



HMSC Currents

February 2010

Newsletter of the Hatfield Marine Science Center Community - Newport OR

HMSC Scientists attend 2009 annual meeting of PICES

Several scientists from the HMSC participated in PICES 2009, held in late October, 2009 on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea. PICES is the North Pacific Marine Science Organization, modeled after the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in the North Atlantic. Meetings rotate among the 6 member nations. The theme of the meeting was "Understanding ecosystem dynamics and pursuing ecosystem approaches to management". An important development at this meeting was approval of the implementation plan for FUTURE (Forecasting and Understanding of Trends, Uncertainty and Responses of North Pacific Marine Ecosystems). This is the second integrative scientific program of PICES, and represents the organization's highest priority activity for the next decade.

OSU and HMSC scientists have been involved with PICES since its inception and currently participate in a variety of committees and working groups, as well as attending the meeting each year. It represents an excellent means of developing international linkages in research, particularly with the new FUTURE program. The 2010 PICES annual meeting will occur in Portland in October; limited travel awards for young scientists are available. More information on PICES is available at <http://www.pices.int>. HMSC's Bryan Black was the

recipient of the best Paper Award for his presentation, "Growth-increment chronologies reflect ecosystem responses to climate variability in the northeast Pacific."



Participants from HMSC in the International Conference Center in Jeju Island. From left to right are: Bryan Black (OSU – HMSC), Brett Dumbauld (USDA – ARS), Tracy Shaw (OSU – CIMRS), George Boehlert (OSU – HMSC) and Julie Keister (now a professor at the University of Washington, but formerly a student at OSU-HMSC). Missing from the photo are Ric Brodeur (NOAA-NMFS), Henry Lee (USEPA), and Deborah Reusser (USGS).



educator with Oregon Sea Grant specializing in Spanish language education programs, such as the successful "Las OLAS" (Ocean Learning Activities in Spanish) program.

Ana Maria is a very dedicated individual who selflessly strives to improve the quality of life for a large but often overlooked portion of our local community, those whose primary language is Spanish. From acting as interpreter at doctor and hospital visits for those who need it, to creating educational materials regarding health and safety issues in Spanish, Ana Maria makes a huge but often unrecognized impact in this community.

Ana Maria is a volunteer for many organizations and is on the Board of Directors for the Centro de Ayuda. She has served as outreach liaison for breast cancer awareness at the Samaritan

Hatfield Marine Science Center's Las OLAS Coordinator honored for community service

The Hatfield Marine Science Center highlights a special employee each year through the HMSC Community Spirit Award. The award honors volunteer efforts and contributions made to the local community. This year's winner, Ana Maria Esperza-Smith, works as an

Pacific Communities Hospital in Newport and is editor and publisher of Lincoln County's Spanish language newspaper, *El Rehilete*. She is one of the organizers of a celebration of

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Work at HMSC featured in recent Oregon Field Guide programs

Rob Suryan (OSU/HMSC) and Roy Lowe (USFWS) were contributors to a recent segment of OPB's popular Oregon Field Guide program. The segment, entitled *Murre & Eagles*, aired in early February and can be viewed on-line at: <http://www.opb.org/programs/ofg/episodes/view/2108>. Roy returns to the program this week in a segment about brown pelicans.



photo courtesy of Roy W. Lowe/USFWS

News from Oregon Sea Grant

Sea Grant education partnership receives presidential award

The Ocean Conservation and Education Alliance Northwest (OCEAN), a partnership of Oregon Sea Grant and several other coastal groups, will receive a 2009 Coastal America Partnership Award for outstanding efforts to restore and protect the coastal environment.

The Presidential award represents the highest level national recognition for outstanding multi-agency, multi-stakeholder collaborations that pool resources from many sources to accomplish coastal restoration, preservation, protection and education projects.

The award was announced on Nov. 6 by the Coastal America Partnership (<http://www.coastalamerica.gov/>) an action-oriented, collaborative partnership of federal agencies, state and local governments, and private organizations. The partners work together to protect, preserve, and restore our nation's coasts, accomplishing tasks that no one group could accomplish alone.

OCEAN is receiving the award for "efforts to bring together a network of innovative educators ... to engage students and inspire ocean science literacy," according to Coastal America director Virginia K. Tippie.

The OCEAN partnership came about three years ago as a result of discussions among the Sea Grant Education program at Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC), the Lincoln County School District, and the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

The initial goal was to forge a partnership to help make local students among the most "ocean literate" in the country. Since then, the partnership has grown to include more than a dozen local, state, federal and university agencies and organizations, and the network is expanding to encompass the entire

Pacific Northwest.

The network's goals are to unite organizations with strong marine science education programs to focus on ocean science literacy both in K-12 schools and among the public at large. The partnership aims to nurture children's inherent scientific curiosity by employing the multi-disciplinary allure of the ocean to help teach science, technology, math, and engineering concepts, and to create professional development opportunities to support teachers and marine science professionals in furthering that goal. The award will be presented at a public ceremony to be announced.

Tsunami Preparedness for HMSC Staff and Visitors

March 5th, 1:30pm in the Hennings Auditorium:

Pat Corcoran is a hazards outreach specialist with Oregon Sea Grant. His topical focus includes coastal erosion and shoreline change, and tsunami preparedness. Pat will speak to the group about earthquake and tsunami risks on the Oregon coast, with special attention to the specific vulnerability and options for people working and living in the HMSC area. Pat will focus less on the geology, and more on how it impacts people and what we can do about it. Pat will emphasize "The Three Things You Need to Know", including the importance of identifying high ground before you need it, and having conversations with your loved ones about what to expect and how to be safe.

New Family Programs at HMSC!

Following the success of the K-12 classes and Homeschool Days, Feb 5th saw the start to a new series of marine education evening activities at HMSC. "Family Fridays" have families learning ocean science together both out on the Yaquina estuary and inside our newly remodeled wetlabs. Family programs are offered every Friday from 4pm - 6pm through March 12th and cover a multitude of fun, interactive marine topics, including an ROV challenge, squidology and estuary investigations. Families with children age 4 years and older are welcome. To register, please contact Maureen Collson (541) 867-0159. More information is available on the HMSC Visitor Center webpage:



<http://hmsc.oregonstate.edu/visitor/education-programs/family-programs>

Open Access to Information at HMSC

The OSU Libraries operate OSU's digital repository, Scholars Archive. This is where anyone affiliated with OSU can store their digital publications. Graduate students now deposit their Masters theses and PhD dissertations here. The College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences has several digital collections including all of the data and reference reports. That means for some of you who still have the orange reports from the 1950s on can clean you office. The url for the COAS collections is <http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/handle/1957/1309>. Recently, the College adopted a policy that encourages all faculty to make their publications openly available to all. This means more of them will be put into ScholarsArchive or will be openly available at the journal publisher.

One example of how this will look for a faculty member is the Bill Pearcey Collection - <http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/handle/1957/13328>. Dr. Pearcey is one of an internationally renowned fisheries oceanographer who has contributed so much to our understanding of the Northeast Pacific. Bill gave the OSU Libraries permission to digitally archive all of his publications. However, we had to negotiate with the publishers the right to do so. Thus far, we have 38 of his publications available and hope to get more. Bill believes in making his knowledge available to all and his digital collection is an excellent example of one way to do so.

We also use it to store and provide access to university documents that can disappear or are difficult to find. The HMSC Director's Office is taking advantage of this to collect those internal documents that you don't need until you need them. These include building plans, workshop reports and environmental assessments. These are stored in the HMSC Collection <http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/jspui/handle/1957/1317>. Each page in ScholarsArchive has a counter so you can see how often your work is viewed and downloaded.

There's room for more stuff. Talk to Janet Webster about how to get started with making your work more accessible to the world.

Community Spirit Award (*continued from page 1*)

Mexican culture, a festival aimed at using music and art as a bridge between cultures. Ana Maria is also Vice President for the Lincoln County League of Women Voters.

"Ana Maria continually seeks to improve the lives of others," says Oregon Sea Grant Education Coordinator, Tracy Crews. "She is the voice that many families call when they need help or are confused. Her generosity is boundless and should be recognized and emulated by us all." HMSC Director George Boehlert added, "A great example of Ana Maria's reputation is highlighted by all the calls she received about tsunami evacuation after a recent earthquake. This showed that Spanish language services for tsunami warning and evacuation are lacking on the west coast, a point raised with NOAA officials."

Getting ready for the big one

In September, the library staff moved the entire collection as workers from Timmerman Company added bracing to the existing shelving and screwed them to the floor. When we first installed the shelving in 1990, it met the current tsunami standard. Those have changed over the years and the library shelving needed upgrading. With the books off the shelves, we moved things around a little. However, we made sure to keep the aisles open and shelf space available for growth. Thanks to the the Ts from HMSC Facilities and our faithful volunteer, Bob Byer, and his wife for helping out with the loading and unloading of book trucks. We couldn't have done it without them.



Making Sure The Library Can Contact You: How to Forward Your ONID Email Messages

Library messages regarding your requested items, holds and overdues are frequently sent to ONID email accounts. Anybody who is paid by OSU or has a courtesy appointment at OSU has an ONID email. This can be your default account unless you have changed it in ONID.

If you use another email address more often than your ONID account, please make sure your ONID mail is being forwarded to your most regularly used email address. This will ensure that you receive all your library messages and will help you to avoid fines.

You can forward ONID email by logging into ONID at: https://secure.onid.oregonstate.edu/cgi-bin/my?type=want_auth Then choose "Manage Mail" so you can forward your ONID mail to your email address of choice.

*The HMSC Currents newsletter is published 4-5 times a year.
Your comments and submissions are welcomed!
Send to: maryann.bozza@oregonstate.edu*

Personnel News and Notes

Maryann Bozza joins our community as the new HMSC Program Manager. She comes to the HMSC from the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward, Alaska, where she spent 10 years conducting molecular and field research on Alaskan species including Steller sea lions and sea ducks. She earned a Master's in Marine Biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2009, with thesis research on Steller's eider immunology, and has a B.A. in Chemistry from Brooklyn College. Maryann recently concluded a year in Washington, DC as a Knauss Marine Policy Fellow representing Alaska Sea Grant, where she contributed to the development of NOAA's agency-wide strategic plan. She is looking forward to being part of the Newport community, and enjoying the many recreational opportunities that life on Oregon's coast will bring.



Amanda Berks is the new part-time Office Specialist in Ship Operations, assisting Monita Cheever. Amanda brings some first-hand seafaring experience to her job of providing administrative



in Brisbane, Australia in 2009, Amanda and her husband decided to sell their boat. Now they are landlubbers! Amanda is happy to be in Newport in a cool climate again, as she is originally from London. Come over to Ship Operations and visit.

support to the crew of the *R/V Wecoma*; she and her husband have settled in Newport after sailing approximately 50,000 miles in the past ten years on their 41-ft sailboat. Amanda has been through the Panama Canal twice, as well as sailing extensively throughout the Caribbean Sea. She has also sailed the east coast of the U.S. from Florida to Nova Scotia, the west coast of North America from Panama to British Columbia, and across the South Pacific. After spending four months

Xiuning Du was born and raised in the beautiful coastal city of Qingdao City, China. She spent four years in another coastal city, Ningbo, receiving her bachelor degree in Biotechnology from Ningbo University. Returning to Qingdao in 2006, Xiuning began her graduate study in Marine Biology at the Ocean University of China (OUC). There she focused on marine phytoplankton ecology and also received comprehensive training on diatom taxonomy at Xiamen University. Two years later, she was admitted to the Ph. D program at OUC and studied there one year as a Ph. D candidate before coming to HMSC. Here she is working with Dr. William Peterson on a project related to the feeding of krill in the coastal upwelling zone off Oregon to determine the impact on phytoplankton biomass and community structure.

Xiuning finds people in HMSC and Newport to be very nice, especially providing help whenever and wherever.



She says that Newport has unique beaches and ocean, compared with other coastal cities, and that the bridge here is a good location for seeing far out to sea. She finds the winter weather somewhat inconvenient since she does most of her shopping by bike and appreciates when the sun comes out. Riding her bike does allow her time to appreciate the area's woods, mountains and fresh air. Xiuning also walks, jogs, reads and likes trying new cookie recipes. She is looking forward to spending time on the beach next summer.

Bob Moch was born in Albany, New York and is the middle child, in between two sisters. He received his AAS in Business Admin at a community college in Troy, New York and a BS in Business Admin at S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo, New York and lived his first 24 years of life there.

After college and the reading of an article in National Geographic magazine about homesteading in Alaska, he packed his pickup and drove to Fairbanks, Alaska (1200 miles of gravel at that time) He lived 19 years in Fairbanks. Though he bought property there, he never actually homesteaded. During those years, he worked for the University of Alaska in various accounting positions.

After 24 years in Alaska, he accepted the campus business manager's position with Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay and moved to Oregon. Since then, he has continued working for institutions of higher learning such as Portland State University in Portland and Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

For recreation, he is an avid hiker and thespian. Bob has played all sorts of character roles in numerous small town community theater productions and plans to pursue some involvement in Newport's community theater activities. He has two sons both in their twenties, one who pilots the tanker planes that refuel the jets for the USAF and one who is a sergeant in the US Army and has already done his year assignment in Iraq.

Bob's responsibilities as HMSC Business Office Manager include budgeting, accounting, forecasting and analysis of all funds assigned to HMSC, COMES and CIMRS. He also manages the HMSC business office operation and staff. What attracted him to this position was a job with a combination of research support and general business office administration responsibilities as well as what a small town environment has to offer a person who enjoys the outdoors and community based theater.

He is a food-a-holic, so don't leave food unattended. During the week prior to a holiday, he will most likely have goodies to share at his desk, so feel free to stop by at 109A for a snack. (remember, he is a food-a-holic, so if you want to take advantage of this offer, WHEN YOU SEE THE FOOD, MAKE YOUR MOVE!)

Jason Eibner began working at HMSC May of 2009 for the west coast observer program as a debriefer/ trainer. He has a B.S. in molecular genetics from Ohio State University, and began



getting involved in fisheries management shortly upon graduation. In the years prior to the Newport move, Jason enjoyed working, living and playing in several western states, gradually making his way to the west coast. Most recently, he was found in Fort Bragg, CA working as a west coast fisheries observer, which led to his current position at HMSC. He and his wife Jinji became the proud parents of Jahan one month after relocating to Newport, and have been enjoying all their

new roles, as well as the camaraderie and beauty that HMSC and Newport have to offer.



Megan O'Connor, a postdoc with CIMRS, is funded by NOAA (Fisheries and The Environment, FATE) and is part of a collaborative research effort with NOAA, University of Washington, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, NASA, and University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory). The primary goal of the research project is to develop short-term forecasts of hake distribution using satellite-derived data on ocean conditions and outputs from oceanographic models. Megan is thrilled about this opportunity because it allows her to build upon her primary research interests, understanding the temporal and spatial gradients that drive fish abundance and distribution.

After receiving a BS from King's College in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania (also her hometown) Megan decided to pursue



her passion for fisheries science at the University of Rhode Island where she worked on several research projects including her graduate work on juvenile winter flounder ecology. Following many years working in both academic research and private consulting settings she decided to return to graduate school to follow a career in applied fisheries research. As a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, she procured funding from the NOAA National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) and the Hudson River Foundation. These funding opportunities allowed her to complete her dissertation, 'Identifying critical fish habitat and long-term trends in fish abundances in the Hudson River estuary'.

Megan moved from snowy western Massachusetts to Newport just 3 weeks ago with her husband, Steve Gaurin, and their 2.5 year old son, Nicholas. They are still getting used to their new surroundings and like exploring coastal Oregon together. Steve also enjoys playing soccer with the HMSC community and Megan enjoys spending her spare time walking, playing and reading with her son.

Andi Stephens is a new member of the Fishery Resource Analysis and Monitoring (FRAM) Division of NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center. Andi moved here from Charleston, SC where she served as a statistical analyst with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SC DNR) in the Marine Resources Research Division.

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Personnel News and Notes - continued

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Fisheries research is a second career for Andi, who worked as a software developer at Carnegie Mellon University and at IBM Transarc Labs in Pittsburgh before attending Chatham College, where she received her B.S. in Biochemistry in 2000. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in Ocean Sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz (2005), modeling ecological scenarios involving salmon aquaculture and investigating statistical



methods for stock assessment in multispecies fisheries. Her post-doc at the NMFS Beaufort, NC lab also focused on stock assessment. She then briefly served as a staff scientist for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council before joining SC DNR.

Because much of her research involves simulated animals, Andi thinks of herself as an “in-silico” biologist. She is currently working with a colleague at the University of South Carolina (the other USC) on an individually-based model to investigate genetic drift as a response to fishing pressure.

Andi is a birder and sea-kayaker, and enjoys hiking and camping. She has been to all 50 states; most of them by driving cross-country on camping trips. Her cats are Mia, Rosie, Nietzsche, Taz DeVille and Spike Jones, and they are also bird-watchers (windows only, though Andi herself is a Mac).

David Rupp is a new research associate in the OSU/NOAA Cooperative Institute for Marine Resource Studies (CIMRS). He will be investigating the integration of ocean condition indices into Pacific salmon harvest management.

Though new to Newport, David has lived in the area since 1998. He originally came to the Pacific Northwest to work at the Biological Resources Division of the USGS (Columbia

River Research Laboratory), later obtained a Ph.D. in Water Resources Engineering from Oregon State University, and most recently worked for an environmental consulting firm in Portland. He also slipped away to New Zealand for a couple



of years to work as a research scientist with the N.Z. National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research.

David and his partner, Elizabeth, are happy to have just moved into a rental only a couple blocks from the beach. You are likely to see David crossing the bridge most days either on foot or by bicycle.

Brandon Jones is working as a faculty research assistant in Kathleen O’Malley’s fisheries genetics lab. The lab is currently using genetic markers to help distinguish between spring and fall runs of Chinook salmon in the Feather River (California). They are also looking into developing new genetic markers to assist in identifying genetic distinctions between these two salmon runs. Overall, the hope is that this research will assist in the preservation of failing runs and those that might fail due to rising temperatures.

Earning his BS at BYU-Hawaii in Biology, Brandon would have majored in Marine Biology but it wasn’t offered. But the one marine course that was offered solidified his love for studying the ocean. His Master’s degree came from Bucknell University studying the population genetics of endemic Hawaiian damselflies. Married to his dream girl, Mindy, the couple has



two kids, Ethan who is 2 1/2, and Olivia who is 8 months old. Outside of work Brandon enjoys spending time with his family watching his children discover the world. He is also a music fanatic, both playing music and attending concerts. And he

hates to admit it but he says he loves food, especially his favorites - all varieties of hot dogs and sausage.

Brandon is thrilled to live so close to the ocean again. He thoroughly enjoys living in Newport and appreciates the smell of the salt water, the sound of the waves crashing and waking up to the barking of sea lions (and not the sound of lawn mowers).

Rhea Sanders (COAS) and Wade Smith (F&W) proudly announce the birth of Joshua Kai Smith on the 19th of January at 8:46 am.



Range Bayer retires after a long and varied career at HMSC

It was an overflow group of friends that gathered December 17th in the HMSC Staff Lounge to wish Range Bayer the best on his retirement from OSU/HMSC. Several gave accounts of fond memories they have from working with Range in a variety of capacities. A highlight of the gathering was Range's humorous accounts of some of his first experiences at HMSC when he was a student. The career overview below was penned by Janet Webster and Bob Olson and used on the occasion when Range received a special award from the Oregon Field Ornithologists at their annual meeting, August 2009. It will illustrate that Range is sure to have a busy and productive retirement!

Range Bayer – Career Overview

Range Bayer began studying ornithology and Oregon coastal natural history in Lincoln County in the early 1970s. He was a graduate student of John Weins in the Oregon State University Zoology Department. Range focused his Master's research on the biology of Great Blue Herons of the Oregon coast. This led him to Newport on Yaquina Bay where he has resided ever since. The Newport area is the locale for many, but not all of his natural history studies. These studies are primarily ornithological, but Range also studies and publishes papers on estuarine fishes and marine mammals. Further interests and studies include dragonfly migration, estuarine eel grass and astronomy.

In addition to his contributions in the primary literature, Range strongly believes that data on birds that may not be published traditionally are nevertheless valuable and should be available to researchers and those interested in Oregon ornithology. Consequently, he established Gahmken Press, which publishes The Journal of Oregon Ornithology, Studies in Oregon

Ornithology and Bird Records of Lincoln County, Oregon. These publications are an outlet for ornithological data, observations and historical records that may otherwise have been lost. These reports have been authored by Range and by other Oregon



coast natural history observers. Range has ensured that these journals are well distributed to libraries so that they are used and archived. Recently, he worked with the OSU Libraries to convert the publications to digital format and permanently archive them in the Libraries digital repository. His dedication to making data and information accessible is admirable.

Another major area of effort for Range is researching background information pertaining to environmental concerns affecting the Oregon coast. A recent example is his documentation of the potential ramifications of a proposed "ship breaking" operation in Yaquina Bay. Other examples include risks of potential liquid natural gas facilities on the coast and the development of arguments in opposition to proposals to attempt control of predation by cormorants.

Range helped establish and organize the Yaquina Birders, a Newport bird club, in 1980. He has served as editor of The Sandpiper, the newsletter of the Yaquina Birders (and Naturalists) initiated in September 1980. Range has also served as the YB&N president, field notes compiler and field trip coordinator for many years. His birding field trips remain a highlight of the year's activities.

Range is a State of Oregon employee, working at the Hatfield Marine Science Center where his expertise is appreciated. Yet, he regards his true occupation to be that of an observer, researcher, documenter and recorder of Oregon coastal natural history with a major emphasis on birds. This is his life and his passion.

HsO Happenings

HsO Holiday Raffle and Auction

The Hatfield Student Organization's 2009 Raffle and Auction at the holiday party was a great success. Students collected donations from 50 individuals and businesses. Between the raffle and the auction we raised \$1131. Half of these proceeds will support student travel to conferences. We donated the other half of the proceeds to the Lincoln County and Siletz Food Shares. A picture of the pile of food that we donated is available on the HsO website at: <http://hmse.oregonstate.edu/HsO/index.html>.

As part of this fundraising effort we tried a novel technique this year by holding a special auction at the end of the night. The highest bidder won the right to choose how to dye the hair of the HsO president, Loni Tomaro. After a few rounds of bidding a four-person cooperative won with a bid of \$60. They chose rainbow colored concentric circles that were meant to be evocative of an otolith, which the HsO president uses in her research.

