Fellowships are prime opportunities for students to strengthen their research and policy skills, enhance their careers, and build fruitful relationships with peers and mentors. Washington Sea Grant has an outstanding history of helping students and recent graduates obtain fellowships and go on to influence science and marine policy at the state, national, and international levels.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREER ENHANCEMENT AND ACADEMIC GROWTH

Fellowships

DEAN JOHN A. KNAUSS
MARINE POLICY FELLOWSHIP

MARC HERSHMAN
MARINE POLICY FELLOWSHIP

SEA GRANT/NOAA FISHERIES
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

NOAA COASTAL MANAGEMENT
FELLOWSHIP

WASHINGTON SEA GRANT SCIENCE
COMMUNICATIONS FELLOWSHIP

for the Future
Fellowships

“The high quality of students attending Washington’s universities and colleges certainly contributes to WSG’s achievements. Nurturing promising students and preparing them for fellowships is an important part of our job.”

Washington Sea Grant Director Penny Dalton

This publication describes six unique fellowship opportunities managed by Washington Sea Grant (WSG) and funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) under three programs: the National Sea Grant College Program, WSG, and the Office for Coastal Management. By participating, students and recent graduates gain invaluable firsthand experience with the challenges faced by the managers of our nation’s coasts. Some may study the population dynamics of endangered fishes and mammals in troubled waters or learn to communicate more effectively with the public about the latest findings on ocean acidification. Others will spend a year in Washington, DC, working with congressional members and federal agency staff on issues that directly affect ocean resources and the environment. Through its role in nominating candidates, WSG provides a gateway to these fascinating and exciting early career opportunities.

WSG advertises its fellowship programs statewide, and the success of fellows reflects the high quality of students drawn to Washington’s top-ranked graduate programs. This talented pool contributes greatly to WSG’s own research and outreach achievements — and it is appreciated.

WSG staff, and the faculty they work with, go the extra mile in mentoring fellows. They spend time with prospective candidates and help them determine which projects match their interests, encouraging and guiding them through their fellowships from application to completion. “By interacting with students before they apply for fellowships,” says WSG Director Penny Dalton, “we can provide recommendations that really fit their strengths and interests and provide support in making those important early career decisions.”

As a sponsor, WSG benefits from the relationships it builds with faculty and students. Moreover, its visibility and reputation are enhanced as the fellows it sponsors go on to do important work and enjoy successful careers.

The environment may be the biggest winner. WSG is proud to encourage new generations of marine scientists, policymakers, and educators who use the experience and knowledge they gain to sustainably manage and protect America’s marine resources.

Key to Acronyms

- Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries)
- National Marine Protected Area (MPA) Center
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Ocean Service (NOS)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC)
- Ocean Assessments Division (OAD)
- Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)
- Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R)
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
- Puget Sound Partnership (PSP)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- University of Washington (UW)
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW)
- Washington Sea Grant (WSG)
- Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)
- Washington State Department of Health (DOH)
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
DEAN JOHN A. KNAUSS MARINE POLICY FELLOWSHIP
• This program enables graduate students to work for one year on U.S. congressional staffs or in federal agencies addressing marine and coastal issues.
• Applicants must be enrolled in graduate programs at the time of application.
• Competitive applicants will have academic backgrounds in marine-related fields such as policy, law, and science and demonstrate interest in national policy decisions affecting ocean, coastal, or Great Lakes resources.

MARC HERSHMAN MARINE POLICY FELLOWSHIP
• This fellowship places graduate students and recent graduates with host offices in Olympia, Tacoma, and Seattle to work on marine science and management issues for one year.
• Students who are enrolled in graduate programs at Washington universities or have graduated in the calendar year the fellowship begins may apply.
• Applicants should have or be pursuing degrees in marine-related fields such as policy, law, social sciences, oceanography, and fishery sciences, and should demonstrate strong interest and some experience in marine science and policy.

SEA GRANT/NOAA FISHERIES GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP
• This program offers two- and three-year research opportunities to Ph.D. candidates interested in either population and ecosystem dynamics or marine resource economics.
• Fellows work closely with a NOAA expert on thesis issues of public interest and relevance to NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), whose Washington facilities include the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC), and National Marine Mammal Laboratory.
• Applicants must be admitted to Ph.D. programs in fields related to population and ecosystem dynamics or natural resource economics.

COASTAL NOAA MANAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP
• This two-year opportunity matches postgraduate students with state coastal zone programs to work on projects proposed by the states and selected by NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management.
• Each eligible student will have completed a master’s, doctoral, or professional degree program in natural resource management or environment-related studies at an accredited U.S. university within 18 months of the fellowship’s start date.

WASHINGTON SEA GRANT SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS FELLOWSHIP
• This fellowship helps graduate and undergraduate students sharpen their writing, reporting, and other media skills under the guidance of staff advisers. Fellows contribute to Sea Star, WSG’s popular quarterly newsletter, and other WSG communications materials, including social media and web content. Topics for coverage include a wide range of WSG-related marine research and outreach projects.
• The fellowship is open to current graduate and upper-level undergraduate students in Washington State.
• Applicants should have strong general writing skills and serious interest in marine science, environment, education, and policy.

“This experience is going to make a difference in your life. I have to give glory to Sea Grant for giving me the opportunity. It made all the difference in the world to me.”
Dan Ashe, 1982 Knauss Fellow

Washington Sea Grant’s Six Unique Fellowship Opportunities
The Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship allows graduate students to study national policy and its multifaceted relationship with marine resources.

Since the National Sea Grant College Program established the yearlong Knauss Fellowship in 1979, more than 1,000 students have traveled to Washington, DC, to work on congressional staffs and in executive agencies where they study, implement, and even create marine policy.

Nationwide, 33 Sea Grant programs nominate prospective fellows. Finalists participate in a week of interviews with potential employers in Washington, DC, after which they are matched with available positions. Over the years, Washington Sea Grant has nominated more than 78 successful Knauss applicants. Most WSG-nominated fellows come from the University of Washington (UW) School of Marine and Environmental Affairs; others come from the UW schools of fisheries, biology, oceanography, public affairs, and law, as well as Western Washington University, Washington State University, and the Evergreen State College.

Legislative fellows typically spend their time learning about marine-related policy issues in Congress and often get the chance to further key pieces of legislation. Executive fellows work for such agencies as NOAA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Science Foundation (NSF), State Departments, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Department of Energy, often assisting in the implementation of management and conservation laws. Past WSG-nominated legislative fellows also helped reopen fisheries after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and secure appropriations for NOAA and other ocean-related agencies.
DEAN JOHN A. KNAUSS MARINE POLICY FELLOWS

Melissa Anderson, USFWS; 2005 Fellow, Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation

Jennifer (Kassakian) Anderson, Senior Associate, Industrial Economics; 2007 Fellow, House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans

Daniel Ashe, Director, USFWS; 1982 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

Xan Augerot, Executive Director, Marys River Watershed Council; 1986 Fellow, Senate Commerce Committee

Seema Balwani, Supervisory Fishery Management Specialist, NOAA Fisheries, Domestic Fisheries Division; 2002 Fellow, Office of Senator Daniel Akaka

Jessica Barkas, Attorney-Advisor, EPA; 2006 Fellow, NOAA Fisheries, National Observer Program

Darrell Brown, Senior Advisor, Chesapeake Bay Program Office, EPA; 1980 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

James Buizer, Director for Climate Adaptation and International Development, Institute of the Environment, University of Arizona; 1984 Fellow, NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

Chelsea Combest-Friedman, Marine Climate Change Policy Consultant; 2011 Fellow, NOAA Climate Program Office

Bethany Craig, Fisheries Biologist, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW); 2011 Fellow, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology

Christine Dawson, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Environment; 1979 Fellow, Senate Commerce Committee

Gina Deferrari; 1981 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

Laura Deighan; 2015 Fellow, USFWS, Fish and Aquatic Conservation

Bonnie DeJoseph; 2014 Fellow, Office of Coastal Management

Bridget Ferriss, Research Associate, UW; 2003 Fellow, Senate Commerce Committee

John Field, Groundfish Analysis Team Leader, NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Fisheries Ecology Division; 1998 Fellow, House Committee on Resources

Jean Flehma, Strategic Policy and Planning Consultant; 1990 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

Simon Geerlofs, Analyst, Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL), Marine Sciences Laboratory; 2006 Fellow, Office of Senator Maria Cantwell

Laura Geselbracht, Senior Marine Scientist, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Florida; 1987 Fellow, NOAA Ocean Assessments Division (OAD)

Mark Gleason, Executive Director, Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers; 2009 Fellow, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation

“...The Knauss Fellowship provides an unparalleled entree into federal service and beyond. My fellowship was a tremendous foundation upon which to build a career.”

Joe Zelasney, 2010 Knauss Fellow

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FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE
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Deborah Glickson, Senior Program Officer, Ocean Studies Board, The National Academies; 2008 Fellow, Office of Senator David Vitter

Erica Goldman, Director of Policy Engagement, COMPASS Online; 2003 Fellow, Committee on Resources

Wendy Graham, 1989 Fellow, House Committee on Science and Technology

Kevin Lodge Grant, Deputy Sanctuary Superintendent, NOAA Fisheries, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary; 2005 Fellow, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Daniel Grosse, President, TerrAqua; 1989 Fellow, Office of Naval Oceanography

Doug Helton, Operations Coordinator, Office of Response and Restoration (OR&R), NOAA National Ocean Service (NOS); 1991 Fellow, NOS

Keren Holtz, 1989 Fellow, Marine and Estuarine Management Division, NOS

Brenda Hood, Professor, Evergreen State College; 1993 Fellow, Office of Senator John Kerry

Rebecca Jablonski-Diehl, Program Coordinator at Freestone Environmental, NOS, NOAA; 2012 Fellow, Office of Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo

Molly Jacobs, Assistant Professor, McDaniel College; 2007 Fellow, Office of Congressman Tom Allen

David Jansen, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; 1992 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

Marissa Jones, Education Specialist, NOAA; 2014 Fellow, Office of Education

Katrina Lasliz, Aquatic Policy Analyst, Department of Natural Resources (DNR); 2008 Fellow, Office of Senator Patty Murray

Coalter Lathrop, Owner and International Boundary Law Specialist, Sovereign Geographic; 1996 Fellow, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Science and Technology

Frank Lockhart, Senior Policy Advisor, NOAA Fisheries, Groundfish and Pelagic Species; 1993 Fellow, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee

Mary Austill Lott, Grant Writing Consultant, Nora’s Home; 2005 Fellow, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Ethan Lucas, Project Manager, FishWise; 2011 Fellow, Coral Reef Watch, NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Greer (Anderson) Maier, Aquatics Manager, Wenatchee River District, U.S. Forest Service; 2007 Fellow, USFWS Branch of Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance

Theresa Marsh, 1997 Fellow, Biodiversity Team, NOAA Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources

Catherine Marzin, National Partnership Coordinator, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries; 1996 Fellow, U.S. Navy, Office of the Oceanographer

Meghan Massaua, Mediator and Program Manager, Meridian Institute; 2012 Fellow, U.S. Department of Energy

Brian McLachlan, 1999 Fellow, Office of Senator Judd Gregg

Kevin McManus, Senior Program Director, EBI Consulting; 1983 Fellow, NOAA Fisheries

Glenn Merrill, Fisheries Program Specialist, NOAA Fisheries, Sustainable Fisheries Division; 1996 Fellow, Senate Subcommittee on Oceans and Fisheries

Jennifer Murphy, Assistant General Counsel, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners; 2000 Fellow, House Committee on Resources

Corey Niles, Fisheries Policy, WDFW; 2004 Fellow, Office of Senator Maria Cantwell

Angela Noakes, Wildlife Conservation Society; 2014 Fellow, Office of Senator Edward Markey

Delisse Ortiz, Contractor, NOAA Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Division; 2010 Fellow, Sustainable Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Management Division

Chris Pallister, President, Gulf of Alaska Keeper; 1995 Fellow, Office of Senator Frank Murkowski

“It provided a fantastic exposure to policy debate and decision-making at a higher level than I would have had at any other job right out of school.”

Matt Wells, 1987 Knauss Fellow
“It’s a huge move from Washington State to Washington, DC, but the people you meet in the program will be your friends for life. It’s like going to camp. Everyone gets thrown into the deep end, and you all swim together.”

Katrina Lassiter, 2008 Knauss Fellow
“Learning the intricacies of state government ‘dialect’ was crucial to my success during my fellowship and something that I continue to use in my current position. I gave presentations to agency leaders and public open houses, which helped me develop my public-speaking confidence and ability to field questions. I also was able to hone my GIS skills, which led to my current appointment.”

Michael Grilliot, 2009 Hershman Fellow

Students enrolled in graduate programs pertaining to ocean and coastal resources and policy are ideal candidates for the Marc Hershman Marine Policy Fellowship.

This yearlong opportunity selects two to six eligible graduate students or recent graduates every year. Fellows are placed with host offices in Seattle, Olympia, or Tacoma, Washington, where they work on ocean and coastal science and management issues. Host offices have included Washington’s Department of Ecology (Ecology), DNR, Department of Health (DOH), State Parks and Recreation Commission, and Military Department Emergency Management Division, the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), Makah Tribe — Office of Marine Affairs, and TNC.

The fellowship is named in honor of Marc Hershman, a leader in the study of ocean and coastal policy for 30 years, who passed away in 2008. Professor Hershman served on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy from 2001–2004 and was the director of the UW School of Marine and Environmental Affairs from 1993–2003. He played a key role in efforts to develop more comprehensive, coherent policies for Washington’s coasts.

Hershman Fellows gain firsthand experience crafting marine and natural resource policies and share their academic expertise with decision makers in state and environmental organizations.
"I am sure all new graduates have concerns regarding the transition from academia to the real world. This fellowship allowed me to easily bridge these two realms. I continued to learn while getting hands-on experience and making important contacts in the field."

Heather Gibbs, 2011 Hershman Fellow

Working Closely with Washington State Ocean Agencies and Environmental Organizations

MARC HERSHMAN MARINE POLICY FELLOWS

Rachel Aronson, Project Associate, Triangle Associates; 2013 Fellow, Ecology

Hilary Browning, Research Investigator, DOH; 2013 Fellow, DOH

Kara Cardinal, Marine Project Manager, TNC; 2012 Fellow, TNC

Michael Chang; 2015 Fellow, Makah Office of Marine Affairs/TNC

Dan Crowther, Project Coordinator, Point 97; 2010 Fellow, Ecology

Angie Fredrickson, Law Clerk, Maritoni, Ltd.; 2008 Fellow, DNR

Mikaela Freeman; 2015 Fellow, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Heather Gibbs, Environmental Planner, Aquatic Resources Division, Washington, DNR; 2011 Fellow, DNR

Gretchen Glaub, Ecosystem and Salmon Recovery Coordinator, PSP; 2012 Fellow, Ecology

Kathryn Graziano; 2014 Fellow, PSP

Michael Grilliot, Aquatic Reserves Program Specialist and Data Manager, DNR; 2009 Fellow, DNR

Nathalie Hamel, Monitoring Program Performance Analyst, PSP; 2008 Fellow, Ecology

Lindsey Hamilton; 2015 Fellow, DOH

Adi Hanein, Teaching Associate, UW; 2014 Fellow, DOH

Clara Hard, Public Health Advisor, DOH; 2011 Fellow, DOH

Haley Harguth, Watershed Planning and Policy Coordinator, Hood Canal Coordinating Council; 2013 Fellow, PSP

Michael Levkowitz; 2015 Fellow, Ecology

Jessica McGrath; 2014 Fellow, Ecology

Jamie Mooney, Mitigation Planner, Michael Baker International; 2010 Fellow, Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division

Laura Nelson; 2014 Fellow, Makah Office of Marine Affairs/TNC

Allison Osterberg, Associate Planner, Thurston County Planning Commission; 2011 Fellow, PSP

Jess Silver, Research Assistant, Natural Capital Project; 2009 Fellow, DOH

Constance Sullivan, Manager, Ocean Acidification Environmental Laboratory, UW; 2012 Fellow, PSP

Bridget Trosin, Coastal Policy Specialist, WSG; 2011 Fellow, Ecology

Skadi von Reis Crooks; 2015 Fellow, PSP

Melissa Watkinson; 2015 Fellow, TNC

Libby Whiting, Coastal and Marine Planner, DNR; 2012 Fellow, DNR

Laura Wigand, Public Health Advisor, DOH Office of Shellfish and Water Protection; 2012 Fellow, DOH

Katie Wrubel, Ocean Policy Analyst, Makah Tribal Council; 2013 Fellow, TNC

"The fellowship was a great influence on my career path. I knew I wanted to work on ocean conservation, but I wasn't sure if I would do that through advancing science or policy. The Hershman Fellowship gave me the confidence and understanding to follow the policy track, despite my naiveté."

Daniel Crowther, 2010 Hershman Fellow

FELLOWSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE
NOAA Fisheries and the National Sea Grant Office established graduate Fellowships in Population and Ecosystem Dynamics and Marine Resource Economics in 1999. UW doctoral students often receive one or more of the handful of Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries fellowships offered nationwide each year. All fellows develop close ties with NOAA Fisheries, whose facilities in Washington State include the AFSC, NWFSC, and National Marine Mammal Laboratory.

All fellows are required to work closely with a mentor from NOAA Fisheries, who provides data for the fellow’s thesis, serves on the fellow’s committee, and hosts the fellow’s annual summer internship at a NOAA Fisheries center or laboratory. Population and Ecosystem Dynamics fellows are expected to spend as many as 20 days per year at sea conducting scientific surveys or experiments and learning about sampling techniques, fisheries biology, commercial fishing, and regional fisheries management issues.

Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries fellows often are offered post-fellowship jobs with NOAA Fisheries and gain a strong advantage in the job market for the rest of their careers. The program also fosters close ties between NOAA Fisheries and academic scientists at university research institutions.

“I have a wonderful relationship with my former NOAA Fisheries mentor and continue to seek her advice on many things. The community of fellows has also been wonderful to be a part of.”

Kevin See, 2008 Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Fellow

“The fellowship has helped me develop quantitative skills that I believe will be very useful for my future career. Visiting various NOAA science centers and meeting scientists there has also inspired me to look for a job in government.”

Jocelyn Lin, 2009 Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Fellow
“The best thing about the fellowship for me was how flexible the funding was. I was able to travel as the circumstances of my research required and was also provided sufficient flexibility to develop a research project regarding South African sea turtles. This diversity of research will be extremely useful and it distinguishes this fellowship from more typical doctoral fellowships.”

Jim Thorson, 2009 Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Fellow

Training the Next Generation of Ocean Scientists

SEA GRANT/NOAA FISHERIES GRADUATE FELLOWS


Amanda Bradford, Research Ecologist, NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Cetacean Assessment Program; 2006–2009 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Modeling population and spatial dynamics of endangered baleen whales in the North Pacific


Harrison Fell, Assistant Professor, Colorado School of Mines; 2005–2008 Fellow in Marine Resource Economics: Market analysis of Alaskan groundfish fisheries


Kelli Johnson; 2015–2018 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Multi-species methods to facilitate the transition from heuristics to statistics in an ecosystem based approach to fisheries management

Jennifer Meredith; 2014–2016 Fellow in Marine Resource Economics: Fish or flight: Modeling the migration decisions of fish harvesters in rural Alaska

Peter Kuriyama; 2014–2017 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Integrating hook and line survey data and ecological observations to improve stock assessments of key rockfish species in untrawlable habitats

Jocelyn Lin, Salmon Management Analyst, Wild Salmon Center; 2009–2011 Fellow in Population Dynamics: An individual-based quantitative genetic model for investigating local adaptation and population viability in connected populations of sockeye salmon


Jennifer Stawitz; 2014–2017 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Evaluating the importance of growth variation in marine fish population dynamics and stock assessment

COLE MONNAHAN; 2013–2016 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Optimizing Bayesian analysis in data-rich stock assessments and management of data-limited fisheries


Jeffery Rutter; 2012–2015 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Exploring mechanisms of mortality in the first ocean year of Chinook salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha)


Christine Stawitz; 2014–2017 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Incorporation of model selection and decision analysis into population dynamics modeling and assessment


Eric Ward, Statistician, NOAA Fisheries, NWFSF, Conservation Biology Division; 2003–2006 Fellow in Population Dynamics: Incorporation of model selection and decision analysis into population dynamics modeling and assessment
“As someone with a marine and biological sciences background, I found the NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship an opportunity to develop into a much more well-rounded professional with multiple perspectives on coastal issues, policies, and regulation.”
Deborah Purce, 2008 Coastal Management Fellow

NOAA’s Coastal Management Fellowship matches postgraduate students with state coastal zone management programs around the country. Coastal Management Fellows work for two years on state-level issues pertaining to federal shoreline policies and regulations. In a mutually beneficial arrangement, each fellow receives on-the-job training in coastal management and policy, and the coastal resource program gets technical assistance from students well-versed in the latest coastal resource science and policy advances.

Available jobs vary from year to year. Fellows come from a wide variety of fields, including environmental studies, marine sciences, geology, public affairs, and natural resource management. The most important qualification is a deep interest in state-level coastal issues. State host programs and fellows are selected independently of each other and then matched through a mutual interview process.

All Coastal Management Fellows meet in Charleston, SC, each winter to discuss the experiences and challenges they have encountered over the year. Fellows are encouraged to attend an optional summer conference as well.

Most fellows accept jobs with state governments after their fellowship years conclude. Others take positions with the federal government, private consulting firms, and nongovernmental organizations, and some return to graduate school for additional degrees.
On-the-Job Training for Students of Coastal Affairs

“The NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship has a great reputation, especially at state programs throughout the country. I think fellows have an advantage in job interviews if they can relate what they accomplished during the fellowship to the needs of their next potential job. The fellowship provided excellent opportunities for professional travel and networking as well.”
Tali MacArthur, 2002 Coastal Management Fellow

“I have my job now because my work with the Florida Department of Community Affairs was so diverse. The Coastal Management Fellows program is a great deal. They’re really focused on getting you out into the world.”
Ian Zelo, 2000 Coastal Management Fellow

NOAA COASTAL MANAGEMENT FELLOWS

Teresa Fleener, Geography Adjunct, Olympic College; 1999–2001 Fellow, South Carolina Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management

Zoë Johnson, Program Manager, Climate Change Policy and Planning, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR); 1998–2000 Fellow, Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program

Bridget Lussier, Senior Biologist, GEL Engineering LLC, Charleston, SC; 1997–1999 Fellow, Kachemar Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Homer, AK

Tali (Engoltz) MacArthur, Training Associate, Division of Human Resources, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; 2002–2004 Fellow, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

Hilary Papendick, Climate Resiliency Specialist, San Mateo County Office of Sustainability; 2011–2013 Fellow, California Coastal Commission

Chelsie Papiez, Coastal Resources Planner, MD DNR; 2009–2011 Fellow, MD DNR

Deborah Purce, Education Coordinator, Environmental Learning for Kids; 2008–2010 Fellow, Ecology

Ian Zelo, Natural Resource Damage Assessment Specialist, NOAA, OR&R; 2000–2002 Fellow, Florida Coastal Management Program
“Washington Sea Grant’s Science Writing Fellowship introduced me to the field of science writing, not just on campus but also across the Northwest. My Sea Star article on hypoxia in Hood Canal allowed me to interview internationally known scientists about a topic important to Washington State. The Science Writing Fellowship provides a level of mentoring that helped my writing become a much more effective tool for science advocacy.”

Rachel Aronson, 2011 WSG Science Writing Fellow

Aspiring science writers and other communicators can jumpstart their careers at WSG, where staff members help Science Communications fellows sharpen their reporting, writing, photography, video, and social media skills and build portfolios that will help them gain entry into their chosen fields.

Fellows come from various disciplines across the UW campus and other academic institutions. Fellows typically serve for two academic quarters. They assist in producing a variety of communications products for Sea Grant’s marine research, education, and outreach programs. They enhance and refine their writing and other media skills in preparation for future work in journalism, outreach, research, and policy publications.

Fellows are encouraged to write feature articles and shorter news pieces for Sea Star, WSG’s quarterly newsletter. They also contribute to various Sea Grant communications directed to targeted audiences, including social media and web content.

Previous fellows have published their work on ABCNews.com and CNN.com and in USA Today, Horizon Air’s inflight magazine, and The Sciences, the former magazine of the New York Academy of Sciences. Others have landed internships at Discover and Science magazines.

*formerly Science Writing Fellowship
Launching Careers While Learning to Reach New Audiences

“When writers and scientists work alongside each other, the public benefits by learning about our world and how people fit into and influence its complex webs.”

Laura Geggel, 2011 WSG Science Writing Fellow

WASHINGTON SEA GRANT SCIENCE WRITING (SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS) FELLOWS

Rachel Aronson, Project Associate, Triangle Associates; 2011 Fellow

Jeff Bowman, Post-doctoral Fellow, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory; 2008 Fellow

Christine Cottellaro; 2009 Fellow

Laura (Carsten) Connor, Director of Outreach, College of Natural Science and Mathematics, University of Alaska Fairbanks; 2000 Fellow

Elizabeth Cooney; 2015 Fellow

Emily Davis, Graduate Research Fellow, UW School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences; 2012 Fellow

Laura Geggel, Staff Reporter, LiveScience.com; 2011 Fellow

Natalie Graves, Account Coordinator, Stepherson and Associates Communications; 2008 Fellow

Annie Hillier; 2015 Fellow

Yu-Chi Huang, Digital Marketing Officer, Greenpeace East Asia; 2012 Fellow

Jakob Jarecki, Individual Contributor and Science Educator, Float Your Boat; 2014 Fellow

Chelsea Kahn, Research and Information Analyst, WSG; 2013 Fellow

Cassandra Kamischke; 2009 Fellow

Lauren Kuehne, Research Scientist, UW; 2011 Fellow

Ben Larson, Research Scientist, UW Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean; 2007 Fellow

Megan McPhaden, Program Examiner, Agriculture Branch at Office of Management and Budget; 2011 Fellow

Tammi McPherson; 2011 Fellow

Jocelyn Robinson, Writer and Copy Editor; 2013 Fellow

Ruth Sediak; 2011 Fellow

Margaret Siple; 2013 Fellow

Adrienne Sussman, User Experience Researcher, Google; 2011 Fellow
Interested in applying for a fellowship? The first step is to decide which opportunity best serves your personal goals. After you’ve carefully considered your options, contact WSG to make an appointment to discuss the application process.

Requirements vary according to fellowship. The Coastal Management and Knauss Fellowships require endorsements from WSG’s director. WSG is limited to six nominations for the Knauss Fellowship and three for the Coastal Management opportunity. Applications are reviewed and interviews conducted locally. The director then forwards nominations to the appropriate NOAA office, which makes the final selection. Finalists for both fellowships must travel for final selection and placement: Knauss finalists to Washington, DC, and Coastal Management finalists to South Carolina.

The Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Fellowship does not require an interview, but applicants must be accepted into a doctoral program before applying.

Hershman fellows and Science Communications fellows are selected through WSG-administered competitive processes.

The fellowships offer a foundation of support rarely found elsewhere. WSG can help guide you through the decisions you must make to assemble the best possible application for the appropriate fellowship. We encourage you to work closely with our program throughout the application process.