NSF-NIEHS Oceans & Human Health Center- General Announcements-FYI

Last updated 11-15-05

Note: In order to reduce the amount of announcements and informational emails, we will be posting general announcements on this page (as we receive them, without any special formatting). Links or contact information will be provided in lieu of attachments. Please check back weekly for new announcements. Also, for your convenience please search for "ASAP" or "due" to jump straight to time-sensitive announcements. **Also, this DOES NOT replace announcements in the "Events" page, please make sure to visit the "Events" page periodically http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/groups/ohh/events/events.htm.**

Thank you!

1) SCCC Molecular Analysis Core announces improved Real Time PCR service and updated LightCycler instrument with LightCycler 4.0 software. New software provides new possibilities in the real time PCR analysis and offers a novel approach to performing all analysis or customizing your assays.

Format Detection (dyes)
Sybr Green I, Hybridization Probes, Hydrolysis Probes (including TaqMan probes).

Analysis Module Options all automated with integrated modules

QUANTIFICATIONS

1 Absolute Quantification calculates the concentration of Target DNA in unknownsamples based on concentration of known standard samples
2 Relative Quantification (mono- or dual colors) compares the ratio of two PCRproducts (target and reference) in the unknown samples to the ratio of the same twoPCR products in the calibrator (control group). Result is automatically expressedas a Normalized Ratio.
3. Qualitative Detection module determines whether a target DNA is present inunknown samples (positive or negative) suitable for fast screenings.
MELTING CURVE ANALYAS
3 Melting Curve (Tm) calling automatically calculates melting temperature,melting peaks to identify characteristic melting profiles of differentPCR products
4 Genotyping analysis automatically groups samples with similar meltingprofiles together and identifies each separate group as a genotype.

For further information please contact Vesna at 305 243-8143 orvjurecic@med.miami.edu.

Roland Jurecic, Ph.D.Associate Professor Department of Microbiology and Immunology Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer CenterUniversity of Miami Miller School of Medicine Pap Bldg. 403, R-138 1550 NW 10thAvenue, Miami, FL 33136Office: 305-243-6002 FAX: 305-243-4409

Dear all,

SCCC Molecular Analysis Core announces reduced fees for all services. As ofNovember 14, 2005 fees for sequencing, fragment analysis and Real Time PCR analysiswill be reduced (please see tables below).

SERVICE	RATE	SCC MEMBERS
DNA SequencingFull service	$12.50	$10.00 DNA Sequencing"ready to run"
	40% off	40% off DNA SequencingVolume discount 10% off of 30 or more samples
	10% off	
10% off Fragment Analysis	$12.50	$10.00 Real Time PCR
	$ 7.50	$ 5.0 Real Time PCR "ready to load"
	40% off	40% off Real Time PCR Volume discount 10% off of 50 or more samples
	10% off	

DNA Sequencing User receives by e-mail sequence read in 'text' file and chromogram/electropherogram in "pdf" file easy to open in Acrobat Reader program.Turn around time 1-2 working days.

"Ready to run" samples should be labeled with Beckman CEQ(tm) DTCS Quick Start Kit,clean and resuspended in Sample Loading buffer according to the protocol.

For details please see attached DNA Sequencing Request Form.

Real time PCR

Real time PCR "ready to load" samples: mixture of a buffer, polymerase with primers (and Probes) in sterile water and DNA ready to load in capillaries and runprogram. Program and method should be arranged and scheduled in advance.

For details please see attached Real Time PCR Request Form.

For further information please contact Vesna at 305 243-8143 orvjurecic@med.miami.edu.

Sincerely

Roland

Roland Jurecic, Ph.D.Associate Professor Department of Microbiology and Immunology Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer CenterUniversity of Miami Miller School of Medicine Pap Bldg. 403, R-138 1550 NW 10thAvenue, Miami, FL 33136Office: 305-243-6002 FAX: 305-243-4409

---

2) From: Otis Brown [mailto:obrown@miami.edu]Sent: Tue 11/8/2005 5:31 PMTo: Research Directors; Ivy Kupec; Ellen PragerCc: Brown, Otis B.Subject: Fwd: American Bar Association position on the Oceans

FYI...an article from Jay Carmichael, who used to be the CO of the 7th District.Note the three recommendations...Otis

SAVING THE SEAS

ABA Urges Government to Take Steps to Protect the Nation's Ocean Resources

RHONDA McMILLION

This column is written by the ABA Governmental Affairs Office and discusses advocacy efforts by the ABA relating to issues being addressed by Congress and the executive branch of the federal government.

THE ABA IS URGING CONGRESS and President Bush to adopt a new national oceans policy to protect the nation's marine resources and to enhance the U.S. role in international initiatives on the issue.

The United States controls more than 4 million square miles of ocean and related activities that provide benefits valued at $117 billion to the U.S. economy and create more than 2 million jobs.

"Congress has not comprehensively reviewed the nation's oceans policies in over 30 years, and it needs to, both legally and substantively," says Robin K. Craig, a professor at Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis who chairs the Marine Resources Committee in the ABA Section of Environment, Energy and Resources. She co-wrote three recommendations on oceans policy that were approved in August by the ABA House of Delegates.

Craig says U.S. marine resources are administered by 11 of the 15 Cabinet-level departments, resulting in a "myriad of poorly coordinated and sometimes contradictory laws and policies." Because of the divergent interests involved, she says, Congress is unlikely to comprehensively address oceans policy unless the ABA and other strong neutral voices urge it to do so.

The three ABA recommendations were sponsored by the Standing Committee on Environmental Law. The first urges Congress to pass legislation designating a single federal agency to develop a national oceans policy to protect the integrity of marine ecosystems and ensure ecologically sustainable use and development of marine resources. That position is consistent with recent recommendations issued by the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission.

The second ABA recommendation urges Congress to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act to ensure continued viability of commercially and recreationally important fish stocks. The policy also recommends eliminating subsidies and legal procedures that encourage overfishing; funding programs to improve knowledge of living marine resources; and creating a statutory, scientifically supported national system of marine protected areas.

The third ABA recommendation urges the U.S. to promote international efforts to protect the oceans and their resources. This includes U.S. ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

"Two separate distinguished panels have concluded that the oceans are in peril and that major legal restructuring is long overdue in order to address this situation," says R. Kinnan Golemon of Austin, Texas, who chairs the Standing Committee on Environmental Law.

ACTION ON THE WATER FRONT

IN DECEMBER 2004, PRESIDENT BUSH ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE order establishing the Committee on Ocean Policy as part of the Council on Environmental Quality to improve the internal management of federal activities in ocean-related matters. The administration also announced its intent to seek passage of legislation that would codify the establishment and purposes of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Several bills aimed at restructuring NOAA are pending in Congress. They include proposals to reorganize NOAA as a part of the Department of Commerce and to establish NOAA as an independent agency. ■

Robin Craig: Congress needs to comprehensively address national oceans policy.

ABAJ/DREW ENDICOTT

Rhonda McMillion is editor of Washington Letter, *an ABA Governmental Affairs Office publication.*

(3) COE- NAS Recommendations

Please send to entire ohh group including directors and rice/tyson

The American Institute of Physics Bulletin of Science Policy News Number 157:November 4, 2005

Recommendations from New National Academies Report

"Rising Above the Gathering Storm," the new report from the National Academies,lays out 20 specific actions the federal government should take to ensure America'seconomic leadership and ability to compete in the 21st century. These actions are listed below. The report includes, in an appendix, "back of the envelope" costestimates for implementing its recommendations; costs for the entire package ofproposals could range from about $9 billion to over $20 billion annually. FYIs #155 and #156 provided additional information on the report and on indicators thatthe U.S.'s global competitiveness may be declining; a future FYI will provideadditional information on the report's release and related congressional hearings.

The report, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America fora Brighter Economic Future," runs approximately 150 pages plus a lengthy series ofappendices. It can be ordered, or read online, at the following web site:http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11463.html . The recommendations are summarized in the Executive Summary, which can be found at http://www.nap.edu/execsumm_pdf/11463.pdf . The report's recommendations follow:

10,000 TEACHERS, 10 MILLION MINDS IN K-12 SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

"Recommendation A: Increase America's talent pool by vastly improving K-12 scienceand mathematics education."

"Action A-1: Annually recruit 10,000 science and mathematics teachers by awarding4-year scholarships and thereby educating 10 million minds." The program would"award competitive 4-year scholarships for...bachelor's degrees in the physical orlife sciences, engineering, or mathematics with concurrent certification as K-12science and mathematics teachers...and require a commitment to 5 years of servicein public K-12 schools."

"Action A-2: Strengthen the skills of 250,000 teachers through training andeducation programs at summer institutes, in master's programs, and AdvancedPlacement and International Baccalaureate (AP and IB) training programs and thusinspire students every day."This item includes establishing a national panel to "develop rigorous K-12materials that would be available free of charge as a voluntary nationalcurriculum."

"Action A-3: Enlarge the pipeline by increasing the number of students who take APand IB science and mathematics courses...from
1.2 million to 4.5 million" by 2010. "Student incentives for success would include 50% examination fee rebates and $100 mini-scholarships for each passing score on anAP or IB mathematics and science examination."

The committee also proposes "expansion of two additional approaches...that arealready in use": Statewide specialty high schools, and Inquiry-based learningthrough summer internships and research opportunities for students.

SOWING THE SEEDS THROUGH SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH

"Recommendation B: Sustain and strengthen the nation's traditional commitment tolong-term basic research that has the potential to be transformational to maintainthe flow of new ideas that fuel the economy, provide security, and enhance thequality of life."

"Action B-1: Increase the federal investment in long-term basic research by 10% ayear over the next 7 years, through reallocation of existing funds or if necessarythrough the investment of new funds. Special attention should go to the physicalsciences, engineering, mathematics, and information sciences," but this "specialattention does not mean...a disinvestment in such important fields as the lifesciences."

"Action B-2: Provide new research grants of $500,000 each annually, payable over 5years, to 200 of our most outstanding early-career researchers...to underwrite newresearch opportunities at universities and government laboratories."

"Action B-3: Institute a National Coordination Office for Research Infrastructure to manage a centralized research-infrastructure fund of $500 million per year overthe next 5 years."

"Action B-4: Allocate at least 8% of the budgets of federal research agencies todiscretionary funding that would be managed by technical program managers...and befocused on catalyzing high-risk, high-payoff research."

"Action B-5: Create in the Department of Energy (DOE) an organization like theDefense Advanced Research Projects Agency(DARPA) called the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)," with thedirector reporting to the under secretary for science, that would sponsor creative"out-of-the-box" generic energy R&D "to meet the nation's long-term energychallenges."

"Action B-6: Institute a Presidential Innovation Award to stimulate scientific and engineering advances in the national interest."

BEST AND BRIGHTEST IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING HIGHER EDUCATION

"Recommendation C: Make the United States the most attractive setting in which tostudy and perform research so that we can develop, recruit, and retain the best andbrightest students, scientists, and engineers from within the United States andthroughout the world."
"Action C-1: Increase the number and proportion of US citizens who earn physical-sciences, life-sciences, engineering, and mathematics bachelor's degrees by providing 25,000 new 4-year competitive undergraduate scholarships each year to US citizens attending US institutions." The scholarships, of up to $20,000 annually, "would be distributed to states on the basis of the size of their congressional delegations and awarded on the basis of national examinations."

"Action C-2: Increase the number of US citizens pursuing graduate study in 'areas of national need' by funding 5,000 new graduate fellowships each year," of up to $20,000 annually, administered by NSF.

"Action C-3: Provide a federal tax credit to encourage employers to make continuing education available (either internally or through colleges and universities) to practicing scientists and engineers"

to enable career-long learning and retraining for new job market demands.

"Action C-4: Continue to improve visa processing for international students and scholars," including improvements in visa categories and duration, reciprocity, travel to scientific meetings, and the technology alert list.

"Action C-5: Provide a 1-year automatic visa extension to international students who receive doctorates or the equivalent in...fields of national need at qualified US institutions to remain in the United States to seek employment." Students who are offered jobs by US-based employers and pass a security screening test "should be provided automatic work permits and expedited residence status."

"Action C-6: Institute a new skills-based, preferential immigration option" so that candidates with doctoral-level education or science and engineering skills would receive "priority in obtaining US citizenship" and, in the interim, increase the number of H-1B visas by 10,000.

"Action C-7: Reform the current system of 'deemed exports'" so that "international students and researchers engaged in fundamental research" in US industrial, academic, and national laboratories receive access to information and research equipment "comparable with the access provided to US citizens." Additionally, items (information and equipment) that are "available for purchase on the overseas open market" or "that have manuals that are available in the public domain" should be removed from the deemed-exports technology list.

INCENTIVES FOR INNOVATION AND THE INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

"Recommendation D: Ensure that the United States is the premier place in the world to innovate; invest in downstream activities such as manufacturing and marketing; and create high-paying jobs that are based on innovation by modernizing the patent system, realigning tax policies to encourage innovation, and ensuring affordable broadband access."

"Action D-1: Enhance intellectual-property protection for the 21st century global economy" through reform of the patent system by:

providing sufficient resources to the Patent and Trademark Office; switching to a"first-inventor-to-file" system with administrative review after a patent isgranted; shielding research uses of patented inventions from infringementliability; and changing intellectual-property laws that act as barriers toinnovation.

"Action D-2: Enact a stronger research and development tax credit to encourageprivate investment in innovation."

"Action D-3: Provide tax incentives for United States-based innovation."

"Action D-4: Ensure ubiquitous broadband Internet access."

4) ASAP- Letters Needed!

-----Original Message-----**From:** Don Anderson [mailto:danderson@whoi.edu] **Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2005 4:35 PM **Cc:** Schaff, Terry **Subject:** Letters needed

Greetings:

This message is being sent to you as a member of the US HAB community. I have tried to remove the names of all federal employees. Please take the time to read this, and to respond to this request for help.

We have another funding crisis in Washington - one that is affecting not only HAB research, but many other areas of coastal ocean science as well. Basically, we thought we were well positioned after the House and Senate committees set their budgets for NOAA earlier this year, but the conferees emerged from the House/Senate conference committee meeting with a budget that dramatically cuts extramural research programs within the NOS. This caught everyone off guard, as was the case several years ago. NOAA was level funded compared to last year ($3.9B), but there were substantial changes in the program allocations. Essentially all NOAA extramural programs, with the exception of the Office of Global Programs, were substantially reduced. In addition, many NOAA base programs were cut, some of which provide substantial funding for external science programs. Here are the details.

Funds for extramural research through NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) were reduced to $10 million from $13.1M last year. Also, the Ocean Assessment Base was cut to $8.3M from $22.3M last year. It is of note that $11M of that $22.3M was used for extramural research last year - and much of that (~$9M) for HABs. The total cut to extramural research is thus about $17M. These cuts will dramatically affect HABs (ECOHAB, MERHAB, etc), as well as work on hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico, GLOBEC, Ecological forecasting, and so forth.
What can we do? At this stage, letters or calls to congressional delegations may not accomplish a lot, but we do want to keep them informed. First and foremost, the extramural research community needs to let NOAA headquarters (Admiral Lautenbacher) know that we care about extramural research and its importance to NOAA's mission, and that we need him to be flexible and constructive in his budgeting. Some of you may recall how we wrote letters of this type several years ago when HAB funds were diverted internally within NOAA. The outpouring of letters did make a difference - then and in the years that followed.

Appended below is a draft of a letter that I hope you will modify and then send to the admiral yourself. His e-mail address is <conrad.c.lautenbacher@noaa.gov >. A copy should go to Scott Rayder, his chief of staff <scott.rayder@noaa.gov>. You may want to send a copy of your message to your contacts in your congressional delegations. We plan to notify some of the Massachusetts staff of what we are doing (i.e., email a copy of our letters to Lautenbacher). At the least, this will set the stage for us to work with those delegations to rectify the problem so this does not happen again next year.

As for timing - this should be done right away. My letter went out yesterday, and I know the hypoxia community is sending theirs in right now. NOAA will begin working on their budgets immediately, so the sooner they hear that there are alternatives they should be considering, the better.

Thank you in advance for your efforts on behalf of us all.

Don Anderson

A draft letter might take the following general form:

Dear Admiral Lautenbacher:

I am writing to express my concern about the cuts made to NOAA's budget by the House and Senate conferees. I and my colleagues are particularly concerned about the cuts to extramural HAB research through NCCOS. These cuts put major, ongoing programs at risk, and will dramatically constrain the funding of new projects and the continuation of others. This will also reduce ability of the external research community to respond to events such as the massive New England PSP outbreak earlier this year, or the long-lasting bloom of Karenia along the Florida coast, or the red tide that is happening right now in the central Gulf of Mexico that may close the winter oyster fishery like it did in winter 1996-7. (****Or describe your most relevant HAB problem*****)

We understand that this is a difficult budget year, but hope that you can find some way to rectify this situation. I encourage you to carefully examine NOAA programs within the Ocean and Coastal Management line to clearly identify and set aside appropriate funds for extramural, competitive, peer-reviewed research. The need for extramural research was clearly identified in the most recent review of the NOAA science programs, and we know you care deeply about strengthening ties between NOAA and the academic community. We hope you take this opportunity to work within your budget to keep extramural research a vibrant and productive element in NOAA's coastal ocean programs.

Best regards,

********** Donald M. Anderson Senior Scientist Director - Coastal Ocean Institute Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Biology Department Mail Stop 32, Redfield 332 Woods Hole MA 02543-1049 USA

E-Mail: danderson@whoi.edu lab web: http://www.whoi.edu/redtide/labweb/ COI web: http://www.whoi.edu/institutes/coi/ Voice: 1 508 289 2351 Fax: 1 508 457-2027 Cell: 1 508 525 5777
****

5) Coastal Management Journal, Call for Student Papers Due 2-1-06!

For all OHH including Directors and Dr Linda Farmer

From: otis@rrsl.rsmas.miami.edu on behalf of Coastal Management JournalSent: Mon 10/24/2005 8:50 PMTo: Various Subject: Coastal Management Journal, Call for Student

Papers

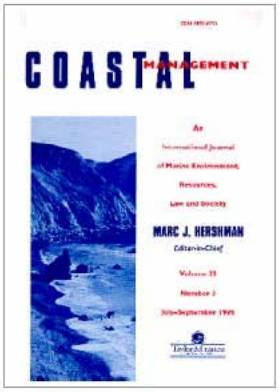
Greetings from Coastal Management! Please circulate the attached announcementregarding student submissions to the journal for our annual Student Issue, 34(4).This is an excellent opportunity for students to publish an outstanding paper orthe results of a research project in the filed of marine affairs, coastalmanagement, marine policy, marine education, coastal tourism and recreation, etc.

Thank you very much! **if you have any questions, please email me atcoastjnl@u.washington.edu.**
Best Regards,

Dianna Jones

Dianna Jones Assistant to the Editor Coastal Management Journal

coastjnl@u.washington.edu206-685-2170; 543-1417 (fax)



COASTAL MANAGEMENT JOURNAL

AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES, LAW AND SOCIETY

Call For Student Submissions

Since it's beginning in 1973, the *Coastal Management Journal* has been a leading forum for presenting research results and policy dialogue applicable to the coastal zone. In an effort to encourage students to publicize their research, the Student Editorial Board is asking for submissions to the student section of Issue No. 4 of Vol. 34. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the field of marine affairs.

SUBMISSIONS:

Papers pertaining to the field of coastal management that emphasize emerging topics, management models, original research, etc. are welcomed. The Journal's current areas of focus include: ocean policy, biodiversity in the coastal environment, seaport and waterfront management and planning, coastal hazards management and sea level rise, coastal tourism, coastal law and administration, water quality in the coastal environment, and international coastal zone management. The Student Editorial Board also encourages submissions on other marine-related topics.

- Manuscripts should be 5-20 double-spaced pages.
- (1) electronic copy of each manuscript/abstract should be submitted to the Student Editorial Board, *Coastal Management*, School of Marine Affairs, University of Washington, 3707 Brooklyn Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105-6715. Please include your name, address, phone and fax numbers, e-mail address and institutional affiliation. *Please send submissions to coastjnl@u.washington.edu*
- Submissions must be made by **February 1, 2006.** Early submissions are strongly encouraged.
- Submissions will be reviewed by experts in the field and selected for publication by the Student Editorial Board.
- Selected papers will be published in Issue No. 4 of Volume 34, appearing late in 2006.

If you have any questions, e-mail coastjnl@u.washington.edu.

For more information and a listing of recent student publications, check out the CMJ website at: http://depts.washington.edu/coastjnl/.