

WELCOME

For information on how your program can utilize the services of the National Sea Grant Law Center, please contact Stephanie Showalter, Director, at sshowalt@olemiss.edu or by phone at (662) 915-7775.

National Sea Grant Law Center

On March 30-31, the National Sea Grant Law Center hosted its third annual *Sea Grant Law and Policy Journal* Symposium. This year's event focused on Adaptive Management and featured presentations on a variety of topics including the adaptive management experiences of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program and the Mineral Management Service, adaptive management and climate change, a case study of the Columbia River Basin, and the challenges of managing conservation easement land adaptively. The speakers' PowerPoint Presentations are available at <http://nsglc.olemiss.edu/SGLPJ/symposium.htm>. Thirty individuals from a range of organizations participated in the Symposium while another thirty individuals from around the country were able to join us throughout the day through the Internet. The Law Center was able to webcast the Symposium this year utilizing the University of Mississippi's live streaming video technology. We are working on archiving the video on our site for future viewing. The *Journal's* June issue will feature articles from the symposium.

Louisiana Sea Grant Law and Policy Program

Law and Policy Director Jim Wilkins and Coordinator Melissa Daigle attended the 2010 Sea Level Rise in the Gulf of Mexico conference in Corpus Christi from March 1-3. Jim gave a presentation entitled "Government Liability for Failing to Protect Citizens from Known or Impending Hazards." This presentation was in connection with a regional grant Jim is a part of that looks at takings law in connection to sea level rise. The presentation was recorded and can be viewed at www.sealevelrise2010.org.

On March 23, Melissa attended a Wild Caught Crawfish Task Force meeting, where she gave a presentation of the laws governing navigability and access to waterbodies, specifically for fishing and hunting, under Louisiana law. Several fishermen attended and asked questions regarding their rights to fish in various areas of the Atchafalaya Basin. Melissa was approached after the meeting by officials who would like to see the information presented to other fishing groups and organizations, and she intends to develop the research into an in-depth article on waterway access laws in Louisiana.

Both Jim and Melissa, along with other Louisiana Sea Grant staff, are members of the Louisiana Sea Grant Climate Planning Team. The team is currently writing a grant to provide information regarding climate change planning, mitigation, and adaptation. The goal would be to pick a small community and work intensely with them to develop tools that will help them face the challenges brought about by climate change.

Finally, Melissa volunteered at the Louisiana Sea Grant booth at Earth Fest at Audubon Zoo on March 20. Over 700 children visited the booth and learned about gyotaku, the Japanese art of fish printing, and made their own fish print.

Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program

At the request of the Louisiana Sea Grant Law and Policy Program, Legal Program Research Counsel Niki Pace recently prepared a brief summary of how sovereign immunity and the discretionary function exemption would potentially impact liability against local governments in Mississippi and Alabama. The advisory request memo (MASGP 10-008-03) is available at <http://masgpl.olemiss.edu/Advisory/immunity.pdf>.

In February and March, Niki has worked closely with Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Extension Agent Chris Boyd on a living shorelines extension project. In February, she attended a planning meeting with Mississippi regulators organized by extension agent Chris Boyd. The meeting focused on permitting living shorelines in Mississippi. Following the planning meeting, a "Constructing Living Shorelines" workshop was held in Moss Point, Mississippi in March. At that workshop, Niki moderated the "State and Federal Permitting Requirements in AL and MS" panel and co-authored a permitting guide with Chris. For more information, including presenter contact information and resource list, please visit the workshop's website at <http://www.gulfalliancetraining.org/detail.aspx?id=22>.

During March, Niki participated in the International Sea Level Rise conference in Corpus Christi, Texas where she moderated a panel on Infrastructure and Resilience. Niki also attended the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at the University of Oregon.

Niki completed research for the "Accessing the Coast" website in Mississippi and Alabama and began researching topics and assigning articles for the May edition of Water Log. Niki continued work with the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Resiliency Toolkit workgroup. She also joined the NOAA Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration Team's Climate and Resiliency Engagement Panel (C-REP).

North Carolina Coastal Resources Law, Planning and Policy Center

Center co-director Lisa Schiavinato attended a two-day climate change adaptation workshop, the annual conference of the Water Resources Research Institute, and quarterly meeting of the NC Wind Working Group. Schiavinato also worked with the NC Sustainable Energy Association and the law firm of Parker & Poe to produce a white paper for the NC Department of Commerce on legal issues associated with implementing a feed-in tariff system in NC. Schiavinato also joined the planning committee for the 2010 Mid-Atlantic Sea Grant Programs regional meeting, which will be held in Corolla, NC April 27-29, 2010.

Schiavinato conducted guest lectures for the Coastal Resources Management Ph.D. program at East Carolina University. She provided an overview of the U.S. legal system, major federal and NC laws related to ocean and coastal management, and a discussion of significant case law. The goal was to provide graduate students with a general understanding of the application of law and policy in ocean and coastal management.

In March, it was announced that Schiavinato won the NC Governor's Conservation Achievement Award for "Natural Resources Scientist of the Year."

Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program

Haber Receives Marine Affairs Achievement Award

Kathleen Haber, 2010 J.D. Candidate, Roger Williams University School of Law, was recently awarded the Marine Affairs Achievement Award for 2010 by the Marine Affairs Institute. The award is given to a graduating student who has been exemplary in the study and advancement of marine policy and law.



Kate graduated from Lehigh University in 2004 and was a member of its rugby team. During the summer of 2002, she was an intern with the Sea Education Association (SEA) on the Robert C. Seamans. In 2005 she became an assistant engineer and in June 2006, a certified engineer. Kate will graduate with her J.D. degree in May 2010 and is a candidate for a Master of Marine Affairs degree from URI in December 2010 through the joint degree program at RWU. As a Sea Grant Law Fellow, Kate has conducted research on several diverse projects, including offshore wind energy law and policy at the state and federal level, a Rhode Island fisheries cooperative sector allocation program, and federal fisheries case law.

Marine Affairs Faculty Dinner

Peter Dutton, Associate Professor with the China Maritime Studies Institute, U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI and Adjunct Professor at RWU School of Law gave a presentation at the March 10, 2010 Marine Affairs Faculty Dinner. Prof. Dutton presented on "South China Sea through a Chinese Lens" to the Marine Affairs faculty of RWU School of Law and the University of Rhode Island, law students, and invited guests.



Marine Affairs Institute Roundtable Luncheon

The Institute hosted its final roundtable luncheon of the spring semester for law students interested in the field of marine/maritime law on Friday, March 26, 2010. The topic for the luncheon was *Offshore Wind Energy - Issues and Updates*. Ryan Smith, 2L spoke on his recent research project with the East Bay Energy Consortium and Kate Haber, 3L spoke on her research on offshore wind siting activities in ME, MA and RI in connection with the November 4, 2009 New England Regional Ocean Law Collaborative.

Environmental Law Society

The Environmental Law Society presents Dr. Cathy Roheim and Dave Beutel, who will give a talk on "Policy Implications of Seafood Ecolabeling Programs" at Roger Williams University School of Law on Monday, April 5, 2010. **Dr. Cathy Roheim**, who has researched seafood marketing and trade for nearly 20 years, is well known for her research in consumer demand for eco-labeled seafood. She is a professor of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics at URI and the director of the URI Sustainable Seafood Initiative. **Dave Beutel**, the Aquaculture Coordinator for the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, oversees all of the aquaculture planning and permitting in Rhode Island. He has worked in the fishing industry since 1977 and previously served as URI's Fisheries Extension Specialist and Fisheries Operations Supervisor.

The RWU School of Law Environmental Law Society and the Marine Affairs Institute will host a presentation by **Barry Hill, Esq., Senior Counsel for Environmental Governance, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** on Tuesday, April 13, 2010. Mr. Hill's presentation will explore the importance of water access and water quality on human health and the environment, the current and potential impacts of climate change warming relating to Florida's, Puerto Rico's and Yemen's groundwater, and discuss law and policy lessons learned.

SAVE THE DATE!

8th Marine Law Symposium, Taking Stock: Revisiting the Magnuson-Stevens Act and Fisheries Management, November 4-5, 2010, Roger Williams University School of Law.