



NOAA CCME

NOAA Center for Coastal & Marine Ecosystems

Inside this Issue:

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- Alumni highlights
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Note: Hyperlinks are provided throughout document



Inspirational Video: [Obama's Message to Young People](#)

Good day CCME II,

As we enter year three, we've reached a very exciting point within this grant cycle, as we are now seeing CCME-I carryover scholars and cohort one scholars starting to graduate! Some are entering the NOAA and NOAA mission-aligned workforce, and others are continuing their education at the next level. We are also welcoming new CCME-II scholars into cohort 3 across the center.

As stressed to the scholars at the recent Center Wide Core Competency course, networking is vital in your career development, and many of you engaged with the NOAA scientists and personnel at the CWCC. There will be additional events this upcoming year for engagement. We will host parallel training in the CCME-II Annual Cohort Experience for cohort scholars to gain knowledge of CCME-II and topics within NOAA. The sessions are also an opportunity to develop your professional profile and network with NOAA personnel. Something new is the NOAA OAR sponsored NOAA EPP/MSI CSCs Climate Change Seminar Series; eight in total, with two hosted by the CCME-II; you are encouraged to attend all of them; more information will be coming soon.

Build yourself to tackle these challenges. The CCME II faculty and staff are here to guide you.

Best,

Richard A. Long

Richard A. Long, Ph.D.
NOAA CCME-II, Center Director

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUMMER 2023

NOAA CCME II Scholar at FAMU, Andrea Pugh Kelley was featured in a story [by the FAMU Office of Communications](#)

NOAA CCME II Scholar at FAMU Lalah Choice completed a undergraduate internship with NOAA and presented at the NOAA Science and Education Symposium

NOAA CCME II Scholar at FAMU Miles Jordan completed a summer fellowship at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to investigate the movement ecology of deep-sea snails

NOAA CCME II Faculty at FAMU, Dr. Martinez Colon was interviewed for another [segment by CNN in Spanish](#) on warming ocean currents

NOAA CCME II BCU PI, Dr. J. Cho served as guest editor of the journal [The Florida Geographer](#) on the Halifax River Urban Watershed and authored two manuscripts on the issue

CCME II PIs, Faculty and Staff at BCU (Dr. J. Cho and Dr. Parisa Ebrahimbabaie) and UTRGV (Dr. David Hicks and Leticia Contreras) were approved for The Planet Stewards proposal for the 2023-2024

NOAA CCME II Scholars at BCU, Jiyahna Price and Jamal Burey completed undergraduate NOAA internships and presented at the NOAA Science and Education Symposium

NOAA CCME II Scholar at JSU, Destyn Brooks, participated in an internship on immunology at the Mystic Aquarium/UCONN REU program in New London, Connecticut

NOAA CCME II Scholars at TAMUCC completed NERTOs: Jasmine Caillier (NOS/NCCOS Hollings Marine Laboratory), Dijani Laplace (NOAA Office of Coastal Management) and Alyssa Outhwaite (NOAA Office for Coastal Management - Gulf Region)

NOAA CCME II Scholar Geaceli Orive (UTRGV) started her NERTO with NOAA NMFS at Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Mississippi Laboratories, Pascagoula, MS

NOAA CCME II Faculty and Scholar at TAMUCC, Dr. Daniel Coffey and Felipe Urrutia, provided a presentation on Tracking Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico at the Texas State Aquarium Sea Camp for Rising 3rd and 4th Graders

NOAA CCME II Scholar at UTRGV, David de la Garza presented his seminar from his NERTO with National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS)

NOAA CCME II Scholar from UTRGV Jose Cisneros was selected for the Corps of Exploration as a Nautilus as a Seafloor Mapping Intern

CCME II TAMUCC PI Dr. Paul Montagna coauthored a publication entitled [Hidden players—meiofauna mediate ecosystem effects of anthropogenic disturbances in the ocean.](#)

NOAA CCME II Scholar from TAMUCC Nigel Lascelles coauthored a publication entitled [Binary solvent extraction of microplastics from a complex environmental matrix.](#)

CCME II Faculty at TAMUCC Dr. Jennifer Pollack coauthored a manuscript entitled [Shifting linguistic patterns in oyster restoration news articles surrounding the Deepwater Horizon disaster](#)



NOAA CCME II Undergraduate scholars (L to R) Lalah Choice, Jamal Burey and Jiyahna Price in attendance to the NOAA Science and Education Symposium to present research



CCME II Faculty, Staff, and Scholars from UTRGV in attendance to the Center wide Core Competency Course
Photo Courtesy of Mikell Smith



NOAA CCME II Scholar at JSU, Destyn Brooks interned at the Mystic Aquarium for the REU program in New London, Connecticut. She was engaged in immunology research on walrus.



NOAA CCME II Scholar at TAMUCC, Jasmine Caillier completed her NERTO at the NOAA Hollings Marine Lab's Ecotoxicology Branch

CCME II HOSTS THE CENTERWIDE CORE COMPETENCY COURSE

In July, CCME II hosted its Centerwide Core Competency Course (CWCC) in St. Petersburg, Florida. The CWCC engaged NOAA EPP/MSI (Dr. Natasha White), Technical Advisors and Stakeholder Advisory Board Members. It focused on harmful algal blooms (HABS) and included various speakers such as the following: Dr. Lonnie Gonsalves (NOAA NCCOS), Dr. Chris Kelble (NOAA AOML), Betty Staugler (NOAA HAB Liaison), Dr. Susana Blake (NOAA Southeast Fisheries), Dr. Nicole Raineault (FL Institute of Oceanography) and Dr. Charles Jacoby (CCME II Stakeholder Advisory Board).



Photo Courtesy of Leticia Contreras

The course included an uncrewed systems demonstration (in collaboration with Kenneth Vierra and Mary Solokas (Hollings Fellow), NOAA ORTA, and Vernon Schultz (AUSVSI)). It also featured a problem-based learning activity, citizen science/HabScope demonstration (Craig Grant and Robert Currier from GCOOS) and a field sampling cruise aboard the R/V Weatherbird II (FIO). An article from NOAA's Office, Transition and Application (ORTA) engagement during the course can be found [at this link.](#)



Photo Courtesy of Leticia Contreras

WELCOME NEW SCHOLARS

FAMU

Destiny Anderson
Jamal Burey
Kion James
Tristan Lam
Summer Martinez Crescent
Bria Pope
Queriah Simpson

BCU

Imani Ford

JSU

Daija Green

TAMUCC

Felipe Urrutia

UTRGV

Aliya Brown
Valeria Garza
Hector Alejandro Leal
Pedro Solis

NOAA CCME II SUMMMER GRADUATES

Andrea Pugh Kelley (PhD in Environmental Science at FAMU and advised by Drs. Steve Morey and Charles Jagoe) transitioned to the NOAA workforce as a physical scientist at NCCOS

Demarcus Turner (MS in Environmental Science at FAMU and advised by Dr. Martinez Colon) completed a summer internship at Oakridge National Laboratory and is entering the doctoral program at the University of South Carolina

Jamal Burey (BS in Computer Science at BCU and advised by Dr. Juan Calderon) is entering a masters program at FAMU

Jasmine Caillier (M.S. in Marine Biology at TAMUCC and advised by Dr. Paul Montagna) is entering the doctoral program at the University of South Carolina

Edward (Ted) Gniffke (M.S. in Ocean, Coastal and Earth Science at UTRGV and advised by Dr. Erin Easton) started as a Senior Research Associate (Molecular Engineering) at Shape Therapeutics

ALUMNI AND OTHER CENTER SPOTLIGHTS

Dr. Latoya Myles (FAMU/ECSC Alumna) was recently elected as Vice Chair of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Council and will join the AGU Board of Directors. She was also featured on the [ORAU's Further Together Podcast](#) about studying the air we breathe

Dr. Natasha White (FAMU/ECSC Alumna) was awarded the [Women of Color in STEM Award](#) for Professional Achievement in Government

Andria Miller (JSU/CCME I Alumna) successfully defended her masters thesis at the University of Rhode Island's School of Oceanography

Jordana Cutajar (TAMUCC/CCME I Alumna) was recently hired as a Planner IV (Division of Coastal & Climate) at the Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

Dr. Erik Davenport (MSU/ECSC Alumnus) coauthored a NOAA Technical Memorandum entitled '[A Comparison of dreissenid mussels and passive samplers as monitors of contaminants of emerging concern and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the Great Lakes](#)'

"The opportunity to be a CCME scholar at Jackson State University was instrumental in supporting my development and success in several key ways. The program's emphasis on research and diverse projects under the NOAA's mission exposed me to various challenges, enabling me to develop problem-solving skills that transcend disciplinary boundaries.

Additionally, the program played a pivotal role in nurturing my confidence as a scientist, especially in different environments. Throughout my research journey, I have developed a strong passion for promoting aquatic science research and communication across different groups. The diverse opportunities provided by the CCME program have solidified this passion, motivating me to contribute actively to the advancement of aquatic science and its management."



Andria Miller, M.S.
Recent Master's Graduate from the
University of Rhode Island's
School of Oceanography

(CCME I/JSU Alumna)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND TRAINING

- **CCME II Professional Development Seminar Series**

September 18th at 2pm EST: Dr. Brittany King (NOAA NCCOS), Survey Design and Social Science Integration

October 30 at 2pm EST: Dr. Patricia Pinto da Silva (NOAA Fisheries) Introduction and Research Applications with NOAA Voices Oral History Archive

November 16 at 1pm EST: Dr. Zachary Cannizzo (NOAA Office of Marine Sanctuaries), Fundamentals to Perform a Climate Vulnerability Assessment

- **NOAA EPP/MSI Climate Change Seminar Series:** the schedule can be found [at this link](#), ((please note to use your academic email address (.edu) in the registration process))

October 12 at 12pm - NOAA EPP/MSI Climate Change seminar hosted by CCME II

**Fall 2023 CCME II
Professional
Development Series**

NOAA'S EPP/MSI COOPERATIVE SCIENCE CENTERS PRESENT

**Climate Change
SEMINAR SERIES**

IN THE KNOW

*Click on the underlined hyperlinks to learn about recent content on coastal/ marine ecosystems and related topics

[Research and opportunities at NERRs Science Collaborative Home | NERRS Science Collaborative](#)

[Inclusion in citizen science: the conundrum of rebranding_\(Science\)](#)

[Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange- Rapid Vulnerability Assessment Tool](#)

[Courses offered by the Office for Coastal Management/Digital Coast: <https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/>](#)

[NOAA Fisheries: Science Indicators for Coastal Communities](#)

[5 facts about NOAA's 2023 Pacific survey mission](#)

[Report: Representing Lived Experience in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool \(Proceedings from the National Academies\)](#)

COASTAL AND MARINE TOPICS IN THE MEDIA AND LITERATURE

[Sargassum algae and public health on Florida beaches \(CNN\)](#)

[Worrying heat waves in the Atlantic, other oceans fueled by climate change \(USA Today\)](#)

[Hurricanes push heat deeper into the ocean than scientists realized, boosting long-term ocean warming, new research shows \(The Conversation\)](#)

[Corals are starting to bleach as global ocean temperatures hit record highs \(The Conversation\)](#)

Cazé, C., Mazé, C., Danto, A., Saeedi, H., Lear, D., Suominen, S., ... & Pinto, I. S. (2023). [Co-designing marine science beyond good intentions: support stakeholders' empowerment in transformative pathways](#). *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 80(2), 374-377.

De-la-Torre, G. E., Romero Arribasplata, M. B., Lucas Roman, V. A., Póvoa, A. A., & Walker, T. R. (2023). [Marine litter colonization: Methodological challenges and recommendations](#). *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10, 1070575.

Hess, A. V., Auderset, A., Rosenthal, Y., Miller, K. G., Zhou, X., Sigman, D. M., & Martínez-García, A. (2023). [A well-oxygenated eastern tropical Pacific during the warm Miocene](#). *Nature*, 1-5.