Sea Grant Mourns the Loss of Florida Sea Grant Director Karl Havens

With sadness, we share that Florida Sea Grant Director Dr. Karl Havens passed away at his home on Friday, April 29, 2019 from cardiac-related issues. He was 61.

From the announcement by Florida Sea Grant:
Havens was a leading international expert on aquatic research, management, education and outreach. His area of expertise included the response of lakes and estuaries to natural and human-caused impacts such as nutrient enrichment, drought, climate variability and hurricanes.

"Karl was a visionary who could help others see as well. He often did it with photographs. He always did it with the excitement in his voice when he talked about science," said Jack Payne, UF senior vice president for agriculture and natural resources.

"His passion was a great contribution to science because he inspired others to discover, too."

Havens was named interim director of Florida Sea Grant in 2007 and director in 2008. His achievements include the creation of the biennial Florida Sea Grant Coastal Science Symposium, the formation of the program’s first advisory council in 2009, and the leadership of the university’s oyster recovery team that addressed the collapse of the commercial oyster fishery in Apalachicola Bay.

Karl is survived by his wife, Pam, and son, Andrew as well as other extended family members. Cards for Karl’s family may be sent c/o Florida Sea Grant Bldg 803 McCarty Drive PO Box 110400 Gainesville, FL 32611-0400. In lieu of flowers, Karl’s family asks that donations be made to the Down Syndrome Foundation of Florida.

Also see the Florida Sea Grant Facebook Tribute

GLANSIS Map Explorer Launched to Track Great Lakes Invaders

The Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System (GLANSIS) is a user-friendly information portal designed specifically for the Great Lakes basin, using verified reports to document the spread of non-native species. It was developed with contributions from many partners, including Michigan Sea Grant.
The shorelines of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario are a dynamic, ever-evolving environment. The region is continuously affected by hydrologic and climatic forces, as well as human development. The new booklet developed by New York Sea Grant is intended to give New York's coastal landowners an introduction to a number of shoreline management options available for Great Lakes shorelines.

Download the Booklet

Farther Inland than One Might Expect, Virginia Sea Grant-funded Student Studies Eels

Even though the reintroduction of eels to inland streams began within the last few years, brook trout and eels have a long history of coexistence. Before manmade dams blocked eel migration, eels spent the middle portion of their lives far upstream in freshwater with brook trout before making the journey back to the sea to spawn. Even though eels have inhabited these ecosystems before, many aspects of their life, including their impact on other animals, remains unknown.

Full Story

Sea Grant Participated in #CitSciDay

Sea Grant programs and many other partners participated in the fourth annual Citizen Science Day, or #CitSciDay in social media speak. The day brings awareness to the contributions made by citizen scientists around the world. It also invites people to participate as volunteer citizen scientists.

#CitSciDay on Twitter
More on Citizen Science Day
Sea Grant's Vision for Citizen Science
Hawai‘i Sea Grant Launches Coastal and Marine Resource Management Fellowship Program

In honor of Emeritus Professor E. Gordon Grau, the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program’s (Hawai‘i Sea Grant) visionary former director, a unique graduate student fellowship is being launched in his name.

The E. Gordon Grau Coastal and Marine Resource Management Fellowship Program (Grau Fellowship) will provide talented students focusing on coastal or marine science, policy, or management the unique opportunity to obtain relevant policy experience in Hawai‘i.

Learn More

Funding and Career Opportunities

Funding Opportunity for Highly Migratory Species Research Now Open: Sea Grant is announcing a Federal Funding Opportunity focused on research of HMS species, including the interactions between yellow-fin tuna and oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, to address critical gaps in knowledge about HMS in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean regions. Letters of intent are due May 15, 2019, and full proposals are due June 19, 2019. More Info

The NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) is soliciting ocean exploration proposals to address knowledge gaps, support growth in the Nation’s Blue Economy and/or contribute to Seabed 2030 goals. The deadline for the pre-proposal submission is May 24, 2019. More Info

NIFA USDA Smith-Lever Grants Competition: This grant program supports innovative, education-based projects that address disaster or emergency preparedness and specific responses related to natural and human-made disasters. The deadline for grant applications is May 28, 2019. Applications may only be submitted by 1862 Land-grant Institutions in the 50 states and the U.S. territories, American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. More Info

News from Our Partners

NOAA Names Michael Rubino as Senior Advisor for Seafood Strategy: NOAA Fisheries announced the appointment of Dr. Michael Rubino as the agency’s new Senior Advisor for Seafood Strategy. NOAA has established this new senior level position to support the agency’s strategic focus on seafood production and aquaculture. In this new role, Dr. Rubino will lead the development of markets for United States fisheries products—both wild capture and farmed—and facilitate new and expanded domestic aquaculture production. Full Story

EPA Recreation Economy for Rural Communities: Is your community interested in leveraging outdoor recreation to bring investment and people to Main Street? EPA’s Office of Community Revitalization, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Northern Border Regional Commission are offering planning assistance through the new Recreation Economy for Rural Communities program. Partner communities will work with a planning team to foster environmentally friendly community development and Main Street revitalization through the sustainable use of forests or other natural resources. The application deadline is May 31, 2019. Learn more about the program, get the application form and see additional FAQs.

Hawaii Sea Grant Welcomes New (cute, tiny) Staff

Lisa Medeiros of Hawaii Sea Grant recently
gave birth to healthy twin boys. Congratulations!

The adorable duo have nicknames that were given to them by Hawaii Sea Grant Director Darren Lerner. World, meet Sea Grant 1 and Sea Grant 2!