



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SEA GRANT

Briefing Book

PROGRAM REVIEW SITE VISIT



The University of Georgia Sea Grant College Program Site Review Agenda

JULY 14-15, 2015

JULY 13

Site Review Team (SRT) arrives in Savannah

JULY 14

7:00–8:30am Breakfast, SRT and Georgia Sea Grant Management Team

8:30–9:00am Orientation and SRT Focus

Program Organization and Management

9:00–9:30am Overview of Program

9:30–10:00am Integrating Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant

10:00–10:30am Education and Communication

10:30–10:45am Break

10:45am–Noon Meeting with UGA Administrators (On Site)

Noon–1:00pm Lunch, SRT and UGA Administrators

JULY 14

Stakeholder Engagement

1:00–1:30pm Meet with Researchers at SKIO/Grays Reef

1:30–2:15pm Extension Overview by Program Area

2:15–2:45pm Tour Shellfish Lab/Aquarium

2:45–3:00pm Break

3:00–4:00pm Meet with Advisory Council

4:00–5:00pm Trawl

5:00–6:00pm Reception

6:00pm Adjourn, SRT Meets on their Own

JULY 15

7:30–9:00am Breakfast, SRT and Requested Individuals

Collaborative Network

9:00–9:30am Relationships with Other Institutions

9:30–10:00am Regional Partnership Panel

10:00–10:15am Break

10:15–11:00am Meet with Researchers/Students in Athens (Video Conferencing)

11:00am–Noon Georgia Sea Grant Management Team and SRT Wrap-Up

Noon–1:00pm Working Lunch (Closed Session – SRT)

1:00–3:30pm Draft Report (Closed Session – SRT)

3:30–4:00pm Exit Interview with Georgia Sea Grant Director

4:00pm–4:30pm Exit Interview with UGA Administration (Video Conferencing)

4:30–5:00pm Wrap-Up with Georgia Sea Grant Management Team

Site Review Team



Chris Hayes

SRT CHAIR

GASG Program Officer, National Sea Grant Office

Chris Hayes is the Acting Director of Planning and Evaluation and is the Program Officer for the Maine, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi-Alabama, Puerto Rico, Texas and New Hampshire Sea Grant programs.

Chris has a B.S. in Ecology from the University of Georgia and an M.S. in Fisheries Sciences from Virginia Tech. As an undergraduate, Chris spent a year visiting five diverse countries through the International Honors Program: Global Ecology. Funded through the National Marine Fisheries

Service (NMFS), he published assessments of three species of hammerhead shark populations in his Master's thesis. He was awarded the Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship in 2008 and worked in the NMFS Partnerships and Communications office. After some time with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program, Chris joined the National Sea Grant Office in 2010 and led development of the PIER database. In 2013, he initiated the Sea Grant Social Science Community of Practice and served as OAR's social science liaison to NOAA. In 2014, he became manager of the Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship.



Dale Baker

Co-Chair, National Sea Grant Advisory Board

Dale Baker worked with Sea Grant for over 36 years and served as a Sea Grant Extension Program Leader for 34 years. His major programmatic responsibilities were in the areas of commercial fisheries, ports and harbors, aquaculture and coastal climate change. Dale retired from Cornell University in January of 2009, but continues to do work for Sea Grant and the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network.



Sarah Bowman

Observer, Knauss Marine

Policy Fellow, National Sea Grant Office

Sarah Bowman is the Natural Resource Specialist for the National Sea Grant Office. She is a recipient of the 2015 John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship.

Sarah is a Ph.D. candidate at Ohio State University in the Department of Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology. Her dissertation work is on lead ecotoxicology at a shooting range. Sarah earned her M.S. at the University of Georgia in Entomology, where she studied the response of aquatic invertebrates to wildfire in the Okefenokee Swamp. She received her B.S. from Baldwin-

Wallace University in Biology. Prior to working in the National Sea Grant Office, Sarah was a Pathways Intern for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Columbus, Ohio, Field Office, where she worked on contaminants projects, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) projects and endangered species consultations.



Judy Gray

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator of NOAA Research and Deputy Director of Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory, Retired

Judith (Judy) Gray retired in 2011 after a 33-year career as a meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). She is currently a member of the Senior Advisory Council for the Rhode Island Sea Grant Program.

A meteorologist trained at Penn State and the University of Washington (M.S., Atmospheric Sciences, 1984), she started as a commissioned officer with the NOAA Corps in the 1970s. Her civilian career began at the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle, where she studied winds along the mountainous coastlines of Alaska on NOAA ships and aircraft in support of the Fisheries Oceanography Coordinated Investigations.

She moved to NOAA headquarters in 1990 to be an advocate for oceanic and atmospheric research and served as the Acting Deputy Director of NOAA's then eleven Environmental Research Laboratories, and was the NOAA Program Manager for the Coastal Forecast System and GLOBEC (Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics).

For 15 years, she was the Deputy Director of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory, in Miami FL, supporting climate, hurricane, and ecosystems research, deep sea and coastal oceanography. Her last position with NOAA was Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research Programs and Administration, one of two deputies to the head of NOAA Research. She was responsible for the daily operations and administration of NOAA's research enterprise, and the execution of programs including NOAA's Climate Program, the National Sea Grant Program, and Ocean Exploration and Research.

Judy's scientific interests are in air-sea interaction and winds along mountainous coastlines, with an emphasis on observing systems and improving coastal forecasts. Her life-long goals have been to provide the nation with outstanding research to improve weather, ocean and climate forecasting and a policy-neutral scientific basis for making environmental decisions. One path to this goal, throughout her career and today, has been in helping people to fulfill their potential. At NOAA, that meant working to create an organization that best supports scientists and acting as a mentor to staff across NOAA both unofficially and officially, as part of several federal leadership development programs.

In retirement, Judy continues her mentoring of NOAA scientists, as well as a senior-high student at the Block Island School in R.I., where she lives. She is the Vice President of the Block Island Maritime Institute, whose mission is to provide educational programs and maritime activities including aquaculture, marine science and maritime heritage for residents and visitors on Block Island. Judy and three other retired scientists on the island conduct monthly profiles at eight beach locations to monitor changes of beach contours. For the RI Sea Grant Advisory Council, she represents Block Island's interests and concerns, as well as thinking about the best ways to be responsive to emerging and chronic regional and National challenges.



Fredrika Moser

Director, Maryland Sea Grant

Dr. Fredrika Moser became Director at Maryland Sea Grant in 2012 following ten years as the Assistant Director for Research for the program. Beyond her responsibilities as Sea Grant Director, Fredrika focuses on issues concerning management of aquatic invasive species, undergraduate research experiences and the effective integration of research and outreach. She is the past chair of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species and is the PI on a multi-institutional grant to investigate vector management.

Fredrika is committed to expanding underserved and underrepresented students' access to education and career opportunities in marine science and since 2011, with funding from NSF, has partnered with institutions in Puerto Rico to increase Hispanic students' participation in marine research. She currently serves as a member of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Association on Coastal Ocean Observing and served as a consultant to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. Before coming to Maryland, Fredrika worked for the U.S. Department of State and at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in areas of international and state marine science policy issues, respectively. She received her PhD. in 1997 from Rutgers University, where her research focused on the geochemistry and biogeochemistry of coastal lagoons. She held a post-doctoral appointment at the Bermuda Biological Station for Research focusing on biodiversity and ocean and human health issues.



Don Scavia

Graham Family Professor of Sustainability and Director of the Graham Sustainability Institute,
University of Michigan

Dr. Dan Scavia is the Graham Family Professor of Sustainability and Director of the Graham Sustainability Institute. He also serves as the Special Counsel to the U-M President for Sustainability. In those capacities, he is responsible for engaging the full multidisciplinary assets of the University of Michigan to develop and implement the education, research and operational goals of its flagship sustainability enterprise, Planet Blue, in support of sustainable communities, ecosystems and economies from local to global scales.

He is also Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and of Natural Resources and Environment. In that capacity, his lab combines numerical models and environmental assessments to improve the understanding of interactions between human activities on land and their impacts on coastal marine and freshwater ecosystems. Most of their recent work has focused on impacts on the iconic Gulf of Mexico, Chesapeake Bay, and Great Lakes. His research also supports development and application of Integrated Assessment, a tool that brings together natural systems science, social science, engineering and environmental policy making.

He serves on advisory committees for a diverse group of external and internal organizations, and has served as Associate Editor for *Estuaries and Coasts* and *Frontiers in Ecology and Environment*, and on the Boards of Directors for the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, the International Association for Great Lakes Research and the Great Lakes Observing System.

He was director of Michigan Sea Grant from 2004–2009, SNRE's Research Associate Dean from 2004–2006 and Director of the Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research from 2004–2007.

Prior to joining the Michigan faculty in 2004, he was Chief Scientist for NOAA's National Ocean Service, Director of the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, Director of NOAA's Coastal Ocean Program and research scientist with NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory.

He holds Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees in Environmental Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of Michigan.

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About The University of Georgia Sea Grant College Program



Our Past: The Georgia Sea Grant College Program, housed at the University of Georgia (UGA), was founded in 1980. Under the leadership of the programs' founder and first director, Dr. Ed Chin, Georgia Sea Grant and Marine Extension (MAREX) were highly integrated and had effective research, outreach and education programs attracting ample federal and state funds. However, upon Chin's retirement in 1994, the University of Georgia separated their lines of reporting. State funding stayed with MAREX and NOAA Sea Grant funding with Georgia Sea Grant. Integration between the programs began to suffer. Over the years, a low level of collaboration was maintained. Georgia Sea Grant Communications assisted MAREX with writing, editorial services and publications, and MAREX submitted a proposal each cycle as part of the Georgia Sea Grant program core. However, there was no joint strategic planning or coordination between the research funded by Georgia Sea Grant and extension activities of MAREX.

Before this institutional split, Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX's most productive work was done in partnership with the state's commercial and recreational fishing industry, seafood processors and the agencies that regulate and manage that arena. The joint work by these organizations on turtle-excluder and by-catch reduction devices designed to comply with federal regulations is a classic example of applied research satisfying stakeholder needs and generating economic impact.

Georgia Sea Grant's previous Director, Dr. Chuck Hopkinson, made substantial contributions to integrate the programs and focused on improving the relationship with MAREX. Under his leadership, Georgia Sea Grant was moved from the Office of Vice President of Research to the Office of Vice President of Public Service and Outreach. In addition, a UGA planning team guiding the creation of the Tybee Island Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan was awarded National Sea Grant's highest extension honor, the Superior Outreach Programming Award in 2014. Upon Dr. Hopkinson's return to focus on research, Dr. Mark Risse took over as director of both Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX to unify the program.

Our Present: Under newly changed leadership, Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX are now jointly directed by Dr. Mark Risse. Dr. Risse is only the second Director after Dr. Chin to co-direct the two programs. It is envisioned that the consolidation of Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX will lead to the effective integration of research, education and outreach programming.

Our Future: Projections indicate that Georgia's population will increase 46%, from 10.1 to 14.7 million people by the year 2030 (Source: Office of Planning and Budget, State of Georgia). This growth will exacerbate already conflicting interests between the coastal zone and the state's uplands. Population distribution in Georgia is unusual for a coastal state in that less than a third of the population lives within fifty miles of the coast. The bulk of the population lives in the Piedmont region and is largely unaware of coastal issues. Decision-makers in the state's capital, Atlanta, are far removed from the coast in location and priorities. In recent years, development in Atlanta and the upland regions have begun to compete with coastal needs for the most fundamental natural resource – water. Water is withdrawn from the state's rivers to satisfy the needs of upland growth, thus increasing the threat to the health of coastal marshes and estuaries. The remoteness of the coast from the state's population centers makes it imperative that the Georgia Sea Grant College Program inform the entire state's citizens about coastal issues. At the same time, the program must help the coast prepare for rapid population growth, as well the emerging issue of sea level rise. For these reasons, land-use change, water supply, sustainable growth and adaptation to climate change have become major focus areas for the program.

Organization and Management

Leadership

GEORGIA SEA GRANT MANAGEMENT TEAM COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Georgia Sea Grant management team provides leadership in service to the State of Georgia and its people through the development and implementation of Georgia Sea Grant Strategic Plan. Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX personnel promote and conduct research, education and outreach activities that help foster environmental and economic health in coastal Georgia. They do this in many ways such as improving public resource policy, encouraging far-sighted economic and fisheries decisions, anticipating vulnerabilities to change and educating citizens to be wise stewards of the coastal environment. Funding to support these activities comes from several sources including the National Sea Grant Program, and the State of Georgia, as well as government agencies and non-profits.

Director: Provides vision for Georgia Sea Grant to ensure program activities directly support Georgia Sea Grant, the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) and NOAA strategic plans, as well as identifies programmatic opportunities.

Associate Director: Assists the Director in the above activities, manages day-to-day programmatic operations, ensures the program meets the requirements of the NSGO, coordinates research from the development of proposals through the final reporting stage, builds partnerships and collaborations locally, regionally and nationally.

Communications Director: Supervises communications staff, develops and manages all media, website and social networking materials, seeks and identifies opportunities to share locally, regionally and nationally and manages program databases (publications, alumni, etc.).

Fiscal Officer: Supervises support staff and ensures execution of all administrative and fiscal matters consistent with federal, state, and local regulations

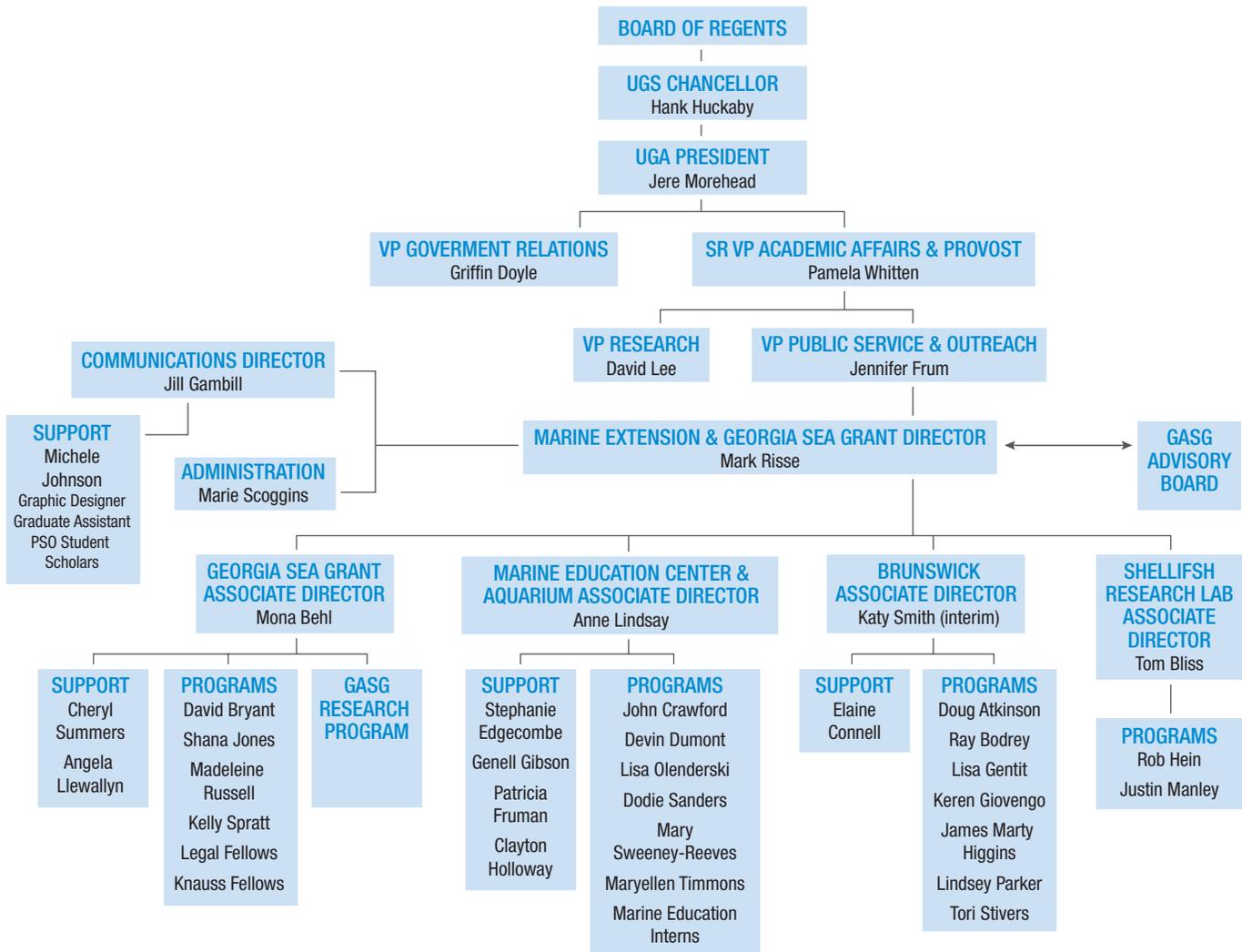
SOURCE OF FUNDING – GEORGIA SEA GRANT (GASG) AND MARINE EXTENSION (MAREX) STAFF

Employee	Title	State Funding (FTE)	Sea Grant Funding (FTE)	Other Funding (FTE)	Total
ATHENS (GASG AND MAREX MANAGEMENT, GASG LEGAL PROGRAM)					
Risse, Mark	GASG and MAREX Director and Professor*	1.00			1.00
Behl, Mona	GASG Associate Director and Public Service Assistant*	1.00			1.00
Gambill, Jill	GASG Communications Director		1.00		1.00
Summers, Cheryl Johnson	GASG Fiscal Officer		1.00		1.00
Llewelyn, Angela	GASG Administrative Assistant II		0.49		0.49
Bryant, David	GASG Retire-Rehire	0.49			0.49
Hackney, Joseph Patrick	GASG Legal Fellow		0.25		0.25
Wyche, Emily	GASG Legal Fellow		0.25		0.25
Alfonso, Mariana	GASG Grad Assistant		0.10		0.10
McLenaghan, Natalie	2015 Knauss Fellow		1.00		1.00
Atkinson, Douglas	MAREX Public Service Associate*	1.00			1.00
Scoggins, Marie	MAREX Administrative Financial Director	1.00			1.00

SOURCE OF FUNDING – Continued

Employee	Title	State Funding (FTE)	Sea Grant Funding (FTE)	Other Funding (FTE)	Total
SAVANNAH (EDUCATION)					
Lindsay, Anne	Associate Director of Education and Public Service Associate*	1.00			1.00
Olenderski, Lisa	MAREX Asst. Curator	1.00			1.00
Sanders, Dodie	MAREX Public Service Associate*	1.00			1.00
Sweeney-Reeves, Mary	MAREX Public Service Assistant*	1.00			1.00
Timmons, Maryellen	MAREX Public Service Associate*	1.00			1.00
Crawford, John	MAREX Public Service Assistant*	1.00			1.00
Dumont, Devin	MAREX Public Service Representative*	1.00			1.00
Edgecombe, Stephanie	MAREX Events Coordinator	1.00			1.00
Lin, Cara	GASG Education Intern		1.00		1.00
Russell, Sean	GASG Education Intern		1.00		1.00
Smith, Elizabeth	GASG Education Intern		1.00		1.00
Snyder, Maeve	GASG Education Intern		1.00		1.00
Gibson, Genell	MAREX Administrative Assistant I	1.00			1.00
Fruman, Patricia	MAREX Maintenance Worker	1.00			1.00
Holloway, Clayton	MAREX Maintenance Foreman	1.00			1.00
Evans, Delphine	MAREX Cook II	0.75			0.75
Lott, Resslee	MAREX Cook II	0.75			0.75
SHELLFISH LABORATORY (EXTENSION)					
Bliss, Thomas	MAREX Public Service Associate*	1.00			1.00
Hein, Robert	MAREX Research Technician III			1.00	1.00
Manley, Justin	MAREX Research Technician III			1.00	1.00
BRUNSWICK (EXTENSION)					
Vacant	Associate Director of MAREX and Fisheries Leader*	1.00			1.00
Bodrey, Ray	MAREX Marine Resources Specialist III			1.00	1.00
Connell, Elaine	MAREX Program Specialist II	1.00			1.00
Gentit, Lisa	GASG Research Technician III		1.00		1.00
Giovengo, Keren	GASG Part-time Employee*		0.80		0.80
Higgins, James	MAREX Marine Resource Specialist III	1.00			1.00
Parker, Lindsey	MAREX Marine Resource Specialist III	1.00			1.00
Smith, Katy	Part-time Employee, MAREX Interim Associate Director*	0.80			0.80
Spratt, Kelly	GASG Local Government Outreach Coordinator		1.00		1.00
Russell, Madeline	GASG Program Specialist I		1.00		1.00
Stivers, Tori	GASG and MAREX Public Service Associate*	0.25	0.50		0.75
Johnson, Michelle	GASG Public Relations Specialist II		1.00		1.00
Total		23.04	13.39	3.00	39.43

* denotes faculty status



PROGRAM SETTING WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA AND REPORTING STRUCTURE

The main administrative offices of the Georgia Sea Grant College Program and MAREX are located at the University of Georgia main campus in Athens. Together with MAREX, Georgia Sea Grant reports to the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach (VPPSO). Both Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX are jointly directed by Dr. Mark Risse. Dr. Risse reports directly to the VPPSO, Dr. Jennifer Frum. The Associate Director, Dr. Mona Behl, reports to the Director, Dr. Mark Risse. Two outreach facilities are located in Savannah and Brunswick. The Marine Education Center and Aquarium and the Shellfish Research Laboratory are located in Savannah (Associate Director Anne Lindsay and Research Director Thomas Bliss, respectively), while the Marine Advisory Services are located in Brunswick (Interim Associate Director Katy Smith).

Advisory Board Members and Functions

The Georgia Sea Grant Advisory Board plays a critical role in providing guidance to the Georgia Sea Grant management team in program operations. The Board provides stakeholder input to Georgia Sea Grant, guides strategic planning, establishes connections with stakeholders who need Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX expertise, advocates for the Georgia Sea Grant program and assists in forming partnerships with other organizations in coastal Georgia.

The Advisory Board consists of members drawn from marine business, local government, schools and other educational facilities, NGOs, the planning and development community and state management agencies. The board has one face-to-face meeting per year. However, additional meetings are convened as needed for other emerging issues. Individual members or smaller groups of members are often consulted to give advice in their area of expertise.

Advisory Board members are divided into two categories —representative and institutional. Representative members are drawn from a broad range of coastal and inland stakeholders. Institutional members represent institutions of higher education and local, state and federal institutional partners. These members serve four-year terms, and are replaced by individuals who continue to represent those constituencies. Shorter or longer terms are used infrequently to maintain balance within the committee.

Examples of Advisory Board Engagement: The Georgia Sea Grant team has engaged with the Advisory Board in a number of formal and in-formal meetings related to its programmatic operations. In the past, the Advisory Board has been convened a few times to discuss emerging research needs that form the basis of request for research proposals, formalize strategic planning and broad-based stakeholder engagement workshops.

MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD

Ellen Bauske – Program Coordinator of Extension Center for Urban Agriculture

Al Burns – Director of Georgia’s Coastal Regional Commission

Ben Carswell – Director of Conservation for the Jekyll Island Authority

Toby Carr – Associate Vice President for Government Relations and Director of State Relations at UGA

Bill Demmond – C.O.O. of Inland Seafood

Todd Driver – District Environmental Health Director of the Coastal Health District

Dionne Hoskins – NOAA Fisheries Biologist at Savannah State University

Cecil Jennings – Unit Leader & Research Fishery Biologist, Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units

Laura Perry Johnson – Associate Dean of UGA Extension

Charlie Phillips – Owner of CP Seafood

Doug Samson – Reserve Manager of Sapelo Island NERR

Jim Sanders – Director of Skidaway Institute of Oceanography

Susan Shipman – Former Director of GA DNR’s Coastal Resources Division

Tom Thomson – Executive Director of Chatham County/Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission

John Wallace – Fisheries

Paul Wolff – City Councilman of Tybee Island

Spud Woodward – Director of GA DNR’s Coastal Resources Division

Kim Morris-Zarneke – Manager of Education Programs at the Georgia Aquarium

Recruiting Talent

PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) PRIORITIES

The foundation of Georgia Sea Grant’s Request for Proposals (RFP) is its Strategic Plan, which derives from stakeholder input in the process described above. Knowledge of issues that may have emerged since the strategic planning process comes from extensive and time-tested contacts that extension staff maintain with major business, governmental and public stakeholders and from bi-annual feedback sessions conducted with the advisory board.

Georgia Sea Grant supports research in both natural science and social sciences so as to bring together research, management and policy sectors to foster the development of economic opportunities that promote healthy communities that are economically and socially inclusive, supported by diverse, balanced and vibrant economies and function within the carrying capacity of the coastal ecosystems and energy resources.

With the above information, the Georgia Sea Grant management team crafts an RFP designed to accomplish the goals and performance measures set forth in the strategic and implementation plans. The RFP requires that pre-proposals be submitted and sets forth not only research goals but also mandates an ambitious outreach focus and agenda for dissemination of research results.

The RFP is released in the first week of January with a pre-proposal submission deadline approximately six to eight weeks later. The RFP is broadly distributed to all institutions of higher education through an extensive listserv. The listserv includes a substantive list of principal investigators and is maintained and augmented constantly.

PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS INCLUDING COMPOSITION OF REVIEW PANELS

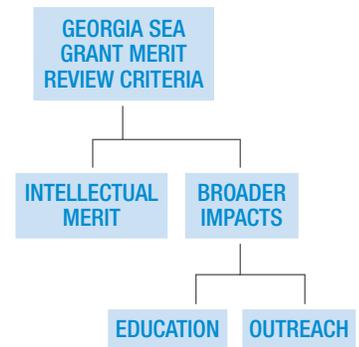
To maintain the highest quality, integrity and relevance of Georgia Sea Grant funded research, the core values of its merit review process are modeled after the National Science Foundation's gold standard of scientific review. The primary goal of Georgia Sea Grant's merit review process is to ensure that all proposals are evaluated in a transparent, objective and rigorous manner.

Similar to the National Science Foundation, Georgia Sea Grant merit review includes two criteria – Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts. Broader Impacts is further divided into two sub-categories: education and outreach. Both criteria are to be given full consideration during the review and decision-making process; each criterion is necessary but neither, by itself, is sufficient.

The intellectual merit criterion encompasses the potential to advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields. The broader impacts criterion encompasses the potential to prepare the next cadre of scientists by engaging undergraduate and graduate students in research and the potential to advance societal outcomes by outreach and extension activities.

Merit Review Process: All pre-proposals that are submitted in response to Georgia Sea Grant's RFP go through a technical review panel (details mentioned below). The panel filters the pre-proposals for relevance to the goals set forth in the RFP and ranks them on the basis of community need and potential for outreach and impact. Based on recommendations made by the technical review panel, pre-proposals are encouraged or discouraged for development into full proposals.

Georgia Sea Grant employs a programmed team approach to ensure integration of research with extension. For FY2012–2014 and FY2014–2016 RFPs, Georgia Sea Grant leadership discussed each proposal with MAREX staff and assigned the most appropriate professional to each pre-proposal. In the letter inviting the principal investigator(s) (PI) to submit a full proposal, the assigned extension contact was identified and the PI(s) were provided with suggestions for outreach and a list of contacts relevant to the project. The extension professional worked with the PI(s) to develop the outreach plan that became a part of the full proposal.



Beginning with the FY2016–2018 funding cycle, Georgia Sea Grant modified its approach to improve the integration of research with extension. Instead of assigning an extension contact to a potential PI, facilitation between research and extension is initiated during a prospective researchers workshop. The objectives of this workshop include:

- introduce potential investigators to the Georgia Sea Grant management team, and MAREX faculty members;
- improve potential investigators' understanding of Georgia Sea Grant, its placement within NOAA, funding outlook, evaluation process, and reporting requirements;
- improve potential investigators' understanding of the importance of outreach, education, and communications in research; and
- assist potential investigators in their preparation of a full proposal.

Fully developed proposals that are submitted in response to encouragement from the pre-proposal process are then subjected to peer review (details mentioned below). Following the completion of the peer review process, Georgia Sea Grant convenes a technical review panel that is capable of interpreting peer reviews within the fields of specialty in which proposals are under consideration. The technical review panel ranks the proposals on the basis of overall quality and advises Georgia Sea Grant on which proposals should be considered for funding. The technical review panel operates under procedures to avoid conflict of interest and includes Georgia Sea Grant's National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) Program Officer. Prior to notifying proposers of the outcome of the proposal process, the Director informs the NSGO of Georgia Sea Grant's intended decisions

and documents the corresponding rationale for the record. Once the NSGO has approved the decision-making process, all proposers are notified of the decisions regarding the proposals. Records of the proposal and decision-making process, including peer reviews and technical reviews, are maintained for audit.

Selection of Reviewers: Georgia Sea Grant strives to ensure a selection of experts who can provide complete and proper information needed to make a funding decision. Selection of reviewers is based on the following criteria.

- Specialized knowledge of the science and engineering subfields involved in the proposals to be reviewed to evaluate competence, intellectual merit and utility of the proposed activity.
- Broader or generalized knowledge of the science and engineering subfields involved in the proposals to be reviewed to evaluate the broader impacts of the proposed activity.
- Broad knowledge of the infrastructure of the science and engineering enterprise, and its educational activities, to evaluate the contributions to broader impacts.
- Broad knowledge of environmental issues and research needs in Georgia.
- Broad knowledge of Georgia Sea Grant’s Strategic Plan to establish relevance of the proposed research activity in achieving the goals and objectives of the plan.
- To the extent possible, diverse representation within the review group, including but not limited to, reviewer diversity, type of organization represented, age distribution and geographic balance.

Peer Review Process: Each proposal goes through a standard review process by at least three out-of-state experts in a particular field to evaluate the scientific merit of the proposal and to ensure the reliability of the material being presented.

Technical Panel Review Process: Each proposal is assigned to one primary reviewer and one secondary reviewer. During the technical panel review meeting, the primary reviewer takes the lead in summarizing the assigned proposal, discussing its merits and offering the perspectives of peer reviewers. The secondary reviewer covers additional viewpoints not mentioned by the primary panelist. The proposal then opens for discussion and anyone on the panel can join in. The secondary reviewer is responsible for taking notes and summarizing the comments made by the primary reviewer and other panelists. Each proposal is ranked and placed under one of the three categories – highly competitive, competitive or non-competitive. After the discussion, the panel comes to a consensus about the strengths/weaknesses and ranking of the proposal. The maximum time allotted for the discussion of each proposal is approximately 15 minutes.

During pre-proposal review, the review panel summary addresses the following areas:

- Is it an innovative research idea? Does it have intellectual merit?
- Does it fit Georgia Sea Grant’s RFP?
- Are there short- or mid-term outreach possibilities?
- Does the research have environmental, economic or social benefit to coastal Georgia?
- Are there synergies with other projects among the pre-proposals?
- Can any improvements be suggested and incorporated into the full proposal?

During the full proposal review, the technical review panel summary addresses the following areas:

- Objective (one or two sentences stating the objectives of the proposal)
- Intellectual Merit of the proposal
 - Strengths
 - Weaknesses
- Broader Impacts of the proposal
 - Strengths
 - Weaknesses
- Summary



Left: Tybee City Councilman Paul Wolff meets with team members developing the Tybee Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan. Right: Scarlett Fuller, a University of Georgia graduate research assistant, investigates whether oyster spat sticks can improve water quality.

CURRENT GEORGIA SEA GRANT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Adding dynamic information to resiliency planning: wetland mitigation and open space opportunities

Liz Kramer, University of Georgia; Craig Landry, University of Georgia; Shana Jones, University of Georgia

Black Gill Disease in Georgia Shrimp: Causes, Distribution, and Transmission

Marc Frischer, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography; Richard Lee, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography

Can the local food movement be an opportunity for Georgia seafood producers to participate in the inland seafood market?

Tracy Yandle, Emory University; Peggy Bartlett, Emory University

Closing the water budget for the Satilla Basin, Georgia

Marc Stieglitz, Georgia Institute of Technology; Elizabeth Kramer, University of Georgia

Coastal Georgia Regional Wastewater Planning

Laurie Fowler, University of Georgia; Katie Sheehan, University of Georgia

Creating a Model System for Sustainable Development: Striking a Balance Between the Ecological, Economic, and Social Needs of Jekyll Island State Park

Kimberly Andrews, University of Georgia; Katie Mascovich, University of Georgia; Tracey Tuberville, University of Georgia

Increased Tidal Flooding in Coastal Georgia: Assessing the Barriers and Value of Acquiring and Relocating Property

Scott Pippin, University of Georgia; Shana Jones, University of Georgia

Planning for Competitive Port Expansion on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard: The Case of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP)

Stephen Ramos, University of Georgia

PROPOSAL STATISTICS

UGA is one of four Carnegie 1 Research Institutions in the State of Georgia. Nevertheless, Georgia Sea Grant solicits proposals from any institution of higher education.

	FY2010-2012	FY2012-2014	FY2014-2016
Pre-Proposals Received	22	18	22
Full-Proposals Received	12	9	9
Proposals Funded	6	7	6
Institutions with Proposals Funded	4	3	3
Proposals Funded from Home Institution	3	4	3

NEW VS. CONTINUING GEORGIA SEA GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS AND NEW PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

	FY2010-2012	FY2012-2014	FY2014-2016
New Projects	5	7	6
Continuing Projects	7	5	7
New Principal Investigators	5	6	5

Funding

TOTAL FUNDING BY SOURCE

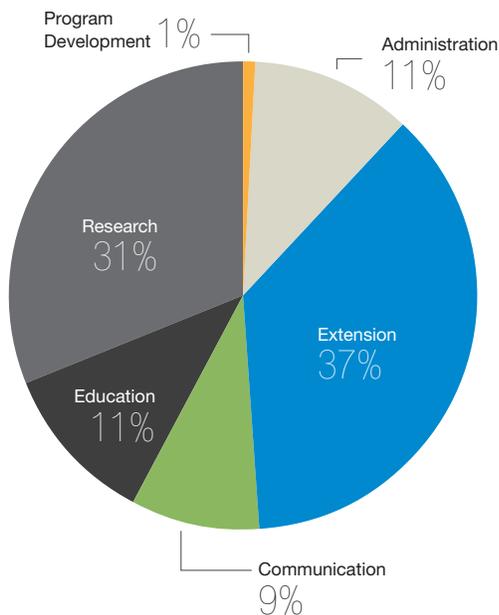
	Sea Grant Federal	Match	Pass Through**	Total Funding
2010	1,212,671	577,936	88,000	1,878,607
2011	1,232,200	588,006	96,000	1,916,206
2012	1,387,957	677,652	110,000	2,175,609
2013	1,359,861	660,955	52,500	2,073,316
2014	1,380,538	700,499	56,500	2,137,537

**Pass Through funding refers to federal funds not appropriated to Sea Grant, but administered through the National Sea grant Office.

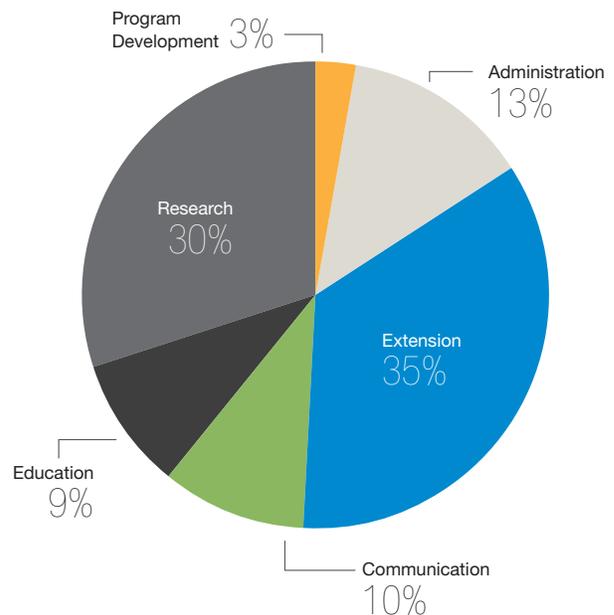
DISTRIBUTION OF CORE FUNDS FROM FY2010–2013 AND FY2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Administration	240,978	244,483	217,755	204,571	279,600
Extension	571,365	674,836	904,971	874,068	746,237
Communication	200,099	203,869	147,695	153,158	205,982
Education	237,999	195,999	239,901	192,612	198,442
Research	628,166	597,019	635,260	619,635	648,766
Program Development	0	0	30,027	29,272	58,510

2010–2013 TOTAL



2014



Stakeholder Engagement

In partnership with MAREX, Georgia Sea Grant provides a mechanism for the dissemination of research and general information to Georgia's coastal residents and businesses and relays concerns of coastal constituents back to the researchers.

The Brunswick office concentrates on seafood safety, aiding the seafood processing industries, the commercial blue crab and shrimping industries, marina operations and eco-tourism entities. Since the mid-1990s, it has developed numerous programs to address water quality and water quantity issues. Since the 2000s, Brunswick also has developed programming to deal with coastal stewardship and green energy alternatives. The Coastscapes program is one example of this and coordinates many of the sustainable development programs. Since the 2000's Brunswick has developed programming to deal with coastal stewardship and green energy alternatives as well as coastal resilience and helping communities with sea level rise.

The Shellfish Research Laboratory conducts studies into successful strategies for cultivating native mollusk species and researches possible diseases and their prevention in order to help create a healthy and sustainable industry. It is well recognized by most scientists and resource managers that America's fisheries are in serious decline due to over-fishing and habitat degradation. As demands for edible fish and shellfish continue to increase, many state and federal agencies now consider aquaculture as an important mechanism for the future production of the nation's seafood. The Shellfish Lab is also involved with shoreline stabilization, oyster reef restoration, and coordinates the State adopt-a-wetland program.

The Marine Education Center and Aquarium in Savannah is involved in educational programming in marine sciences and provides coastal environmental stewardship to K-12, collegiate and adult groups.

The Georgia Sea Grant Legal Program is a new partnership between Georgia Sea Grant and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia. This program offers students at the University of Georgia School of Law the opportunity to work with legal and policy experts to address challenging environmental questions facing policymakers in coastal Georgia communities. Selected law students work as paid student legal fellows during the academic year or summer. Students gain practical experience in collaborating with local policymakers, scientists and business communities and in performing expert analyses to inform decision-making.

Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX have an excellent relationship with industry, government entities and the public. Keeping close to the traditional extension model, the MAREX motto is "Boots on the Dock." MAREX has long and trusted relationships in the coastal communities that it serves. Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX staff members engage with a variety of stakeholders in both formal and informal ways. Stakeholders reciprocate to this engagement by approaching Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX for assistance on a broad array of coastal issues. Excellent examples of recent efforts are Georgia Sea Grant's response to community members from St. Marys who expressed concern about the effects of sea level rise on their low-lying historic city; and Georgia Sea Grant/MAREX's response to confusion among local shrimpers trying to comply with complex federal regulations. In the first case, Georgia Sea Grant applied for and received an NSI from NSGO to create an adaptation plan for St. Marys; and in the second, extension agents from the Georgia Sea Grant/MAREX station in Brunswick held workshops to explain regulation changes and made dockside visits to offer fishing gear audits to ensure compliance and avoid costly fines.

Many Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX staff members serve on local, state and federal boards or commissions. By serving on boards and committees, staff members ensure the delivery of timely and relevant updates to the programs and inform Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX of emerging trends on Georgia's coast. An example is Keren Giovengo, Georgia Sea Grant/MAREX Sustainable Development Specialist, and her service on the Governor's South Atlantic Alliance committee charged with creating Coastal Water Quality Best Management Practices for the region.

Stakeholder input is also gathered by the Georgia Sea Grant-funded Georgia Coastal Research Council (GCRC). The GCRC holds annual "state of the science" meetings in which scientists share current coastal research with other scientists, resource managers and the public, providing an opportunity for these groups to collaborate voice concerns and identify research needs.

Leadership by Georgia Sea Grant and Marine Extension on Boards and Committees

Georgia Sea Grant and Marine Extension faculty have held over 100 leadership and committee positions since the previous site review. Selected examples include:

INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL

- International Soil and Water Conservation Society, Fellow, Program Committee (Risse)
- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, Member (Risse)
- National Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center, Leadership Team Member (Risse)
- Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN), Member (Behl)
- Earth Science Women Network Member (Behl)
- GLOBE International Scientist Network Member (Behl)
- National Science Foundation (NSF), Panel Reviewer (Behl)
- NSF's Research Coordination Network – Climate Energy, Environment and Engagement in Semiarid Regions, Steering Committee Member (Behl)
- American Meteorological Society (AMS) Science and Technology Activities Commission (STAC) Committee on Coastal Environment, Committee Member (Behl)
- AMS Board on Women and Minorities, Board Member (Behl)
- National Climate Assessment network (NCAnet) Affinity Groups on Climate Adaptation an Mitigation; and Education, Member (Behl)
- NCAnet Affinity Group on Coastal, Ocean & Marine Resources, and Extension, Outreach & Engagement, Leader (Behl)

- Texas Water Technology Roadmap, The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Steering Committee Member (Behl)
- South Atlantic Alliance Clean Coastal and Ocean Waters Watershed Improvement Working Group, Member (Giovengo)
- University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR)/National NEMO Rain Garden App, Advisory Committee Member (Giovengo)
- Landscape for Life National Trainer (U.S. Botanical Garden and University of Texas Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Member (Giovengo)
- South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative, Member (Giovengo)
- Southeast Atlantic-Marine Debris Consortium, Member (Smith)
- Program Committee of the International Assoc. for Food Protection, Member (Stivers)
- Southeast Atlantic Marine Debris Initiative, Member (Gambill)
- National Seafood HACCP Alliance Steering Committee, Member (Stivers)
- National Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Network, Member (Giovengo)
- National Oversight Committee for the National Estuarine Research Reserves' Coastal Training Program, Member (Gambill)
- Southeast Climate Consortium Planning Committee, Member (Gambill)
- Southern Region Extension Climate Academy Planning Committee, Member (Gambill)

- Education and Communications committees of the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference, Member (Stivers)
- Workgroups developed during Southeast Marine Debris (SEMD) Summit (strategic planning, summer 2014): Consumer Debris and Human Impacts workgroup (member) and Messaging, Education and Outreach workgroup (group lead) (Smith)
- Southeast and Caribbean Climate Community of Practice, Member (Gambill)
- Carolinas Integrated Sciences and Assessments (CISA), Member (Gambill)
- NOAA Fisheries Southeast Region Marine Fisheries Initiative proposal reviewer (Stivers)
- National Marine Educators Association, Board Member of Awards Committee, Scholarship Committee, Publication and International Committees (Timmons)
- National Science Teachers Association, Member (Timmons)
- Georgia Association of Marine Education, Member (Timmons)
- National Ocean Science Bowl, Southern Stingray Bowl Committee, Member (Timmons)
- National Ocean Science Bowl, Improving Teacher Quality, Reviewer (Timmons)
- Natural Sciences Education, Reviewer (Timmons)
- American Biology Teacher, Reviewer (Timmons)
- Environmental Earth Sciences, Reviewer (Timmons)

STATE AND LOCAL

- Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents, Member (Risse)
- Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Society, Professional Development Chair (Risse)
- UGA Office of the Vice President of Research (OVPR) Committee for Lab Safety, Member (Risse)
- UGA OVPR Committee for Lab Safety, Member (Risse)
- UGA Sea Grant Associate Director, Search Committee Chair (Risse)
- UGA Rugby Alumni Association Board of Directors, Treasurer (Risse)
- Georgia Water Resources Conference, Planning Committee, Member (Risse)
- Clarke Oconee Cattlemans Association Board of Directors, Board Member (Risse)
- UGA Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Advisory Group, Co-Chair (Risse)
- UGA Marine Extension Associate Director of Extension and Fisheries Leader, Search Committee Chair (Behl)
- UGA Sea Grant and Marine Extension Sustainable Development Committee (Giovengo, Atkinson, Smith)
- UGA Financial/Human Resources (HR) Systems Planning Committee member (Scoggins)
- UGA Public Service & Outreach (PSO) Business Managers, Committee Member (Scoggins)



Left: Natural resource managers, shellfish harvesters, members of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents and Georgia Sea Grant faculty meet to discuss MAREX's new oyster hatchery. Right: Georgia Sea Grant local government outreach coordinator, Kelly Spratt, shares information on the program's award-winning project helping Tybee Island plan for sea level rise.

- UGA Business Affairs, Advisory Forum Committee Member (Scoggins, Summers)
- UGA Contracts & Grants Research Account Discussion Committee Member (Summers)
- UGA Sea Grant and Marine Extension Leadership Team member (Risse, Behl, Scoggins, Smith, Lindsay, Gambill, Bliss)
- UGA Marine Extension Fundraising Committee, Chair (Lindsay)
- UGA Sea Grant and Marine Extension Internship Review and Selection Committee (Lindsay)
- UGA Sea Grant Associate Director, Search Committee, Member (Lindsay)
- UGA Public Service and Outreach Promotions Review Committee (Lindsay)
- Coastal Regional Commission Board of Directors, Member (Spratt)
- Georgia Native Plant Initiative, Member (Giovengo)
- Green Growth Guidelines Working Group, Member (Giovengo)
- Coastal Georgia Nitrogen and Water Quality Efforts' workgroup, Member (Smith)
- Green Scene of Coastal Georgia, Member (Smith)
- UGA Sea Grant and Marine Extension Communications Committee, Member (Smith)
- UGA's Public Service and Outreach, Regional Resource Team, Member (Smith)

- UGA Dissertation Committee for David Brew (UGA post-doctoral program under Dr. Marsha Black), Member (Smith)
- UGA University Council, Member (Bliss)
- Board of Directors for PFLAG Atlanta, Board Member (Stivers)
- Coastal Georgia Nonpoint Source Advisory Council, Member (Giovengo, Bodrey)
- Coastal Regional Commission Planning, Assessment, and Implementation Teams, Member (Giovengo)
- Coastal Stormwater Supplement Advisory Group, Member (Giovengo)
- Coastal Workforce Investment Board, Chief Local Elected Official (Spratt)
- McIntosh County Board of Commissioners, Chairman (Spratt)
- McIntosh County Board of Health, Board Member (Spratt)
- Jekyll Island Green Screen Planning Committee, Member (Gambill)
- Governors South Atlantic Alliance Communications Working Group, Member (Gambill)
- Coastal Wastewater Planning Committee, Member (Bodrey)
- Executive board for Georgia Assoc. for Food Protection, Delegate and Member (Stivers)
- Climate Voices – Science Speakers Network, Member (Gambill)
- Georgia Coastal Hazards Community of Practice, Member (Gambill)

- Georgia Initiative for Climate and Society, Member (Behl, Gambill)
- Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Outreach Assessment Evaluation Group, Member (Lindsay)
- Skidaway Audubon Community Sustainability Working Group, Member (Lindsay)
- The Landings Association Strategic Planning Stakeholder Input Group, Member (Lindsay)
- Moon River Corridor Working Group (Chatham County), Member (Lindsay)
- Savannah Area ECO Lunch Group, Member (Lindsay)
- Coastal Museum Association, Member (Lindsay)
- Georgia Coastal Education Group, Secretary (Lindsay)
- Coastal Georgia Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, Steering Committee Member (Bliss)
- Governor's South Atlantic Alliance Living Shoreline Workgroup, Member (Bliss)

SEA GRANT

- National Sea Grant College Program Knauss Fellowship Application Review Committee, Member (Behl)
- National Sea Grant College Program Coastal Management Fellowship Application Review Committee, Member (Behl)
- Sea Grant Climate Network, Steering Committee Member (Behl)

- Sea Grant Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Product (PPCP) Working Group, Member (Smith)
- Sea Grant Communications Network, Member (Gambill)
- Sea Grant Climate Network, Member (Gambill)
- Sea Grant Web Developer Network, Member (Gambill)
- Sea Grant Social Science Network, Member (Gambill, Behl)
- Sea Grant Fiscal Officers Network, Member (Summers)
- Sea Grant Education Network, Member (Timmons)

OTHER NOAA AND AGENCY

- Georgia Department of Public Health Onsite Sewage Management Systems Committee, Member (Risse)
- EPD Nutrient Standards Technical Advisory Group (Risse)
- SINERR Strategic Planning, Advisory Committee Member (Risse)
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Groundwater Protection Committee Member (Risse)
- NOAA National Coastal Sustainable Communities Network, Member (Giovengo)
- DNR Coastal Advisory Council, Member (Spratt)

List of Key Partners and Stakeholders

Georgia Sea Grant collaborates and works with national, regional, state and local partners to accomplish its core goals. While some problems are unique to a particular community, many issues of importance are similar to those confronting neighboring counties and states. Sharing best practices and testing results across regional gradients with partners enables us to better meet our mission.

NATIONAL PARTNERS

- East Coast Shellfish Growers Association
- East Coast Shellfish Research Institute
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Florida Sea Grant
- Friends of the Savannah Coastal Refuges
- Georgia Coastal Ecosystems (GCE) LTER
- Georgia Sea Turtle Stranding Network
- Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary Program
- Marine Mammal Stranding Network
- National Marine Educators Association
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center
- National Science Foundation LTER
- North Carolina Sea Grant
- Rhode Island Sea Grant
- Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve
- South Carolina Sea Grant
- Texas A&M University
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. National Park Service
- USCOE

REGIONAL PARTNERS

- All stakeholder constituencies on SARRP project
- American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA)
- Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation

- SE-COSEE
- South Atlantic Alliance
- US Global Change Research Program

LOCAL PARTNERS

- 6 Coastal County Governments of Georgia
- Boys and Girls Club of Glynn County
- Brunswick
- Camden County 4H
- City of Brunswick
- City of Darien
- City of Tybee

STATE PARTNERS

- Adopt-A-Stream
- Altamaha Riverkeepers
- Atlanta Aquarium
- Atlantic Richfield Company
- Carl Vinson Institute of Government
- Century 21
- City of Darien
- Coastal Conservation Association
- Department of Community Affairs Agriculture
- Georgia Association Marine Educators
- Georgia Cooperative Extension / 4H
- Georgia Department of Agriculture Georgia
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
 - Coastal Resources Division
 - Environmental Protection Division
 - Wildlife Resources Division

- Georgia Environmental Health Association (GEHA)
- Georgia Emergency Management Association (GEMA)
- Georgia Marine Business Association
- Georgia Science Association
- Georgia Sea Turtle Center
- Georgia Shrimp Association
- Georgia Soil Conservation Service
- Georgia State Climatology Office
- Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center
- Honeywell
- Jekyll Island-State Park Authority
- Ogeechee Audubon Society
- Ogeechee Riverkeepers
- Ossabaw Foundation
- Satilla Riverkeepers
- Savannah Riverkeepers
- Skidaway Institute of Oceanography
- Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
- Southern Building Trades Association
- University of Georgia (many departments and colleges, but in particular UGA Marine Extension)
- Clam, Inc
- College of Coastal Georgia
- Fort Stewart's Fish and Wildlife Branch and Forestry Branch
- Georgia College and State University
- Glynn County Board of Education
- Glynn Environmental Coalition
- Golden Island Seafood
- Harris Teeter on Saint Simons Island

- Lower Coastal Georgia GreenDrinks
- Piggly Wiggly in Darien
- Publix in Brunswick
- Sapelo Seafood
- Savannah-Chatham County Metropolitan Planning Commission
- Savannah Music Festival
- Seafood and Shrimp Blessing of the Fleet in Darien, GA
- Skidaway Audubon Society
- Tybee Island Marine Center
- US Coast Guard Auxillary
- Wild American Shrimp Incorporated
- Wild Georgia Shrimp
- Winn Dixie in Brunswick
- Wormsloe Foundation
- Wormsloe Institute for Environmental History Regional Partners
- All stakeholder constituencies on SARRP project
- American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA)
- Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation
- SE-COSEE
- South Atlantic Alliance

Collaboration/NOAA Activities

Success in Sea Grant National Competitions

SUCCESS IN SEA GRANT NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Competition	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014
NOAA Sea Grant Aquaculture Extension and Technology Transfer National Strategic Initiative	\$ 73,671	\$ 92,011	\$ 97,366		
NOAA Sea Grant Coastal Community Climate Adaptation Initiative (Tybee Island)			\$83,481	\$84,494	
NOAA Sea Grant Coastal Community Climate Adaptation Initiative (St. Mary's, GA and Hyde County, NC)				\$180,831	\$128,698
NOAA Sea Grant Special Projects Competition (Resilient Growth Information)					\$32,245
NOAA Sea Grant John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Applied/Accepted	3/2	2/1	2/2	4/1	3/1

EXAMPLES OF GEORGIA SEA GRANT EXTERNAL PROJECTS AND AWARDS

Project	Year	Funding Entity	Award
Development of a Research Plan for the South Atlantic Region	2009–2011	NOAA	\$151,043
Enhancing capacity for climate engagement in the southeast and Caribbean regions of the United States	2009–2011	NOAA	\$25,000
Sea Grant NERRS Fellowship	2011–2012	North Carolina Sea Grant and SINERR – Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve	\$10,000
Guidance for Identification of Local Vulnerability to Hazards and Climate Change Impacts in the Southeast and Caribbean Region	2011–2014	NOAA	\$26,189
Tybee Island, GA – Developing a 50-year Climate Adaptation Plan for a Highly Vulnerable Barrier Island Community	2012–2014	NOAA	\$167,975
Implementing Comprehensive Community Planning in St. Mary's, GA and Hyde County, NC	2013–2015	NOAA	\$309,529

EXAMPLES OF MAREX EXTERNAL PROJECTS AND AWARDS

Project	Year	Funding Entity	Award
Septic Tank Inventory for Bryan, Liberty and McIntosh Counties	2011–2013	GADNR	\$89,262
Sapelo Island Living Shoreline Monitoring	2011–2012	GADNR	\$4,715
Coastal Hazards: Know the Facts	2011–2013	GADNR	\$113,708
Wetlands Restoration Inventory and Prioritization Tool	2011–2012	GADNR	\$43,610
Developing A Pilot Oyster Restoration Plan for Coastal Georgia Using A GIS Derived Suitability Index to Assess and Prioritize Sites	2011–2012	GADNR	\$98,301
Comparison of ecological, recreational, and commercial fish and crustacean species communities associated with artificial and natural intertidal eastern oyster (<i>Crassostrea virginica</i>) reefs in Georgia	2012–2013	GADNR	\$110,146
Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve Water Quality System Wide Monitoring Program	2012–2013	GADNR	\$40,000

Selected Short Descriptions of Collaborative Activities and Projects with other Sea Grant Programs, NOAA and Additional Agency Partners

Georgia Sea Grant is committed to collaborating and working with regional partners as well as national programs, such as NOAA. Many issues of importance at the local and state levels are similar to those of our neighbors. Rather than reinvent the wheel in each state, an economy of scale can be reached through partnerships and collaborations. The sharing of best practices with partners and testing of results across regional gradients enables us to better meet our institutional mission. It is towards this enhanced productivity and impact and in reaching planned outcomes that we have entered into numerous regional collaborations, several of which we highlight here.

SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT: SARRP is a regional, multi-agency project to promote coordinated coastal and ocean research in the Southeastern U.S. The project's goals are to identify regional priority research needs and foster partnerships to address those priorities. SARRP was run through Georgia Sea Grant under the direction of Merryl Alber, the director of the Georgia Coastal Research Council (GCRC), which is supported equally by Georgia Sea Grant and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Coastal Resources Division (DNR-CRD). SARRP worked in close partnership with the Governor's South Atlantic Alliance (GSAA), representing North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The mission of the Alliance is to "implement science-based policies and solutions that enhance and protect the value of coastal and ocean resources of the southeastern United States to support the region's culture and economy now and for future generations." The research priorities of SARRP formed the basis for the recommendations of the GSAA. With the expectation of regional funding for the Alliances in the near future, the South Atlantic region should be well poised to compete.



As part of a Georgia Sea Grant-funded research project, scientists, resource managers, shrimpers and extension specialists are partnering to investigate the black gill condition affecting shrimp.

SOUTHEAST AND CARIBBEAN TEAM (SECART): North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico are part of the SECART team that is led by Aleta Hahn, Geno Olmi and Jeff Payne. Risse, like Hopkinson before him, represents Georgia Sea Grant interests on SECART. He participates in monthly phone conferences and attends the annual planning meeting. SECART facilitates coordination across the southeast and informs of activities in other regions. As such, through the blending of regional capabilities, it leads to improving the delivery of services at state and regional scales. Some of the projects SECART focuses on include the NOAA data explorer, needs assessments, building a community of practice for climate change outreach and planning for hazard preparation.

NC, SC, GA, FL, PR SG and NOAA CSC: Climate Change Community of Practice – Georgia Sea Grant partnered with personnel from South Carolina and North Carolina Sea Grant programs, as well as NOAA Coastal Services Center, to hold two workshops in 2010 and 2012 for climate change experts, social scientists engaged in coastal hazards mitigation and adaptation and coastal extension, outreach and education specialists throughout the Southeast (NC, SC, GA, FL) and the Caribbean. Georgia Sea Grant was the lead institution in this partnership. The goal of the workshop was to build a community of practice so that discussions of climate change vulnerability and adaptation could be held throughout our region. The project is to provide decision makers with reliable scientific information on climate change and sea level rise, to assess local vulnerabilities and to develop strategies for successful adaptation.

NOAA – NMFS – SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERIES FOUNDATION

– LOUISIANA SEA GRANT: UGA Marine Extension has been instrumental in incorporating turtle excluder devices (TED) into the nation’s commercial shrimp trawl industry. MAREX worked with industry and the National Marine Fisheries Service to test and secure approval of a new TED called the Big Boy. The Big Boy TED was certified in 2012, a major success for both fishermen and conservationists. As an extension of this activity, MAREX’s Lindsey Parker continues to serve as South Atlantic coordinator for the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation. Working with the Gulf of Mexico coordinator, Lindsey led workshops for 70 Louisiana fishermen. Shrimpers learned about fuel-efficient trawl doors and bycatch reduction devices. The majority of the fishermen attending these Louisiana workshops were Vietnamese. MAREX also partnered with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SC DNR) to look at the other side of TEDs – namely, sea turtles. In this case, MAREX and SC DNR assessed the regional abundance of sea turtles, collecting and releasing turtles. When injured or sick turtles are encountered, they are delivered to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center on Jekyll Island for care. This project is built upon Georgia Sea Grant-mediated partnerships among managers, extension agents, scientists, veterinary students, volunteers and many others.

NOAA – NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES – GRAY’S REEF

NMS: Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX partnered with Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary Program in upgrading MAREX’s public aquarium. New exhibits on Gray’s Reef were constructed along with a tank depicting marine life from Gray’s Reef. Gray’s Reef worked with Georgia Sea Grant/MAREX to establish marine aquariums at the Savannah International Airport. Information on tourism will be provided along with our Coastal Fishing Maps Series and a book.

NOAA – NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVES – SAPELO ISLAND NERR – THE NATURE CONSERVANCY:

Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX partner with the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve (SINERR) on a number of projects that involve monitoring oyster spat recruitment into the Duplin River to establish a database for long-term environmental change. The organizations also conduct water quality monitoring sampling for the reserve. Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX additionally work with SINERR and The Nature Conservancy on constructing and testing living shorelines.

NOAA – COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT – GA DNR-CRD – COASTAL INCENTIVE GRANTS: Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX partner with Georgia’s Coastal Zone Management (CZM) program for a variety of Georgia Sea Grant mission-related activities, including:

- **Adopt-A-Wetlands Program** – This is a community-based volunteer program that monitors water quality throughout the coastal region. Participants are certified in training in either chemical and/or biological monitoring. Eighty-eight groups have been trained. All data is available on the web through the state’s Adopt-A-Stream Program.
- **G.E.O.R.G.I.A. (Generating Enhanced Oyster Resources in Georgia Inshore Areas)** – This is a community-based volunteer program designed to restore oyster habitat in coastal Georgia. The first reef was constructed on the north end of Jekyll Island in Clam Creek. Shell collection centers have been established on Tybee, Skidaway and Jekyll Islands and in Darien and Brunswick.
- **The Skidaway Interpretive Cabin** on Skidaway Island holds exhibits that recount the island’s natural and human history from the Guale Indians to the present. It is used in educational programming and is open to the public who choose to use the nature trail.
- **The Georgia Coastal Hazards Community of Practice** is the joint creation of Georgia Sea Grant and NOAA’s Georgia CZM. It holds twice-yearly meetings to inform scientists, managers, local governments and NGOs of news, developments and projects related to climate adaptation, as well as sponsors workshops in the field.

FL, GA, SC, NC, PR SEA GRANTS: Aquatic Invasive Species – Lionfish Project: Five Sea Grant programs combined efforts for a joint proposal to Sea Grant to study and hopefully control the lionfish invasion, which is rampant in the Caribbean and southern Florida and steadily moving into deep-water hard bottoms of the Carolinas and Georgia. This project resulted in workshops and competitive research projects.

Changes Resulting from Previous Site Review

Comments

A clearer description of the deployment of extension full time employments (FTEs) in the state would have been helpful, such as map of the state with number of FTE's for GASG and MAREX to get a sense of where effort is being expended.

A clear table listing data on the name and number of full time employees within Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX has been provided in the current briefing book.

Attendees suggested that Georgia Sea Grant may benefit by continuing to engage more state and federal partners in ways that may benefit Sea Grant. The American Association of County Commissioners, Institute for Georgia Leadership, and Georgia Municipal Association were among those mentioned.

Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX have actively engaged with the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL). Several Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX staff have participated in the leadership program and even hosted visits of the IGEL classes for the last two years. Georgia Sea Grant's Local Government Coordinator (Kelly Spratt) is actively engaged in the activities of The American Association of County Commissioners (ACCG), the Sustainable Development Program and the Georgia Sea Grant Legal Program. The Georgia Sea Grant Director is having discussions with UGA's Cooperative Extension about jointly approaching ACCG and Georgia Municipal Association on stormwater support.

Suggestions

Within the University of Georgia, little attention had been given to the lines of program and fiscal accountability among and between units participating in the Georgia Sea Grant College Program. Clearly delineated and written agreements will serve to avoid mis-understanding and deterioration of working relationships and facilitate the capacity of the Director to fulfill his responsibilities for fiscal and program accountability.

With a change in organizational structure of Georgia Sea Grant within the University, and change in leadership of Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX, there exist delineated lines of program and fiscal accountability.

More specifically, Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX should determine how jointly funded positions and activities are divided in terms of performance and management. This would provide mutually beneficial accountability and allow the two entities to better evaluate their individual and collective efforts.



Georgia Sea Grant co-hosted Senator Sheldon Whitehouse from Rhode Island on his Southeast Climate Road Trip, sharing the latest science on sea level rise and other coastal hazards.



Left: Georgia Sea Grant and Marine Extension aquarium curators prepare Ossabaw the sea turtle for release, as part of a partnership with GA DNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Caretta Research Project. Right: Thousands of children from throughout the Southeast gain hands-on experience in coastal ecosystems through Georgia Sea Grant education programs.

By consolidating Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX under a single leadership, jointly funded positions and activities are being divided in terms of performance and management.

Stakeholder engagement was very extensive at the program management level. But, the SRT believes that the establishment of program advisory committee by the local marine extension and marine educators will substantially expand program ownership by the people involved, increase program visibility, and provide new opportunities for local program resources.

Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX are very involved in the Advisory Committee facilitated by GA DNR's Coastal Resources Division. Moving forward, we will be working towards the establishment of a program advisory committee by local marine extension and marine educators.

While the program has made progress in building relationships within the university, the SRT urges the University leadership to move forward with a plan to use the vision and programming strategies of the University to address the marine and coastal issues of the state. From a Sea Grant program perspective, the SRT believes that incorporating the scientific, outreach, and education capacity of additional campus units, including the Georgia Cooperative Extension Service, will provide relevant expertise and stakeholder connections to serve University and Sea Grant college interests.

The Georgia Sea Grant Director is working with the Dean of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service (CES) to develop joint programming with Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX. This includes the development of joint Georgia Sea Grant and CES positions; encouraging participation of Georgia Sea Grant and MAREX staff in CES training and regional meetings, and vice-versa; and developing a Public Service and Outreach (PSO) Coastal Regional Resource Team wherein all PSO units can work together to address regional issues.

The Georgia Sea Grant College Program and UGA Marine Extension have offices throughout the state, reaching a broad array of stakeholders on diverse outreach, education and research topics.



GEORGIA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM & UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA MARINE EXTENSION