

## **The HMSC Marine and Coastal Research Annual Forum**

**Objective:** To convene working groups tasked with synthesizing across disciplinary boundaries to address fundamental issues of marine and coastal science, including but not limited to ecology, climate, or geology. This forum provides unique opportunities for HMSC faculty to host collaborations among diverse groups of scientists and launch competitive, novel research programs. The program helps to link HMSC and its programs more closely to faculty in Corvallis and those from other institutions in the region. Outcomes of the working group could include a review manuscript or grant proposal. The forum should engage the HMSC Community, i.e. at least one member of group should present at HMSC and, if appropriate, this could be combined to serve as an HMSC Distinguished Lecturer event. Alternatively, the HMSC convener of the working group could provide a seminar summarizing the group's findings.

**Approach and Format:** Research forums are held on the HMSC campus in Newport, OR as needed depending upon interest and opportunity. HMSC will annually provide up to \$10,000 by announcing a competitive process to host a forum. Proposals would be submitted by OSU faculty, and evaluated by a committee according to criteria aligned with the goals of the program and the likelihood of a successful outcome. Forums generally last three to five days and ideally include at least five to ten scientists. A typical format would begin with all participants providing talks summarizing their research as relevant to the working group topic. The remainder of the day would be spent as a group identifying approaches, data sets, and analyses necessary to address to topic. The groups would then conduct analysis and formulate a written product or plan by the conclusion of the forum. Ideally, the final product would be a review manuscript or grant proposal.

**Participants:** Invitations would be sent by the organizer to regional specialists in the field. National or international scientists would be invited as needed and as funds are available. The seminars and plenary sessions could be open to a wider audience, but working groups would likely be by invitation to keep group size workable. A balance of disciplines appropriate to the topic should be sought from the academic community, agencies, and other scientific bodies, and should involve graduate students to the extent practical.

**Application and Deadlines:** Applications for HMSC funding will be accepted between February 1 and February 28. An inter-agency committee will review applications, with a decision expected by March 14. Externally funded forum applications will be accepted at any time. Applicants are advised that, for each forum, facility use will need to be coordinated around existing activities. Applicants are therefore encouraged to contact Maryann Bozza, HMSC Program Manager before submitting an application to review proposed facility use, timing and logistics ([maryann.bozza@oregonstate.edu](mailto:maryann.bozza@oregonstate.edu)).

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