



TCS Annual Report
2021

Message from the President

Dear TCS Member,

For The Coastal Society, 2021 was a year in which we operated with cautious optimism, as our workplaces and educational institutions sought to gradually increase in-person activities, supported by the roll-out of vaccines. However, given additional spikes in COVID cases, we continued to host coastal career workshops in a safe and widely accessible virtual or “hybrid” format. We also continued our Coastal Connections web conferencing series and were happy to support two of our student chapters in launching an American Shoreline Podcast series.

Building on a 2020 initiative to encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), we developed a five-year DEI strategic plan, a member diversity survey, and a Bystander Toolkit for recognizing and addressing discriminatory behavior; these are now available on the TCS website. Further, we teamed with The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) to facilitate web-based educational sessions focused on engaging Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to help address racial and socio-cultural disparities in the fields of ocean and coastal science.

TCS finances improved in 2021 thanks to a dedicated group of members who coordinated with some generous partners, along with some key individual contributions. However, we seek additional volunteers to maintain our programs and improve member benefits. Therefore, I ask you to invite at least one friend or colleague to join TCS this year and consider a more active role in one of our committees. Help steer our course in 2022!



Sincerely,

Steven MacLeod
TCS President
April 1, 2022

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Cover image: Claude Monet – Regatta at Sainte-Adresse, 1867 (wikiart.org)

TCS Leadership

The 2021 Board of Directors included the following individuals:

Past-President:	Caitlyn McCrary
President:	Steven MacLeod
Treasurer:	Chris Katalinas
Secretary:	Avery Siciliano
Directors:	Tom Bigford, Jeff Flood, Ashley Gordon, Tricia Hooper, Lisa Kim (beginning March 2021), Eugene (Geno) Olmi, Adrian Laufer, Matt Nixon (until February 2021), Emily Patroliia

In 2021 TCS did not have a President-Elect, so the board approved Steve MacLeod's re-appointment to the position of President for 2022. Matt Nixon resigned from the board in February 2021, so the board appointed Lisa Kim to complete Mr. Nixon's term as a Director (through December 2022). Tom Bigford, Emily Patroliia, and Tricia Hooper completed their terms as Directors in 2021, and TCS elected Kelly Dobroski, Alexis Maxwell, and Andrew Wilson to serve as new Directors in 2022. Tricia Hooper was elected as President-Elect for 2022. Avery Siciliano completed her term as Secretary in 2021, but she has agreed to continue as Secretary in 2022 until a new Secretary is appointed.

The board continued to be supported by TCS's Executive Director, Judy Tucker. Board members served on and were supported by several committees. 2021 Committee Chairs included Tom Bigford and Jeff Flood (Development and M.A.D. Coastal Career Development Program Co-Chairs), Kim Grubert and Meg Reed (Chapters Co-Chairs), Nicole Rodi (Communications Chair), and Tricia Hooper (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair). More background and contact information for current [board members and committee chairs](#) can be found on the TCS website.

Student Chapters

TCS was pleased to continue its affiliation with [six student chapters](#), which serve as a nexus for undergraduate and graduate students who are helping to advance the Society's mission by fostering dialogue, supporting career development, and

conducting local activities such as beach clean-ups. We especially recognize the initiative taken by members of the Duke University and East Carolina University to launch the [All Swell? Podcast](#), in coordination with the American Shoreline Podcast Network, to explore ocean and coastal issues and showcase those leading the way in developing solutions. We further highlight the efforts by the University of Rhode Island and Duke University Chapters in hosting coastal career workshops in 2021 (discussed further below).

The colleges and universities at which these chapters operate are listed below with the primary points of contact for the respective chapters as of December 2021:

- **Duke University**, President: Eva May
- **East Carolina University***, President: Genevieve Guerry
- **Eckerd College**, President: Allana Crawford
- **University of North Carolina - Wilmington**, President: Bryan Dadson
- **Oregon State University**, President: Marie Heuberger
- **University of Rhode Island**, President: Katie Urbanski

Unfortunately, the Oregon State University chapter voted to dis-affiliate with TCS in 2021 as they focus on their association with other non-profit organizations that are dedicated to fish and wildlife issues. TCS is exploring options for new TCS chapter at OSU and other colleges and universities, with an emphasis on establishing a chapter at a minority serving institution.

** We extend our sympathies to the ECU student chapter for the tragic loss of a young TCS member and friend, Anja Sjostrom, in early 2022.*

Annual Membership Meeting

TCS hosted its third virtual annual meeting on April 8, 2021. Using Zoom, the TCS board and other members joined a video conference to highlight the state of the Society, including student chapter activities, and to recognize TCS leaders. The virtual platform allowed members to join the meeting comfortably and safely in the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and without the expense of traveling to an out-of-town venue.

During the meeting, TCS honored several members with the following awards:

- Outstanding Service Award – Rick DeVoe
- Distinguished Service Award – Tricia Hooper
- Robert W. Knecht Award for Professional Promise – Emily Patroliia
- President’s Award – Tom Bigford

During the annual meeting, we also announced the winners of the TCS 2020-21 virtual student poster competition. The contest was open to all TCS members who wished to present work performed while they were enrolled in an academic program between June 1, 2019, and April 2, 2021. Nicole Pehl was awarded the Thomas E. Bigford award for Best Student Poster, with a \$250 cash prize. Ellis Kalaidjian received a \$100 cash prize for the second-place entry. Further details are available at the [Student Poster Award Program](#) web page on the TCS website.

**Please mark your calendars for the 2022 TCS annual membership meeting on
Wednesday, April 13th from 4 to 6 PM (Eastern) via Zoom.**

Margaret A. Davidson Coastal Career Development Program Workshops

In 2021, TCS continued to honor the late Margaret A. Davidson (M.A.D.) by hosting another five career workshops in her name. Margaret was a TCS luminary who mentored and befriended many of today’s coastal leaders. The workshops, designed by TCS and typically coordinated with partner organizations and events, were developed to benefit the next generation of coastal practitioners, from university students to early-career professionals.

In the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, TCS refined its processes for planning and conducting virtual sessions as well as experimenting with “hybrid” events that allowed for both in-person and online participation. We also broadened our approach to include more speakers from diverse backgrounds and tailored workshop topics to the interests and regional characteristics of the partnering institutions. Workshop formats in 2021 were varied to meet needs of the

participants and reflected the creative thinking of our M.A.D. Coastal Career Development Committee and partners.

The 2021 workshops were hosted on the following dates:

- **April 27, 2021 (Virtual Workshop)** in partnership with the Atlantic Estuarine Research Society during their joint spring meeting with the New England Estuarine Research Society.
- **May 18, 2021 (Virtual Workshop)** in partnership with the TCS Student Chapter at University of Rhode Island.
- **June 29 & 30, 2021 (Virtual Workshop)** in partnership with Oregon Sea Grant and Oregon State University.
- **November 16, 2021 (Hybrid - Virtual and East Lansing, MI)** in partnership with Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.
- **December 3, 2021 (Virtual)** in partnership with the TCS Student Chapter at Duke University.

Please read more about these workshops in the TCS Blog post [HERE](#).

We thank our 2021 workshop sponsors, including: Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (via the Virginia Institute of Marine Science), Michael DeLuca, Earth Resources Technology, Oregon Sea Grant (via Oregon State University), Washington Sea Grant (via the University of Washington), Michigan State University, Geodynamics, Inlet Inn (Beaufort, NC). Lynker Technologies also contributed in 2021 to sponsor workshops in 2022.

In 2022, TCS plans to host several more virtual career workshops, and possibly an in-person event in late 2022. Please visit the [M.A.D. Coastal Career Development Program](#) page on the TCS website for more information on recent and pending workshops. Note that TCS members are eligible for free or discounted rates depending on the session fee and sponsorship arrangements.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives

TCS advanced its commitment to a pro-diversity, anti-racist agenda in 2021, culminating in Board approval of a 2022 to 2027 [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion \(DEI\) Strategic Plan](#). In support of this strategic plan, the TCS DEI Working Group developed a demographic survey to establish a baseline on the demographics and diversity of our membership, as well as a TCS Bystander Toolkit with resources for members to identify and safely intervene if they witness discriminatory or harassing behavior. With this information, we hope members will feel empowered to help maintain a safe and supportive environment in TCS and in their communities. Please visit the new [DEI web page](#) on the TCS website for links to the member survey, bystander toolkit, and other DEI resources. Further, TCS board members, Tricia Hooper and Tom Bigford, participated in two charrettes hosted by the Coastal, Ocean, and Marine Enterprise Inclusion and Network-building (COME IN) Alliance to help address barriers that prevent students from historically marginalized and underrepresented communities from pursuing careers in coastal, ocean, and marine science fields. The [COME IN program](#) is being managed by the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) and Sea Grant programs in Virginia, Georgia, and Oregon under the broader [NSF INCLUDES program](#).

Partnership to Host BIPOC-focused Career Guidance Workshops

As a collaborative effort between our M.A.D Coastal Career Development Program and DEI Working Group, TCS partnered with the National Center for Atmospheric Research (managed by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research) to implement the Ocean and Coastal Sciences Career Development (OCSCD) Project in 2021 and 2022. The goal was to foster student and faculty interest in ocean and coastal science careers, particularly those from historically excluded backgrounds such as individuals who identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color. This project included outreach to Minority Serving Institutions throughout the U.S. and its territories to develop and present two web-based sessions in 2021. The effort was sponsored by a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, which allowed TCS to hire Ms. Elise Mason, a recent University of Rhode Island Master's program graduate, as a part-time Coastal Career Planner to

coordinate the workshop series. The program workshops continued into early 2022. Find out more about the ground-breaking project sessions in the TCS Blog post [HERE](#) and at the [OCSCD Project website](#).

Coastal Connections Web Conferencing Series

Coastal Connections is a web conferencing series launched in 2020 to engage TCS members and the broader coastal community through virtual web presentations and discussions. The series consists of two session types: *Trending Topics* and *Professional Spotlight*. *Trending Topics* sessions feature expert panelists who present on new or pressing coastal issues, followed by an opportunity for members and guests to ask questions of the panelists and offer their own insights on the topic. *Professional Spotlight* sessions are designed as a members-only opportunity to learn about the career paths of seasoned TCS coastal professionals, with a short presentation followed by open dialogue between the guest speaker and all participants. Below is a list of the Coastal Connections sessions in 2021.

The *Trending Topics* sessions in 2021 looked at the following issues:

- **February 26, 2021** – *Coastal Communities and Offshore Wind Development: Challenges and Opportunities*. Read a full summary in the TCS Blog post [HERE](#).
- **July 22, 2021** – *Aquaculture Development in the U.S.* Read more about aquaculture practices in the December 2021 blog post [HERE](#) from one of our July 2021 panelists, Paul Zajicek.
- **October 21, 2021** – *Coastal Storms: Community Resiliency*. Read a full summary in the TCS Blog post [HERE](#).

The *Professional Spotlight* sessions in 2021 focused on the following guest speakers (read a summary of these at the TCS Blog post [HERE](#)):

- **May 10, 2021** – Kristen Fletcher, Faculty Associate-Research in the Energy Academic Group at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California
- **July 8, 2021** – Mike Orbach, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Marine Affairs and Policy in the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University

- **December 15, 2021** – Rebekah Padgett, Section 401/Coastal Zone Management Federal Permit Manager, Washington State Department of Ecology

Learn more about the past and future sessions at the [TCS Coastal Connections web page](#), including links to recordings of several previous *Trending Topics* events posted on the [TCS YouTube channel](#). Past recordings of *Professional Spotlight* sessions are also available to TCS members at private YouTube channel links; members may send a request for these session links to TCSConnections@thecoastalsociety.org.

Coastal Management Journal

Included in their 2021 dues, new professional and regular TCS members received free online access to [Coastal Management](#), the official journal of TCS. *Coastal Management* is a premier peer-reviewed journal dedicated to exploring the technical, applied ecological, legal, political, social, and policy issues relating to the use of coastal and ocean resources (*a \$700+/year value!*). Eligible members receive the free-access credentials soon after joining or renewing; contact the TCS Executive Director (admin@thecoastalsociety.org) with questions. Student members are encouraged to access the journal through their college/university libraries, and to consider publishing their work in the journal. A Taylor and Francis handout with links to resources for publishing research in the journal is available via the TCS Facebook Members-only Group (see the [“Files” tab](#)).

Social Media and TCS blog

In 2021, the TCS Communications Committee continued to provide news posts for relevant coastal- and ocean-related topics at the local, regional and global scale via our [public Facebook page](#); please follow us to receive the feeds on a weekly basis, and feel free to message us with suggestions for posts. Similar posts are provided via the TCS [Twitter account](#) and [Instagram account](#) - tweet or message us using [@CoastalSociety](#).

A [Members-only Facebook Group](#) also provides a networking forum exclusively for TCS members. Members can use the Members-only Facebook Group to ask for career advice, post coastal activity photos, or suggest a local-member meet-up. Additionally, anyone may currently follow us and share posts via the [TCS group account on LinkedIn](#). Further, TCS established an official [organizational account on LinkedIn](#) in 2020, which a member can reference when listing their volunteer experience on the TCS board and committees.

For those who missed some of our *Coastal Connections* sessions in 2021, summaries of the events were shared via the [TCS blog](#), which is hosted on the [TCS Website](#). Last year also marked the roll-out of a TCS blog series titled “*Coastal News from the Field*,” which highlights new coastal management/conservation-themed research, including summaries of select articles from *Coastal Management* for those who did not have a chance to access the journal. ALL members are encouraged to submit posts for the blog, whether it be a TCS chapter activity update, a review of coastal policy developments, or tales of surreal beach vacations in the time of COVID-19. Please contact the TCS Communications Committee (via admin@thecoastalsociety.org) to share a story!

Annual Giving Campaign

TCS officially initiated its 2021 Annual Giving Campaign (AGC) on Giving Tuesday (November 30). Roughly **\$2,800** in donations were made through the end of 2021, including members’ employer-matched funds for 2021 donations that were received in February 2022. The board is very grateful to all who contributed during the campaign, recognizing that several members were especially generous in donating one hundred dollars or more. Donations provide essential financial support for TCS to continue the M.A.D. coastal career workshop series and other programs. Please consider donating in 2022 at any level. Donations can be made at any time of year and are tax deductible. Please ask if your employer offers matching gifts for donations to non-profit (501(c)(3)) groups.

Statement of Financial Position

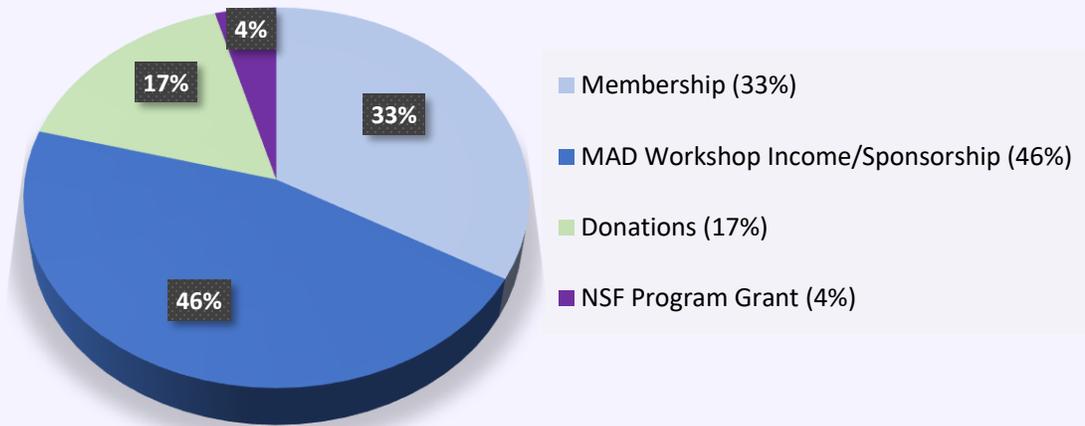
January 1, 2021: \$6,255

December 31, 2021: \$9,115

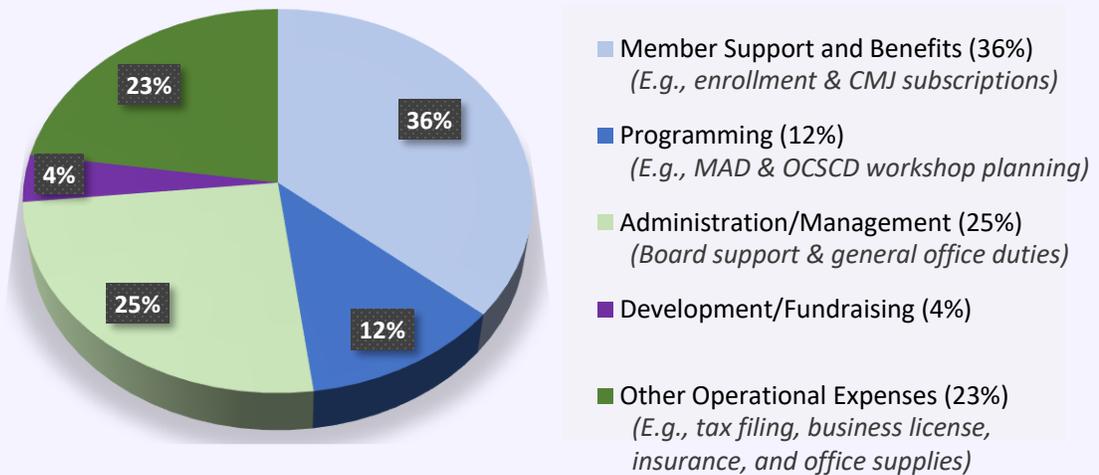
2021 Net Income: \$2,860

**Excludes TCS student chapter income and expenses.*

2021 Income (\$19,182)



2021 Expenses (\$16,322)



Become Involved!

In 2021, TCS facilitated the excellent programs and events discussed in this report thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers. However, additional member support is essential to continue our initiatives and fulfill the TCS mission! Please consider what volunteer effort(s) you can offer to strengthen our Society. Below are examples of the support you might provide. In turn, we trust you will benefit by directly expanding your professional network, improving your leadership skills, and/or enjoying additional member services that TCS seeks to offer as we grow.

- Encourage one or more colleagues to join TCS.
- Write a story for the TCS blog.
- Inform other members of coastal-related conferences, webinars, and other news via the TCS Facebook, Twitter, and/or LinkedIn accounts.
- Get creative and expand TCS merchandise options on [Zazzle](#).
- Ask friends and family to shop online through [Amazon Smile](#) with TCS as the designated charity.
- Support (or lead!) the development of a M.A.D Coastal Career Workshop in your area or at a conference you will be attending.
- Join the Chapters Committee to keep TCS professional members and student members better connected.
- Join the Communications Committee to help manage TCS social media pages, MailChimp announcements, and the TCS website (WordPress).
- Volunteer with the Coastal Connections web meeting planning group.
- Help the DEI Working Group connect with a historically black college or other minority organization with interest in coastal management.
- Identify a potential sponsor for a TCS event and help draft a request letter.
- Coordinate a regional TCS member (and prospective member) virtual or in-person gathering, considering appropriate COVID precautions.

Please feel free to contact the TCS Office, President MacLeod or any of the board (contact information at this [link](#)) with your interest in helping out – the Society’s strength is in our connections. Thank you in advance for any supporting effort you can offer at this time!



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