

Puerto Rico Sea Grant Program 2011 NSGO Review

Program Officer – Nikola Garber, PhD



Program Management

Management staff

- Director, Ruperto Chaparro (1.0 FTE)
- Associate Director and Director Marine Outreach Program, Manuel Valdes (1.0 FTE)
- Communication Specialist, Cristina Olán (1.0 FTE)
- Research Coordinator, Kurt Grove (1.0 FTE)
- Office Administrator (Fiscal Officer), Yulissa Garcia (1.0 FTE)

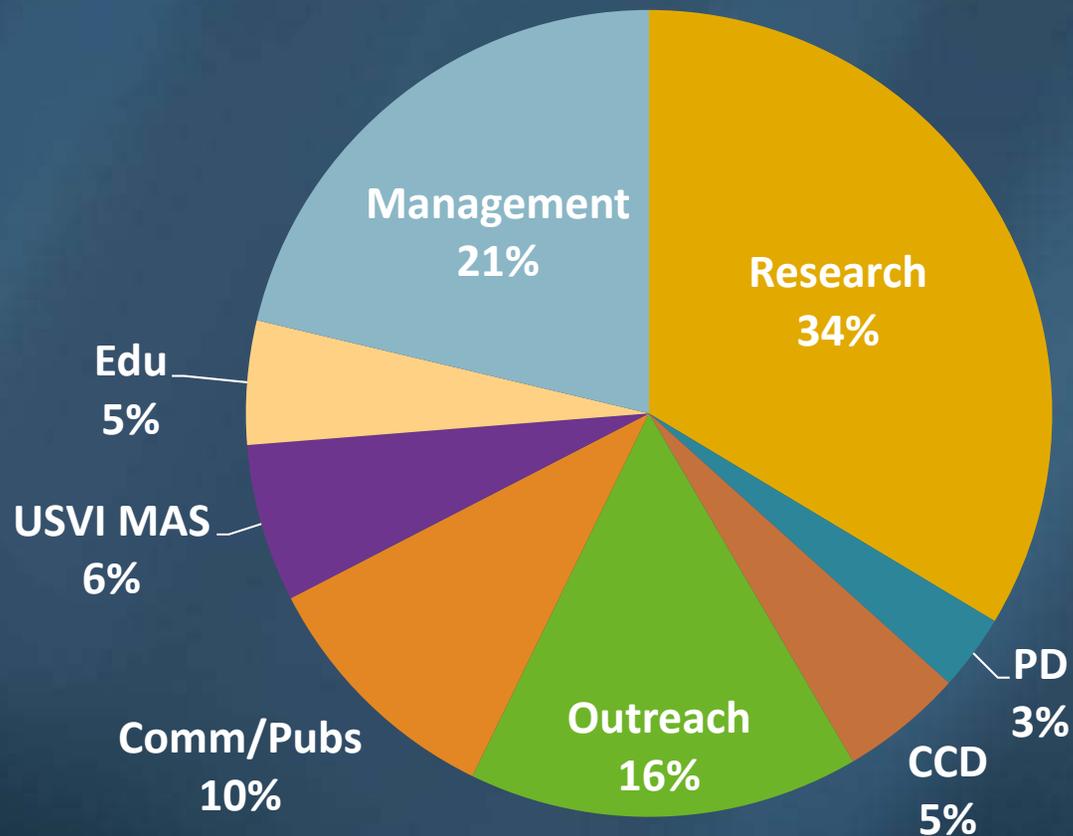
Functional Area	# of individuals	# of FTEs supported by SG	# of FTEs supported by match/leverage
Mgt/Admin	6	2.67	2.83
Comm.	11	1	6.45
Ext.	10	3.34	4.41
Education	6	2.34	1
Research	45	3.48	1.54

Size of program: Small



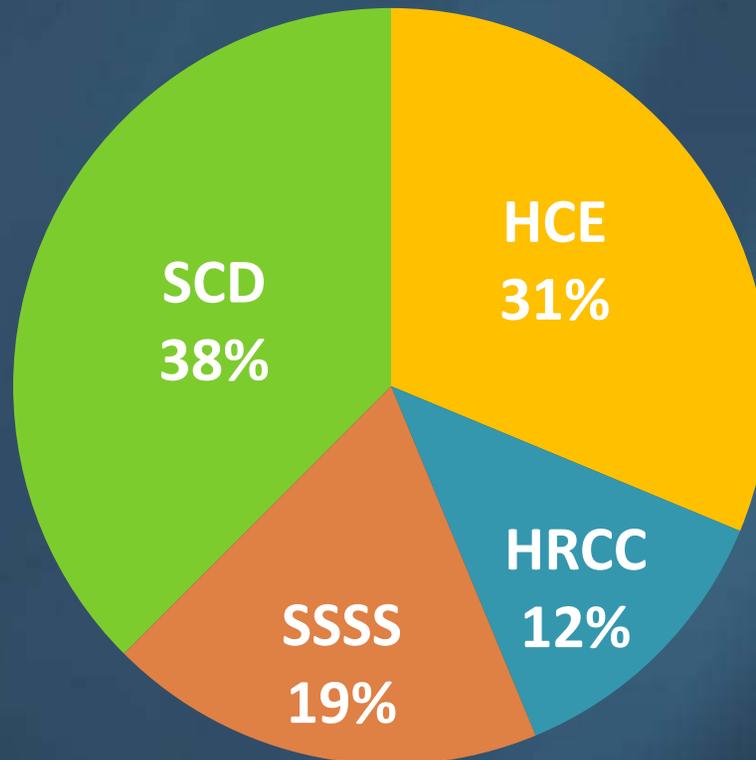
Program Budget towards each Functional Area

2010-2012 Program Budget



Program Budget towards each Focus Area

Estimated 2010-2013



Significant Program Changes (since Jan. 2010)

- Advisory Board Reconstituted
 - Convened 2 Meetings of the Board
 - Weekly/Monthly Contact
- Creation of a tracking system of all funded research including publications
- PR SG Information Center is connected to the University Library making accessible on line all research projects reports and information to the general public (since 2008).



Program Requested Changes to 2010-2013 Program Plan

- Updates for Successful Aquaculture Extension Proposal



State Program Performance Measures

- All municipalities (48) provided with information/trained in local hazard resiliency; and hazard mitigation tools, techniques, and best practices



Contribution to National Performance Measures and Metrics

- 28 new and continuing Undergraduate students
- 24 MS/MA Graduate students
- 9 PhD Graduate Students



Program Impacts

- In 2009, \$15 million was invested by the Municipality of Mayaguez to restore and develop the Mayaguez waterfront based on the continued efforts of PR SG since 1988. This was in preparation for the 2010 Central American Games. The Mayaguez waterfront now provides access to the coast, as well as recreational and economic opportunities for its residents and visitors.
 - Focus Area: SCD
 - Goal: Improved coastal economies that tap into potential and innovative activities in commerce, recreation, alternate energy sources, sustainable tourism opportunities, and open-access for all citizens

Program Impacts

- With the assistance and advice of the SG staff, an island wide fishermen organization, FEPDEMAR, became a recognized entity representing the majority of commercial fishers from Puerto Rico.
 - Focus Area: SSSS
 - Goal: Work with stakeholders, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Program, other federal and state partners, and Caribbean regional and international programs to enhance the management and conservation of wild fisheries through sustainable fishing practices, and the support of MPAs and other management strategies.



Program Impacts

- Sea Grant and partners engaged more than 100 commercial and recreational fishers and mariners for the first face to face encounter between resource users and enforcers to explain the concept of the EEZ, the western limit, the consequences of trespassing the boundary and the enforcement and administrative procedures involved.
 - Focus Area: SSSS
 - See previous slide



Program Impacts

- Sea Grant and Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios del Litoral (CIEL), jointly with fisheries managers and fishers is publishing *The Vertical Line*, a quarterly bulletin on fisheries problems, issues and solutions, distributed to more than 800 stakeholders throughout the Island. It is the only source for information, and it is used by all parties to discuss and clarify management and conservation issues.
 - Focus Area: SCD
 - Goal: A sustainable supply of safe seafood, through the information that ensures the responsible and productive use of these resources in the future.



Program Impacts

- Sea Grant and CIEL, jointly with NOAA and the DNER worked on the development of participatory management plans for the Desecheo and Tres Palmas MPAs, developing local management boards for the stewardship and conservation of coral reef and fisheries resources.
 - Focus Area: HCE
 - Goal: To restore function and productivity of degraded ecosystems, and to provide assistance to local communities for the stewardship of the ecosystems



2009 Research Accomplishments

- Sea Grant sponsored research contributed to knowledge on the fate of coral reefs through the understanding of fungus and diseases (*Aspergilliosis*) in soft corals; resilience of certain populations of hard corals (*Diploria* and *Porites*) and other reef organisms like sea anemones; and the long term, geological, processes contributing to the current demographic patterns. Diseases, anthropogenic factors impacting reefs, and demographic changes are critical for the management of the ecosystem.



2009 Research Accomplishments

- Sea Grant research is tackling the critical problem of poor water quality, through the development of new tools to track sources of fecal contamination in reservoirs, inland, and marine waters; tools are expected to contribute to an island-wide strategy for the reduction of threats to human and ecosystem health.