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

NOAA-CCME II IS FUNDED UNDER THE NOAA EPP/MSI COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AWARD #NA21SEC4810004
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.

Photo Courtesy of Mikell Smith

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

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 walruses.
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 Rainaelt (FL Institute of Oceanography) and Dr. Charles Jacoby (CCME II Stakeholder Advisory Board).

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.

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 SUMMER 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
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)

