



December 2003

HMSC Currents

Newsletter of the Hatfield Marine Science Center Community - Newport OR

Change is in the Air

We're trying out a new name and format for the HMSC Newsletter. Let us know what you think!

We plan to continue a bi-monthly publication, with content much the same as in the past -- that is, news of interest primarily to the community of people who work at HMSC.

Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.

-Editors
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Barry Fisher Building Dedication



On Friday, October 3rd, Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr. joined over 230 community members, government and university officials, and fishing industry representatives to dedicate the Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Captain R. Barry Fisher building—a new research facility on Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center campus. This facility was created to strengthen critical marine fish programs through interdisciplinary science, partnerships, and educational linkages and is named after Captain R. Barry Fisher, a strong advocate for improved science and collaboration.

The Dedication ceremony, hosted by Dr. Usha Varanasi, Science and Research Director of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, included poignant and encouraging remarks by Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., OSU Provost and Executive Vice President Dr. Tim White, and Bob Schoning, a retired NOAA Fisheries employee and close personal friend of Captain R. Fisher. Carol Fisher and her son, Chris Fisher, also spoke.

During the ceremony, Martin Doern of Senator Gordon Smith's office and Jake Vasey of Congresswoman Darlene Hooley's Office read letters of support regarding the building, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center's research, and Captain R. Barry Fisher.



Senators Ron Wyden and Mark Hatfield (retired) also sent letters of support, which were read by Dr. Varanasi. "We are here to honor the past and celebrate the science and technology, and partnerships that make science usable," stated Usha Varanasi. In line with this statement, Vice Admiral Lautenbacher presented a \$1,777,363 grant award check to Dr. Tim White during the ceremony. This grant funds West Coast fisheries research on the effects of ocean variability and the physical and

biological processes which influence salmon and groundfish productivity, distribution, growth, health, and at-sea survival. It is representative one of the many beneficial partnerships that NOAA and the Northwest Fisheries Science Center have with Oregon State University. Vice Admiral Lautenbacher and Dr. Varanasi also unveiled a painting by a local artist that commemorates the life of Captain R. Barry Fisher. The painting will hang in the building's foyer.



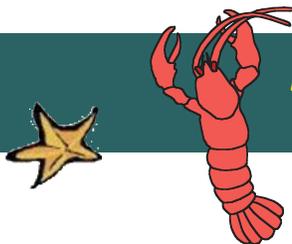
"We are here to honor the past and celebrate the science and technology, and the partnerships that make science usable"



After the dedication ceremony, a ribbon to the facility was cut and attendees toured the building and nine different "science stations" that Northwest Fisheries Science Center scientists created to demonstrate some of the innovative research they conduct, including acoustic surveys to track groundfish populations, remotely operated vehicles to investigate fish habitat, and plankton surveys to better understand plankton productivity and its impacts on fish productivity and marine ecosystems.

Continued benefit and use of fisheries depends on providing state-of-the-art scientific information to inform management decisions and as Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., stated, "through research in the new Captain R. Barry Fisher building, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center is doing just this."





BUSINESS OFFICE CORNER

As most of you know already, the HMSC Business Office hours changed this summer to be open 9:30-5:00; we really appreciate your observance of our closed door during this time. It allows us some uninterrupted time each morning to process your requests in finance, personnel and purchasing - especially important when we have deadlines to meet.



MORE CHANGES: With the completion of the renovated mailroom, **Melody Pfister** in the Housing Office has moved to a new office area more centrally located next to the mailroom. Her time is split between HMSC and CIMRS and her new hours are 7:30AM-4:30PM, Monday through Friday.

* SOME HOLIDAY REMINDERS *

University Closure:

The University will be officially closed Dec. 24-26th—this includes HMSC. For unclassified, academic, employees this means taking official leave time the 24th and 26th; the Governor's additional paid leave day has been approved, so you can use that Governor's day for either the 24th or 26th if you wish. Other days that it can be used are Nov. 25th, Dec. 31st and January 2nd. Classified staff is on paid leave Dec. 24th (replacing Veteran's Day), but must take leave on Dec. 26th. The University holiday schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the mailroom.

FedEx/UPS/Mail:

NO DELIVERY DEC. 24-27

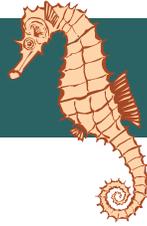
Due to the University closure, there will be NO deliveries of US Mail, FedEx and UPS to HMSC Dec. 24-27th. If you are expecting something important, please use your home address.

Please remember that personal use of FedEx and UPS is not allowed at HMSC under University rules. The Post Office in South Beach has outgoing UPS service and JC Market in Newport has outgoing FedEx service until 1:00PM.

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 "University will be officially closed Dec. 24th - 26th - this includes HMSC"



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PLEASE HAVE YOUR PERSONAL PACKAGES SENT TO YOUR HOME ADDRESS. HMSC IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PERSONAL DELIVERIES.



WISHING YOU A JOYFUL AND RELAXING HOLIDAY,
Beulah, Debi, and Eunice

“There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life Is bound in shallows and in miseries”

William Shakespeare,
Julius Caesar



PERS Retirement Update

If you were unable to attend the latest series of PERS Update meetings on campus, a digital video stream of the October 29th meeting is available online. It is informative, takes a little over an hour with the questions, and can be seen at: <http://oregonstate.edu/media/archive/>.

Note: You will need RealPlayer and/or QuickTime Player to view this media. Links to this software are listed at this website.

LIBRARY NEWS

Tide Exhibit



Tides are the topic of the latest exhibit in the Guin Library. Susan Gilmont compiled the text with the goal of explaining how tides work as well as the history behind the explanation. The historical tidbits illuminate why the tides remain a complex concept. In addition, alternative explanations are found in legends and stories. The hardest parts of putting this exhibit together were making a dense topic comprehensible and then limiting how much to discuss. We quickly discovered that we could do many more exhibits on the tides and their affect on our world.

International Students/ Staff:

Considering a move in your residence? New Homeland Security rules require that students and anyone working at the University on a visa notify INS of a change of residence within 10 days of the move. Please take this reminder seriously-- noncompliance could mean deportation and a fine to the University.

New Computers in Library

The new library computers have been installed. These were paid for with student technology fees, so we have the OSU student body to thank for them. All of the computers in the back of the library now require ONID accounts for login. This means that if you are not an OSU-affiliated employee, you can't use them. There are five computers in the front of the library that are available for non-OSU staff and the general public. All of the new computers have CD drives for data storage. They do not have disk drives. Library staff has CDs for sale, and can help you with formatting them. The new computers also have USB ports and can take the new "memory sticks" if you have them.

There are "cheat sheets" near the new computers with helpful instructions for using them.



Have your ONID account?

If you are affiliated with OSU and haven't gotten around to setting up an ONID account yet, you really should do it. Not only do you need it to use the new computers, you have to have an ONID account to register for the new interlibrary loan service. It entitles you to e-mail service including webmail, and 200MB of free data storage. Library staff can walk you through to get one.

Eyes on the Skies

There are a lot of stargazers around the Center. Whether you are checking out something yourself, or helping a beginner learn about the heavens, you may be interested in some of these websites:

<http://www.skymaps.com/articles/index.html>

This gives a monthly map of the night sky, including approximate position of planets and major celestial objects as much as clusters and nebulae. It also has a calendar of celestial events. A really nice product.

There are going to be a couple of naked-eye comets next spring. The comet-watchers among may be interested in the ICQ Comet Information Website:

<http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/icq/icq.html>

Other sites of interest:

Good information from the U.S. Naval Observatory:

<http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/>

The Heretics Guide to choosing and buying your first telescope:

<http://findascope.com>

Ever wonder about those planets in the other solar systems that astronomers are finding these days? Check out The Extrasolar Planets Encyclopedia:

<http://www.obspn.fr/encycl/encycl.html>

A humorous site - - Phil Platt's Bad Astronomy Website:

<http://www.badastronomy.com/amazon.html>

General Resources:

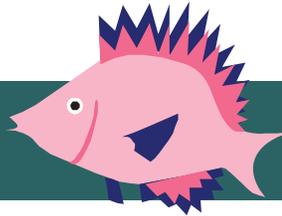
<http://www.earthsky.com/Features/Skywatching/toolbox.html#tools>

<http://www.stsci.edu/astroweb/astronomy.html>



In touch with her inner mermaid, Guin library student aide Ashley Lowe, checks out a book before a swim with the dolphins.





PERSONNEL NOTES

HMSC Welcomes New Program Manager

One of the new faces at HMSC this fall belongs to Ken Hall, hired in November to fill the newly created position of Program Manager. Ken is the former Assistant Director of Student Programs in the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences (COAS) on the Corvallis campus, where he also served as Assistant Director of the Marine Resource Management (MRM) program.

Ken's participation in strategic planning for MRM and his familiarity with other OSU departments and personnel should be valuable in his new role helping manage HMSC's own strategic planning process. As Program Manager, Ken will also be responsible for managing the development of a HMSC visiting scientist program, a strengthened internship program, and expanded academic programs for both graduate and undergraduate students.

Prior to joining OSU, Ken worked for the University of California, managing research grants in the College of Natural Resources at Berkeley, and more recently on the UC San Diego campus as Director of Communications for UCTV, the university's systemwide satellite television channel. Before that, he ran a production company and has also worked on documentaries for public television. With a continuing interest in video and new media technologies used for distance education, Ken is looking forward to exploring greater use of these applications at HMSC.

Ken grew up in Maryland and attributes his interest in marine science and policy to an early awareness of the declining health of the Chesapeake Bay. He has a Master's degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, where he studied environmental policy and management.

After graduate school, Ken moved to the west coast and worked for the U.S. EPA Region 9 in San Francisco, before joining the UC system. He enjoys travel, hiking, playing tennis and running - although he says he hasn't yet gotten used to doing it in the rain. He lives in Depoe Bay.



*Ken Hall,
Program Manager*



Extension Sea Grant New Employee

In October, Candy Laube joined the Oregon Sea Grant Program as Jay Rasmussen's Program Assistant. Candy brings a wealth of experience and talent to our organization.

She is a native Oregonian growing up in Lincoln City. The last 15 years her and her husband Daryl have lived in the Portland Metropolitan area, (Tualatin, the Pearl District, and NW Portland). Candy has an extensive background in banking working as Project Manager and Customer Service Manager at US Bank, Real Estate Associate Broker with John L. Scott Real Estate and most recently, Sr. Administration / Business Operations for Finance and Employee Services at Intel Corporation.

She loves to spend time with her two kids and her two grandbabies. Her passions are traveling, tennis, golf, reading and doing activities at her church.



*Candy Laube,
Jay Rasmussen's
Program Assistant*

Lessons from an Old Pro

When Dr. Weber noted that Pam Rogers didn't like surprises, the committee planning her farewell reception told her about it a few days beforehand. With a full weekend to prepare, Pam was ready for the Monday afternoon event and commandeered the podium while others were still milling around. In a take-charge voice, she told everyone to take a seat and called the farewell "meeting" to order. After a brief introduction, she whipped out a large box, aptly labeled "Success Kit" and opened it.

She didn't hesitate in pulling out the items that, she said, had led to her success here at Hatfield. At least one - the three-foot skeleton - needed little explanation. When she waved it around, we knew she knew where the bodies had been buried.

In a moment of public candor, Pam noted that she hadn't needed to know how to do things in order to be successful. Holding up a Rolodex, she said she just needed to know who could. As for "being prepared", she pulled out a big bag (representing Charlene's purse, a Director's office asset from 10/85 - 5/03), and strongly suggested those bent on success have their very own backup person (or purse) to cover almost any unexpected emergency.

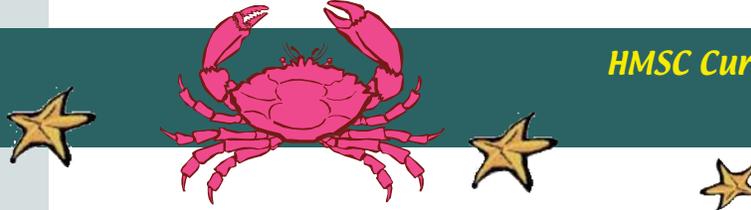
She brandished her well-worn Soup-Kitchen Apron as she suggested promoting a project everyone is in favor of, because they'll jump in and do the work while you stand back and get the credit.

She also praised Dr. Weber, for whom she worked from July 1985 until his recent retirement. Dr. Weber, in turn, brightened up the event by displaying a framed picture taken several years ago, showing a curly-headed young Pam Rogers in a bright red sweater and an apparently indispensable apron.

Charlene Lockman also put in an appearance, along with the aforementioned purse.



*Best Wishes to Pam Rogers
in her Retirement*



Rene Bellinger

Renee joined Michael Banks' Marine Fisheries Genetics laboratory in the beginning of October 2003. She is participating in several projects, but is primarily involved in a collaborative effort to develop a molecular genetic baseline for genetic stock identification of chinook salmon. Prior to joining Michael's laboratory, she worked as a research assistant on the main OSU campus in Sue Haig's conservation genetics laboratory, where she studied voles. She has a M.Sci. degree from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Before joining the conservation genetics world, she worked as an avian field biologist for five years. Birdwatching remains one of her favorite activities, as well as hiking, camping, and spending time with friends.



Maria Parnel

Maria received her B.S. in Fisheries from the University of Washington and worked for the Alaska Fisheries Science Center and the International Pacific Halibut Commission before arriving here in October. She works for Ric Brodeur in the Estuary and Ocean Ecology group as an ichthyoplankton taxonomist. Maria likes to fish, garden, read, travel, and keep marine aquaria in her spare time. She also enjoys watching her two-and-a-half year-old niece and spending time with her family.



Marc Johnson

Marc Johnson arrived at the HMSC from northern California, where he worked as a wildlife biologist for a timber resource company. He and his wife, Elke, now live in Toledo, and Marc is conducting research in Michael Banks' laboratory. His research aims to shed light on the genetic population structure of coho salmon along the Oregon coast, and determine what levels of genetic diversity are needed to ensure long-term viability of these populations. Marc's background in population genetics comes in part from his Master's research at the University of Brasilia, where he investigated species-habitat associations and the genetic structure of small mammal populations in the Brazilian Cerrado. Prior to this, Marc had earned his Bachelor's degree in zoology right here at Oregon State University. He is happy to be back in Oregon, and looks forward to a productive stay at HMSC.



Michael Liu

Michael Liu is a Ph.D. Student in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at OSU, working with Selina Heppell and Hiram Li on modeling impacts of invasive species on estuarine ecosystems of the Oregon coast. His current research interest is focused on two species -- the European green crab and the New Zealand mud snail. In addition, Michael works as an aquarist at HMSC, helping care for fish in the Visitors Center tanks. Michael was recently married in his home country of Taiwan and is looking forward to his wife coming to Oregon in time for the holidays.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Update on the Faculty/Staff/Student Lounge

The permanent wall separating the lounge from the mailroom has been completed, along with the roughed-in electrical work. The next major step is plumbing, so on Wednesday, December 10 a crew came in to cut the floor. A new stove and sink will be installed, and the cabinets and shelves should be in place by late December/early January. When we have a break in the weather (late January or early February) the crew will open up the outside wall and install a sliding glass door. Once the door is in, carpeting will be installed. We don't yet have an "official" date for the opening of the lounge, but it won't be long.

*"Work is beginning on the
New Faculty / Staff /
Student Lounge."*

HMSC Holiday Celebration Potluck Dinner

HMSC staff, family and friends enjoyed an evening of food and fun at the annual holiday potluck on December 3rd. The Visitors Center main hall was transformed into a huge and festive dining room, with few empty chairs and no empty stomachs by the end of the evening. Many thanks to all who helped set up, clean up, and to the students for organizing a raffle with such an eclectic mix of wonderful prizes. Congratulations on a successful fundraiser!





HMSC Annual Picnic



Whoever said it doesn't rain in Siletz in the summer was just about right. September 6 – the day of our annual picnic – started out foggy-to-wet in Newport but skies lightened up just a bit as the set-up crew neared Siletz. The fog was still heavy at Moonshine, even dripping a bit off the trees, but about one o'clock it gave way and the grounds began to dry up.

The playing field, while not level, was dry enough for the kids to take on the adults in a tenacious tug o' war. To their credit, the kids won their round.

There were lots of winners, and winning teams, in horseshoes, Frisbee, badminton, three-legged races and sack races. Brian Wakefield was the undisputed winner of the big-kids' sack race, but Michael Banks snagged the first-prize Ravenswood Merlot because he was over-age and had dared a last-second flying leap over his superintendent, Gil Sylvia.

Linda Brodeur was one of the first to get officially soaked by a water balloon tossed by partner Susan Boehlert, and Mark Camara was first to get "unofficially" soaked, by an on-target Mitch Vance.

The potluck was plentiful, delicious and diverse – in lieu of vegetables, Michael and Sana Banks provided locally grown hamburgers. The thick chunks of tuna, southern style pork and corn prepared by our capable chefs were tender and tasty. The last of the hot dogs disappeared around the evening campfire, and no one went home hungry.



Hatfield Marine Science Center
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HMSC Annual Picnic
September 6 at
Moonshine Park
in Siletz, OR