



The HMSC Newsletter



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Pamela Rogers, Editor



George Boehlert Named New Director for HMSC

George W. Boehlert, director of one of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's research laboratories, has been named director of the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center. Boehlert, who will begin his duties July 1, succeeds Lavern Weber, who retired after 25 years as center director (see related story).

For the last eight years, Boehlert has directed NOAA's Pacific Fisheries Environmental Laboratory in Monterey, California. The lab plays a key role in helping scientists better understand the role of the environment in fluctuations of marine resources and changes in marine ecosystems. Boehlert has published more than 80 scientific papers. His research has focused on fisheries oceanography, impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems, ocean survival of Pacific salmon, fish reproduction and larval fish ecology.

"The Hatfield Marine Science Center is one of the best marine laboratories in the nation to lead and develop cooperative research and education programs involving academic, state and federal groups," said Boehlert.

continued

He said that along with its state and federal partners in Newport, the Center is poised to help find solutions to pressing problems in the marine environment, as well as to train students to continue this work in the future.

A 1972 graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara, Boehlert went on to earn his doctorate in marine biology from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California at San Diego. He joined the OSU faculty as an assistant professor in 1979, where he remained for four years before joining NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service in Honolulu, Hawaii.

He spent ten years in Hawaii, the last five as director of the laboratory, and served on the graduate faculty of the University of Hawaii. In 1993, he moved to his current position in Monterey.



Jay Rasmussen presents plaque to Lavern Weber

Weber Honored at Retirement Party

A standing-room only crowd, made up of community leaders, former graduate students, and colleagues from near and far, came to honor HMSC retiring Director Lavern J. Weber on February 9. The HMSC Visitor Center was the scene of a lavish array of hors d'oeuvres and beverages for the over 150 people who came from around the United States to celebrate Dr. Weber's nearly 25 years at the Center.

After an hour and a half of visiting, the family. Jay Rasmussen and Jon Luke of Sea Grant made the presentation of a beautiful plaque honoring Dr. Weber to be displayed in the Visitor Center gallery. Then the mike was made available for anyone wishing to say a few words and many people took advantage of it.

It was a wonderful evening and Dr. Weber remarked that he wished he could have had more time to visit with individuals.

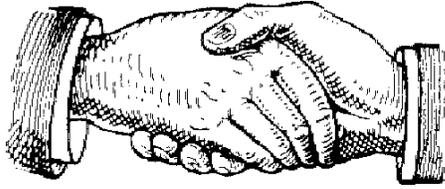
**Astoria Seafood Lab Gets
\$500,000 Rural America Grant**

The Oregon State University Seafood Research Laboratory of Astoria and the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station in Newport have teamed up with Shorebank Enterprise Pacific in Ilwaco and were awarded a U.S. Department of Agriculture "Funds for Rural America" grant for \$531,767. The project is entitled Bridging the Divide-Collaborative Integration of Research and Community Development and will run for three years.

The goal of this project is to incorporate on-going, innovative research regarding new technologies and product diversification into a *Community Based Network* delivery model. The project is designed to maximize the economic impact of existing and future value-added product research on rural coastal communities in Oregon and Washington. Researchers will be primarily looking at product development with albacore tuna and oysters. Michael Morrissey, Director of the OSU Seafood Laboratory, said that that these types of grant are very competitive as less than 10% are funded. "What appealed to USDA was the joining of the research lab with a development institution", he reports. "This is not traditionally done in university circles, but makes a lot of sense for value-added product research." Morrissey feels that this partnership will speed-up the process of getting research knowledge and product development information out of the laboratory and into the private sector where it belongs.

Shorebank Enterprise Pacific is a nonprofit rural economic development corporation assisting entrepreneurs and organizations to build viable business and market ventures, which improve the social and environmental conditions of rural communities. They focus primarily on rural coastal areas on the Oregon and Washington coast and have helped numerous small and mid-size business ventures over the past seven years. "We are very excited about the grant", says Mike Dickerson of Shorebank Enterprise, "as it helps us tie in work at the OSU Seafood Lab, the Duncan Law Consumer Center, and the Coastal Oregon marine Experiment Station with local industry and our services and resources. "This is a collaborative approach to economic development in a specific sector that is designed to create long-term partnerships focused on innovation." Congressman Wu expressed enthusiasm for the grant award. "Oregon depends on its small businesses. Promoting research to enable coastal communities to add greater value to the seafood harvest is a sound investment and a common sense approach to helping coastal communities remain not only viable but to thrive."





March a High Point in HMSC's Community Service

This month has been one of the most active months as far as community service by the HMSC with the Blood Drive and the second month of the Soup Kitchen. Even though the Red Cross continually raises the bar for who they will accept as donors, we were still able to donate 46 pints toward our goal of 50. Many thanks go to our recruiters, registrars and canteen hosts: Carol Ksycinsky (NMFS NW), Judy Mullen (Library), Margo Whipple (Microbiology), Jessica Waddell (CIMRS), Keith Matteson (ODFW), Jimmie Cheney (EPA), Leah Feinberg (CIMRS), Jan Auyong (Sea Grant), Eunice Jenson (HMSC), Dave Specht (EPA), and Mitch Vance (CIMRS). It is very important that every one able to donate does so, because the restrictions really narrow the pool of potential donors.

Thanks to the wonderfully generous chefs and diners at the HMSC, we have been able to raise \$749 this spring to donate to the Lincoln County Food Share. This translates into 4,494 pounds of food (6 pounds per dollar) for one of the hardest-hit areas in the hardest-hit state. Chefs this month have been Carol Cole and Dave Sampson (COMES), Keith Matteson (ODFW), Vicki Osis, Jon Luke and Linda Brodeur (Sea Grant), Dave Mellinger, Jessica Waddell, Leah Feinberg and Julie Keister (CIMRS). Last year we raised \$730 for the two-month period.



Cheryl Brown

NHEERL Hydrodynamic Modeler Joins EPA Team

Perhaps being raised on a sailboat in the Florida Keys had something to do with Cheryl Brown deciding on a career in ocean engineering. As a youngster, she originally thought about becoming a naval architect, but changed to ocean engineering during her college program at Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne. She went on to get her master's there as well in coastal processes, specifically waves, currents and sediment transport in the surf zone. Later she went on to get her doctorate at Texas A&M in oceanography, modeling larval transport through tidal inlets.

Cheryl worked for four years in Corpus Christi at the Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science. She monitored and modeled physical and biological processes in estuaries, such as the effects of dredging on sea grass in causeways. From there she has joined EPA as a National Health and Environmental Effects Research Lab (NHEERL) post-doc, working on the hydrodynamic and nutrient modeling of Yaquina Bay, using existing data sets. She is tying together interactions between the water column and the benthos in nutrient cycling. The Yaquina estuary has a high flushing rate because it is a small estuary and that may be why there is so little phytoplankton found here. As she works on the model, she finds holes where she can

suggest data be gathered to further refine the computer model.

In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, kayaking and working with her fiancé Jim Kaldy on renovating their older home.



Alex DeRobertis

Post-Doc Takes Advantage of Local Expertise

The opportunity to work with experienced scientists sharing similar research interests has led Alex DeRobertis to leave the sunny shores of southern California and join NMFS Northwest as a post-doc. Alex earned his B.S. in marine biology at University of California, Los Angeles and his Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography where his dissertation was on the vertical migration behavior of eusaphiids. He is working on the effects of turbidity on the feeding of salmon on zooplankton. Ric Brodeur was his Ph.D. advisor and he enjoys working with Bill Peterson (zooplankton) and Cliff Ryer (effects of light on predation).

Alex was born in Argentina and has lived in Switzerland and England. His father is a molecular biologist and his mother is a lab administrator. He comes by his scientific interest naturally. In his spare time he is building a wooden canoe (he may need it soon here!), hiking, skiing and camping.



Patrick Ressler

From High Atop the Rigging to Newport

There's nothing like six weeks at sea on a sailing ship to make a person either love or hate the sea. Fortunately, Patrick Ressler's time aboard the Sea Education Association's (SEA) sailing ship led to a doctorate in oceanography. He was a simple biology major at Buchnell University in Pennsylvania when he spotted an ad for a Semester at Sea with SEA and he took a chance. Although he had never been on board a sailing ship before, he was able to master the necessary lingo and even climbed up the tall masts and rigging by the end of his six weeks at sea.

When he got his land legs back, he decided to go on to a Ph.D. in oceanography, which he obtained from Texas A&M. His dissertation was on acoustic estimates of zooplankton and microneckton biomass in cyclones and anticyclones of the NE Gulf of Mexico. From Texas, he took the National Research Council post-doc at the NMFS Northwest group in September 2001, working with Bill Peterson and Ric Brodeur. He is using acoustics to study zooplankton ecology, the distribution of fish and zooplankton patchiness, and how it affects animals higher in the food chain.

Patrick enjoys camping, hiking, ultimate frisbee, and playing the guitar and saxophone. He's looking for a group to jam with, especially since the Oregon weather has cut down on his outdoor time. Perhaps someday he'll go back on board the SEA sailing ship, this time as an instructor. The open sea calls...



What's New @ Your Library

Spring Display!

Thanks to the Master Gardeners of Lincoln County, we can all learn more about gardening at the coast. The current display in the Guin Library gives a flavor of the possibilities for types of gardens, suggests methods and in general, should inspire potential gardeners. The Master Gardeners met every Thursday during the winter in the Library (that's why all the cars were parked along the road.) As part of their thanks to HMSC for use of the space for classes, they wanted to make sure we knew that we can ask them for help by contacting the OSU Extension Office any weekday afternoon. The Gardeners will give you advice, try to solve your garden mysteries and help you get started with your coastal garden

The Price Goes Up

The bad economic news in Oregon and in Higher Education has caught up with the library. We are going to have to increase our photocopy charges, starting April 1. The new charges will be 7 cents / page if you pay on an OSU account (with the pre-programmed code in the machine), and 10 cents / page if you pay by copy card or in cash. 11 x 17" paper will be 15 cents for everyone.

We're also not going to be able to be as lenient as we have been in the past about waiving fines. If you want to know when your books are due, please go to <http://oasis.orst.edu> and look at the column on

the left, "View Your Circulation Record." You can renew books from there.

If you do this once a month, you should be able to stay on top of when your books are due. You be notified via e-mail of any overdues. We have to tighten up in this area and enforce the rules. It is up to you to manage what you have checked out. It is more important than ever to stay on top of what you have checked out, especially if you don't have e-mail, since the library will no longer be sending out print overdue notices to patrons who don't have e-mail. Electronic messages will still be sent, as will paper copies of recall notices, and, of course, bills.

There is good news, though, in that we can now circulate bound journals to people other than faculty members and graduate students. Checkout is for one day only—no renewals.

Reminder
Markham Award
applications due
May 1
All other award
applications due
May 15

Personnel Notes

Congratulations to **Scott** and **Zoe Hecht** on the birth of their first child, a daughter, **Shasta Naomi**. She was born on March 13 and weighed in at 6 pounds 6 ounces, 19 inches long. Scott is finishing his degree in Environmental Molecular Toxicology and spends most of his time at EPA.

