

GUIDE TO EXPERTS

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2024

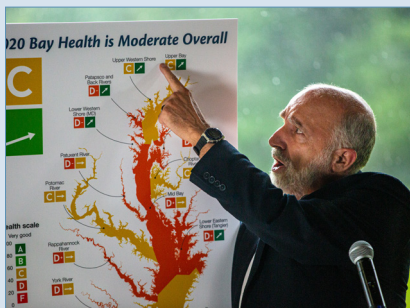
HARNESSING THE POWER OF SCIENCE to transform the way society understands and manages the environment

A globally eminent research and graduate institution focused on advancing scientific knowledge of the environment, the **University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science** provides sound advice to help state and national leaders and prepares future scientists to meet the global challenges of the 21st century.



RESEARCH

We work across disciplines and in diverse settings—from the Appalachian Mountains to the Arctic—seeking solutions that improve people's lives and sustain the natural world.



PUBLIC SERVICE

As trusted scientific advisors, our faculty provide unbiased research to inform management decisions and public policy on pressing environmental issues in our communities and around the world.



EDUCATION

Our renowned faculty train the next generation of environmental leaders as part of the University System of Maryland's nationally ranked graduate program in marine and environmental science.



POPULAR TOPICS

CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

CHESAPEAKE BAY REPORT CARD:

Bill Dennison, Professor: Coastal ecosystem ecology, assessing ecosystem health dennison@umces.edu

CRABS: **Thomas Miller**, Professor: Recruitment and population dynamics of aquatic animals miller@umces.edu

FISHERIES: **David Secor**, Professor: Migration and population ecology of marine fishes, telemetry and analytical techniques for tracking fish movements, fisheries, and protected species secor@umces.edu

OYSTER HATCHERY: **Stephanie Alexander**, Oyster Hatchery Manager: Production of oyster larvae, seed, spat on shell, restoration, aquaculture tobash@umces.edu

OYSTERS: **Michael Wilberg**, Professor: Population dynamics, quantitative fisheries, stock assessment, management strategy evaluation, fisheries management wilberg@umces.edu

SEA LEVEL RISE: **Ming Li**, Professor: Physical oceanography, estuarine and coastal dynamics, regional impacts of climate change and extreme weather events mingli@umces.edu

CLIMATE CHANGE

Victoria Coles, Professor: Climate variability and change, observations and modeling of ocean and estuarine ecology, biogeochemistry and circulation vcoles@umces.edu

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Professor: Spatial modeling, quantitative ecology, biogeography, macro-ecology, biodiversity, climate change, biological invasions mfitzpatrick@umces.edu

Hali Kilbourne, Associate Professor: Paleoclimatology and paleoceanography, contextualizing modern climate change and exploring the processes causing seasonal to centennial climate variability kilbourn@umces.edu

SEA LEVEL RISE: **Ming Li**, Professor: Physical oceanography, estuarine and coastal dynamics, regional impacts of climate change and extreme weather events mingli@umces.edu

MEDIA CONTACT:

Amy Pelsinsky

Assistant Vice President for Communications
410-330-1389 | apelsinsky@umces.edu

TOPICS OF EXPERTISE

AGRICULTURAL/ LAND IMPACTS

Eric Davidson, Professor:
Biogeochemistry and soil
microbial ecology in forests
and agriculture, greenhouse
gas emissions, water quality
edavidson@umces.edu

Tom Fisher, Professor:
Terrestrial and atmospheric
nutrient inputs, nutrient
cycling and limitation
fisher@umces.edu

Xin Zhang, Professor:
Environmental science and
policy, biogeochemical
cycles of carbon and
nitrogen, earth system
modeling, atmospheric-
biosphere interactions
xin.zhang@umces.edu

AIR QUALITY

Mark Castro, Associate
Professor: Atmospheric-
biosphere interactions,
impacts of land use on
water quality mcastro@umces.edu

Xin Zhang, Professor:
Biogeochemical cycles
of carbon and nitrogen,
earth system modeling,
atmospheric-biosphere
interactions
xin.zhang@umces.edu

ALGAL BLOOMS

Pat Glibert, Professor:
Phytoplankton ecology,
nitrogen uptake and
mineralization by

plankton, primary pro-
duction and photosynthesis
glibert@umces.edu

Judy O'Neil, Research
Associate Professor:
Cyanobacteria
ecophysiology and plankton
trophodynamics
joneil@umces.edu

Allen Place, Professor:
Genomics of toxin-
producing dinoflagellates,
mitigation of cyanobacteria
blooms place@umces.edu

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Feng Chen, Professor:
Marine microbial ecology,
microbial diversity,
genomics, clean green
biotechnology chenf@umces.edu

Russell Hill, Professor:
Symbiosis between bacteria
and marine invertebrates,
microalgae and biofuels
hill@umces.edu

Yantao Li, Associate
Professor: Microalgal
molecular biology and
lipid biochemistry,
biotechnology and
environmental
bioremediation, metabolic
engineering for biofuels
and bioproducts
yantao@umces.edu

IMPACT ON MARINE LIFE—

David Secor, Professor
(CBL): Migration and
population ecology of

marine fishes, telemetry
and analytical techniques
for tracking fish move-
ments, fisheries and pro-
tected species
secor@umces.edu

CHEMISTRY & TOXICOLOGY

Michael Gonsior, Associate
Professor: Chemical
diversity of complex
dissolved organic matter
in aquatic and engineered
systems, disinfection by-
products, photochemistry,
marine biogeochemistry
gonsior@umces.edu

Andrew Heyes,
Associate Research
Professor: Trace metal
geochemistry, mineral
weathering, contaminant
transport and hydrology,
sedimentology, wetlands
and aquatic chemistry
heyas@umces.edu

Carys Mitchelmore,
Professor: Detection of
chemical contaminants,
understanding toxicity/
implications to organism
and ecosystem health.
mitchelmore@umces.edu

Christopher Rowe,
Associate Professor:
Physiological ecology,
ecotoxicology, herpet-
ology rowe@umces.edu

Johan Schijf, Associate Professor: Aqueous biogeochemistry of trace metals schijf@umces.edu

CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

Walter Boynton, Professor Emeritus: Systems ecology, nutrient cycling in estuarine systems, estuarine restoration, management/policy boynton@umces.edu

Jeff Cornwell, Research Professor: Beneficial use of dredged materials for wetland restoration, water quality effects of dredging cornwell@umces.edu

Bill Dennison, Professor: Coastal ecosystem ecology, bioindicators in nearshore environments, assessing ecosystem health dennison@umces.edu

Matthew Gray, Assistant Professor: Ecophysiology of bivalves, ecological restoration, ecosystem services, aquaculture mgray@umces.edu

Jeremy Testa, Professor: Estuarine biogeochemistry, dissolved oxygen cycling, numerical modeling, estuarine systems ecology jtesta@umces.edu

Lisa Wainger, Research Professor: Environmental economics, integrated ecological and economic modeling, ecosystem services, environmental restoration, water quality trading wainger@umces.edu

UNDERWATER GRASSES—**Bill Dennison**, Professor: Coastal ecosystem ecology, ecophysiology of marine plants, bioindicators in nearshore environments, assessing ecosystem health dennison@umces.edu

Katharina Engelhardt, Associate Research Professor: Plant biodiversity, restoration ecology, wetland ecology, aquatic botany, invasion ecology kengelhardt@umces.edu

CLIMATE CHANGE

Victoria Coles, Professor: Climate variability and change, observations and modeling of ocean and estuarine ecology, biogeochemistry and circulation vcoles@umces.edu

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Professor: Spatial modeling, quantitative ecology, biogeography, macroecology, biodiversity, climate change, biological invasions mfitzpatrick@umces.edu

Matt Houser, Assistant Professor: Human dimensions of environmental change: public, farmer decision-making, and socio-ecological systems mhouser@umces.edu



“What you do with coastline management has huge implications in terms of how the tides and storm surge in Chesapeake Bay respond to sea-level rise. Climate change is real; sea-level rise is happening. We have to understand it and plan for it right now.”

—Oceanographer Ming Li, co-author of “Sea-level rise projections for Maryland”



“Maybe we’ll see higher production of some things like blue crabs, but we may see diminished production of fish that don’t do so well in warmer waters, such as striped bass, perch and black sea bass.”

—Fisheries expert Dave Secor on the impact of climate change on the commercial fishery in Chesapeake Bay

Hali Kilbourne, Associate Professor: Paleoclimatology and paleoceanography, contextualizing modern climate change and exploring the processes causing seasonal to centennial climate variability
kilbourn@umces.edu

Ming Li, Professor: Physical oceanography, estuarine and coastal dynamics, regional impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, biological-physical interactions
mingli@umces.edu

Jian Zhao, Assistant Professor: Physical oceanography, mesoscale and sub-mesoscale processes, ocean’s role in climate, geophysical fluid dynamics
jianzhao@umces.edu

ARCTIC RESPONSE—

Lee Cooper, Research Professor: Stable and radioisotope composition of organic materials and natural waters, aquatic plant physiology, high latitude oceanography and hydrology
cooper@umces.edu

Jackie Grebmeier, Research Professor: Ecological responses of Arctic continental shelves to climate change, benthic ecology and marine ecosystem dynamic; connections among sea-ice coverage, water column processes and sea-floor organisms
jgrebmei@umces.edu

WILDFIRE—Mark Cochrane, Professor: Earth systems science, wildland fire, climate change, ecology, land cover change, remote sensing
mark.cochrane@umces.edu

COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

Jeff Cornwell, Research Professor: Sediment biogeochemistry, nutrient/metal/sulfur cycling in estuaries and coastal wetlands
cornwell@umces.edu

Lora Harris, Professor: Systems ecology, coastal ecology, biogeochemistry, numerical modeling, metabolic rates
lharris@umces.edu

Ming Li, Professor: Physical oceanography, estuarine and coastal dynamics, regional impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, biological-physical interactions
mingli@umces.edu

William Nardin, Assistant Professor: Impact of storms and sea-level rise on wetlands geomorphology, interaction between river (and estuaries), hydrodynamics and coastal processes
wnardin@umces.edu

Cindy Palinkas, Associate Professor: Geological oceanography, sediment transport and deposition in intertidal, fluvial, and estuarine environments, tidal marshes response to environmental change
cpalinkas@umces.edu

Larry Sanford, Professor: Estuarine and coastal physical oceanography, fine sediment transport, boundary layers and turbulence, interdisciplinary processes in shallow water
lsanford@umces.edu

Lorie Staver, Assistant Professor, Environmental science, wetland ecology, restoration ecology
lstaver@umces.edu

Ryan Woodland, Assistant Professor: Coastal food webs, trophic ecology, fish ecology, anthropogenic effects and climate change, stable isotope ecology
woodland@umces.edu

CRABS

J. Sook Chung, Professor: Neuroendocrine regulation on crustacean physiology of molting, growth, reproduction, sex differentiation, and stress responses
chung@umces.edu

Thomas Miller, Professor: Recruitment and population dynamics of aquatic animals, fish early-life history, blue crabs
miller@umces.edu

Louis Plough, Associate Professor: Population structure of blue crabs, molecular identification of crabs species and origins, genomics of adaptation
lplough@umces.edu

Eric Schott, Associate Research Professor: Molecular detection and characterization of aquatic invertebrates, pathogens and viruses, soft-shell crabs
schott@umces.edu

Michael Wilberg, Professor: Population dynamics, quantitative fisheries, stock assessment, management strategy evaluation, fisheries management
wilberg@umces.edu

EDUCATION & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Lora Harris, Professor: Systems ecology, coastal ecology, diversity in geosciences, SEAS Island Alliance
harris@umces.edu

Eric Schott, Associate Research Professor: Molecular detection and characterization of aquatic invertebrates, pathogens and viruses, Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center
schott@umces.edu

Heath Kelsey, Director, Integration and Application Network: Conversations at the intersection of science/community/environment; scientific report cards on environmental restoration
hkelsey@umces.edu

Fredrika Moser, Director, Maryland Sea Grant: Marine science policy, science education, SEAS Island Alliance, REU Program
moser@mdsg.umd.edu

James Pierson, Associate Professor: Biological oceanography, plankton ecology, trophic dynamics, SEAS Island Alliance
jpierson@umces.edu

Larry Sanford, Professor: Estuarine and coastal physical oceanography, MEES program graduate education
lsanford@umces.edu

Cathlyn Davis Principal Agent: Public engagement with science, citizen science, environmental education, educator professional development, education program design and evaluation
cathlyn.davis@umces.edu

FISHERIES

Victor S. Kennedy, Professor Emeritus: Historical exploitation of fisheries in Chesapeake Bay
kennedy@umces.edu

Thomas Miller, Professor: Recruitment and population dynamics of aquatic animals, fish early-life history, blue crabs
miller@umces.edu

Genny Nesslage, Associate Research Professor: Fish and wildlife population dynamics and modeling, fisheries stock assessment, biological invasions, quantitative ecology
nesslage@umces.edu

Elizabeth North, Professor: Fisheries oceanography with emphasis on finfish and shellfish in estuaries, circulation and particle trajectory modeling
enorth@umces.edu

Allen Place, Professor:
Elucidation of the molecular mechanisms that permit organisms to adapt, sustainable fish feeds for aquaculture
place@umces.edu

Kenny Rose, Professor:
Ecological modeling, fisheries assessment and management
krose@umces.edu

David Secor, Professor:
Migration and population ecology of marine fishes, telemetry and analytical techniques for tracking fish movements, fisheries and protected species
secor@umces.edu

Michael Wilberg, Professor:
Population dynamics, quantitative fisheries, stock assessment, management strategy evaluation, fisheries management
wilberg@umces.edu

FORESTS & TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY

Mark Cochrane, Professor:
Earth systems science, wildland fire, climate change, ecology, land cover change, remote sensing
mark.cochrane@umces.edu

Keith Eshleman, Professor (AL):
Hydrology, watershed ecology, biogeochemistry of freshwater and ground-water, hydrological impacts of acid deposition, forest disturbances, and surface mining
keshleman@umces.edu

David Nelson, Professor:
Stable isotope, biogeochemistry, and microbial ecology, global change, paleoecology
dnelson@umces.edu

GENOMICS & GENETICS

Tsvetan Bachvaroff, Associate Research Professor:
DNA sequence analysis; culture independent methods, such as single cell PCR, sequencing, and sequence analysis; establishing dinoflagellate cultures.
bachvaroff@umces.edu

Katharina Engelhardt, Associate Research Professor:
Plant biodiversity (species and genetic), restoration ecology, wetland ecology, aquatic botany, invasion ecology, roadside grasses
kengelhardt@umces.edu

Robert Hilderbrand, Associate Professor:
Stream ecology and conservation; stream assessment, monitoring, and restoration; watershed responses to land use and land cover change; brook trout.
rhilderbrand@umces.edu

Rose Jagus, Professor
Translational control of gene expression, regulation of gene activity in early development
jagus@umces.edu

Allen Place, Professor:
Elucidation of the molecular mechanisms that permit

organisms to adapt to unique circumstances, molecular basis of sex determination
place@umces.edu

Louis Plough, Associate Professor:
Population genetics of marine animals, quantitative genetics, and experimental breeding of shellfish; larval biology of marine invertebrates
lplough@umces.edu

Eric Schott, Associate Research Professor:
Molecular detection and characterization of aquatic invertebrates, pathogens and viruses, application of genome-targeted approaches in aquatic health
schott@umces.edu

INVASIVE SPECIES

Katharina Engelhardt, Associate Research Professor:
Plant biodiversity, wetland ecology, aquatic botany, invasion ecology
kengelhardt@umces.edu

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Professor:
Modeling the spread of invasive species, macroecology, biodiversity, climate change, quantitative ecology
mfitzpatrick@umces.edu

Genny Nesslage, Associate Research Professor:
Fish and wildlife population dynamics and modeling, invasive species dynamics, quantitative ecology
nesslage@umces.edu

Mario Tamburri, Professor:
Invasive species ecology
(prevention/management),
sustainable urban water-
fronts, environmental
technologies and observing
tamburri@umces.edu

Lisa Wainger, Research
Professor: Modeling
economic benefits of
management, assessment
of invasive species, environ-
mental economic indicators
wainger@umces.edu

MARINE FOOD WEB

Hongsheng Bi, Associate
Professor: Population
modeling, zooplankton
ecology, spatial statistics
hbi@umces.edu

James Pierson,
Associate Professor:
Biological oceanography,
plankton ecology, trophic
dynamics, copepods
jpierson@umces.edu

Ryan Woodland, Associate
Professor (CBL): Coastal
food webs, trophic ecology,
fish ecology, anthropogenic
effects and climate change,

stable isotope ecology
woodland@umces.edu

MICROBIAL BIOLOGY

Feng Chen, Professor:
Marine microbial ecology,
microbial oceanography
and biogeography,
microbial diversity,
genomics, functional
genomics, clean green
biotechnology
chenf@umces.edu

Jacob Cram, Assistant
Professor: Microbial
ecology, biogeochemistry,
biological oceanography,
mechanistic/statistical
modelling, microbial
communities, marine snow
jcram@umces.edu

Clara Fuchsman, Assistant
Professor: Biogeochemical
cycles, microbial ecology,
sinking particles,
anoxic environments/
oxygen minimum zones
cfuchsman@umces.edu

Russell Hill, Professor:
Symbiosis between bacteria
and marine invertebrates,
molecular and culture-

based studies of symbiotic
bacteria, microalgae,
biofuels hill@umces.edu

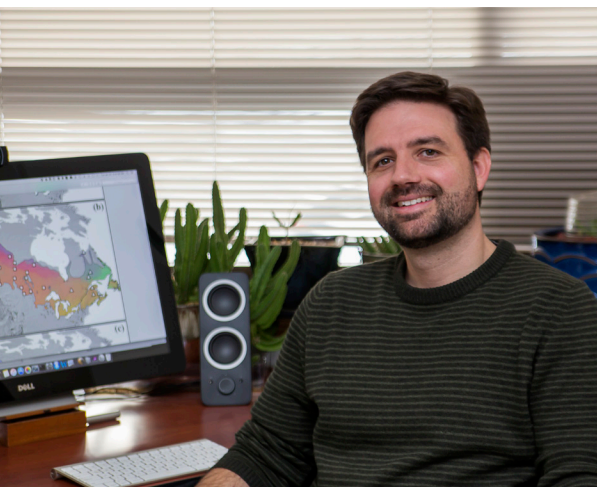
Sairah Malkin,
Assistant Professor:
Biogeochemistry, microbial
ecology, benthic ecology,
geochemical cycling in
aquatic systems
smalkin@umces.edu

Allen Place, Professor:
Elucidation of the molecular
mechanisms that permit
organisms to adapt to
unique circumstances,
molecular basis of sex
determination
place@umces.edu

NUTRIENT DYNAMICS

Walter Boynton, Professor
Emeritus: Systems ecology,
nutrient cycling in estuarine
systems, estuarine
restoration, management/
policy boynton@umces.edu

Jeff Cornwell, Research
Professor: Biogeochemistry,
nutrient, metal, and sulfur
cycling in estuaries and
coastal wetlands
cornwell@umces.edu



“Within the lifetime of children living today, the climate of many regions is projected to change from the familiar to conditions unlike those experienced in the same place by perhaps any generation. ”

—Matt Fitzpatrick created the Future Urban Climates app

Eric Davidson, Professor:
Biogeochemistry and
soil microbial ecology
in forests/agriculture,
greenhouse gas emissions
and water quality
edavidson@umces.edu

Tom Fisher, Professor
Emeritus: Terrestrial and
atmospheric nutrient
inputs, nutrient cycling and
limitation
fisher@umces.edu

Lora Harris, Professor:
Systems ecology, coastal
ecology, biogeochemistry,
numerical modeling,
metabolic rates
harris@umces.edu

Laura Lapham,
Associate Professor:
Methane emissions from
aquatic environments,
biogeochemistry, carbon
cycling, gas hydrates,
hydrocarbon seeps
lapham@umces.edu

Sairah Malkin, Assistant
Professor: Biogeochemistry,
microbial ecology, benthic

ecology, geochemical
cycling in aquatic systems
smalkin@umces.edu

Andrea Pain, Assistant
Professor: Carbon and
nutrient processes across
the land-sea interface,
Arctic processes, coastal
groundwater
apain@umces.edu

Jeremy Testa, Professor:
Estuarine biogeochemistry,
dissolved oxygen cycling,
numerical modeling,
estuarine systems ecology
jtesta@umces.edu

Xin Zhang, Professor:
Biogeochemical cycles
of carbon and nitrogen,
earth system modeling,
atmospheric-biosphere
interactions
xin.zhang@umces.edu

OCEAN SCIENCE

BIOLOGICAL—

Jacob Cram, Assistant
Professor: Microbial
ecology, biogeochemistry,
mechanistic and statistical

modeling, microbial
communities, marine snow
jcram@umces.edu

Clara Fuchsman, Assistant
Professor: Biogeochemical
cycles, microbial ecology,
and sinking particles in
anoxic environments such
oxygen minimum zones
cfuchsman@umces.edu

Jackie Grebmeier,
Research Professor: Arctic
benthic ecology and marine
ecosystem dynamics,
connections among sea ice
coverage, water column
processes and sea-floor
organisms
jgrebmei@umces.edu

Raleigh Hood, Professor:
Models to simulate and
predict biogeochemical
and ecological variability
in marine environments
rhood@umces.edu

Ming Li, Professor:
Estuarine and coastal
dynamics, regional impacts
of climate change and
extreme weather events
mingli@umces.edu



“Decoding the blue crab genome enables us to decode the factors providing resiliency of the blue crab to climate change and disease in the Chesapeake Bay and beyond.”

— Biochemist Sook Chung
led the effort to sequence the
genome of blue crab

Judy O'Neil, Research Associate Professor: Cyanobacteria ecophysiology and plankton trophodynamics
joneil@umces.edu

James Pierson, Associate Professor: Biological oceanography, plankton ecology, trophic dynamics, copepods
jpierson@umces.edu

Greg Silsbe, Assistant Research Professor: Role of phytoplankton in global carbon cycle, satellite remote-sensing, tropical limnology
gsilsbe@umces.edu

PHYSICAL—
Lee Cooper, Research Professor: Stable and radioisotope composition of organic materials and natural waters, aquatic plant physiology, high latitude oceanography and hydrology
cooper@umces.edu

Victoria Coles, Professor: Climate variability and change, observations and modeling of ocean and estuarine ecology, biogeochemistry and circulation modeling
vcoles@umces.edu

Joe Jurisa, Assistant Professor: Mixing and transport processes in estuarine and coastal systems
jjurisa@umces.edu

Larry Sanford, Professor: Estuarine and coastal physical oceanography,

fine sediment transport, boundary layers and turbulence, interdisciplinary processes in shallow water
lsanford@umces.edu

Jian Zhao, Assistant Professor: Mesoscale and sub-mesoscale processes, ocean's role in climate, geophysical fluid dynamics
jianzhao@umces.edu

OYSTERS

Stephanie Alexander, Oyster Hatchery Manager: Production of oyster larvae, seed, spat-on-shell, restoration, aquaculture
tobash@umces.edu

Matthew Gray, Assistant Professor: Ecophysiology of bivalves, ecological restoration, ecosystem services, aquaculture
mgray@umces.edu

Elizabeth North, Professor: Fisheries oceanography with emphasis on finfish/shellfish in estuaries, circulation and particle trajectory modeling
enorth@umces.edu

Kennedy Paynter, Associate Professor: Comparative physiology of estuarine organisms, oyster disease biochemistry
paynter@umces.edu

Louis Plough, Associate Professor: Population genetics of marine animals, quantitative genetics, and experimental breeding of shellfish, larval biology of

marine invertebrates
lpough@umces.edu

Michael Wilberg, Professor: Population dynamics, quantitative fisheries, stock assessment, management strategy evaluation, fisheries management
wilberg@umces.edu

SOCIOECONOMIC MODELING

Lisa Wainger, Research Professor: Cost-effective environmental restoration strategies, value of ecosystem services, and other environmental economic modeling
wainger@umces.edu

Xin Zhang, Professor: Environmental science and policy, biogeochemical cycles of carbon/nitrogen, earth system modeling
xin.zhang@umces.edu

STATISTICS

Dong Liang, Associate Research Professor: Spatial sampling, remote sensing, environmental health, bayesian data analyses, spatiotemporal modeling
dliang@umces.edu

Vyacheslav Lyubchich, Associate Research Professor: Time series analysis, forecasting, applied statistics, nonparametric inference, machine learning, and networks
lyubchic@umces.edu

STREAM HEALTH & RESTORATION

Keith Eshleman, Professor:
Hydrology, watershed
ecology, biogeochemistry
of freshwater and
groundwater
keshleman@umces.edu

Solange Filoso, Associate
Research Professor:
Biogeochemistry,
freshwater ecosystems,
urban streams, stream
restoration, watershed
science filoso@umces.edu

Robert Hilderbrand,
Associate Professor:
Stream ecology and
conservation, stream
assessment, monitoring,
and restoration; watershed
responses to land use and
land cover change
rhilderbrand@umces.edu

URBAN WATERFRONTS

Allen Place, Professor:
Elucidation of the
molecular mechanisms that
permit organisms to adapt
to unique circumstances,
HABs early warning system
place@umces.edu

Eric Schott, Associate
Research Professor:
Molecular detection and
characterization of aquatic
invertebrates, pathogens
and viruses, soft-shell crabs
schott@umces.edu

Mario Tamburri, Professor:
Sustainable urban water-
fronts; environmental
technologies and
observing; chemical

ecology of aquatic
organisms; Invasive species
ecology and prevention
tamburri@umces.edu

Ryan Woodland, Associate
Professor: Trophic ecology,
fish ecology, anthropogenic
effects and climate change,
stable isotope ecology
woodland@umces.edu

WATER QUALITY

Walter Boynton, Professor
Emeritus: Systems ecology,
nutrient cycling in estuarine
systems, estuarine
restoration, management/
policy boynton@umces.edu

Bill Dennison, Professor:
Ecology of marine plants,
assessing ecosystem health,
Chesapeake Bay report card
dennison@umces.edu

Keith Eshleman, Professor:
Hydrology, watershed
ecology, biogeochemistry
of freshwater and
groundwater
keshleman@umces.edu

Solange Filoso, Associate
Research Professor:
Biogeochemistry,
freshwater ecosystems,
urban streams, stream
restoration, watershed
science
filoso@umces.edu

Tom Fisher, Professor
Emeritus: Terrestrial and
atmospheric nutrient
inputs, nutrient cycling
and limitation
fisher@umces.edu

Michael Gonsior, Associate
Professor: Chemical
diversity of complex
dissolved organic matter
in aquatic and engineered
systems, disinfection by-
products, photochemistry,
marine biogeochemistry
gonsior@umces.edu

Lora Harris, Professor:
Impact of management
Systems ecology, coastal
ecology, biogeochemistry,
numerical modeling,
metabolic rates. harris@umces.edu

Carys Mitchelmore,
Professor: Detection of
chemical contaminants
and understanding their
toxicity and implications to
organism and ecosystem
health. mitchelmore@umces.edu

Judy O'Neil, Research
Associate Professor:
Cyanobacteria eco-
physiology and plankton
trophodynamics
joneil@umces.edu

Andrea Pain, Assistant
Professor: Carbon and
nutrient processes across
the land-sea interface,
Arctic processes, coastal
groundwater
apain@umces.edu

Greg Silsbe, Assistant
Research Professor: Role of
phytoplankton in global
carbon cycle, satellite
remote-sensing, tropical
limnology
gsilsbe@umces.edu

“Sampling a single river, you need a net, crew, permit; it can be expensive. The eDNA approach is an alternative where you just take a water sample, and you get an idea of the abundance of fish.”

—Louis Plough on using DNA to track fish in area waterways



Jeremy Testa, Associate Professor: Estuarine biogeochemistry, dissolved oxygen cycling, numerical modeling, estuarine systems ecology
jtesta@umces.edu

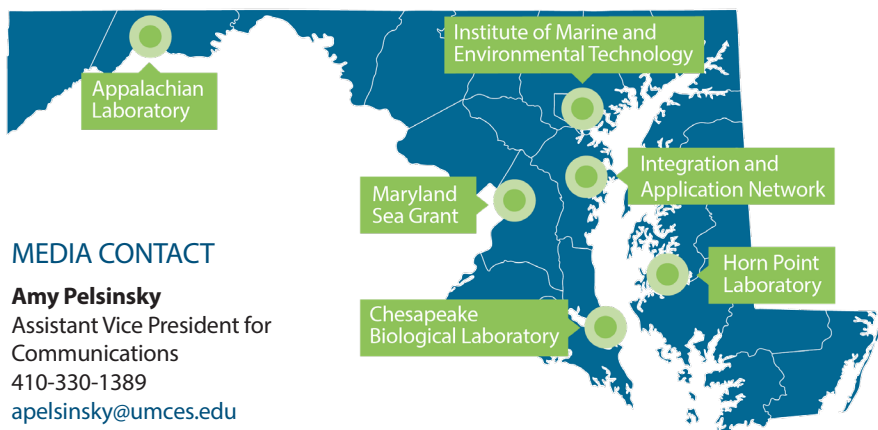
Christopher Rowe, Associate Professor: Physiological ecology, ecotoxicology, herpetology
rowe@umces.edu

Qian Zhang, Watershed Effectiveness Data Analyst: Environmental science, water quality, watershed, nutrients, statistics, modeling, machine learning, Chesapeake Bay
qzhang@umces.edu

WILDLIFE ECOLOGY

Emily Cohen, Assistant Professor: Animal migration biology, migratory connectivity, stopover biology and aeroecology, population and behavioral ecology, ornithology
emily.cohen@umces.edu

John Hoogland, Professor: Evolution of social behavior, wildlife ecology, and behavior of prairie dog populations
hoogland@umces.edu



MEDIA CONTACT

Amy Pelsinsky

Assistant Vice President for
Communications

410-330-1389

apelsinsky@umces.edu

LEADERSHIP

Bill Dennison, Interim President and
Professor: Ecology of marine plants,
assessing ecosystem health, environmental
report cards
dennison@umces.edu

Essala Lowe, Vice President for
Administration elowe@umces.edu

Lois Colaprete, Vice President for
Advancement lcolaprete@umces.edu

Larry Sanford, Vice President
for Education: Coastal physical
oceanography, sediment transport,
waves, and physical/biological
interactions lsanford@umces.edu

Dave Nemazie, Chief of Staff: Science
communication, marine and estuarine
ecology, watershed management,
environmental policy and development
nemazie@umces.edu

UNIT DIRECTORS

Russell Hill

Director and Professor, Institute of
Marine and Environmental Technology:
Symbiosis between bacteria and marine
invertebrates, molecular and culture-
based studies of symbiotic bacteria,
microalgae, biofuels hill@umces.edu

Heath Kelsey

Director, Integration and Application
Network: Conversations at intersection
of science/community/environment;
scientific report cards on environmental
restoration hkelsey@umces.edu

Carys Mitchelmore

Interim Director, Chesapeake Biological
Laboratory and Professor: Water quality,
environmental fate and impacts of
pollutants, hydrocarbons and person-
al care products, toxicity testing, oyster
health and aquaculture, coral health and
biochemistry mitchelmore@umces.edu

Fredrika Moser

Director, Maryland Sea Grant:
Marine science policy, invasive species
policy, science education, coastal
sedimentology, geochemistry
moser@mdsg.umd.edu

David Nelson

Director and Professor, Appalachian
Laboratory: Stable isotope ecology,
biogeochemistry, global change ecology,
ecosystem ecology, paleoecology,
microbial ecology dnelson@umces.edu

Mike Sieracki

Director and Professor, Horn Point
Laboratory: Biological oceanography,
microbial plankton ecology
msieracki@umces.edu

Headquarters

2020 Horns Point Road
Cambridge, MD 21613
umces.edu

Appalachian Laboratory

301 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532
301-689-7100

Chesapeake Biological Laboratory

146 Williams Street / 0038
Solomons, MD 20688
410-326-4281

Horn Point Laboratory

2020 Horns Point Road
Cambridge, MD 21613
410-228-8200

**Institute of Marine
and Environmental Technology**

701 E. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-234-8802

Integration and Application Network

429 Fourth Street
Annapolis, MD 21403
41-221-2005

Maryland Sea Grant College

5825 University Research Court, Suite 1350
College Park, MD 20737
301-405-7500



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