National Sea Grant Office Update

Jonathan Eigen and Elizabeth Rohring
National Sea Grant Office
Great Lakes Sea Grant Network Meeting
September 9, 2015
What’s new?

- Changes in the NSGO
- PIE Updates
- FY 2016 Budget
- Sea Grant Communication Updates
National Sea Grant Office

Recent changes in the NSGO
http://seagrant.noaa.gov/WhoWeAre/Leadership/NationalSeaGrantOffice.aspx

• December/January 2015:
  – Gene Kim, PhD – now at USDA as the National Program Leader for Aquaculture
  – Elizabeth Bevan – Sea Grant Knauss Fellow – now back at the University of Alabama at Birmingham to pursue her PhD
  – Tammy Newcomer-Johnson, PhD – Sea Grant Knauss Fellow – now with EPA

• February 2015:
  + Julia Galkiewicz, PhD, Fellowship Manager (C)
  + Helen Cheng, SG Knauss Fellow, Coastal Communities Specialist
  + Sarah Bowman, PhD, SG Knauss Fellow, Natural Resource Specialist

• March 2015:
  – Kathryn MacDonald Baltes (c) – Communication Specialist at MIT SG
  – Leon Cammen, PhD - Director (retired)
National Sea Grant Office

Recent changes in the NSGO
http://seagrant.noaa.gov/WhoWeAre/Leadership/NationalSeaGrantOffice.aspx

• April 2015:
  • Nikola Garber, PhD, Acting Director
  • Jon Eigen, Acting Deputy Director
  + Jim Berkson, PhD, NMFS Liaison to Sea Grant
  + Robin Garcia, Communication specialist (C)

• May 2015:
  – Genene Fisher, PhD, NOAA Leadership Competencies Development Program (LCDP) detail including recruiting Sea Grant hires, returns to National Weather Service
  + Sami Grimes returned from her first LCDP detail
  + Sarah Nadalin, volunteering this summer to work on a variety of education projects for Sea Grant Education Network and the NOAA Ed Council.

• June 2015:
  • Sami Grimes, Acting Deputy Director
  – Devin Brakob, LCDP detail managing the NMFS-SG Fellowship and Aquaculture grant competition, returns to NOAA Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Sea Grant Office

Recent changes in the NSGO
http://seagrant.noaa.gov/WhoWeAre/Leadership/NationalSeaGrantOffice.aspx

• July 2015:
  – Sarah Nadalin, private school teacher in Seattle, Washington

• August 2015:
  + Sharon Aziz (contractor), a 6 month contractor to assist with PIE activities including PRP and PIER information.
  + David Chorney, working on contracts, climate & water issues, and NWS liaison
  + Amanda McCarty, NOAA Leadership Competencies Development Program (LCDP) detail including recruiting Sea Grant hires
Blue denotes positions to hire
Purple denotes possible position
Green denotes positions possible with legislation (need to develop a 5 year plan for IPAs)
(c) denotes contractor; (d) denotes detail

As of 5/20/2015
Four nominees in process:

- Gordon Grau – Hawaii Sea Grant Program Director (retired)
- Judy Gray – Acting Deputy Director of OAR (retired)
- Brian Helmuth – Climate and resilience scientist, Northeastern University
- Jim Murray – Deputy Director, National Sea Grant College Program (retired)
NSGO Summer/Fall Activities

• Site Visits
• Technical Review Panels
• Performance Review Panels
• Filling the office vacancies
• Partnerships and Networking
NSGO Accomplishments

• Processed 222 grants worth $63.5M of Sea Grant funding and $5.7M of pass-through funding
• Impacts/accomplishments reviewed
  – Over 1700 impacts and accomplishments from 2014 Annual Reports available on our website: [http://seagrant.noaa.gov/WhatWeDo/SearchImpactsandAccomplishments.aspx](http://seagrant.noaa.gov/WhatWeDo/SearchImpactsandAccomplishments.aspx)
    • Over 7000 total impacts and accomplishments available
• Completed 32 Site Visits
• Assistant Administrator Award for “exceptional skill and dedication in program and grant execution and oversight, resulting in awarding $24million to support 300+ resilience projects” (2014 fiscal year)
NSGCP Priorities

• Sea Grant Visioning
• Partnership building*
• Networking with NOAA*
• Educating the Beltway about Sea Grant*
• National Sea Grant Advisory Board review of Sea Grant liaison positions*

*Also National Sea Grant Office priorities
PIE Updates

• Sea Grant 20-year Visioning
  – Network discussion Fall 2015

• Network Plan (2018-2021) – **DRAFT** timeline
  – Late Fall 2015 – Network Plan Steering Committee appointed
    • Reps from: SGA, NSGAB, NSGO, NAC, NOAA
  – Winter/Spring 2016 – Plan developed
  – October 2016 – Individual programs submit final plans
  – December 2016 – All strategic plans final
PIE Updates

• National Competition Updates
  – Notifications Made:
    • SG-NMFS Exchange Program Support
    • Conferences and Workshop Support
    • FY15 Aquaculture Extension Technology Transfer
    • FY15 International Great Lakes Water Level Datum (Special Projects)
FY16-17 Omnibus Submission

• Guidance sent 9/2:
  – How to fulfill Special Award Conditions (SACs) on FY14-17 omnibus awards
  – How to submit proposal for FY16-17 increases in merit/base

• Funding email sent 9/8:
  • Contains 90-2 for SAC and for FY16-17 merit/base increase
# Sea Grant Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY15 Appropriation</th>
<th>FY16 Request</th>
<th>FY16 House Mark</th>
<th>FY16 Senate Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base</td>
<td>$62.8M</td>
<td>$61.5M</td>
<td>$62.8M</td>
<td>$62.8M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>$4.5M</td>
<td>$7.0M</td>
<td>$2.0M</td>
<td>$10 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM Education</td>
<td>[included in base]</td>
<td>[eliminated from Base]</td>
<td>[included in base]</td>
<td>[included in base]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$67.3M</td>
<td>$68.5M</td>
<td>$64.8M</td>
<td>$72.8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Historical Budgets
- FY 2012 – $62.2M
- FY 2013 – $57.3M (after sequester)
- FY 2014 – $67.3M
Reauthorization Status

• National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2015: **S. 764** was introduced on March 17th by Sen. Wicker (R-MS) with three co-sponsors and passed by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on March 25th as **amended** by Senator Schatz (D-HI). **Bill passed Senate on 7/28.**

• The National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2015 (H.R. 1900) was introduced in the House on April 21st by Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-MI-14).
NSGO Hill Visits in April/May/August 2015

- **OAR Day on the Hill Visits**
  - Brian Babin, R-TX-36 (Rachel Tristan – staff)
  - Madeleine Bordallo, D-Guam (Matthew Herrmann – staff)
  - Bradley Byrne, R-AL-1 (Lora Hobbs – staff)
  - Katherine Clark, D-MA-5 (John Moreschi – staff)
  - Garrett Graves, R-LA-6
  - Brenda Lawrence, D-MI-14 (Varun Krovi – staff)
  - Tom MacArthur, R-NJ-3 (Justin Durbin – staff)
  - Mark Takai, D-HI (Seanna Pieper Jordan – staff)
  - Rob Wittman, R-VA-1 (Julia Angelotti- staff)

- **Reauthorization Visits**
  - House Committee on Science, Space and Technology (Majority and Minority)
  - House Committee on Science, Space and Technology (Minority)
  - House Committee on Natural Resources (Minority)
  - Senate Commerce Committee (Majority and Minority) and Bill sponsors
  - Alan Lowenthal, D-CA-47, (Rachel Gentile, 2015 Knauss Fellow)
  - Randy Weber, R-TX-14, (Art Suchorzewski, Legislative Director)
  - Jim Bridenstine, R-OK-01, (Christopher Ingraham, Legislative Assistant and Taylor Jordan, Policy Staff, House Science Committee Subcommittee on Environment)
  - Jared Huffman, D-CA-02, (Katie Westfall, 2015 Knauss Fellow)
  - Dan Newhouse, R-WA-04, (Jason Herbert, Legislative Director and Jonas Linde, new fellow covering Education issues)
Upcoming...

• October
  – Performance Review Panels covering 2010-2013 conducted

• Fall/Winter
  – Embark on 20 year Visioning and Strategic Network Planning

• November
  – SGA/Advisory Board Fall Meeting
  – Sea Grant Knauss Finalists Placement week
  – National Working Waterfronts and Waterways Symposium

• December
  – Extension Assembly/Communicators Network Meeting
  – Omnibus Special Award Condition and Supplemental award due

• March 2016
  – SGA Spring meeting

• March 2016 – March 2017 (kick-off during Spring SGA meeting)
  – 50TH Anniversary Celebrations
NSGO Communication

• **Goal**: Effectively demonstrate the need for and value of Sea Grant to key audiences.

  – **Sub-Goals**:
    • Increase network’s national visibility
    • Increase availability of & access to Sea Grant information
    • Enhance communication within network to strengthen collaborations, build unity, and leverage opportunities to build national identity

**Audiences**

1. Decision-makers
2. NOAA/DOC
3. Sea Grant Network
4. Partners
5. Interested Public
Monthly Call for Content, Monthly Calls

• Call for Content every other week
  – Papers
  – Jobs
  – Web story ideas

• Monthly SG Communication Meetings
Website

- Highlight a different program each week through a featured story
- Nimble enough to feature new research and events as they come
- Network announcements on home page
Website Analytics

  - 550/day
  - Visits: 99,920
  - New visits: 67,000
  - Duration: about 3.1 min.
  - Pages/visit: 2.4
- Top pages:
  - Home page
  - Fellowships/Jobs page
  - Knauss page
Social Media

• Allows us to gather information about our programs as they receive it

• Twitter: 11.5K

• Facebook: 2.1K
Building Partnerships in NOAA

Wittman Plan

• OBJECTIVE 2—Build NOAA Partnerships
• Increase Sea Grant’s value to NOAA by demonstrating that
  – Sea Grant is a partnership that facilitates NOAA access to university research, outreach and education expertise, and
  – the Sea Grant partnership is crucial to the success of NOAA’s mission.
Questions?