

Florida Marine Science Educators Association

2008 Conference

April 25-27, 2008 • Tampa Florida



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Conference Schedule

Thursday, April 24, 2008

3:00 PM Conference Committee Meeting – *La Quinta*
5:00–8:00 PM Registration Open – *La Quinta Lobby*

Friday, April 25

7:45 AM–5:00 PM Registration Open – *La Quinta Lobby*
8:00 AM–5:00 PM Field Trips – *Vans leave from La Quinta*
4:00–10:00 PM Exhibit area available for Exhibitor set-up – *MOSI (Kids in Charge)*
5:45 PM Buses depart for The Florida Aquarium – *from La Quinta*
6:30–9:30 PM Social and Conference Opening – *The Florida Aquarium*
7:45 PM Opening Speaker, Dr. Craig Watson – *The Florida Aquarium*
9:30 PM Last bus departs from The Florida Aquarium – *to La Quinta*

Saturday, April 26

All programs and sessions are at MOSI.
7:00–8:00 AM Exhibit area available for Exhibitor set-up - *Kids in Charge*
7:45–10:00 AM Registration Open - *Science Works Theatre*
8:00 AM–6:00 PM Exhibits Open - *Kids in Charge*
8:30–10:00 AM Opening Session and Keynote Speakers - *Science Works Theatre*
• Dr. Randall Wells and Dr. David Niebuhr
10:00 –11:50 AM Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2 - *Kids in Charge*
12:00–1:30 PM Box Lunches and Regional Meetings
1:30–2:15 PM Strategic Planning Session - *Science Works Theatre*
2:30–5:20 PM Concurrent Sessions 3, 4, & 5 - *Kids in Charge*
4:30 PM Deadline to submit election ballots
5:20–6:00 PM Break and Networking - *Kids in Charge*
6:00 PM Exhibit Break-Down
6:00–7:00 PM Silent Auction and Social - *Kids in Charge*
7:00–10:00 PM Banquet, Annual Meeting/Installation of Officers, Networking -
MOSI Main Building, 1st Floor

Sunday, April 27

8:00–9:30 AM Breakfast & Networking (Ticket Required) - *Embassy Suites*
9:00–10:00 AM FMSEA/FWC Collecting Certification Facilitators Meeting –
La Quinta
10:15 AM FMSEA Board Meeting - *La Quinta*

The conference hotel, *La Quinta*, is approximately .6 miles from *MOSI*. Conference participants are encouraged to walk to sessions and events on Saturday, however, a van will be available Saturday morning and Saturday evening to provide shuttle service if that is preferred. It will shuttle between *La Quinta* and *MOSI* before the opening session and at the conclusion of dinner. Participants may also drive to and from *MOSI* and park at no cost.



A Wonder-Water Discovery

Welcome to Tampa, Fellow Educators!

As The Florida Marine Science Educators Association celebrates its 40th year anniversary, we are thrilled that you are here to celebrate the wonder and imagination of science. Through inspiration and dedication, FMSEA educators strive to impact the next generation of scientists, activists, and caring citizens. This conference is the perfect opportunity for you to share your excitement about marine science with others who share your passion for the natural world. Conference sites include The Florida Aquarium, the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), and a variety of fabulous field trips in the Tampa Bay area. Have fun out there!

Important Conference Information

Full registration includes FMSEA tee-shirt, special conference items, Friday Evening Social, all Saturday sessions, Saturday lunch, and evening dinner. Sunday breakfast is optional and can be added to your registration. Additional tickets for guests can also be purchased for both the Friday Social and Saturday dinner. See the registration table for costs, details, and availability of tickets.

Your **name badge** is required for entry into concurrent session, exhibit areas and other conference-related activities. Please wear it at all conference events.

Election ballots are included in each registration packet. Please be sure to turn your ballot in by 4:30 PM on Saturday. Election results will be announced at the banquet Saturday evening.

Auction items may be dropped off at the Registration Table at La Quinta on Friday or at Registration Table at MOSI on Saturday. If you haven't already done so, please be sure to submit a donation form with your auction item(s). All items must be received by **noon** on Saturday.

Event tickets are required for several activities throughout the weekend including Friday social, Saturday lunch, and Saturday banquet. Please bring tickets with you to the event.

Questions? FMSEA Board Members and Conference Committee Members are wearing colored ribbons on their nametags. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the conference, please don't hesitate to ask!

The **Florida Marine Science Educators Association (FMSEA)** is a chapter of NMEA and provides a network for marine educators working together to coordinate and expand marine education, communication and interaction. FMSEA members receive the Littoral Drift, a quarterly newsletter which contains information on educational workshops and conferences, teaching aids and resources, regional news and other articles of interest. In addition, FMSEA sponsors an annual Student Project Award for elementary, middle, and high school students and offers scholarships to teachers to help them continue their professional development. In conjunction with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, FMSEA hosts Marine/Aquatic Collecting Certification Workshops throughout the state. Visit FMSEA online at www.fmsea.org.

Friday Field Trips Schedule

Times indicate beginning to end time from La Quinta, with the exception of *Adventure at The Florida Aquarium* (will not return to La Quinta before the evening event, as noted below). Vans will transport participants to field trip locations. Lunches are provided for all trips except for *Adventure at The Florida Aquarium*. Please meet in the hotel lobby at least 10 minutes prior to the start times indicated for each field trip.

A) 8:45 AM – 12:30 PM Wetlands Walk along the Hillsborough River, Lettuce Lake Park -

Lettuce Lake is a floodwater overflow for the Hillsborough River. The park is also home to a spectacular freshwater wetlands complex loaded with a large variety of wading birds, gators, turtles and other wildlife. Our trip consists of a short video overview of the types of wetlands and a hike along a boardwalk to observe organisms. Binoculars will be furnished. Time permitting, may do some collecting of freshwater fish and invertebrates. Bring your camera!

B) 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM Gulf of Mexico Dive Trip - Dive Veteran's Artificial Reef and Rube

Allyn Reef and the natural ledges in the surrounding area. Both structures are well established and are home to many species. Rube Allyn is a good location to spot kingfish. Price includes two air tanks, transportation, snacks, and lunch.

C) 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM A Day for Tampa Bay! - Join Tampa BayWatch Scientists and Edu-

cators for a guided tour of a restoration project completed at Cockroach Bay. Then hop in a van and head across the bay to see Tampa BayWatch's new education facility. Learn about field programs that they conduct with students and get a bit wet as you pull a seine net in Tampa Bay off the coast of their beautiful property! Closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get wet are a must!

D) 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM What's New at the Zoo?- Yes, we are marine educators, but the

whole world is interconnected! Join Educators at Busch Gardens Africa on a behind-the-scenes look at one of the largest zoos in the country! Learn about opportunities for educators and students, meet some critters up close, and learn how the zoo cares for animals and supports research all over the world! Then, enjoy some free time in the park. The tour includes a lot of walking, so please wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes!

E) 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM Paddle in the Mangroves at Weedon Island- Head to Weedon Is-

land Preserve in St. Petersburg and take a leisurely guided canoe trip through the mangroves! The trail meanders through the mangrove forests and sea grass flats. See a wide variety of wading birds and fish, including spoonbills, egrets, mullet, snook, and maybe a shark!

F) 2:00 PM- 6:30 PM Adventure at The Florida Aquarium - Take a journey through the

Florida water story. Stroll past misty cypress trees and tangled mangroves in the Wetlands. Explore shallow depths of bay habitats and listen to the sounds of the surf at the beach in the Bays and Beaches Gallery, and delight in the brilliant colors of the Coral Reef Gallery. Then take an eco-tour of Tampa Bay on the Bay Spirit, a 64-foot catamaran. While on board, look for soaring sea birds and frolicking dolphins. After your boat tour, meet an Aquarium instructor for a behind-the-scenes tour of the Aquarium. **Please Note:** This trip does not include lunch and the group will remain at the Aquarium for the evening event (van will not return to La Quinta prior to the evening event).

Friday Evening Schedule

5:45 PM

Busses depart La Quinta for the Florida Aquarium

We strongly encourage you to sit back and relax and let a bus take you to The Florida Aquarium. If you wish to drive, however, directions are noted below and are from La Quinta. Note that you will need a code to park in The Florida Aquarium parking lot. Please do not park in the Channelside garage across from the Aquarium, as the Aquarium lot is free and available for your use for this event. The code for the Aquarium lot, entered onto a keypad in the Members Lane, is: **3897**.

To The Florida Aquarium:

Turn left out of the La Quinta parking lot to travel west on Fowler Ave. Take the on-ramp to I-275 South.

Take exit 45A, Downtown East (Jefferson St). Keep to the left.

Continue straight on Jefferson (becomes Orange) to Twiggs.

Turn left on Twiggs and follow to the end (Channelside Drive).

Turn right on Channelside Dr. to Washington St. (Aquarium marquee will be ahead on your left).

Turn left on Washington St. to enter Aquarium parking lot on right.

6:30 - 9:30 PM

Evening Social at The Florida Aquarium - Join fellow marine education enthusiasts at The Florida Aquarium for heavy appetizers as you discover more than 20,000 aquatic plants and animals both native to Florida and from around the world. Along the way, see river otters, alligators, stingrays and sharks, and come face-to-face with a 200-pound Goliath Grouper! The diversity of Florida's aquatic life is displayed at this facility, which is not only an aquarium, but also an aviary and botanical garden.

The fun continues at 7:45 PM with a conference welcome in the Taylor Great Room and a presentation by Craig Watson (University of Florida Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory and Board VP of Conservation and Research for The Florida Aquarium). You will not want to miss *Steamy Waters*, *The Fascinating World of Fish Sex* (Rated PG13).

Saturday Schedule

7:45 - 10:00 AM

Registration Open - *Science Works Theatre*

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Exhibits Open - *Kids in Charge*

8:30 - 10:00 AM

Opening General Session and Keynote Speakers featuring Dr. David Niebuhr and Dr. Randall Wells - *Science Works Theatre*

Session I

10:00 - 10:50 AM

Upstream: Teaching Watersheds – Carrie Browder, St. Johns River Water Management District

KIC-1 | *G, N, E, M, H, P*

Watersheds connect land-lubbers to their neighbors downstream and to the sea. Participate in water resource education activities useful in conveying the watershed concept and in building an understanding of the ways people value water differently. Activities support Sunshine State

Intended

Audience Key

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Standards. Participants will receive free materials from St. Johns River Water Management District and two handouts from Discover a Watershed/Watershed Manager: Seeing Watersheds and Choices and Preferences Water Index.

Ocean Science Blogging: Expanding the Conversation – Jason Robertshaw, Cephalopodcast.com

KIC-2 | G, N, E, M, H, P

From the depths of the oceans to the tops of the waves, scientists, teachers and students are using blogs, podcasts and other new media to raise awareness of ocean issues, allowing for real-time conversations and discovery. Case studies of building understanding through new media at the intersection of science, education and conservation will be examined. Join us for a lively and interactive session and explore the new virtual frontier of ocean education.

A Taste of Our Seafood Platter: A Sampling of Lessons for High School Marine Science – Mike Mitchell and Carol Leonard, Lemon Bay High School

KIC-3 | H

All organisms have adaptations that allow them to survive in their environments. Participants will identify fish specimens with keys provided, analyze geographical range distribution, and discuss the adaptations that help them to survive in their chosen environments. Participants will also analyze a story of an extinct species to determine how their adaptations led to their extinction when their environment changed quickly. Presenters will model teaching strategies that are easily adaptable to any classroom.

Communicating Solutions: Evaluating Human-Dolphin Interactions in Sarasota Bay with High School Student Volunteers – Jim Wharton, Amy Anderson, Jillian Mayer, Sean Russell, Stephanie Altenbernd, Mote Marine Laboratory

KIC-4 | N, H

Mote scientists and educators worked together to develop a monthly monitoring study of dolphin behavior in high boat traffic areas of Sarasota Bay to be conducted by students in the Mote High School Intern Alumni program. The twin goals of the project were (1) to gather, evaluate and disseminate information on dolphin-human interactions in Sarasota Bay and (2) to expose high school students to Mote scientific research and to instruct them in field research methodologies

Session II

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Amazing Adaptations – Carrie Murphy & Jennifer Royce, Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center

KIC-1 | N, E

The “Amazing Adaptations” program was designed by the Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center Education Department to help elementary students (3rd-5th grades SC.G.1.2.2) better understand how adaptations help different animals survive in the ocean. Through a hands-on exploration

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and activities that can be performed at our center and in their classroom they can discover physical features and behaviors that animals such as sea turtles, fish, and marine mammals have to maneuver and stay alive in their environment.

Peeking at Plankton – Tessie Offner, The Florida Aquarium

KIC-2 | G

Investigating plankton is a great way to build ocean awareness. Kids of all ages are fascinated by the tiny life forms that live in our water. Explore the unique forms of plankton and learn how these life forms can be ambassadors for all aquatic life. Learn how plankton can be collected, identified and used as a teaching tool. Participants will receive an ID worksheet and directions to build a plankton net.

High School Aqua-science Academy Helps Students Gain Technical Experience – Katrin O’Connell, Effa Beauette, Dr. Norine Eckstrom, Jada Thompson, Diane Lavarello, Riverview High School

KIC-3 | G, N, H, P

This presentation will be an overview of one high school’s answer to the required technical component for current curriculum. The presentation will highlight the collaborative efforts of many entities, including Mote Marine Laboratory, Hillsborough Community College, Riverview High School, and area employers and business owners. A challenging curriculum plan has been created to provide students with hands-on experience in sustainability and entrepreneurship and with pathways to further education or employment in an aqua-science related career.

The Tipping Point: Making Connections – Lauren Tyler, The Florida Aquarium; Lynn McDaniel, Stewart Middle Magnet School; Tim Oldread, Mote Marine Laboratory; Karin Iuzzolino, The Pier Aquarium; Cris Ryan, Smithsonian Marine Station

KIC-4 | N

Meet educators from The Florida Aquarium, Mote Marine Lab and Aquarium, The Pier Aquarium, Smithsonian Marine Station and Hillsborough County Schools. Learn about unique programs and opportunities at each institution and participate in a round table discussion designed to engage teachers and informal science educators in communicating gaps and needs in science education. Turn programs into “epidemics,” wildly popular activities that spread through the community like wildfire.

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Box Lunches and Regional Meetings

1:30 - 2:15 PM

Strategic Planning Session - *Science Works Theatre*

Session III

2:30 - 3:20 PM

Explore Ocean-Human Connections: Use Literature in the Marine Science Classroom – Kimberly Thurman, University of Florida/IFAS

KIC-1 | G, H, P

Reading can become an exciting, personal experience for your students

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when they are engaged in learning about facets of the ocean that are not often discussed in textbooks: surfing, diving, marathon swimming, fishing and boating survival stories, and sea folklore. Participants will receive an extensive list of reviewed books that may be appropriate for use in high school or college (marine) science classrooms with some classroom-ready lesson plans and suggestions for additional activities.

Marine Programming for Persons with Disabilities – Brandon Smith, Brevard County Parks and Recreation

KIC-2 | N

Learn how to effectively construct marine programs for persons with disabilities. These programs help to increase knowledge of marine science and provide an enjoyable and enriching experience for an often ignored demographic. The presentation will cover working with disabilities, how to find groups for your programs, and components for a successful program. Following the discussion will be a presentation of an actual program along with a make and take craft.

Something Fishy – Maia McGuire, Florida Sea Grant , Diane Lavarello, Riverview High School

KIC-3 | G, N, E, M, H *****DOUBLE SESSION*****

Come prepared to participate in best-of-the-best fish-related activities and labs to supplement units on fish diversity. Activities include using a dichotomous key to identify saltwater fishes, “catching” and measuring fishes, fish printing, and a fish genetics (bottle) lab. Participants will also learn how one commercial fishing fleet’s decisions can impact other fleets in the region, and don’t miss the shark-o-meter! Activities are easily customized for your region and are appropriate for formal and informal settings.

Educators Aquatic Species Collecting Workshop – FMSEA Certified Workshop Facilitators

KIC-4 | G, N, E, M, H, P *****DOUBLE SESSION*****

This 2-hour session highlights both the benefits and alternatives to the collection of aquatic species for use in the classroom. Collection methods, minimum impact techniques, and associated conditions and restrictions will be discussed. Learn about available resources and related activities, too. Participants will be eligible to receive a 3-year collection certification from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or renew their certificates.

Session IV

3:30 - 4:20 PM

The Fundraising Food Chain – E.Howard Rutherford, Vicky VieBrooks, The Pier Aquarium, Leslie Sprague, Caribbean Conservation Corporation

KIC-1 | G

The Fundraising Food Chain - Are you trying to expand your education program but can't find the money to do it? Scared of applying for a grant because you've never done it before? Join us for a simplified session on grant-writing where we'll outline the fundraising process from conception through follow-up. Whether raising a few hundred dollars or million, you'll walk away with a plan and the confidence to get started.

Saturday at a Glance

	KIC-1	KIC-2	KIC-3	KIC-4	SWT	KIC General
7:45 - 10:00 AM					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration Open (7:45) • Keynote Speakers (8:30) 	
Session I 10:00 - 10:50 AM	Upstream: Teaching Watersheds	Ocean Science Blogging	A Taste of Our Seafood Platter	Human-Dolphin Interactions with HS Interns		
Session II 11:00 - 11:50 AM	Amazing Adaptations	Peeking at Plankton	High School Aqua Academy	Tipping Point: Making Connections		
12:00 - 1:30 PM	Lunch & Regional Meetings					
1:30 - 2:15 PM					Strategic Planning Session	Exhibit Hall Open All Day (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
Session III 2:30 - 3:20 PM	Using Literature in Marine Science	Programming for Persons w/ Disabilities	Something Fishy	FMSEA Collection Workshop		
Session IV 3:30 - 4:20 PM	Fundraising Food Chain	Beach Reach				
Session V 4:30 - 5:20 PM	Marine Mammals in the Classroom	Service Learning in the Formal Classroom	How to Cold-read a Fish			
5:20 - 6:00 PM						
6:00 - 7:00 PM						Silent Auction & Social
7:00 - 10:00 PM	Banquet, Annual Meeting & Installation of Officers - <i>MOSI Main Building, 1st Floor</i>		KIC = Kids In Charge SWT = Science Works Theatre			



Registration Now Open!

Go to the conference website for more info:

nmeaweb.org/savannah2008



ICRS only comes around every four years and this year it's in our own back yard! Don't miss out on the opportunities for marine educators! Check out the ICRS website at www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs/index.html or email Christopher.Boykin@dep.state.fl.us for more information on how you and/or your students can get involved.

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Beach Reach – Dawn Miller-Walker, Science Eye

KIC-2 | *E*

Can't take your class to the beach? Bring the beach to them! Become a mangrove tree, reveal what makes sand, make coral rubbings, "sea" skeletons, identify shells and determine where sea beans originated just like a real marine biologist. The theme is beach preservation and wise management to encourage all to keep an eye on the future of the beach. Participants who bring a thumb drive can download the materials needed for the Beach Reach.

Session V

4:30 - 5:20 PM

Marine Mammals in the Classroom: Meeting curriculum standards while engaging students – Megan Mertsock, Dolphin Research Center

KIC-1 | *G*

Dolphin Research Center has recently completed over 40 lesson plans. Our Marine Mammals curriculum meets Sunshine State standards, National Standards and Ocean Literacy Principles. Come join an interactive session where participants can experience samples of the curriculum and participate in the activities. The presenter will also provide information about other resources available to teachers to help bring marine mammals and the environment into the classroom.

Creatively Connecting Marine Science and Service Learning in the Formal Classroom – Jeremy Lake, Suncoast EarthForce

KIC-2 | *N, E, M, H, P*

Service Learning is a successful model to engage students in real world issues while meeting standards and learning goals. Youth ownership in the project, student-identified community needs, curriculum integration, and reflection are all vital components to make a service learning project successful. Come see how Suncoast Earth Force approaches service learning, supporting both teachers and students to be contributors in a global community. Current and past marine science projects will be the focus of discussion.

How to Cold-read a Fish: A Cordial Introduction to 25,000 species –

Jim Wharton, Mote Marine Laboratory

KIC-3 | *N, E, M, H, P*

By the end of this session, participants will be able to walk up to any aquarium anywhere in the world and intelligently teach about the fishes inside. Sound impossible? It's not. But instead of memorizing the names and characteristics of 25,000 species of fishes, we're going to learn to read a fish like a book. Cold-reading is an exercise in evolutionary thinking that can provide a framework for teaching adaptations in a variety of settings.

Saturday Evening Schedule

4:30 PM

Deadline to submit Election Ballots

5:20 - 6:00 PM **Break, Network, Visit MOSI Exhibits** - *Kids in Charge* - Enjoy some late afternoon refreshments while visiting Exhibits a final time before Exhibitors pack up their treasures! You may also use this social break to plan your strategies for the upcoming Silent Auction... but no peeking!

6:00 - 7:00 PM **Silent Auction and Social** - *Kids in Charge Corner* - Enjoy a glass of wine as you place your bids! Remember that all proceeds raised by the Silent Auction are used to provide needs-based scholarships for educators to attend future conferences. Donations to FMSEA are tax deductible.

7:00 - 10:00 PM

Banquet, Annual Meeting/Installation of Officers, Networking - *MOSI Main Building, 1st Floor*

Join your fellow FMSEA Educators for dinner, dancing, and social time with friends old and new! Musical entertainment will be provided by the Surfin' Raccoons, so come ready to have a great time with a full dinner and live music!

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00 - 10:00 AM

Breakfast & Networking - *Embassy Suites' Mangroves Grille* -

Across the street from La Quinta: (813) 977-7066.

Enjoy a full breakfast at Embassy Suites. With eggs cooked to order and a buffet of traditional breakfast sides (sausage, bacon, fruit, etc.), it's a perfect way to wrap up a great conference, while providing an opportunity for more networking and sharing of ideas. Please note that this breakfast requires a separate ticket. Tickets can be purchased at the Registration Table (\$8).

9:00 - 10:00 AM

FMSEA/FWC Collecting Certification Facilitators Meeting - *La Quinta*

10:15 AM

FMSEA Board Meeting - *La Quinta Inn* - Board meetings are open to all members. If you have ever thought about getting more involved in FMSEA but were uncertain how to do so then JOIN US!

Presenter Bios

Craig Watson

A native of Miami, Craig began his love of fish as a young boy with a fish tank and a pair of sword-tails. His career includes over 30 years of work in aquaculture and the aquarium industry, which has led him to appreciate and understand the fascinating world of fish sex. For the past 20 years, he has been with the University of Florida and serves as Director of the Tropical Aquaculture Lab in Ruskin and Associate Director for Aquaculture Programs for the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. Craig is an active member of The Florida Aquarium's Board of Directors, currently serving as the Board's Vice President of Research and Conservation. He has an enthusiasm and passion for Florida wildlife in addition to his fascination with fish species from around the world, and his sense of humor will set the perfect tone for this year's FMSEA Conference theme: *A Wonder-Water Discovery*.

Dr. Randy Wells

Randall Wells holds a joint appointment with the Chicago Zoological Society as the Program Manager for the Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, the world's longest-running study of wild dolphins. Wells received his B.A. (Zoology) from the University of South Florida, M.Sc. (Zoology) from the University of Florida, and Ph.D. (Biology) from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Postdoctoral Fellowship (Biology) at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He is a Professor of Ocean Sciences (adjunct) at UCSC. Wells has served as major advisor or co-advisor for 6 PhD and 13 MS students, and external advisor for 15 PhD and 16 MS students (1987-2007). Current research examines bottlenose dolphin social structure, ecology, health, population biology, and human impacts, franciscana dolphin ranging patterns, and reintroduction of captive/rehabilitated dolphins. Wells has served as principal or co-principal investigator for 149 funded marine mammal research projects during 1980-2007. Wells has authored or co-authored 4 books, 104 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, 66 technical reports, and 13 popular or semi-popular pieces (1972-2007). He has been presenter or co-author of 231 presentations at professional meetings (1977-2007), and 138 invited public or university lectures (1987-2007). Wells also serves as a member and past-chair of the Atlantic Scientific Review Group, established in 1994 under amendments to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, working with the NMFS and USFWS to evaluate stocks of marine mammals in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. He is on the Steering Committee of the International Whaling Commission's Pollution 2000+ Program of investigation of environmental contaminants in marine mammals, and he is chair of the NOAA/USFWS Working Group on Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Events. Wells serves on IUCN's Cetacean Specialist Group and Reintroduction Specialist Group.

Dr. David H. Niebuhr

Dr. Niebuhr is the Vice President of Education at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Florida. He is an oceanographer, an educator and a resource manager and has been responsible for the development of education programs for a variety of audiences from school children to lawyers and graduate students. With a diverse background that ranges from public relations to teaching, Dr. Niebuhr comes to the field of environmental science and education with a broad range of practical experience.

Dr. Niebuhr holds a doctorate in marine biology and a master's degree in marine resource management, a license to teach biology & chemistry, and an MBA. In addition to nearly twenty years education, he has spent time working as musician, a hospital administrator in public relations, and a children's counselor. He is also a sailor and has maintained a viable career as an entertainer and performer where he's been in several movies and television productions that feature historic and nautical music.

Carrie Browder, Coordinator of Environmental Education

St. Johns River Water Management District

Carrie Browder's M.S. in technical communication from Colorado State University focused on persuasion and environmental values. She managed volunteers and events in the Florida Park Service before joining the North East Florida Educational Consortium and SJRWMD.

Jeremy Lake, Program Coordinator

Suncoast Earth Force

Jeremy Lake is the Program Coordinator for Suncoast Earth Force, a not-for-profit service learning group based in Tampa Bay. Suncoast Earth Force currently serves over fifty schools in Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco Counties, providing them with resources, grant funding and professional development for teachers. Jeremy is also the current Secretary for the FMSEA Board.

Maia McGuire, SeaGrant Extension Agent

University of Florida

Maia McGuire has been the Sea Grant extension agent for NE Florida since 2001. She was awarded the John Beakley Marine Science Educator of the Year award in 2005. She specializes in teaching engaging and low-cost science-based activities.

Megan Mertsock, Education Programs Coordinator

Dolphin Research Center

Megan Mertsock has been part of the Education Department at Dolphin Research Center for over 5 years. During that time she has helped develop many of the education programs designed to help people learn more about marine mammals and the environment we share.

Dawn Miller-Walker

Science Eye

Dawn Miller-Walker has 10 years of environmental education experience teaching principals of ecosystems, conservation, ethical angling, and other aspects of plant, animal and aquatic biology.

Mike Mitchell, Teacher, Marine Science and Biology

Carol Leonard, Teacher, Marine Science and Anatomy and Physiology

Lemon Bay High School (Englewood, FL)

Mike was a fisheries biologist in Florida for 15 years with FMRI (Now FWRI), before coming to teach Marine Science at LBHS. He continues to keep ties with the Charlotte Harbor Lab in Port Charlotte. Carol has been at LBHS since 1980. A long time FMSEA member, she enjoys teaching Marine Science from an interdisciplinary approach and will share a lesson that incorporates art, reading and science.

Carrie Murphy, Education Manager

Jennifer Royce, Education Director

Loggerhead Marinelife Center

Carrie Murphy graduated from Southampton College with a B.S. in marine biology. She develops and teaches educational programs geared towards school aged children. Jennifer Royce graduated from Eckerd College with a Bachelors of Science in marine biology. She has been in education in formal and informal settings for over ten years.

Katrin O'Connell, Teacher

Jada Thompson, Teacher

Diane Lavarello, Teacher

Dr. Norine Eckstrom, Teacher

Effa Beauette, Small Learning Communities Coordinator

Riverview High School (Sarasota, FL)

Katrin O'Connell teaches Honors Marine Science. She has been a driving force behind the establishment of the Aquascience Academy at Riverview High School. Jada Thompson holds a BS in Agriculture Education and Communication and an AS in Veterinary Technology. Diane Lavarello

teaches Honors Biology and Marine Science. She has been teaching for 22 years and is a former FMSEA President and a Life Member. Dr. Norine Eckstrom teaches AP Environmental Science and Chemistry and has been a science educator for 15 years. She holds a Med and EdD from the University of Central Florida. Effa Beauette is a National Board Certified teacher and has been in education for 36 years, teaching 31 of those at Riverview High. She is the Coordinator of Riverview's Small Learning Communities.

Tessie Offner, Instructor

The Florida Aquarium

Tessie has worked as an educator at The Florida Aquarium for three years. There she conducts various school programs as well as organizes homeschool and scout programs. She has a contagious passion for biology and looks for any opportunity to infect others with her appreciation of Florida's natural waterways.

Jason Robertshaw

Cephalopodcast.com

Jason Robertshaw is the Media and Technology Coordinator in the Center for Distance Learning at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL. He also independently produces the Cephalopodcast show and website which features topics on science education and the latest news about our oceans.

Brandon Smith, Environmental Program Coordinator

Brevard County Parks and Recreation

Brandon Smith has taught environmental education for eight years since getting his B.S. in Marine Biology from Florida Tech. His focus on marine education began four years ago when he designed displays and education programs, including the 'Nature Nite' program for persons with disabilities, for Riverwalk Nature Center in Rockledge.

Kimberly Thurman, Graduate Research Assistant

University of Florida, IFAS

Kimberly Thurman taught high school for thirteen years and when finally given the opportunity to teach marine science—she was hooked! She is currently a graduate student at UF's Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences and is exploring not just the aquatic world, but how children learn about it.

Lauren Tyler, Senior Education Manager

The Florida Aquarium

Lynn McDaniel, Lead Teacher

Stewart Middle Magnet School

Tim Oldread, Public Programs Coordinator

Mote Marine Laboratory

Karin Iuzzolino, Marine Science Instructor

The Pier Aquarium

Chris Ryan, Marine Biology Educator

Smithsonian Marine Station

Lauren Tyler is the Senior Education Manager at The Florida Aquarium. She has worked at Zoos and Aquariums for 15 years. Lynn McDaniel is the Lead Teacher at Stewart Middle Magnet, a NASA school. Tim Oldread is Public Programs Coordinator at Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium. He enjoys reading Sports Illustrated, cooking, and eating. Karin Iuzzolino received her Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology from the University of New England (UNE), Biddeford, Me., where she was the Sen. George J. Mitchell Scholar and recipient of the Mitchell Institute Paddy Frank Walsh Scholar Award. Cristin Ryan is a Marine Biology Educator with the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce, FL. After graduating with her bachelor's degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Arizona, Cris taught outdoor and environmental education in Washington State, the Georgia coast and Cape Cod.

Jim Wharton, Director of School and Public Programs

Amy Anderson, High School Intern

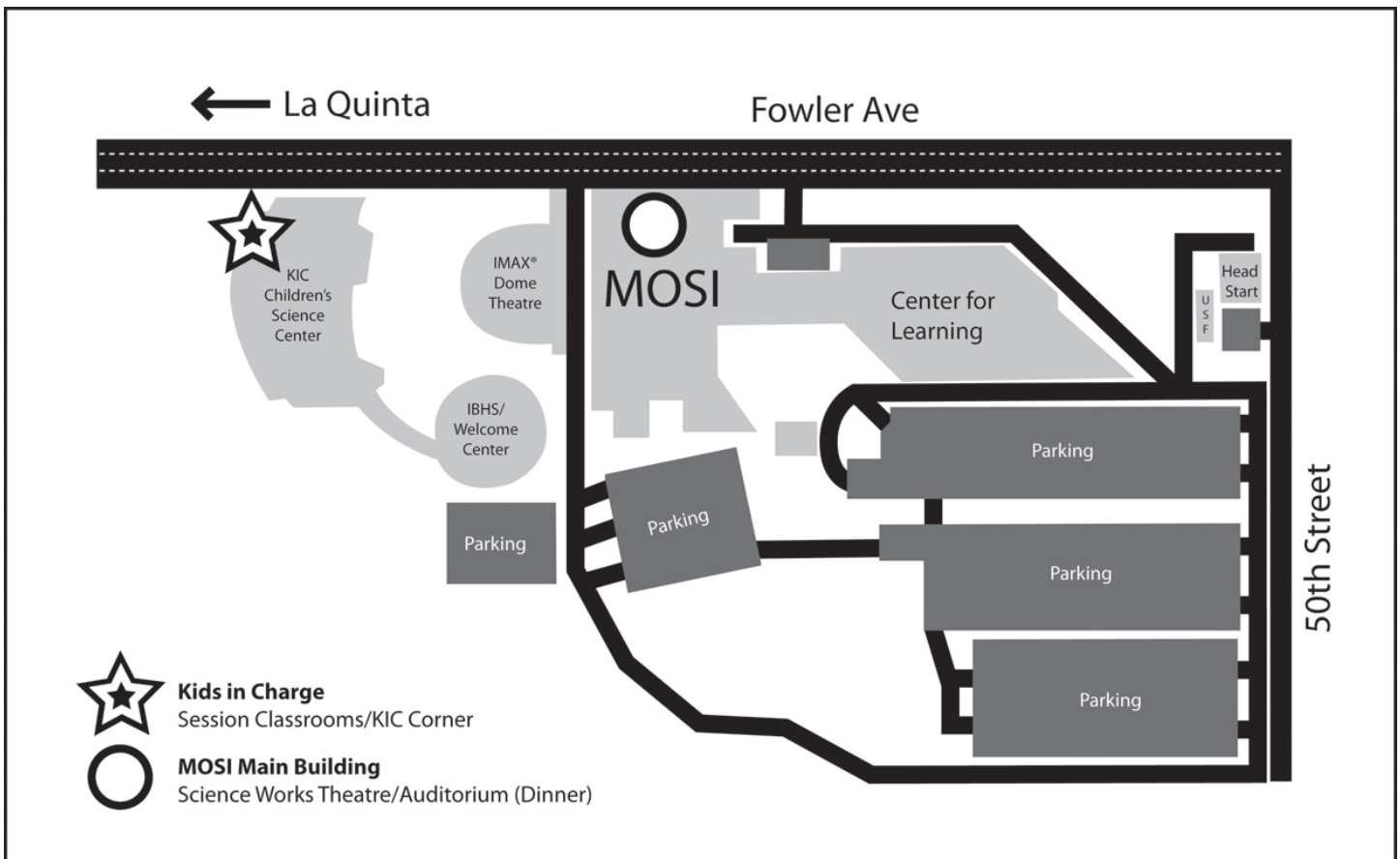
Jillian Mayer, High School Intern

Sean Russell, High School Intern

Stephanie Altenbernd, High School Intern

Mote Marine Laboratory

Jim Wharton is the Director of the Center for School and Public Programs at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota and the outgoing FMSEA President. Jim has also worked for the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce and the Oregon Coast Aquarium. Amy, Jillian, Sean and Jenna are members of Mote's High School Intern Alumni Program.



Exhibitors

Please visit the Exhibitors below in our Exhibit Hall, located in Kids in Charge at MOSI. Exhibit Hall hours are on Saturday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

- Current Publishing Corporation
- Dolphins Plus & Island Dolphin Care
- Dolphin Research Center
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Sea Grant
- Mote Marine Laboratory
- Nature's Academy
- The Pier Aquarium
Community Marine Education
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce

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