

ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UMCES welcomes alumna & oceanographer Deborah Bronk as Commencement speaker



The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science hosts its first in-person Commencement in two years on May 24 at the Horn Point Laboratory.

In a fitting homecoming, this year's speaker is oceanographer Deborah Bronk, President and CEO, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, who earned her Ph.D. through the Marine Estuarine and Environmental Sciences (MEES) graduate program.

Bronk has conducted more than 50 research cruises and field studies in freshwater and marine environments that stretch from pole to pole during her three decades of experience as an oceanographer. She was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and recognized for her substantial research advances on the marine nitrogen cycle and for leadership in the ocean science research community. Read about her journey from graduate student to environmental leader [HERE](#).

Declining nitrogen in a nitrogen rich world?

For decades scientists have treated nitrogen as an overabundant pollutant that causes low-oxygen dead-zones and harmful algal blooms in waterways, but a recent review of research published in *Science* finds that in some areas of the world, the availability of

this important nutrient is actually declining as the climate warms, and there are important consequences for plants and animals.

“When nitrogen is less available, every living thing holds on to the element for longer, slowing the flow of nitrogen from one organism to another through the food chain.

This is why we can say that the nitrogen cycle is slowing down,” said Andrew Elmore, senior author on the paper. [MORE](#)



UMCES featured in Earth Day Chesapeake Summit

The **Chesapeake Bay Summit** presented by Maryland Public Television brought together the region’s most knowledgeable experts, policymakers, and stakeholders, including UMCES' Vice President for Science Application Bill Dennison, to discuss the state of the Chesapeake Bay watershed today and what needs to change for a cleaner estuary. Dennison is best known for leading the Integration and Application Network that produces report cards on ecosystems in the Chesapeake Bay and around the world. [WATCH](#)

Next Generation: Tan Zou on nutrient management in food production

Tan Zou is working at our Appalachian Laboratory to



understand nutrient budgets, the input and output of nitrogen and phosphorus, to help us identify nutrient management gaps of food production and consumption systems in regions around the world.

"Knowing these gaps and potential drivers can help us

develop strategies to improve nutrient management and reduce nutrient waste, loss, and shortage, all which cause social and environmental problems, including environmental pollution and crop yield reduction." [MORE](#)



Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology's Open House

May 7, 2022, 1-4 p.m.

Enjoy hands-on science activities for all ages and discover important marine research happening at the harbor's edge. The majority of the event will take place outside and masks are encouraged. [RSVP](#)



UMCES IN THE NEWS

The earth is facing a nitrogen shortage due to climate change, study says (VICE)

UMCES to study marine life effects of offshore wind development (Chesapeake Bay Magazine)

Baltimore's Minnowtech raises \$1M in preparation for commercial product launch (Biz Journals)

Working for clear water, clean air in Baltimore (WYPR)

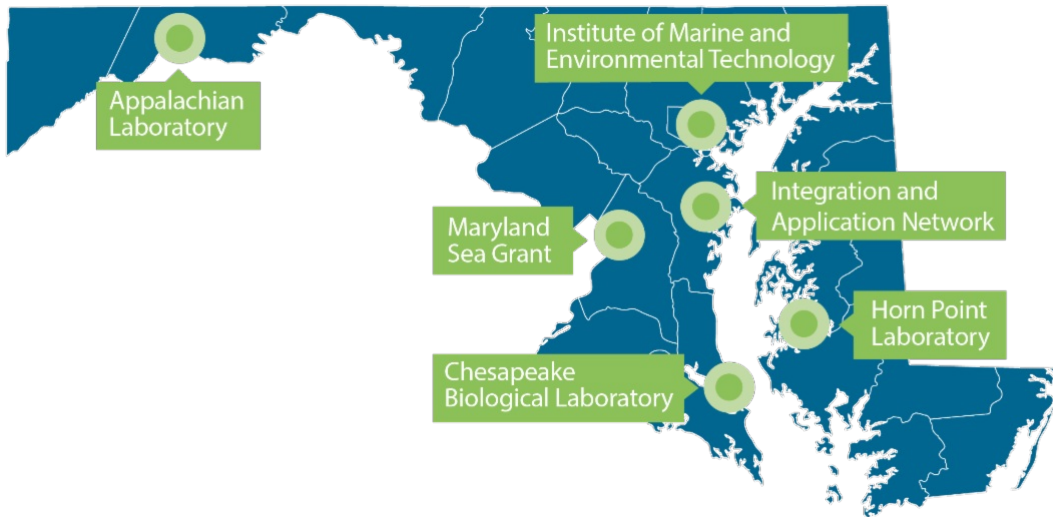
Forecasting Our Future: Severe weather impacts (WBALTV)

Bivalve bounty: Maryland oyster harvest hits 35-year high (Bay Journal)

Bright Lights, Big Pity (Science)

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Horn Point Laboratory - Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology

Integration and Application Network - Maryland Sea Grant

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