



Leadership, Gender, and the Future of Coastal and Ocean Management a forum organized by the Women's Aquatic Network of Washington, D.C.

By Ruth Howell

This summer, as our nation considered the role of gender in the race for the presidency, the Women's Aquatic Network (WAN), in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Coastal States Organization (CSO), and the Ocean Conservancy explored the same topic for professionals in the coastal management arena during an evening forum entitled "Women's Leadership in Marine Conservation." The event, held just blocks from the U.S. Capitol Building was designed for WAN members, in particular, young professionals, and brought together an esteemed panel consisting of Kristen Fletcher, Executive Director of CSO and President of The Coastal Society; Mary Glackin, Deputy Undersecretary of NOAA; and Vikki Spruill, President and CEO of the Ocean Conservancy. It was also a gathering of current and former TCS leaders; in addition to Kristen Fletcher, in attendance were two WAN board members who are former TCS University of Washington student chapter leaders themselves; Monika Thiele, WAN President and TCS-UW co-founder and Vice-President 2001-2003 and Ruth Howell, WAN Vice-President and TCS-UW President 2006-2007. This forum was able to build upon the conversations about leadership in the field of ocean and coastal management heard during the closing plenary of TCS-21, one month previous.

The Women's Aquatic Network was first envisioned in 1984 and officially incorporated in

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NOT Politics As Usual

By Ellen Gordon

Have you noticed that it seems as though everyone has something essential to share with the incoming Obama Administration? While multiple environmental organizations deliver recommendations and reports, political pundits write reams of columns devoted to predicting and pontificating, the blogosphere is busy with breathless speculations, and the ongoing "economic rollercoaster ride" produces lots more stomach-churning drops than gravity-defying rises, the political future of our oceans and coasts is still pretty unclear. As someone who's devoted to reading all that material and more—you'd be surprised what ends up in an editor's mailbox—I thought it worthwhile to put together an abbreviated review for TCS members of some of what was out there, as we go to press. Opinions may be flying every which-way, but it's safe to say that change is coming. As Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) President Frances Beinecke opined in her blog, "These days, as I bounced between the feelings urgency and hope, I draw inspiration from the way President-elect Obama seems to be viewing this moment in time. In his victory speech, he reminded us that America is facing a long list of significant obstacles, but out of these challenges can arise opportunity. We can face these difficult times with bold measures and visionary leadership." www.switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/fbeinecke/environmental_community_offers.html Or, as Larry Schweiger, President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation said, "We need to dig our way out of the financial hole we are in with a green shovel."

NRDC is part of a 29 member coalition that drafted what is likely to be the most lengthy,

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If You Had Five Minutes with the President-Elect...

From political talk shows to online news and press conferences, it is impossible to miss the significance of “the transition” - the wave of change that is bearing down on the nation, bringing along with it new leaders, the chance for a renewed environmental vision, and great hope. Having President-Elect Obama cite the health of the oceans and coasts and, specifically, the reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) as priorities for his administration is a call to us - and a reminder that in the coming days, months, and years, we have an enormous opportunity. “We” refers to the ocean and coastal community, to The Coastal Society, and to us, as individuals.

As the Obama Transition Team plans its strategy for the President-Elect’s first 100 days, first year, and years beyond, many organizations are identifying their priorities. I began to wonder, if a TCS member had five minutes to communicate her top priorities to the team, and to identify specific actions it could take, what would she say?

A logical place to start would be to stress the importance of the oceans and coasts to U.S. economic viability, public health and safety, and energy independence. The ocean and coastal community speaks of these elements regularly—but, too often, we are speaking only to each other and not to the communities of people who rely on the coasts—people who might not realize just how dependent they really are. Thus, in times of economic, security or other crisis, the general populace may forget to advocate for the coast, unaware of how critical it is to keeping our nation economically viable and physically safe.

Perhaps she would tell President-Elect Obama how the nation’s coasts and oceans connect and define the issues of our time. Coastal watershed counties contribute approximately 50% of the nation’s GDPⁱ and ocean-dependent industries and ports are critical to a thriving national economy. Oceans absorb 48% of the carbon that humans put into the atmosphere.ⁱⁱ Ocean circulation affects weather patterns, agricultural production, fisheries and transportation, including climate change.ⁱⁱⁱ Coastal communities are especially vulnerable to the resulting sea level rise and lake level change. The nation’s coastal areas are ground zero for both traditional and renewable energy sources, making them a key location for development of innovative approaches to address our significant energy challenges.

She might communicate actions for the incoming administration such as consistent funding for ocean and coastal issues to provide the long term stability that coastal resources and management deserves. Perhaps she would emphasize that a revitalized CZMA is essential to any comprehensive ocean and coastal policy, including a national sustainable energy policy and that it is indispensable to coastal communities in adapting to climate change and in shoring up the nation’s economy.

Or, she might simply relay a personal story of why the oceans and coasts are important to her and ask for this new wave of leaders to keep these resources in mind when making decisions on the nation’s economic, energy, and climate policies.

Members of TCS do this daily--in their professional and personal lives--and can serve as valuable examples for the emerging leaders in the new administration. It’s been an honor to serve such a dedicated group of individuals over the last two years and to see the impact that this small group of people has on the nation’s coasts.

TCS is also in a time of transition. It’s my pleasure to welcome new Board members and our President-Elect (see announcement on opposing page) and to move into serving TCS as Past-President. I wish these members well and hope that they too will draw on the example set by our TCS colleagues to lead with the coasts in mind and to continue to support the mission of TCS and its incoming President, Jeff Benoit.

Sincerely,
Kristen M. Fletcher
 TCS President

ⁱJoint Ocean Commission Initiative: Changing Oceans, Changing World (2008).

ⁱⁱThe Ocean Foundation: A Coastal and Ocean Policy for the next Administration (2008).

ⁱⁱⁱJoint Ocean Commission Initiative: Changing Oceans, Changing World (2008).

The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent TCS nor its Board.

Photo credit: Anne E. Hawkins



Congratulations to the New TCS President and Directors!!

President Elect: **Lisa Schiavinato** is Law and Policy Specialist for North Carolina Sea Grant and Co-Director of the NC Coastal Resources Law, Planning and Policy Center. She previously was Legal Coordinator for the Louisiana Sea Grant Legal Program.

Director: **Betsi Beem** is a lecturer at the University of Sydney, Australia, in the Department of Government and International Relations. Her research interests include the interaction of science and policymaking for the management of marine resources.

Director: **Angela Gustavson** is the Director of Government Relations for Restore America's Estuaries (RAE), a national alliance of eleven community-based conservation organizations dedicated to preserving our coasts and estuaries.

Director: **Tom Murray** holds a faculty appointment in Marine Business & Coastal Economic Development at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Graduate School of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary.

Director: **Christine Patrick** is a 2008 Knauss Marine Policy Fellow in NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research. As the 2007 TCS-NOAA intern, Christine worked on communications and designed an evaluation project of essential fish habitat consultations during her six months in NOAA's Habitat Protection Division.

A warm thank you to our outgoing TCS directors. We are indebted to them for their years of service:

Patrick Christie
Ariel Cushnir
Laurie Jodice

An extra thanks to Laurie, who has served as our online guru, providing online functions for TCS and promptly fixing any problems!



Sarah Pautzke



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Washington, D.C. in 1985. It was formed to provide opportunities to bring together female professionals in the field of marine, coastal and aquatic sectors and to help bridge the gaps between federal agencies and congressional activities. Its genesis occurred at a time when women were really in the professional minority in the sciences and in federal policy-making. According to WAN's founders, they felt that creating a formal "girls' network" would provide them with much needed professional support as they advanced in their careers. In the almost 25 years since WAN's inception, women have in fact made great advances professionally and have contributed significantly to advancing the marine and coastal management agenda, nationally and globally. Looking at the landscape almost 25 years later, WAN leaders decided to host a 'where are we now?' forum to revisit the original mission and to identify the new roles, opportunities and challenges that women experience in the field today.

In comparison to many science-based fields, coastal management boasts a good track record of including and encouraging women to rise to leadership roles. Forum attendees noted that enrollment in marine policy graduate programs is often more than 50% women and frequently the percentage is much higher. Likewise, women hold many middle- and upper-level management positions today. However, if you look at the highest levels of the career ladder, the percent of women in management positions sharply declines. To explore this phenomenon and provide career advice to both women and men aspiring to leadership roles, WAN organizers asked each panelist to speak about their respective career paths and the role that gender may have played in their successes. They concluded their presentations with a couple of suggestions for coastal practitioners in the early stages of their career.

The room at the Hall of States on this hot July afternoon was filled by a standing-room only audience of early and mid-level career coastal and ocean practitioners with



backgrounds in science, policy, law, and business and hailing from federal agencies, non-profits, congressional offices, and private corporations. Many TCS members were in attendance, including TCS Executive Director Judy Tucker. Other participants included Knauss Sea Grant Fellows, AAAS Fellows and Presidential Management Fellows from the D.C. region.

Although our distinguished speakers held rather diverse professional backgrounds, skills, and experiences, several common themes emerged during their presentations and the subsequent question and answer session, facilitated by forum moderator Ruth Howell. All three speakers admitted to not having a clear and directed plan to guide their careers and described their journey using phrases such as 'serendipity' and 'jumping on opportunities as they arise.' Ms. Fletcher described her approach as that of the fish Dory in the movie *Finding Nemo*, i.e., 'just keep swimming' while Ms. Spruill emphasized that the journey itself is as important as the destination. Ms. Glackin used the analogy of just 'placing one foot in front of the other' while being sure to keep your eyes focused on the big picture ahead rather than staring down at your feet.

The panelists all agreed that being female has helped their careers as much as it has been a hindrance. Ms. Glackin was frequently one of the few females in her academic science classes and professional positions, but she found ways to apply her strengths in the male-dominated settings. Early in her career, Ms. Spruill was discouraged from pursuing her passion for marine biology by a male science teacher, but found her way back into the field by choosing a field--International Communications Consultancy--that utilized such "female strengths" as communication and conflict resolution skills. Honing those skills, she eventually applied them back to the marine conservation field in her work at SeaWeb, and now at the Ocean Conservancy.

In response to audience questions about how to get your opinion heard when you are in the minority, the panelists emphasized courage, consistency, and confidence. Ms. Spruill suggested working to build a track record of assertiveness that will help you establish an expectation of being listened to with respect. Ms. Fletcher also stressed the values of persistence and consistency. Sometimes you have to slowly chip away at the resistance with a consistent yet confident message, while building that track record. It is also important to pick your battles wisely so as not to create a reputation for being combative or stubborn. Confidence is always critical to garnering respect

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in any situation, but particularly for a woman in a male-dominated context.

The status of these three women who sit at the center of national ocean and coastal policymaking puts them in particularly good positions to anticipate the future leadership needs of this field. As awareness about the plight of oceans and coasts grows nationally and globally, coastal leaders will need to be able to engage disparate views and work collaboratively and diplomatically to find common ground. They will need to be able to make oceans and coasts relevant to nontraditional audiences and to achieve a balance between economic and ecological interests. Finally, the leaders of tomorrow must be able to push themselves out of their comfort zone and take risks. The problems of today need drastic solutions and strong, confident leaders to back them.

Aspiring leaders can get involved in groups like WAN and TCS to build their networks, enhance their knowledge and skill sets, and develop and implement creative solutions to threats to our marine and aquatic environments.

The Women's Aquatic Network of D.C brings together professionals with interests in marine and aquatic affairs and promotes the role of women in these fields. Membership is open to all who are interested in WAN goals. WAN is gearing up for its 25th anniversary and is planning many events to mark this achievement. If you are in the D.C. area and interested in joining WAN, attending our events, or just learning more, please visit our website at www.womensaquatic.net. You can also contact us at washingtonwan@gmail.com.

Ruth Howell represents the National Marine Fisheries Service budget in NOAA's Office of Budget, Outreach and Communications and is the Vice-President of the Women's Aquatic Network. Ruth is a recent recruit from the West Coast to the Washington DC area and dearly misses the proximity and wildness of the Pacific.

detailed environmental plan presented by a nongovernmental organization to the incoming administration. Entitled *Transition to Green*, it is 391 pages long! http://docs.nrdc.org/legislation/leg_08112401.asp. According to the NRDC press release that accompanied it, "The document reflects President-elect Obama's early indications that he will take bold measures to harness American ingenuity to solve the economic, climate and energy crises." Another statement issued jointly by the multiple groups backing the report asserts that, "In November, Americans made their preference clear that the federal government has a critical role to play in unleashing homegrown, innovative energy solutions that would create new jobs, reduce global warming pollution and cut our nation's dependence on oil."

Transition to Green lists as its 4 guiding principles that: 1) economic vitality, clean energy and climate solutions go hand in hand; 2) social justice requires environmental justice; 3) integrity must be returned to environmental governance; and 4) science should have a primary role in safeguarding our environment. Or, as Defenders of Wildlife succinctly phrased the lattermost principal in their own, independent document (Wildlife Conservation Agenda), "End the political manipulation of science." http://www.defenders.org/programs_and_policy/policy_and_legislation/wildlife_conservation_agenda_for_the_next_administration.php?ht=

An encouraging indication from Obama, says Peter Haas, a professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, blogging on Huffington Post, "At his acceptance speech he [Obama] referred in passing to a 'planet in peril.' He made campaign promises to cut carbon emissions by 80% by the year 2050 and to invest \$150 billion over the next 10 years in promoting alternative energy...He has indicated that he will ratify the law of the sea treaty." www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-m-haas/prospects-for-us-environm_b_141815.html

Another hopeful sign for achieving promised goals is the ascendancy of California Representative Henry Waxman to the chairmanship of the House Energy and Commerce Panel, after Democrats succeeded in toppling veteran Michigan Rep. John Dingell from the post. Says Andrew Taylor on Huffington Post, "The switch could help President-elect Barack Obama on Capitol Hill with one of his favored issues: trying to curb global warming by limiting greenhouse gas emissions...The Energy and Commerce panel is one of the most important House committees, with sweeping jurisdiction over energy, the environment,

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New Australian Coastal Group

The Australian Coastal Society (ACS) was formally established recently to provide “a voice for the Australian coast.” The ACS is now calling for memberships. <http://www.australiancoastalsociety.org>.

Record 2008 Hurricane Season

The 2008 Atlantic Hurricane Season officially came to a close on November 30th, marking the end of a season that produced a record number of consecutive storms to strike the United States and ranks as one of the more active seasons in the 64 years since comprehensive records began. A total of 16 named storms formed this season, based on an operational estimate by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA’s) National Hurricane Center. The storms included eight hurricanes, five of which were major hurricanes at Category 3 strength or higher. An average season has 11 named storms, six hurricanes and two major hurricanes. “This year’s hurricane season continues the current active hurricane era and is the tenth season to produce above-normal activity in the past 14 years,” said Dr. Gerry Bell, lead seasonal hurricane forecaster at NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center. He attributes this year’s above-normal season to several factors, including lingering La Niña effects and warmer tropical Atlantic Ocean temperatures. On average, the tropical Atlantic was about 1.0 degree Fahrenheit above normal during the peak of the season. http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/20081126_hurricanesseason.html

In Hot Water: Zooplankton and Climate Change

Marine zooplankton are “beacons of climate change,” according to a recent article in the *ICES Journal of Marine Science*. The article’s author, Anthony Richardson notes that because zooplankton are poikilothermic (essentially, cold-blooded), they are extremely sensitive to surrounding temperatures. In addition, they are generally not targeted commercially (with a few exceptions, such as krill and some jellyfish), so long-term trends in these species in response to environmental change are not clouded by the impacts of more direct activities like fishing. However, warming ocean temperatures as a result of climate change appear to be affecting plankton distribution and life cycles in parts of the ocean. For example, in the North Sea region, the distribution of the cool-water copepod species *Calanus finmarchicus* has moved north as North Sea waters have warmed, and its place has been taken by the warmer-water species *Calanus helgolandicus*. Despite the two species being almost indistinguishable, the former peaks in numbers in spring and the latter in fall—a critical distinction because Atlantic cod spawn



Sarah Pautzke

in spring. Without large amounts of copepods on which the cod larvae can feed, cod numbers in these areas have plummeted. Source: *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 65: 279-295. Contact: Anthony J. Richardson, University of Queensland, E-mail: anthony.richardson@csiro.au.

U.S. Backing of Wind Farm Likely

The Bush administration is expected to issue a favorable final environmental review of the nation’s first offshore wind farm project, clearing the way for Cape Wind to obtain a federal lease to erect 130 wind turbines in Nantucket Sound. Final state backing could follow early next year, said a spokesman for Massachusetts’s Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. “This is important not only for Massachusetts but for the nation as a whole,” said Jack Clark, director of public policy and government relations for Mass Audubon, a conservation group that came out in support of the project after evaluating its impact on wildlife. Excerpted from the Boston Globe. www.boston.com/lifestyle/green/articles/2008/12/02/us_backing_of_wind_farm_could_come_this_week/

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Ocean Currents Can Power the World

A revolutionary device that can harness energy from slow-moving rivers and ocean currents could provide enough power for the entire world, scientists claim. Existing technologies which use water power, relying on the action of waves, tides or faster currents created by dams, are far more limited in where they can be used, and also cause greater obstructions when they are built in rivers or the sea. The new device, which has been inspired by the way fish swim, consists of a system of cylinders positioned horizontal to the water flow and attached to springs. As water flows past, the cylinder creates vortices, which push and pull the cylinder up and down. The mechanical energy in the vibrations is then converted into electricity.

The scientists behind the technology, which has been developed in research funded by the US government, say that generating power in this way would potentially cost only around 3.5p per kilowatt hour, compared to about 4.5p for wind energy and between 10p and 31p for solar power. They say the technology would require up to 50 times less ocean acreage than wave power generation. The system, conceived by scientists at the University of Michigan, is called Vivace, or "vortex-induced vibrations for aquatic clean energy." Because the parts only oscillate slowly, the technology is likely to be less harmful to aquatic wildlife than dams or water turbines. And as the installations can be positioned far below the surface of the sea, there would be less interference with shipping, recreational boat users, fishing and tourism. Excerpted from the UK Telegraph. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/energy/renewableenergy/3535012/Ocean-currents-can-power-the-world-say-scientists.html>



Christopher Hawkns

consumer protection, telecommunications and health care programs such as Medicaid and the popular State Children's Health Insurance Program. Dingell has been the top Democrat on the panel for 28 years and is an old-school supporter of Detroit's carmakers and other big industries such as electric utilities. His bitter battles with Waxman over clean air issues date to the Reagan administration and were recently revived as Waxman complained that the committee has been too slow to address global warming." http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/11/20/waxman-beats-dingell-in-d_n_145178.html

As I write this, the United Nation's (UN) Climate Change Conference in Poznan, Poland, has just opened (though it will end on December 12, several days before you read this Bulletin issue). Speaking to 10,000 delegates and environmental advocates, the UN's climate chief, Yvo de Boer stated, "The clock is ticking. Work needs to shift into a higher gear." Delegates from about 190 countries opened the two-week conference aimed at nailing down the details of a climate change treaty to replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which required 37 countries to slash carbon emissions by an average 5 percent from 1990 levels by 2012. Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), reminded the conference of the consequences of failure. That included the possible extinction of nearly one-third of the earth's species, a threatened meltdown of the Greenland or western Antarctic ice sheets that could raise sea levels by several yards (meters), and a growing lack of water for millions of people within a few decades. "All of us are today concerned with the financial crisis," said Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk. "But we must understand that financial crises happened in the past and will happen in the future, but our work for the environment should be timeless."

As Al Gore wrote in the New York Times just after the election, "The electrifying redemption of America's revolutionary declaration that all human beings are born equal sets the stage for renewal of United States leadership in a world that desperately needs to protect its primary endowment: the integrity and livability of the planet...Here is the good news: the bold steps that are needed to solve the climate crisis are exactly the same steps that ought to be taken in order to solve the economic crisis and the energy security crisis." He further pointed out that at the time that President John F. Kennedy challenged us to land a man on the moon, the average age of the students who went on to become the systems engineers who launched Apollo 11, was 18 years. Gore closed his editorial by saying, "This year similarly saw the rise of young Americans,

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TCS Student at RAE Conference

By Erin Jackson

Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) 4th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration was held October 11-15, 2008 in Providence, Rhode Island. I was given the opportunity to represent The Coastal Society at this event. As a student officer of the University of Rhode Island Chapter, I was excited to act as a representative of TCS and to have the chance to interact with professionals in this fascinating field. With over 900 participants, 423 speakers, and 83 concurrent sessions, I could not have been in a better place both to promote TCS and to learn about coastal restoration!

The RAE conference brought individuals from a broad spectrum of interests together to discuss changing coastal habitats and restoration techniques. Representatives of nonprofits, academic institutions, and industry were all present to share their experiences and ideas concerning coastal management. The atmosphere was ideal for spreading the word about TCS. While much of the promotion of the organization took place at a booth set up in the exhibition hall, I was also actively engaged in conversations about TCS activities before and after concurrent sessions. Many people were unaware of the organization or didn't fully understand how to become involved. Both students and professionals inquired about TCS and many individuals whose membership in TCS had expired expressed an interest in recommitting to the organization!

Initially, I felt that as a student, I might have a difficult time promoting a professional organization. I don't have as many contacts in the field as someone with an established career. I also wasn't sure I had enough experience with national TCS to communicate its importance and to encourage people to get involved. I was pleased to discover that my experience as a student officer helped me to explain what TCS does and to illustrate its importance in a university setting. I had the opportunity to speak with students from other TCS chapters about events and programs they hold and I was able to encourage students from universities without TCS chapters to get involved! Today's students will soon be part of the working world and TCS student chapters are an effective tool for learning about opportunities and making contacts in the field. Many of the professionals with whom I spoke were interested in the fact that universities have active, student-run chapters.

For students who might find themselves in a similar position: understand the opportunity you have! Use your own experience with the organization to demonstrate the value of TCS to individuals unfamiliar with the organization. Use the time to network with professionals in your areas of interest. I had the pleasure of meeting people who are TCS members and others who have graduated from my Master's degree program. Be able to describe what you do, academically or professionally, in a concise way as well as how that relates to your involvement with TCS. It is a great opportunity to market yourself, while promoting an organization you support! Overall, I think that The Coastal Society's presence at the Restore America's Estuaries conference benefited both TCS and those who attended the conference.

Erin Jackson is from Agawam, Massachusetts. She received her B.S. in Marine Sciences from Rutgers University, and is now working on her M.A. in Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island.



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whose enthusiasm electrified Barack Obama's campaign. There is little doubt that this same group of energized youth will play an essential role in this project to secure our national future, once again turning seemingly impossible goals into inspiring success." www.nytimes.com/2008/11/09/opinion/09gore.html?_r=3&oref=slogin&ref=opinion&pagewanted...

And seen on Huffington Post: "...there should be a bevy of policy breakthroughs under the Obama administration, whether in the stimulus package, a stand-alone energy bill, tax incentives for renewable energy research and development, or mandatory limits on carbon emissions. The question is simply whether they will come sooner or later. But the debate over environmental initiatives is no longer defined as yes and no, but rather when and how. Climate control legislation seems more likely to pass now than ever before." http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/11/26/environmentalists-fear-ob_n_146632.html?page=2&show_comment_id=18327597#comment_18327597

So where's the ocean in all this? What about the coastal zone? Is anyone specifically mentioning our issues? Science Debate 2008 asked candidate Obama just that question: "What steps, if any, should the United States take during your presidency to protect ocean health?" His answer, on August 30; "Oceans are crucial to the earth's ecosystem and to all Americans because they drive global weather patterns, feed our people and are a major source of employment for fisheries and recreation. As president, I will commit my administration to develop the kind of strong, integrated, well-managed program of ocean stewardship that is essential to sustain a healthy marine environment...Our coastal areas and beaches are American treasures and are among our favorite places to live and visit. I will work to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act in ways that strengthen the collaboration between federal agencies and state and local organizations. The National Marine Sanctuaries and the Oceans and Human Health Acts provide essential protection for ocean resources and support the research needed to implement a comprehensive ocean policy. These programs will be strengthened and reauthorized." <http://www.sciencedebate2008.com/www/index.php?id=40>

Transition to Green, which makes agency-by-agency recommendations, has stated that the top 3 issues for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) must be; 1) Managing oceans holistically in the face of broadening threats like climate change, 2) Protecting imperiled species and 3) Establishing healthy national and global fisheries. They suggest that a "whole

ocean" approach could be pursued through a variety of administrative and legislative vehicles and conservation tools, including the establishment and implementation of a national ocean policy to protect, maintain and restore marine ecosystem health and resilience, and the creation of Federal-state partnerships to implement priority needs under such a policy. The document's authors recommend that the new Administration evaluate not only the immediate direct impact of a proposed action, but the ecosystem impacts, as well. The details on recommendations for NOAA run to 18 pages, and similar sections are provided for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Council on Environmental Quality and other federal agencies.

Current and former federal and state elected officials, cabinet officers, scientist and administrators got together to produce a report specifically addressing America's fisheries. The working group, co-chaired by former Congressman James Greenwood and Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior from 1993-2001 and Governor of Arizona from 1978-87, produced this document to provide an answer for securing a sustainable supply of wild seafood. Citing recent studies that predict a collapse of global fisheries, with 27% already in ruin, they are bold enough to suggest that, while there are multiple threats to fisheries--including habitat loss and climate change--overfishing is the single biggest cause of depleted fisheries worldwide. To address this issue, they propose "catch shares," a solution they claim empowers individuals and communities to manage their catch effectively while achieving scientifically set conservation targets. <http://www.edf.org/article.cfm?contentID=8792>

On the other hand, Earthjustice (motto: "because the Earth needs a good lawyer") offers *Six Easy Things the Obama Administration Can Do to Heal Our Environment*. Not ocean-specific, 5 of the 6 would nonetheless have a direct impact. To wit: 1) Limit CO2 emissions under the Clean Air Act, 2) Restore the Endangered Species Act, 3) Restore the Roadless Area Conservation Act (not really ocean-relevant), 4) Restore protections for America's rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands, 5) Address Arctic oil and gas development, and 6) Adopt energy efficiency standards. Okay, if this is Earthjustice' idea of an easy list, what do you think is on their "difficult list?" <http://www.earthjustice.org/news/press/2008/six-easy-things-the-obama-administration-can-do-to-heal-our-environment.html>

And for those who are losing sleep about regulatory changes finalized in the lattermost days of the current administration, Politico describes Congressional Demo-

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Duke University

Eighties prom dresses and sea-cow costumes are anything but competitive attire during a sprint triathlon, but participants in the Neuse River Triathlon are usually more concerned with having fun and raising money than with winning the race. For the 8th year running, literally, Duke Coastal Society members, led by officer Michelle Fabie, organized the race. On Saturday September 13th, competitors completed an 800-meter open water swim, 6-mile bike through historic Beaufort, and 2.5-mile run to Pivers Island, site of the finish line and Duke University's Marine Lab. Entry fees and raffle ticket purchases from 106 Duke students, alumni and community members raised \$3,500 for the Neuse River Foundation. The foundation has advocated for protection of the Neuse River and its watershed for 28 years by involving and educating the public about the river basin, and by supporting local Riverkeepers who monitor water quality and investigate pollution sources. For more information visit www.Neuse-River.org.

In late September, Duke TCS participated in the North Carolina Maritime Museum's Waterside After School Program. Bad weather moved the event from the beach to



the museum, but didn't stop planned events like fishing and safe boating lessons. At the TCS exhibit, chapter treasurer Corrie Curtice ran a touch tank and fielded questions about sea urchins, blue crabs and snails. Anna-Marie Laura, chapter president, used a game similar to Memory to show how pictures of bottlenose dolphin dorsal fins can be used to identify individuals and build life histories. Over 100 children, including several local boys and girls clubs, attended the successful event.

Earth Jam, a day of activities to inform students about environmental opportunities on Duke's campus, took place in October this year. TCS members spoke to other interested students about the organization. At our table, tanks of oysters filtered very murky estuarine water over the course of the day, displaying their natural ecosystem function to act as filters.

Our Chapter is currently planning two social networking events in February 2009, one in Durham, NC and one in Beaufort, NC. We would like to invite professional and student Coastal Society Members to participate. If you are interested in attending or helping plan the events please contact Anna-Marie Laura at al76@duke.edu.

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University of Rhode Island

During the spring 2008 semester, the University of Rhode Island chapter sponsored a career panel, comprised of graduates of URI's Marine Affairs graduate program. Members of the panel included Austin Becker, Peter Lord, Megan Higgins, Kristin Uiterwyk and Elizabeth Scott.

Our chapter is really happy to announce that during the summer, we entered into an official agreement with the Town of Narragansett to adopt Bass Rock Beach as our cleanup site. In doing so, we committed to holding monthly beach cleanups and to providing reports to the Town on our progress.

Most recently, we had the opportunity to host the Rhode Island premiere of "American Fisheries: A Cautionary Tale." The film explores one of the greatest sea stories of all time, the dramatic tale of the 500-year-old North Atlantic cod fishery. Drawing on the sometimes contradictory perspectives of fishermen, ecologists, fisheries managers, and historians, the film reveals an epic story that stretches from the age of sail, to what may become an age of sustainability.

Following the film a panel--consisting of producers Bailey Pryor and Stephen Jones as well as Dr. Richard Pollnac and Dr. Seth Macinko, Marine Affairs faculty and Dr. Bill Leavenworth and Karen Alexander, Gulf of Maine Cod Project team members-- discussed the film and its implications. There was a large, diverse crowd in attendance and the Chapter was incredibly pleased with the turnout. If any other student chapters are interested in viewing this film they should contact us at tcs.uri@gmail.com so we can put you in touch with the producers.

University of Washington

For the 2008-09 school year, TCS-UW is focusing on developing our educational and service components. In January, we will kick off a series of bi-weekly graduate student lunch seminars as a casual, accessible way to learn about classmates' research. Our service component is focused on local issues such as hands-on coastal restoration of the Duwamish River watershed, kayak-based shoreline patrols of Lake Union, and working with community groups to study coastal issues.

crats "...eyeing a little known Clinton-era law as a way to reverse Bush Administration midnight regulations—even ones that have already taken effect. It's a move that would undermine the White House's attempt to finalize its energy and environmental regulations...so that Barack Obama couldn't undo them after he's sworn in as 44th president on January 20." According to the Congressional Rule Act of 1996 (CRA), any regulation finalized in the last half-year of the Bush Administration could be wiped out with a party-line vote in the Democrat-controlled Congress. Politico suggests that, "Targets of the CRA may include a rule to allow federal agencies to determine on their own whether their policies will threaten endangered species..." rather than requiring them to go through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. "Jerry Brito, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, closely follows midnight regulations. He would advise the Obama administration to package all of the regulations it wants overturned into one large vehicle to be voted up or down." While the new president could still overturn rules through the regulatory process, those rules would be subject to review and comment periods, which often take years to finish. "If Obama is able to overturn a sizable number of Bush's midnight regulations, he would be the first president in recent memory to succeed at such an effort," Brito said. <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1108/15530.html>

In the words of John Schellnhuber, one of Europe's leading climate scientists and chief scientific advisor to Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, "what is required is an industrial revolution for sustainability, starting now." Ian McEwan, renowned novelist, writing in Great Britain in *The Guardian* states that, "Ever since 1979, when James Hansen's Ad Hoc Group on CO2 reported to President Carter, there have been symposia, denials, summits, documentaries, marches, legislation, trading schemes and above all, resounding speeches high on ambition—in Europe we rather excel at these...We are still dreaming, still murmuring in our sleep as we grope for the levers that connect thoughts to actions." "But there is a rendezvous next year in Copenhagen in late November...it is the global successor to Kyoto...every nation on the planet will be present...The general feeling is that the conference cannot be allowed to fail. And it cannot succeed without the leadership of the United States. Schulenberger says, 'If he [Obama] were prepared to come in person to Copenhagen and make a speech, a bold commitment, similar to what Reagan did in Reykjavik...he would become a hero of the planet, for good.'" www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/nov/19/global-climate-change-policy-obama/print



American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) Aquatic Sciences Meeting

January 25-30, 2009, Nice, France
<http://www.aslo.org/meetings/nice2009/>

29th Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology & Conservation

February 17-19, 2009, Brisbane, QLD, Australia
<http://www.turtlesbrisbane2009.org/>

National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology

February 18-20, 2009, St Petersburg Beach, Florida
<http://www.fsbpa.com/seminar.htm>

Fishermen and Scientists Research Society 16th Annual Conference

February 20-21, 2009, Truro, Nova Scotia
<http://www.fsrns.ca>

10th International Coastal Symposium, ICS 2009

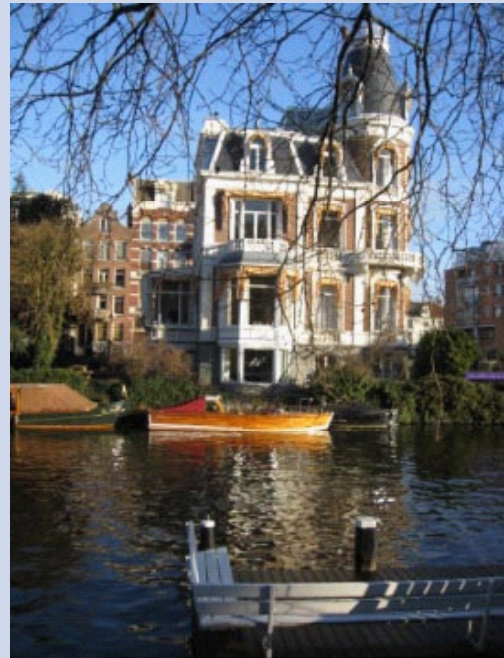
April 13th-18th, 2009, Lisbon, Portugal
<http://e-geo.fcsh.unl.pt/ICS2009/index.html>

16th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

April 19-23, 2009, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
<http://www.icaais.org/>

World Ocean Conference

May 11-15, 2009, Manado, Indonesia
www.woc2009.org/home.php



Ellen Gordon

4th International Conference on Integrated Management of Coastal Areas: CARICOSTAS 2009

May 13-to 15, 2009, Santiago, Cuba
www.Cemzc.uo.edu/ING/caricosta2009.html

International Marine Conservation Congress; Making Marine Science Matter

May 20-24, 2009, George Mason University, Washington D.C. vicinity
<http://www2.cedarcrest.edu/imcc/theme.html>

International Forum on Integrated Water Resource Management

June 1-3, 2009 Université de Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada
<http://www.cogesaf.qc.ca/rv-eau/en/home.html>

6th Coastal and Marine Tourism Congress

June 23-26, 2009, Nelson Mandela Bay, South Africa
<http://www.cmt2009.com>

Coastal Zone '09, Revolutionary Times: Catching the Wave of Change

July 19-23, 2009, Boston, MA
 Note: Call for Abstracts, due November 21, 2008
www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/index.html

3rd International Conference on Estuaries & Coasts

September 4-16 2009, Sendai, Japan
<http://donko.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/icec2009/index.html>



Simona Perry



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Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Organization: _____

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Primary Interest: _____

Sponsored/Referred by: _____

Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Type of Membership:

Individual Regular: ___ \$60 U.S. 1-year

Student: ___ \$20 U.S.

U.S. Library: ___ \$50 U.S.

Corporate/Agency: ___ \$250 U.S.

Dues Payment:

Select membership category.

To pay by check: Make check payable to: The Coastal Society. Please mail check and application to: PO Box 3590, Williamsburg, VA 23187-3590.

To pay by credit card: We cannot accept credit card information other than through the PayPal option. Please go to the TCS online membership form if you wish to pay by credit card (<http://www.thecoastalsociety.org/membersub.html>).

Thank you for your support.

The Coastal Society is an organization of private sector, academic, and government professionals and students dedicated to actively addressing emerging coastal issues by fostering dialogue, forging partnerships, and promoting communication and education.