

ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



UMCES graduates next generation of environmental leaders

Every year, close to 100 graduate students study and work alongside scientists at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science to earn their master's and doctorate degrees. UMCES celebrated the next generation heading into high-level careers in the public and private sectors and research at this year's Commencement, held at UMCES' Appalachian Laboratory in Frostburg, featured keynote speaker Dr. Kandis Boyd, Senior Advisor at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and a renowned expert in STEAM.

“We are all leaders. Each and everyone of us is a leader in our own way, and we can effectuate change,” said commencement speaker Kandis Boyd. “Don’t wait until you’re the director or the CEO to start thinking about what you can do to change the world around you. You are in charge of your future and the future starts today.” [MORE](#)



Ming Li receives President's Award for Excellence in Application of Science for contributions to coastal science

President Peter Goodwin awarded UMCES' annual President's Award for Excellence in Application of Science to Professor Ming Li, an expert in the regional impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and storm surge. He is recognized for his outstanding contributions and global leadership in applying the best available science to guide managers and policy-makers.

"Dr. Li is one of the most influential thought leaders of his generation in the vulnerability of our coastal ecosystems to changing climate. We are fortunate to have him as part of the UMCES community for his outstanding research contributions to coastal dynamics and service to the State of Maryland to help sustain its coastlines and enhance the water quality of Chesapeake Bay," said UMCES President Peter Goodwin.

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Jerry Frank honored with President's Award for Outstanding Research Support

Chesapeake Biological
Laboratory Senior Faculty
Research Assistant Jerry
Frank was honored with

UMCES' President's Award for Outstanding Research Support to recognize rising above the norms of research responsibilities to include unique leadership, mentorship, and service roles. Frank leads the Nutrient Analytical Services Laboratory, sought out by federal, state and local organizations to conduct their water quality analyses.



“His outstanding contributions epitomize everything we want in our cadre of professional researchers at UMCES. He is highly skilled, entrepreneurial and committed to excellence in the laboratory and beyond,” said UMCES President Peter Goodwin.

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Become an environmental steward with UMCES' new professional certificate in Environmental Management for Sustainability



Learn strategic communication for sustainability leaders, storytelling with data using socio-environmental report cards, the science advisory toolbox for environmental management and innovative environmental management models. [REGISTER](#)

Graduate student Isabel Sanchez-Viruet receives UMCES Student

Service Award



Isabel Sanchez-Viruet was awarded the UMCES 2023 Student Service Award for a high level of engagement and service to the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, UMCES, and the broader community. She has served in an array of mentorship, service, and leadership roles.

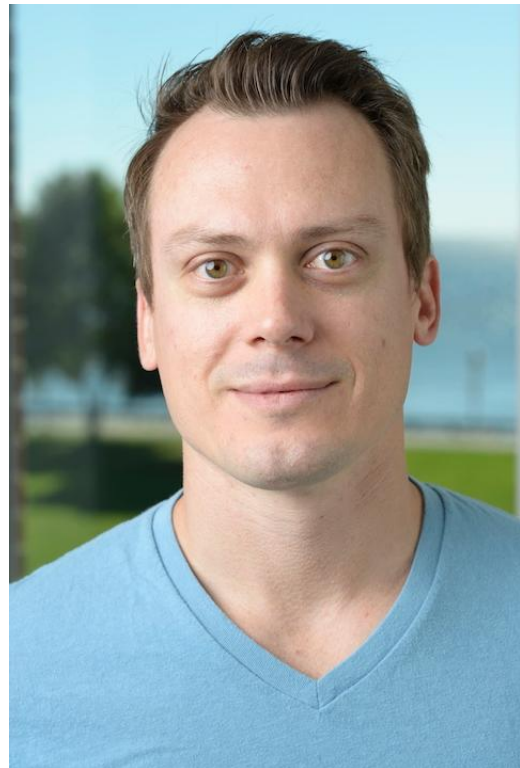
“We are inspired by the generous way in which she shares her time and energy, the thoughtfulness she offers in working to improve the lives of those around her, and the initiative she takes to translate ideas to actions,” said her faculty mentor and Associate Professor Jeremy Testa. [MORE](#)

Ryan Woodland selected as Outstanding Faculty Mentor

UMCES' graduate student body selected Associate Professor Ryan Woodland to receive the 2023 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award for his dedication to both science and his students and mentoring not just students but many others from inside and outside the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory community in southern Maryland.

“Ryan’s mentorship style is the gold standard for all faculty and one that I hope to emulate in my own life. His compassion and commitment to science and his students is incredible, and I feel very fortunate to be part of his lab every day,” said graduate student Matt Stefanak.

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Mary Ann Manley honored with Staff Excellence Award

For 36 years, Mary Ann Manley provided exemplary service to UMCES and the Horn



Point Laboratory community through her work as a Program Management Specialist in the Horn Point business office. Though she retired in July 2022, she was a leader in demonstrating teamwork among her colleagues and her exemplary performance consistently demonstrated a high level of commitment to UMCES.

"The Horn Point Laboratory has been a better place to work because of Mary Ann's many contributions to our mission and work

environment," said former director Mike Roman. [MORE](#)



Summer Talks explore the science of the waters around us

The Horn Point Laboratory teams up with the High Spot restaurant in Cambridge to host a series of Summer Talks on Tuesdays beginning June 20. With slides and conversation, scientists will share their research on a variety of topics to explore the science of the waters that surround us. Talks are free but space is limited.

June 20: Horn Point Laboratory's 50th anniversary with **Mike Sieracki**

June 27: The impact of climate change on coastal flooding with **Ming Li**

July 11: Using the power of nature to protect our coasts with **Cindy Palinkas**

July 18: A virtual tour of the Oyster Hatchery with **Stephanie Alexander**

July 25: From plankton to plastics: The Chesapeake under a microscope with **Jamie**

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UMCES IN THE NEWS

As blue catfish overwhelm the Chesapeake Bay, barriers remain to weeding them out (Baltimore Sun)

What would we be without the Chesapeake? Maryland's natural treasure remains a source of awe and wonder (Baltimore Magazine)

The Potomac could soon be safe for swimming, but it remains vulnerable to pollution (Washington Post)

210 million oysters to be planted using historic buyboats recently brought to MD (Chesapeake Bay Magazine)

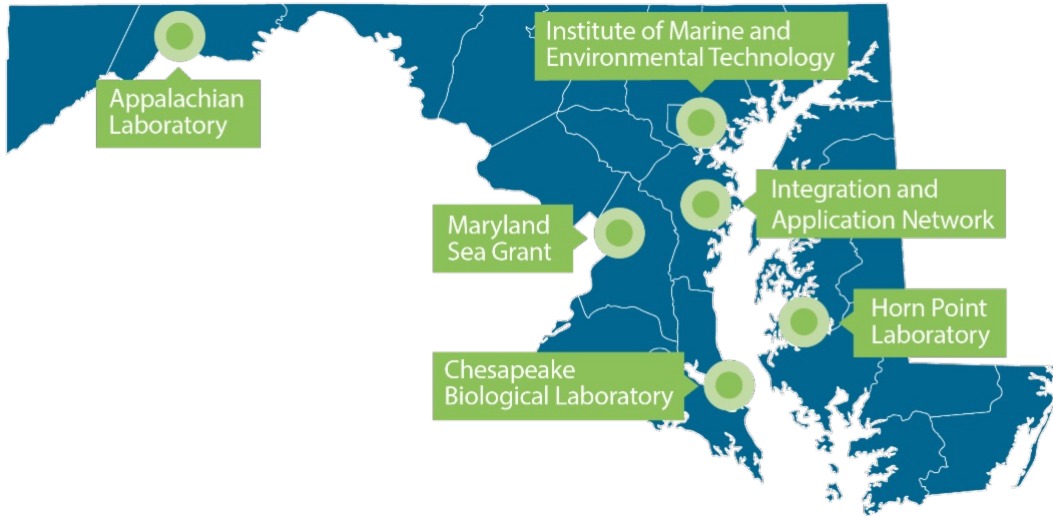
Consumer guide criticized for saying 'avoid' Chesapeake oysters (Bay Journal)

VIMS to expand restoration of seagrass, bay scallops on Eastern Shore (W&M News)

Leadership Southern Maryland graduates 15th Executive Program class (Bay Net)

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Appalachian Laboratory - Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
Horn Point Laboratory - Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology

Integration and Application Network - Maryland Sea Grant

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