

# ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



## UMCES graduates next generation of environmental leaders

“Take a look at those around you. You are the future. You are our experts,” said Chesapeake Bay champion and U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, keynote speaker at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science’s virtual Commencement. “Thank you, UMCES! I know that we are in good hands with this new round of distinguished graduates and professionals.”

Twelve graduate students received joint degrees from UMCES and the University of Maryland College Park (UMD) at a virtual ceremony on May 27, 2021. The Commencement 2021 ceremony featured a keynote address from Senator Cardin, distinguished speakers, and the recognition of outstanding faculty, staff and students (see more below).

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## Rose Jagus recognized for efforts to increase diversity in marine sciences

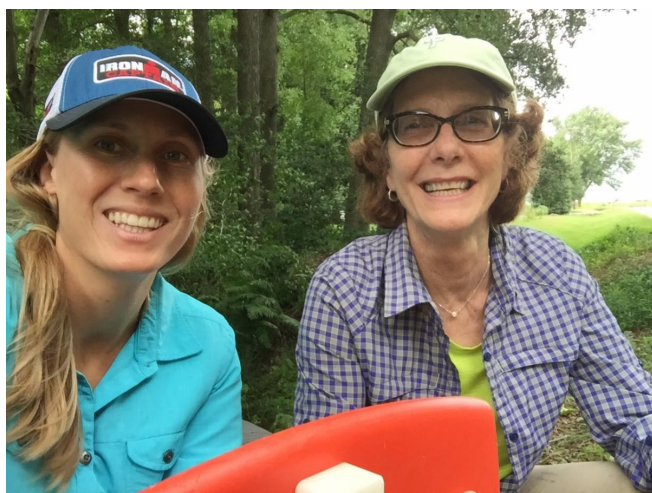
Rosemary Jagus, professor in molecular genetics at UMCES' Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET), was awarded the **President's Award for Excellence in Application of Science** for her contributions to increasing the diversity of scientists working in the marine sciences over the past two decades. As project director for NOAA's Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC) at IMET, as director of the summer internship program, and as a mentor to students in her lab, Jagus has used her eminence in the science field where she studies translational control of gene expression to inspire and rigorously train young scientists from under-served communities to pursue careers in science and worked towards improving the lack of diversity in marine sciences.



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## Anne Gustafson honored for longtime service in support of research



Senior Faculty Research Assistant Anne Gustafson was given the **President's Award for Outstanding Research Support** to recognize her professional achievements and unfailing support through 30 years of research projects working with Professor Tom Fisher at UMCES' Horn Point Laboratory. She has provided exceptional contributions to research and

outstanding service, played impressive roles in leading innovative research projects, and mentored members of the UMCES community.

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Join us in celebrating Chesapeake Awareness Week June 5-13, created by the Chesapeake Bay Commission to celebrate the cultures, history and natural beauty of the nation's largest estuary. Find an event near you [HERE](#).



### Jeremy Testa recognized as outstanding faculty mentor by graduate students

Associate Professor Jeremy Testa, a marine ecologist studying nutrient cycling in coastal systems, was selected by the graduate student body to receive the **Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award** for his dedication to both science and his students. Testa represents what it means to be an exemplary and exceptional mentor through the dedication, investment, and care he provides to each of his students and mentees. Since his arrival as a faculty member at Chesapeake Biological Laboratory in 2013, he has mentored more than 15 students and positively impacted the lives of many more, and served on 17 graduate student committees. His students note that he cares about

their own personal growth as much as their development as scientists.

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### Christina Goethel awarded UMCES Student Service Award

Graduate student Christina Goethel was awarded the **UMCES Student Service Award** for outstanding service. An academic and research standout at UMCES' Chesapeake Biological Laboratory--culminating most recently in a 2021-2022 Fulbright Fellowship--this award honors her commitment to service across multiple levels. During her



tenure as chair of the UMCES Graduate Student Council, she was instrumental in it becoming one of the most active partners in shared governance and helping to advance new initiatives, including mental health, racial equity, and an UMCES Ombuds program.

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### Julianna Brush and Molly Pickel receive UMCES Staff Award

Julianna Brush and Molly Pickel were honored with UMCES' annual **Staff Awards** for their high level of commitment and dedication to UMCES. A contract and grant specialist at the Horn Point Laboratory, Brush's dependableness under pressure coupled with her deep knowledge of funding agency requirements has significantly improved proposals submitted by UMCES. As assistant to the executive director of the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology, Pickel has helped plan events such as IMET's Open House and a visit by EU Ambassadors and serves as co-chair of IMET's Sustainability Committee.

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## UMCES IN THE NEWS

*Bottlenose dolphin watching season is well underway! Check out Helen Bailey's Chesapeake Dolphin Watch research program and dolphin spotters in Chesapeake Bay magazine. **WATCH***

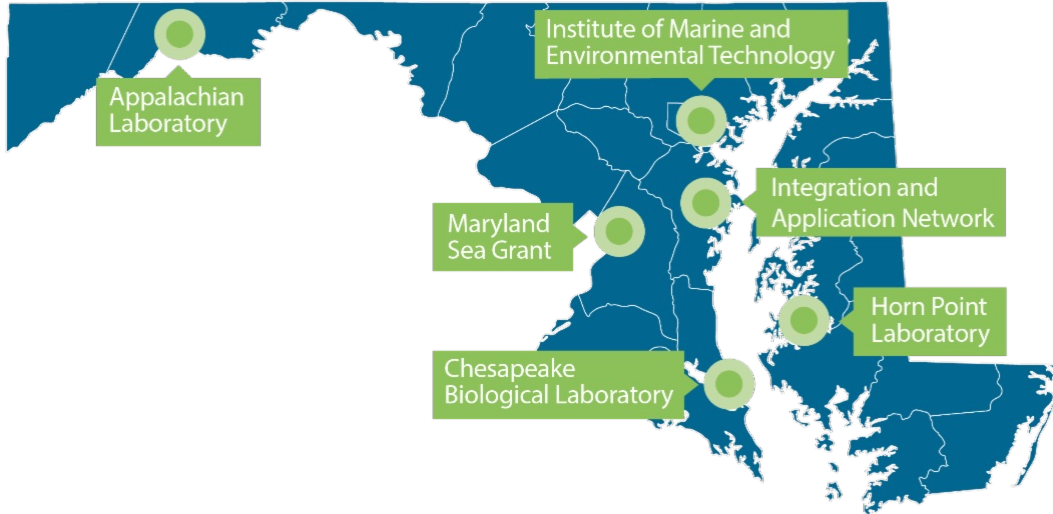
Taking their work abroad (Southern Maryland News)

Using science to support Chesapeake stripers (The Fishing Wire)

America has an opportunity in aquaculture (Baltimore Sun)

Stream Expert: Stream restoration works, sort of (Bay Weekly)

Tide is changing for oysters in Chesapeake Bay (Maryland Matters)



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