

Lab Lines

AUG 2020

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DIRECTOR'S VIEW



We're starting this new semester as we always do – by wishing every success to our graduates that are leaving us to move on to exciting new opportunities, and by welcoming bright new students to our community. But we are starting this semester in highly unusual and perhaps uncertain times – we are still dealing with a national health emergency which seems to defy efforts to control, and we are dealing with budget uncertainties in our state funding and perhaps in grants and contracts. How should we respond?

I think we should respond by ensuring we remain connected as a community and reach out to our newest members to make them feel welcomed and engaged. We should reach out to our existing colleagues to ensure that they and their families are doing well. Many will be juggling helping their children with on line schooling, or looking after elderly parents with trying to telework. CBL stands ready to help and to provide flexibility in finding a balance. Please reach out if we can help. For example, as my children are now older than our newest students (makes me feel so old!!!), I am in a position to reach out – so if anyone needs tutoring help with any STEM topic at any level (but not AP Chemistry, because I wouldn't be much help), I am happy to assist informally or more formally. I am sure others in our community are as well.

I think we should also respond by going out of our way to welcome the newest members of our community. We can't host the normal welcome social. We can't do bagel Mondays, wine after seminar, or Friday brown bag get-togethers. But we can find other ways – who is up for a CBL-themed pub quiz – teams of one faculty member, one current student, one new student, one FRA and one staff member? Questions on CBL, Solomons, Science, Sports and Culture. I will be Bamber Gascoigne – look him up. Start recruiting!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Alexandra Carroll, from the Bailey lab, participated in a DOSITS Webinar on “Review of NMFS Regulatory Approach to Underwater Noise” by Jolie Harrison, Permits and Conservation Division, NMFS Office of Protected Resources, on the of 23rd July 2020 in the pursuit of attaining her Underwater Acoustics Certificate of Professional Development.

Please welcome Lauren Rodriguez to the Bailey lab. Lauren was an REU student last summer and is beginning her M.S. this fall on dolphins in the Chesapeake Bay funded by the CBL GEC Solomons House fellowship.

Alexander Robillard from the Bailey lab has published a paper in Herpetological

Review on Hawksbill Sea Turtle predation.

Helen Bailey participated in the “Focus on the Coast – Offshore Wind Power” workshop by Delaware Sea Grant on 16th July 2020, a webinar on “Offshore Renewable Energy in the US: Learning as we go”, the 17th Annual Ronald C. Baird Sea Grant Science Symposium on 21st July 2020, and in a virtual public meeting for the Evaluation of the Maryland Coastal Management Program and Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve—Maryland on 22nd July 2020 hosted by Carrie Hall at NOAA.

Hadley McIntosh Marcek had another [Geobites](#) published in July, likely to be of particular interest to the CBL community.

FACILITIES

The Facilities staff are working staggered shifts to avoid unnecessary contact with each other and to ensure the five open buildings are disinfected each day prior to the 10:00 am open time.

The Business Office and other administrative offices are continuing to tele-work with very limited access to campus when the need arises. All services remain.

LETS WELCOME OUR NEW STUDENTS

Five new students joined CBL for the fall semester - CBL orientation was held over Zoom on Monday, August 10th and despite the barrier of not being in person to tour labs, the orientation went very well and the virtual platform was successful! Please join us in welcoming Andrea Pfaff, Emma Green, Lauren Rodriguez, Samantha Schiano and Stefenie Shenoy!



Andrea Pfaff



Emma Green



Lauren Rodriguez



Samantha Schiano



Stefenie Shenoy

Outreach

Visitor Center

Out of an abundance of concern related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory Visitor Center will remain closed through September.



Virtual Science Semester

Each September, the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory (CBL) hosts an Open House to inform members of our community about who we are, what we do, and why our work is important. Though Open Houses are engaging, they can only provide a static snapshot of CBL research. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CBL is not able to host in-person outreach events. This year, the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory will challenge itself to host a “Virtual Science Semester” instead! During the fall semester, CBL will take viewers behind-the-scenes for a dynamic view of what research really looks like at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. We are challenging ourselves to show the public science in actions.

For the Virtual Science Semester, CBL will transform the existing Science for Citizens Seminar Series into an online seminar series using Zoom. Science for Citizens will maintain its basic structure, with seminars being hosted on Tuesdays at 7:00pm. However, seminar will be slightly shorter; speakers will present for 30-35 minutes, followed by about 10 minutes for a question and answer session that will be moderated through Zoom’s chat feature. The program will feature revised and expanded marketing efforts that aim to expand our audience beyond past geographic limitations.

Another existing program, the Student Video Project, will be reimagined as a new Next Generation: Student Interview Series. Hosted on Zoom, with video recordings shared on YouTube and Facebook, these interviews will last for a maximum of 15 minutes each. Questions, which will be provided to featured students in advance, will introduce viewers to who our students are, what they do, and why their research is important.

CBL will complement student interviews with a new After I Graduated: Young Alumni Interview Series. Following the same format as the Next Generation series, CBL will host these interviews on Zoom, with video recordings shared on YouTube and Facebook, and will last for a maximum of 15 minutes. The Outreach Coordinator will strive to feature young alumni (graduated within the past 5-6 years) who have pursued a wide variety of different career paths. Interviews will seek to discover why alumni decided to study at UMCES Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, how their educational experiences have informed their careers, and how their careers have developed since graduating.

Finally, the new A Look in the Lab/A Day in the Field: Behind-the-Scenes Video Series will invite viewers to discover aspects of UMCES Chesapeake Biological Laboratory research that they cannot typically experience at the annual Open House. These videos will take viewers into restricted lab areas, feature longer procedures than can be demonstrated at the Open House, and/or share place-based field research activities. Video production will adhere to social distancing guidelines by leveraging a self-filmed video model for content creation, which may be enhanced by light post-production editing. This fall and winter, 4-6 videos will be produced and shared. Each video will run between 5-10 minutes.

Creativity Challenges

The Chesapeake Biological Laboratory continues to host biweekly Creativity Challenges to help maintain a sense of community and to combat stress during the COVID-19 pandemic. Faculty, staff, and students can complete these family-friendly activities with their children, family, or friends in their households. Challenges are opened for all-UMCES participation.

Please congratulate recent Creativity Challenge winners Alicia Klages & Julie Trommatter for their I Spy Challenge entry, as well as Alex Carroll, Annie Carew, Jeremy Liang, and Jane Liang for their winning Finish This Drawing Challenge entries.



<<-- Alicia Klages and Julie Trommatter, who have been awarded Most Creative I Spy



Annie Carew, who has been awarded Best Digital Entry! -->>



Jane Liang (age 13), who has been awarded Most Artistic Entry! -->>



^^ Alex Carroll, who has been awarded Most Creative Entry!



<<-- Jeremy Liang (age 8), who has been awarded Best Youth Entry!

Development Activity: Jeane Wharton

This month I was reminded in an article by national fundraising guru Gail Perry:

DONORS. ARE. STILL. GIVING. GENEROUSLY.

"Yes, it's true. This is a highly unusual time. It's unprecedented. No one has a playbook on what to do other than stay home. Nobody really has a plan.

So, what can people do? One of the very few actions anyone can take in the world is to reach out and help. What better way than to help financially?

Understand compassion is in the air. Yes, people are anxious. But they also want to DO something to lend a hand. We are all in this together... Your donors DO want to help you."

She went on to list takeaways in the article that rang true for me, for CBL. Our donors are loyal. Some more now than ever. They need to understand the need we have. Donors are stakeholders. They want to help. In the four months since telework started, I've met with donors by email, text, and phone: "We miss Science for Citizens... we're sending a check." AND "I've had surgery, so I can't monitor terrapin nests, here's \$500 to support the work." AND "Is there a program that could use \$2,000? I'm sending it next week." AND "I grew up playing on the old wood pier... here's \$10,000..."

In meetings or as we come together as Academic Council, I've asked for a Wish List. It seems silly, maybe, but CBL has donors who have granted the wishes of many researchers and students at CBL. Last year "Santa" sent work vests valued at \$5,000 to the Carson, and two donors, an individual and a family foundation, gave major gifts of \$20,000 each. I agree with Ms. Perry, donors are stakeholders in CBL. They want to help. But, they – and I – need to understand the needs.

If you have a "wish" for the list, contact jwharton@umces.edu.

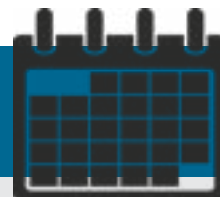


EYE PROTECTION

All eye protection is not the same. This poster illustrates what happens when chemicals splash onto your face while wearing different types of eye protection. As you can see, glasses that provide impact protection only will not protect your eyes from chemical exposure. You must wear chemical safety goggles when working with chemicals.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Due to the Covid-19 Outbreak: All on-campus events are cancelled, but many regularly occurring meetings will now be hosted virtually! Keep your eyes open for updates!

Invitation to UMCES Weekly Mindfulness

Join Denise Yost and your colleagues as we continue to find small ways to practice mindfulness and find a bit more ease during our continued quarantine. Practice continues in the usual friendly format, no experience necessary. Practice in real time and engage with others in short discussion questions as you'd like.

Moving forward there will be one offering per week for all at UMCES. These sessions will now move to a 30-minute format.

Thursdays @ 2:00pm, Staff/FRAs/Faculty/Graduate students

Join Zoom Meeting (Updated)

<https://zoom.us/j/96939404575?pwd=bjU2YzZhR0Z5TGFSIFYtT2lxQzltQT09>

Dial +13017158592

Meeting ID: 969 3940 4575

Password: 277857

AAUW Community Meetings During Campus Closure

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://umd.zoom.us/j/9100531714>

Meeting ID: 910 053 1714

Password: AAUW

