

Saltwater News

A Monthly Newsletter for UNH Marine Program Faculty, Staff and Students
January 2007, Volume 6, Number 1

From The Director

Update on the Newcastle Pier Demolition



Demolition of the old Coast Guard Pier in New Castle is now approximately 75% complete. The contractor has completed removal of the old decking and is now removing the rock and timbers associated with the supporting 'crib' infrastructure. They hope to complete the demolition phase of the project in the next 1-2 weeks. Much of the demolition material is being reused or recycled. For example, Usable timbers, primarily those from the fender system and the under-pier wave screen are being salvaged for reuse; the concrete deck is being incorporated into a permitted gravel pit reclamation project in Eliot, Maine; stone ballast from the timber cribs is being reused (half is being used at a permitted bridge replacement project in York, Maine and the other half will be reused or stockpiled for reuse at an as yet undetermined location); larger steel pipes and beams are being salvaged by the contractor for reuse (primarily in temporary work platforms); and the contractor is developing much goodwill by allowing local fishermen and other marine folks to scavenge some of remaining materials. Hopefully, initial steps for the construction of the new pier will be undertaken in the next month.

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The **Undergraduate Research Conference (URC)** is scheduled for the week of April 23 - 28, 2007. As has been the case for the last few years, there are several different events for our students to participate in. I particularly want to encourage participation in the **'Interdisciplinary**

**Science and Engineering Symposium (ISE)**' that will be hosted in Morse Hall on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00PM. This event will provide an opportunity for students working in marine science and ocean engineering to present their research in a single forum. Additional opportunities for presentation include the Vice-President for Research & Public Service event on Friday and the COLSA Symposium on Saturday.

Faculty, we hope that you will strongly encourage your undergraduate students involved in projects and research to register to participate in this conference. Students must register by March 9<sup>th</sup>. Please direct your students to the URC website, [www.unh.edu/urc/](http://www.unh.edu/urc/), for more information.

## Faculty News

The Marine Program and the Sociology Department welcome new Assistant Professor, **Thomas Safford, PhD** who comes to UNH from the NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) in Charleston, SC. While he was with CSC he worked on a number of projects that generated social science data and tools to support coastal management. During this same time frame he spent 6 months on a rotational assignment with NMFS at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle. As a post-doctoral fellow at CSC from 2004-2006, he completed projects in:

- The development of a social science research plan for NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) in collaboration with the NOS social science team.
- An assessment of stakeholder involvement and socioeconomic trends to support restoration efforts in the Deschutes Estuary in Olympia, WA.
- A survey of coastal and emergency managers regarding the use of storm surge models and forecast data to support land use planning and emergency response.

Here at UNH Tom's initial research will focus on analyzing institutional and organizational factors affecting the integration of water management and salmon recovery efforts across the Puget Sound Basin. This is a collaborative project with social scientists at the NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle. Welcome Tom!

## Student News

**Glen Rice**, an M.S. student for Ocean Engineering, not only successfully defended his Master's Thesis in November, but has also been accepted into the NOAA Corps. The NOAA Commissioned Corps Officers are an integral part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Officers can be found operating one of NOAA's 18 ships or 14 aircraft to provide support to meet NOAA's missions. Duties and areas of operations can range from launching a weather balloon at the South Pole, conducting hydrographic or fishery surveys in Alaska, maintaining buoys in the tropical Pacific, to flying snow surveys and into hurricanes. Sea duty is a common thread among the men and women of the NOAA Corps. There is a two-year service obligation after successful completion of a Basic Officer Training Class (BOTC). Glen is headed for his three months of Basic Training Class at the United States Academy in Kings Point, New York and in May will be assigned to a NOAA ship. Congratulations Glen on this wonderful opportunity!

**There is an informal going away party for Glen on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Brick House pub in Dover from 4:00pm until whenever. Please feel free to come and wish Glen congratulations!**

## Sea Grant News

### **Knauss Marine Policy Fellowships Available for Graduate Students**

For over 25 years, the National Sea Grant College Program has been providing graduate students with an interest in marine policy the opportunity to explore this field during yearlong fellowships in and around Washington, DC.

The Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program has matched hundreds of students pursuing degrees in marine science, environmental science, policy, biology, law, engineering, zoology, chemistry, statistics, economics and other fields with positions in federal agencies and programs (NOAA's Climate Change Program, NSF's Biological Opportunity Program, ONR, EPA, etc.) or in congressional office on Capital Hill.

The program is named in honor of one of Sea Grant's founders, former NOAA Administrator John A. Knauss. This year's deadline for applications from graduate students attending institutions in New Hampshire is March

15<sup>th</sup>. Those selected will spend 2008 (2/1/08-1/31/09) as Knauss Fellows.

Any student who is in a graduate or professional degree program in a marine or aquatic-related field at a U.S. accredited institution of higher education is eligible. Each fellow receives a \$33,000 stipend as well as \$7,000 to cover mandatory health insurance and moving expenses.

**For more information, contact NH Sea Grant Director Jonathan Pennock at 603-862-7007 or e-mail him at ([jonathan.pennock@unh.edu](mailto:jonathan.pennock@unh.edu)).**

**Also visit the Sea Grant website for more information at <http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov/knauss/knauss.html>.**

### **Invitation for Preliminary Project Proposals**

NH Sea Grant invites preliminary project proposals for consideration for funding starting in February 2008.

Participation in this RFP is open to faculty and staff of all institutions of higher education and research throughout New Hampshire.

Proposals should address one or more of the marine and coastal issues identified in the *NH Sea Grant Strategic Plan 2007-2011*, which is available in printed form from the New Hampshire Sea Grant office or as a pdf at: [www.seagrants.unh.edu/strategicplan.pdf](http://www.seagrants.unh.edu/strategicplan.pdf).

The broad areas of focus covered in the *Plan* are Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Fisheries Resources, Sustainable Aquaculture, Coastal Ecosystem and Public Health, Coastal Communities and Economics, and Marine and Aquatic Science Literacy.

**The deadline for Preliminary Proposals is March 21, 2007.**

**An informational meeting will be scheduled for early February in the near future.**

For more information please contact Steve Jones at [shj@cisunix.unh.edu](mailto:shj@cisunix.unh.edu), (603)862-5124, or Jonathan Pennock at [jonathan.pennock@unh.edu](mailto:jonathan.pennock@unh.edu), (603)862-7007.

### **Marine Program Potpourri**

**Steve Jones** attended the 2nd International Conference on the Management of Coastal Recreational Resources-Beaches, Yacht Marinas and Coastal Ecotourism, held from October 25-27, 2006 in Gozo, Malta. Steve

presented a scientific talk entitled “Pollution Source Tracking at New Hampshire (USA) Ocean Beaches” which presented research and management actions developed with NHDES in response to the increasing problem of bacterial contamination of our ocean beaches in NH.

Also in Malta two weeks earlier, **Rich Langan** was a speaker at the Offshore Mariculture 2006. The conference aimed to explore the progress and prospects for offshore aquaculture in European and international waters, which culminated in a debate on where the business was heading. The third day of the event participants were brought to visit fish farms around Malta, farming tuna, sea bream and sea bass.

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Our deepest sympathies go to **Meriel Bunker** and her family over the loss of her mother this past December in Maine.

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Congratulations to **Theresa Hamer** who has accepted the position of Manager of the Research BSC, the post vacated by **Chris Whalen** last May. Theresa has served as Senior Business Services Assistant in our Business Service Center since May 2005; prior to that she held a position in the Ocean Process Analysis Lab in EOS. Altogether she’s been on campus almost a decade. Now that’s dedication!!

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In December, **Ken Baldwin** and the Ocean Engineering Program hosted students from the 8th grade class of North Hampton Middle School at the Jere A Chase Ocean Engineering Laboratory to test buoyancy and displacement skills learned in science class. The students brought over 9 different ‘boats’ that they had designed and constructed using various household materials such as cups, foam, plastic containers, PVC pipes, and 2 liter soda bottles.

These unique boats were placed in the COEL deep tank and loaded with 200 lbs of lead (the ‘design load’).

Impressively, every boat succeeded in holding the required weight without capsizing and the students saw first hand the transition of a homework problem to a real life application. The class was also given a tour of the building, including demonstrations with the wave/tow tank and computer simulations.



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**Kathy Mills** joined the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) staff as the research coordinator in January. Kathy is completing her Ph.D. in Natural Resources at Cornell University, and her research focuses on ecological and governance dimensions of ecosystem-based management in the Gulf of Maine. Her M.S. thesis focused on fish communities in estuarine wetlands, with field work in the Hudson River NERR. Kathy earned her B.S. in environmental science and political science from Duke University. In conjunction with her academic pursuits, Kathy has worked with the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Gulf of Maine Council to integrate science into management and policy-making processes.

As the research coordinator, she looks forward to collaborating on research projects that will expand our understanding of the Great Bay ecosystem. She will also work with education programs and management agencies to incorporate scientific information about the bay into public awareness and management initiatives. In addition, she will be working to strengthen the partnership between CICEET and the NERR system nationally so that the NERR sites can more readily adopt advanced technologies and take advantage of cutting-edge opportunities made available through CICEET. Welcome Kathy!

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Reminder: Proposals for the Marine Program Research Development Support Program is Friday, January 26th, 2007. NO LATE PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please contact Linda Wade if you need a copy of the RFP or Cover sheets.