

## **2004 Annual Report**

### ***19th International Biennial Conference***

Over 300 participants gathered in Newport, RI last May to discuss how to measure and assess coastal resources, functions and human impacts, and how to use the assessments to anticipate, fashion and govern our coastal futures. TCS maintained its reputation for provocative presentations through the plenary session on Shifting Baselines; then turned innovative through its live web cast of the session on the US Ocean and Pew Commissions report and responses to them. Other innovations included the first Institute for Future Coastal Leaders, mid-week field trips for all participants, surfing lessons, and hiring a paid conference coordinator. TCS 19 was sponsored by a combination of federal agency, NGO and private industry partners all of which provided additional educational information.

### ***20th International Biennial Conference***

The next conference will be held in 2006 at the Tradewinds Island Resort in St. Pete Beach, FL, from Sunday, May 14 through Wednesday, May 17. The theme and topics will be determined from a survey sent to members in January 2005.

### ***Elections to the TCS Board of Directors***

TCS members elected Kristen Fletcher to a two-year term as TCS President-Elect. Paul Ticco moved into the position of TCS President, and John Duff began a two-year term as Past President. Mo Lynch was elected to a second term as Treasurer. (Secretary Lindsay Fullenkamp continued in the second year of her three-year term.) Two members were elected to the Board of Directors: Bob Goodwin, recently retired from the Washington Sea Grant College Program, and Larry Hildebrand of Environment Canada (reelected). Tom Skinner resigned from the Board and Ruth Kelty was appointed to fill out the remaining year of his term. Ariel Cuschnir was appointed to a two-year term, joining other Board members Tom Bigford, Rick Burroughs, Gib Chase, Laurie Jodice, and Chad Nelsen.

### ***TCS Bulletin Produced Electronically***

After discussion at the Annual Membership Meeting, the Board moved to go to exclusive electronic distribution of the periodical to provide members with more information than possible in the past and to deliver it more quickly. Electronic distribution will also conserve natural and financial resources. Paper copies will still be provided to library and institution members, and to those members who request them.

### ***NOAA Internship Offered to TCS Members***

NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation announced the creation of an annual 2-6 month internship for a TCS member in their Silver Spring, MD office. Work on marine and estuarine habitat protection issues included policy development, resource management, scientific applications, program implementation. Students and recent graduates were especially encouraged to apply. The 2004 internship was awarded to Kimberly Lellis from University of Rhode Island.

### ***Committee Activities***

#### ***Communications Committee***

The committee initiated an effort to gather all past issues of the Bulletin and make them available on-line in .pdf format. A Request for Proposals for editing and publishing the Bulletin for 2005 - 2006 was written and distributed. The Web Site Subcommittee focused on the creation of the conference web site and on maintaining the regular TCS web site.

#### ***Development Committee***

Criteria for accepting conference sponsorships was finalized and a marketing packet for soliciting sponsors was developed and used for TCS 19.

#### ***Education Committee***

Actively participated in the preparation and implementation of the selection and award of travel assistance for students to the conference, and the competitive student presentation and paper awards at the

conference. Initiated contact with institutions that participated at the bi-annual conference to encourage development of "internship programs" for students. With the help of the Membership Committee developed a procedure for forming a chapter and a sample memorandum of understanding with TCS, and in May welcomed the new University of Rhode Island Student Chapter to TCS. Initiated contact with La Plata University (Argentina) and University of Panama (Rep of Panama) for the potential creation of a Student Chapter.

#### *Membership Committee*

The committee focused throughout 2004 on developing a plan to attract new members, retain existing members, and provide the necessary services to meet member objectives that include career growth, networking, education, professional development, resource management, and more. The idea of an overall plan was discussed at TCS19 last May and took shape as the Committee prepared a draft outline last fall. Our schedule now is to expand the outline into a complete implementation plan by mid 2005. The plan will likely draw on TCS committees working on education and communication, will seek TCS members to assist the Board of Directors with implementation, and will include both interim and long-term goals. The Committee, and the full Board of Directors, is seeking to maintain our current balance of Society size, member services from our main office and Executive Director, and overall benefits.

Membership as of January 1, 2004 = 351

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