Rites of spring: OSU marine biology class at the coast

HMSC welcomed 23 undergraduate students to Newport on April 3rd for the start of the Spring 2006 academic term. The OSU students are all enrolled in Biology 450/451, the popular marine biology course offered by the Zoology department every year at HMSC.

This year’s revamped course is principally coordinated by Dr. Sally Hacker, with sections taught by Drs. Anne Guerry, Scott Heppell, Jane Lubchenco, Bruce Menge, and Karen McLeod, and teaching assistants Laura Petes, Margot HESSING-LEWIS, John Schaaefers, and Luis Vinueza.

The intensive 10-week course integrates field trips, lab work, lectures and discussion covering a variety of topics, including coastal geology and oceanography, biology of marine invertebrates and fish, ecology, natural history, and marine conservation and policy. Students also work in small groups on research projects, which are presented at the end of the term.

For more information, visit the marine biology program page at: http://biology.science.oregonstate.edu/hmsc.html

New fisheries ecologist joins COMES faculty

Jessica Miller is the newest member of the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station (COMES) faculty at HMSC, arriving in January to pursue research in the area of marine fisheries ecology. Miller earned her Ph.D. from the University of Oregon, spending several years at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston. Her research has focused on otolith microchemistry and genetic analysis to better understand larval dispersal and the juvenile and adult movements of various rockfish species off the Oregon and Washington coasts. She plans to continue and expand that research here.

“I would like to continue research that advances our basic understanding of marine life histories and identifies how management strategies interact with... continued on p. 2

Earth Day events planned for April 22

Special programs and activities marking the 36th annual Earth Day are being held at both HMSC and the Oregon Coast Aquarium on Saturday, April 22nd.

At 1:30pm in the Hennings Auditorium of the Visitor Center, Dr. Vicki Osis of Oregon Sea Grant (retired) will deliver a presentation...

continued on p. 4

Child day care in South Beach?

Informational meeting set for May 4 See back page for details.
that diversity,” says Miller. The opportunity to do ecological re-
search that has some resource management applications was part
of what attracted her to the position here, along with the prospect
of doing collaborative work with other agencies and researchers.

Miller has several projects in development with NOAA,
ODFW, and WDFW, including one looking at mixing and migra-
tion in Pacific herring, another looking at Pacific ocean perch,
and another focused on reconstructing rearing behaviors in
juvenile Chinook and coho (from otolith analyses), with possible
relation to ocean survival and environmental conditions.

“There are reasons why much of fish ecology happens in
the tropics: it is clear, warm water and one can observe and
manipulate their environment,” Miller says. “That is not really
an option in the Pacific Northwest and, hence, there are some
major gaps in our understanding of basic ecology. I chose to stay
in temperate waters and try to find ways to get at some of those
questions”

Miller grew up in Boston and Chicago, eventually moving
west to Seattle in 1990. She earned her Master’s from the Uni-
versity of Washington’s School of Fisheries and Aquatic Scienci-
es and worked on the design, implementation, and assessment of
estuarine restoration projects in both Willapa Bay and Tillamook
Bay before going to the U of O for her doctorate. Miller says she
loves coastal Oregon and is very excited to be at HMSC. She
enjoys yoga, swimming, fishing, and hiking with her 6-year old
German Shepherd, Kiger, and her husband Ed, who works for
Ecotrust.

COMES Faculty Profile: David Sampson

David Sampson wears many hats – as Oregon’s represen-
tative to the Scientific and Statistical Committees of the Pacific
Fishery Management Council and the North Pacific Fishery
Management Council, as a member of the editorial board of the
journal Fisheries Research, and as a member of the COMES fac-
ulty at HMSC and Professor in OSU’s Department of Fisheries
and Wildlife. He teaches courses in fisheries population dynamics
and stock assessment methods, advises students, and serves on
faculty search committees. In addition, David serves as the External
Coordinator for the University of Miami’s Center for Independent
Experts, which provides independent peer reviews of fishery stock
assessments for NOAA Fisheries. And then there is his research.

David’s primary area of research is currently focused on
investigating alternative methods for conducting scientific surveys of canary rockfish, to supple-
ment the information provided by the standard bottom trawl
surveys. Funded by the Pacific Groundfish Conservation Trust,
the Canary Rockfish Project is initially investigating the puzzling
preponderance of male canary rockfish found in the trawl survey
and commercial fishery. After canary rockfish reach the age of
maturity (7-8 years) males are much more prevalent in the trawl
catches, with males outnumbering females by as much as 3:1 or
more. Recent stock assessments have modeled this data feature
by assuming that older females suffer elevated rates of natural
mortality.

In the spring of 2005, the project began sampling canary
rockfish using rods and reels on rocky deepwater reefs identi-
fied by collaborating charter boat skippers and commercial
fishermen. Sampling trips from ports in Washington, Oregon,
and California collected 427 canary rockfish: 248 females,
132 males, and 47 immature fish. The largest fish was a female
that weighted 8.1 pounds (3.67 kg). Although these sex ratio
data are a very limited sample, David believes they lend support
to the notion that older female canary rockfish live in high-relief
areas and may not be adequately sampled by trawl gear, suggest-
ing that elevated rates of natural
mortality assumed by the most recent stock assessment may not
in fact be true. During the fall of 2005, the project staff also
began assembling equipment for a non-lethal survey trawl, in
which fish are “captured” on videotaped as they escape through a
fish excluder in an open-ended trawl. Field-testing of the video-
trawl system began early in 2006 and will continue through the
spring.
Hidden away in a herbarium case at ODF&W, I recently came across collections of a number of seaweed species that are quite rare in Oregon. Three that were particularly interesting were subtidal species that were gathered by ODF&W divers during the 1995 Orford Reef study.

(1) Holmesia californica (see picture). This beautiful bladed red alga has been collected only once before in Oregon. It is known from Pine Island and the Juan de Fuca Strait in British Columbia and sporadically from subtidal areas off the California coast. Years ago, I provided Bill Gerwick with a drift specimen of this alga from BC and he found it to contain a potent anti-fungal chemical. However, without further material he could not characterize the compound. The ODF&W find will now enable scientists at OSU to recollect the species and continue with this important pharmaceutical investigation.

(2) Laminaria bullata. The validity of this very thick, subtidal kelp has been questioned partially due to its rarity. The ODF&W collection of L. bullata will enable it to be included in a US/Russia/Japan collaborative study of the genus Laminaria in the North Pacific. The study will include a molecular phylogenetic investigation enabling us to validate the species.

(3) Dictyota binghamiae. The genus Dictyota is common in tropical areas. Only one species, D. binghamiae, extends into more northern waters in the Northeastern Pacific. Collections of this species are rare in Oregon, but it was found to be locally abundant at Orford Reef. In the tropics, Dictyota species are well known for containing diterpenes that inhibit urchin and amphipod grazing. More recently, compounds from this genus have been used experimentally as mosquito larvicides.

The ODF&W herbarium mostly contains voucher specimens from their nearshore reef and intertidal studies. These rare seaweed species discoveries emphasize the importance of maintaining voucher collections for ecological studies – particularly for studies of habitats that are rarely visited.

### Personnel News and Notes

Ames joins ODFW’s Marine Resources Program for ocean salmon

Rob Ames is the new Ocean Salmon Assistant Project Leader for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Marine Resources Program on campus.

Rob most recently worked as an assistant research scientist at the University of Washington in Seattle. He worked for Julia Parrish, associate dean of the School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences, College of Ocean and Fisheries Science, studying fish schooling behavior.

Originally from British Columbia, Rob did his undergraduate work in marine science at the University of Hawaii. He completed a master’s degree in environment and management at Royal Roads University in Victoria, B.C.

“Working at the University of Washington was great and I learned a lot,” Rob said, “but fishery management is my passion and I enjoy working directly with the public and industry.”

Rob and his wife, Kelly, who is also a fisheries scientist, currently live in Waldport. It fulfills their desire to live both in a small town and by the ocean.

“We are really excited about living in Waldport,” Rob said. “I grew up in a small town (Vernon, B.C.) and I’ve always wanted to live in one.”

In addition to his work at the University of Washington Rob has worked for the International Pacific Halibut Commission as a field biologist and contract scientist. He also worked as a groundfish observer in Alaska.

He and his wife enjoy hiking, sport fishing and surfing.
Visitor Center News

Discover deep-sea secrets from the “Ring of Fire”

Join us in the Hennings Auditorium on selected dates from April 19th through May 16th, as researchers from the NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL) Vents program at HMSC operate a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) exploring the hydrothermal springs of the Marianas in the western Pacific. A “teacher at sea” will be sending images and messages daily.

Public presentations are scheduled at 1:30 PM on:
- Thursday, April 20th
- Friday, April 28th
- Saturday, April 29th
- Friday May 12th

Please check out the NOAA Ocean Exploration website for “Submarine Ring of Fire 2006 – Mariana Arc” for dramatic graphics and a daily updated link.

School groups and private parties of 15 or more can contact Maureen Collson, (Maureen.collson@oregonstate.edu) at 541/867-7-0159 for additional reservations.

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day on May 13th

Learn about snowy plover management in Oregon

The Pacific Coast population of the western snowy plover is listed as threatened under both the State and Federal Endangered Species Acts. There has been a concerted effort by state and federal agencies to recovery the Oregon population since the early 1990’s.

Come to a presentation by US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Fred Seavey where he will discuss the current status of the bird in Oregon and describe the management measures that are used in its recovery.

When: 1:30 PM, Saturday, May 13th
Where: Hennings Auditorium, HMSC Visitor Center

Snowy plover chick. Photo courtesy of USFWS
Study completed for youth and family marine education building

There’s an idea emerging at the Hatfield Marine Science Center—an idea now with a completed conceptual planning study to help us imagine where youth and family education and learning could happen.

Recognizing the need, opportunity, and potential for collaboration between the Hatfield Marine Science Visitor Center, Oregon Sea Grant’s Youth Marine Education and Ornamental Fish Health Programs, Oregon Coast Community College Aquarium Science Program, and the Oregon Coast Aquarium, Oregon Sea Grant convened a workgroup and funded a concept planning study for a new state-of-the-art youth and family marine education teaching facility.

As the OSU programs at Hatfield Marine Science Center grow, current teaching facilities could be stretched beyond their capacity. Similarly, there are limitations on the growth capacity for the youth programs at the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

At the same time, there is a need to develop the art and science of informal education for youth and families as part of Oregon Sea Grant’s vision as well as the strategic plan of HMSC. The use of this facility would be part of a social learning laboratory for OSU. A youth and family marine education building would enhance the overall experience of youth, students, families, and visitors, while reducing conflicts and incompatible uses of research and teaching needs.

This new facility, designed with green building concept, could potentially serve a variety of purposes and program needs for Oregon State University and the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

The purpose of this study and document is to serve as a useful tool for master planning and as an aide to facilitating further discussions and development of collaborative programming. Among other products of the study is an analysis of five different locations—from adjacent to the Visitor Center to a location on the northern property of the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

We want to thank everyone on the participant list for their time and contributions. We also want to specifically thank Greg Strombeck from OSU Facilities Services for his professionalism and leadership in this study. Our appreciation goes to George Boehlert, Director of the HMSC, and Dale Schmidt, CEO of the Oregon Coast Aquarium, for their support and encouragement, and for staff and board participation. Finally, we want to thank Jim Lewis from gLAs Architectural Group for his guidance and professional work in developing this study.

For a limited time in late March, the large drawings will be displayed in the hall next to the Visitor Center. Those desiring a copy of the study are invited to contact Julie Howard, Oregon Sea Grant, at 867-0367.

News briefs from...

HMSC Business Office
by Joel Colvin

Please join me in welcoming our newest employee, Chelle (as in the latter part of Michelle) Boswell in the OS/2 position handling travel, payroll and facilities A/P.

Chelle comes to us from LBCC in the Valley, with prior service at PSU in Portland and the University of Nevada, Reno. Feel free to drop in, introduce yourself and make her feel welcome!

Thanks! - Joel

Computing Services
by Dann Cutter

Shawn and I have combined offices to create space for the new MCL in the 2nd Story of the Education Building. As such, we have decided that to better serve all of you, we will use ONE phone line. The new HMSC Computer Support phone is: 7-0396 (541-867-0396). The old number 7-0281 will be discontinued. Also as a reminder, Shawn’s hours for HMSC are 12-5 Monday thru Friday.

We also are both available on Cell phones: Dann - 541-270-6996 and Shawn- 541-270-6030. Please understand that we will not always be in an appropriate situation (meeting, conference etc) to answer our cell phones, and if you need to leave a message we encourage you to use the 7-0396 number as it will be checked frequently.
**Library News**

Recent publications from HMSC authors

**Temporal and spatial variation in potential and realized growth rates of age-0 year northern rock sole**
Hurst, TP; Abookire, AA  
JOURNAL OF FISH BIOLOGY 68 (3): 905-919 MAR 2006

**Carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and heavy metal budgets: How large is the eelgrass (Zostera marina L.) sink in a temperate estuary?**  
Kaldy, JE  
MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN 52 (3): 342-353 MAR 2006

**Spatio-temporal dynamics of alternative male phenotypes in coho salmon populations in response to ocean environment**  
Koseki, Y; Fleming, IA (work done while at HMSC)  
JOURNAL OF ANIMAL ECOLOGY 75 (2): 445-455 MAR 2006

**Results from new GPS and gravity monitoring networks at Fernandina and Sierra Negra Volcanoes, Galapagos, 2000-2002**  
Geist, D; Chadwick, W; Johnson, D  
JOURNAL OF VOLCANOLOGY AND GEOTHERMAL RESEARCH 150 (1-3): 79-97 FEB 1 2006

**Vertical deformation monitoring at Axial Seamount since its 1998 eruption using deep-sea pressure sensors**  
Chadwick, WW; Noonier, SL; Zumberge, MA; Embley, RW; Fox, CG  
JOURNAL OF VOLCANOLOGY AND GEOTHERMAL RESEARCH 150 (1-3): 313-327 FEB 1 2006

**Interannual changes in sablefish (Anoplopoma fimbria) recruitment in relation to oceanographic conditions within the California Current System**  
Schirripa, MJ; Colbert, JJ  

**HMSC Happenings**

Soup Kitchen a success

Every winter, HMSC employees organize a weekly “soup kitchen” during the month of February to raise money for local food pantries. This year’s fundraiser ran for a few extra weeks into March, generating $761.60 in donations to Lincoln County Food Share.

Proving that cooking is not a lost art among the community of scientists, staff, and students at the Center, employees volunteer to bring in pots of soup and home-baked goods to be served up at lunchtime in the staff lounge. Occasionally, the soup is “professionally” prepared, as happened this year when Janet Webster convinced Local Ocean Seafood to donate a pot of fish soup with fresh crab meat. Usually, though, the soup comes from someone’s favorite recipe at home, and never fails to please. “People love the soup kitchen because it brings everyone out to share a meal and good conversation while donating to a worthy cause,” says Ken Hall, program manager at HMSC. “And of course, as the soup pot is emptied, the donation pot grows.”

The funds raised by the HMSC soup kitchen will help local food pantries keep their shelves stocked to feed the hungry through the spring. Local food pantries distribute over 50,000 pounds of food every month, serving approximately 3,500 lo-

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**Receiving Your Library Messages and Reminders**

Messages from the OSU Libraries regarding your requests and overdue items are sent to your ONID email address. If you use another email account most of the time, it’s a good idea to have your ONID email forwarded to the email address you use most often. You can forward ONID mail to any email account you prefer to use.

It’s easy to set up the forwarding:

1. Pull up ONID at:  
   https://secure.onid.oregonstate.edu/cgi-bin/my?type=want_auth
2. Type in your ONID username and password  
3. Click on “Manage Mail”  
4. You will see the “Mail Forwarding” fields. Just type in the address to which you want ONID mail forwarded.

**New key card for after-hours access**

This is a reminder about getting your magnetic card for access to the library after hours. If you have picked yours up from Melody, would you be sure to return your old key to the library staff? We don’t want to nag you about overdue keys any more. Thanks. -Janet

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**HMSC Currents - April ’06**

Nancy Smith (left) of Lincoln County food share accepts the proceeds of HMSC’s Soup Kitchen Fundraiser, presented by Monita Cheever.

Nancy residents, of which 45% are children under the age of 15, according to Nancy Smith, chairperson of the Lincoln County Food Share.

“We really appreciate the assistance during this time of year, which is typically a slow period for donations after the busy holiday season,” said Smith.
HMSC team being organized to participate in Relay for Life

Join the fight against cancer by joining the HMSC team in the 2006 Lincoln County Relay for Life, scheduled for August 11-12 at the Newport High School stadium track. For more information about this fun and inspiring 24-hour event benefiting the American Cancer Society, contact Nikki Atkins, who is coordinating the team representing HMSC.

Nikki can be reached by email (nikki.atkins@noaa.gov) or by phone at: 867-0507.

### Degrees awarded

**Congratulations** to those who recently completed a dissertation and/or defended a thesis on the way to earning a Ph.D. or Master’s degree from OSU:

- Brendan Clack (M.S., Fisheries & Wildlife)
- Bob Emmett (Ph.D., Fisheries & Wildlife)
- Thom Gilbert (M.S., Fisheries and Wildlife)
- Daniel Gomez Uchida (Ph.D., Fisheries & Wildlife)
- Rob Suryan (Ph.D., Fisheries & Wildlife)

### HMSC hosts AmeriCorps volunteers for habitat restoration project

HMSC welcomed an AmeriCorps®National Civilian Conservation Corps team to the Oregon coast on April 7th for a month-long habitat restoration project. The project is sponsored by HMSC through its affiliation with the Coastal America partnership.

The 12-member team will be based at HMSC and conducting surveys and targeted removal of invasive plant species at several coastal sites, including the Drift Creek area northeast of Waldport and Siletz Bay National Wildlife Refuge south of Lincoln City. Project activities will be done under the guidance of project partners US Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service, and includes several opportunities for involvement of volunteers from the local community.

Another element of the project aims to help restore coastal habitat for the endangered Oregon silverspot butterfly by planting western blue violets (Viola adunca) at Bray Point, south of Cape Perpetua. The violets are being provided by Oregon Coast Aquarium, another project partner. For more information about the project, or to volunteer a couple of hours with the AmeriCorps team in the field, contact Ken Hall at 867-0234.
Annette von Jouanne to speak at HMSC on May 26

Community invited to hear about OSU professor’s wave energy research

Dr. Annette von Jouanne, a professor in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at OSU (College of Engineering) will deliver a lecture at HMSC on Friday, May 26th at 7pm in the Visitor Center. Her presentation will focus on the pioneering research that she and Professor Alan Wallace have led in the quest for harnessing the energy from waves in the ocean to generate electricity. The May 26th evening lecture is being sponsored by the Friends of HMSC, along with the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County, the Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation. There is keen interest among Oregon’s coastal communities in Dr. von Jouanne’s research and its potential applications. For more information about this event, please contact Ken Hall at 867-0234.

Aquarium science program give students hands-on experience

OSU graduate student Michael Liu (left) and OCCC student Sam(Norris) coordinate to move an adult wolf eel into the bird’s eye exhibit at the OSU/HMSC Visitors Center. Sam relocated from Iowa to Newport to study Aquarium Science.

Caught on camera...

“Randy had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb...” (you know the tune, fill in the rest!)

Psst! Hey Jessica -- you know people have taken sick days for much less! (broken ankle) Nice to see you back on your feet now. -Ed.
Exhausted and exhilarated, Kim and Rob Suryan returned from Russia with their new baby boy, Lucas. The happy new parents reported: “A quick note to let you all know that our adoption is finally complete. We brought our new son, Lucas Alexander Savit Suryan, home to Newport on 23 Feb. He is 14 mo old and is doing great. We feel extremely fortunate to have him in our lives. Thanks for all of your good wishes throughout this long process!”

Isabelle Meusnier is happy to introduce her new baby son Jeremiah, who arrived Monday, March 13th, at 7:00 p.m. According to Isabelle, he’s 54 cm (21.1”) long and weighs 3 kilos, 600 grams (7.9 lbs). “I can vouch for his strong lungs!” Mother, father, baby Jeremiah, and big brother Marius are all doing well.

Greg Krutzikowsky reports:

First of all, Vicki gave birth to our third son, Merak Oliver Hoover Krutzikowsky, at home as planned. He was born on Feb. 2. All went well. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz at birth. He’s over 11 lbs. now. Biology still amazes me.

Second, I have accepted a position with the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies http://www.coastalstudies.org and we will be moving to Cape Cod. Leaving Newport area was a difficult decision. We will miss all the wonderful friends we have here and this community which we have become a part. I’d like to thank all the wonderful folks that I have had a chance to work with at HMSC for helping to make my years here so enjoyable and productive. I know that Vicki feels the same way.

Please look us up if you make it out to Cape Cod. My e-mail address is krutz_sky@yahoo.com

Cheers, - Gregory Krutzikowsky & Family

Meeting to explore South Beach day care possibilities set for May 4

Several folks at the HMSC have recently raised the recurring question about possibilities for day care in South Beach. There is similar interest at the Oregon Coast Aquarium and possibly at Oregon Coast Community College. In response to these inquiries, there will be a meeting on Thursday, May 4th at 10 AM in the Guin Library Seminar Room to discuss:

-- existing opportunities for day care in Newport/South Beach;
-- different models for day care service;
-- unexplored possibilities / partnerships to assist with day care;
-- any other ideas worth discussing.

In order to facilitate our discussion, it would be useful if different folks can come armed with some examples of how different organizations have addressed the day care issue, particularly models that might be useful for our organizations. We can focus the meeting on useful next steps and perhaps form groups to examine specific options in more detail.

Daniel Gomez Uchida and wife Celia (both doing very well) are happy new parents. A very excited dad reported that Amalia Gomez de Lima was born at 4:58a.m. on March 3rd and weighed in at 2.8 kg (6.25 lbs for those of us still not accustomed to the metric system!) She’s 48 cm (19”) tall, and has LOTS of brunette hair. Congratulations, Daniel and Celia!

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Please look us up if you make it out to Cape Cod. My e-mail address is krutz_sky@yahoo.com

Cheers, - Gregory Krutzikowsky & Family