 15, 2008. For additional information, including proposal criteria and format, please visit the "Grant Information" section of the NOAA Preserve America website at: <http://preserveamerica.noaa.gov>.

**Reminder: NOAA Marine Debris Forum***Advancing Science through Information Sharing*

The NOAA Marine Debris Program's "NOAA Marine Debris Forum 2008," in partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, is being held April 1-3, 2008 in Bethesda, Maryland. This information forum has been developed specifically to provide Principal Project Investigators the opportunity to present the results of their studies and to share valuable information with other researchers and interested parties. Invites include NOAA and non-NOAA partners involved in marine debris related activities around the country. Potential session titles include: Derelict gear/obstruction mapping and identification, Removal techniques, Outreach/education, Debris impacts and Prevention. To learn more, contact [Sarah.Morison@noaa.gov](mailto:Sarah.Morison@noaa.gov)

**RESEARCH AND COMPETITIONS****Aquatic Invasive Species NSI (Research and Outreach)**

All preliminary proposals submitted to this competition have been evaluated by Research and Outreach panels. The scores and other programmatic factors are currently being considered before final recommendations are made. Final recommendations will be delayed until shortly after Dec. 14th when the current Continuing Resolution is expected to expire (at which time we hope to know more about our appropriation and how much funding will be available for this NSI).

**Regional Research & Information Plans**

The NSGO is drafting a Request for Applications (RFA) for three more "Regional Research, Information Planning and Coordination" grants to cover the three regions that did not receive grants in 2006 (the greater New York bight, mid-Atlantic, and Caribbean regions). We expect the RFA to come out in the next NOAA Omnibus Federal Funding Opportunity announcement in late December, with a proposal due date of February 5, 2008. Please contact Dorn Carlson, or the Office staff member

responsible for your Region (New York Bight: Dorn Carlson (Dorn.Carlson@noaa.gov), Mid-Atlantic: Sami Grimes (Sami.Grimes@noaa.gov), Caribbean: Terry Smith (Terry.Smith@noaa.gov), with questions or comments.

## **Competitions**

The RFP for competitions in FY 2008 is available on our website:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.html>

## **OUTREACH**

### **Extension**

#### **Beltway Brown Bag**

On Tuesday, November 27, Pam Rubinoff, Coastal Management Extension Specialist, University of Rhode Island Sea Grant, and Lynn Richards, Senior Policy Analyst with the EPA Smart Growth Program, presented a "Waterfront Smart Growth Elements" seminar at the NOAA Central Library. The standing room-only attendees heard Rubinoff and Richards present 10 Smart Growth Principles that directly address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by coastal and waterfront communities.

#### **Coastal Community Development (CCD) Meetings**

An ad hoc committee of CCD specialists attended several meetings before and after the November Beltway Brown Bag event at NOAA. In addition to discussing plans for future collaboration with EPA-Smart Growth and other NOAA offices, the Committee drafted a preliminary agenda for a national CCD meeting, and provided input to Sea Grant's 2008-2013 Strategic Plan.

#### **February CCD Meeting, February 6-7**

The national CCD meeting will take place in Washington, DC on February 6 and 7, 2008 and will precede the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "New Partners for Smart Growth Conference." Sea Grant Directors and Assembly leaders are encouraged to have their CCD specialists attend both meetings. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.newpartners.org/>

### **Communications**

#### **NOAA In Your State Updates, Due December 12**

Please see "Breaking News."

#### **E-Currents Stories**

Please send any stories you wish for us to present in the Fall issue. Submissions are bulleted and brief. Send to: [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

#### **Reminder: Request for Submissions on International Activities**

Thank you for sending information about Sea Grant international activities. We would like to highlight these experiences in *E-currents* and through other communications outlets. Please continue to send us stories or information about the types of activities, focus of the work, location, and outcomes of your program's

international involvement. This information can be submitted via our news list: [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov), or to [Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov](mailto:Kristin.Rasmussen@noaa.gov)

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Contact information (including address, phone and e-mail) is updated by each Sea Grant program. To update your directory, go to this link:

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### ***E-Currents***

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/newsletter/2007/spring/index.html>

### **Network E-Mail Lists**

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OAR Sea Grant Educators

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OAR Sea Grant Fiscal Officers

OAR Sea Grant Research Coordinators

OAR Sea Grant Review Panel

NSGO Staff

**To Join:** If you do not currently receive e-mails directed to [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov), and would like to be added, please specify which sub-group, and e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov)

**To Change or Delete an E-mail Address:** Please e-mail [Amy.Painter@noaa.gov](mailto:Amy.Painter@noaa.gov) Specify which sub-group you are a part of, so we are able to locate and then delete or change your e-mail address.

**To Send Messages to this List:** Members of the network may use the [oar.sg.network@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.network@noaa.gov) list to distribute e-mails to the network.

**Hot Items:** Thank you to all of those who have sent their news, articles and stories to [oar.sg.news@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.news@noaa.gov) (Note: Hot Items is not available to the public, but is read

throughout NOAA Headquarters.) Those whose stories have been featured recently include: Alaska Sea Grant, Connecticut Sea Grant, Georgia Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Louisiana Sea Grant, Maryland Sea Grant, Michigan Sea Grant, Minnesota Sea Grant, Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant, MIT Sea Grant, New York Sea Grant, North Carolina Sea Grant, Ohio Sea Grant, Oregon Sea Grant, Pennsylvania Sea Grant, Rhode Island Sea Grant, Texas Sea Grant, Virginia Sea Grant and Washington Sea Grant. Again, thank you for your stories. Your news and successes are shared with NOAA leadership and other decision-makers, and gain valuable recognition for our overall program.

## **Education**

### **Education Council**

NOAA's Education Council began the process of developing a NOAA Education Strategic Plan. The next planning meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2007.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Knauss**

#### **Placement Week**

Placement week for the Knauss Class of 2008 is going on this week, December 2-7, 2007. For more information visit:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/knauss/knaussplacementweek.html>

## **CONFERENCES/MEETINGS (involving NSGO staff)**

### **Dec-07**

- 3-7 Knauss Placement Week, D.C./Silver Spring (NSGO Staff)
- 12-13 FACA Conference (Murray)
- 14 Education Council Strategic Plan meeting  
(Garber/Grimes/Liffmann/Walker)

### **Jan-08**

- 15-17 2008 NOAA Grants workshop for Program Officers, Silver Spring  
Register: <http://www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/workshop/>
- 24-25 Risk-Wise meeting, New Orleans, LA (Hurley/Liffmann)
- 28-2 UNIDO-GESAMP meeting, Bangkok (Hurley)

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### **Phone Numbers at NSGO**

Phone numbers: 301/734-1077 or 301/734-1066. Sea Grant Director: 301/734-1088 (phone); 301/713-1031 (fax). Online directory:

<http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/other/sgofficestaffdirectory.html>

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