

ADVANCING COASTAL  
RESILIENCE THROUGH  
RESEARCH, SYNERGY, AND  
INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS:  
**URI COASTAL INSTITUTE  
2023-2024 HIGHLIGHTS**



THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND



COASTAL  
INSTITUTE

# ADVANCING COASTAL RESILIENCE THROUGH RESEARCH, SYNERGY, AND INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS: **URI COASTAL INSTITUTE 2023-2024 HIGHLIGHTS**



The Coastal Institute (CI) was founded by the Board of Governors in 1998 to support a university-wide expansion of interdisciplinary coastal ecosystem research and engagement. The CI stimulates and enhances expertise related to interdisciplinary coastal and marine science and management, offering networking and opportunities

for inclusive partnerships within the University of Rhode Island (URI) and with communities, state and federal agencies. The CI celebrated its 25th anniversary this year, coinciding with my first full year as Director. This report highlights major 2023-2024 accomplishments and plans for future investments.





# COASTAL INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

The CI is staffed by a small but agile team who work collaboratively on planning, engagement, and implementation. CI team members include Dr. Elin Torell (Director), Dr. Nathan Vinhateiro (Science Director), Amber Neville (Assistant Director), and Jaclyn Witterschein (Marine Research Specialist). CI operational costs are intentionally kept lean to maximize support for CI Senior Fellow research and CI projects.

The CI core team is supported by a small number of Associate Directors, who represent the primary colleges engaging in coastal and marine research at URI (GSO, CELS, and Engineering). The Associate Directors serve as liaisons to their respective colleges, provide subject area expertise to CI project and programs, and support the CI core team in strategic decision making, coordination, and advocacy.



CI TEAM MEMBERS: (left to right) Amber Neville, Jaclyn Witterschein, Elin Torell, and Nathan Vinhateiro.

The CI core team is supported by four Associate Directors, who represent the primary colleges engaging in coastal and marine research at URI



CHRISTOPHER BAXTER,  
Professor, URI Ocean/Civil and  
Environmental Engineering



EMILY DIAMOND,  
Assistant Professor, URI  
Communication Studies and  
Marine Affairs



REBECCA ROBINSON,  
Professor, URI Graduate School  
of Oceanography



EMI UCHIDA,  
Professor, URI Environmental and  
Natural Resource Economics

# 2023-2024 HIGHLIGHTS

## Launched a CI Strategic Plan

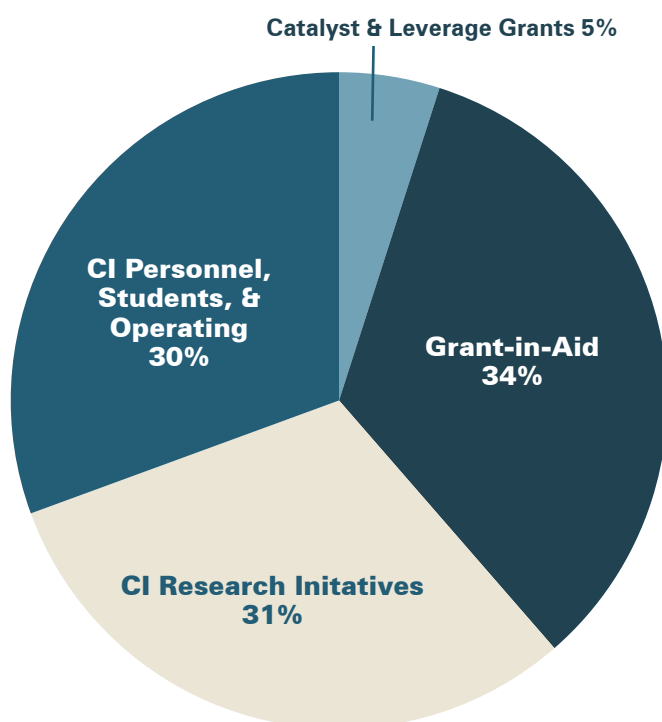
At the outset of 2023, we launched a new CI Strategic Plan, which articulates the CI mission to ***catalyze research, foster partnerships, and stimulate dialogue to support resilient and diverse coastal communities and ecosystems***. The Strategic Plan, which was designed in alignment with the broader URI Strategic Plan, provides a road map with measurable targets to evaluate success for the next five years and ensure the CI meets the charge of its mission.

## PROVIDED SERVICE TO URI

The core of CI's mission and identity is to provide service to URI by supporting university-wide growth and excellence in interdisciplinary coastal ecosystem research and engagement. Below are highlights of 2023-2024 service to the URI community of faculty, students, and staff.

### RESEARCH, PARTNERSHIPS, AND DIALOGUE THROUGH GRANT SUPPORT

#### COASTAL INSTITUTE FY24 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION



## GRANTS IN AID (GIA)

The CI reinvests overhead to support research, partnership building, and engagement. With each investment, the goal is to increase the funding prospects of CI Senior Fellows and the University writ large by supporting activities that reinforce the CI mission. In fiscal year 2024 (FY24), CI provided a total of \$219,196 in grants, of which \$189,546 was awarded as "Grants in Aid" (GIA) to URI Senior Fellows with CI proposals.

GIA funds support proposal development, faculty and staff payroll, student research, travel and conference attendance, publication-related costs, computers, research supplies, and lab equipment. Small GIA investments are proven to broaden the scope of research. (see FY24 Grants-in-Aid Requests).





## CATALYST & LEVERAGING GRANTS

The CI also provides catalyst and leveraging grants to support interdisciplinary research and outreach. Application is open to all URI and Non-URI CI Senior Fellows, and in FY24, we provided five awards totaling \$27,900:

- Professor Madison Jones, URI Harrington School of Communication and Media. Visualizing Stormwater Infrastructure: A Digital Walking Tour at Roger Williams Park – \$5,000.\*
- Professor Jitka Becanova, URI Graduate School of Oceanography. Assessing PFAS Bioaccumulation in Shellfish Species from Narragansett Bay: Implications for Environmental Monitoring and Restoration Efforts – \$5,400.
- Peter Freeman, Coastal Research Associate, URI Coastal Resources Center. Applied Research for Surf Ecosystem Management – \$5,000.
- Professor Amelia Moore, URI Department of Marine Affairs. Augmenting Maniscean Public Memory on Block Island – \$7,500.\*
- Professor Peter Paton, URI Department of Natural Resources Science. Habitat use and flight pathways of arctic-breeding shorebirds in New England – \$5,000.\*

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\*Grants were strategically awarded to projects focused on the CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites (CRDS), with the aim of expanding collaborative research underway at these sites.

## ADDED VALUE & RETURN ON INVESTMENT: CATALYZING RESEARCH

CI reinvests overhead funds to support research, partnership building, and engagement, aiming to enhance the funding prospects of CI Senior Fellows and the broader University research community. In FY24, CI awarded \$189,546 in “Grants in Aid” (GIA) to URI Senior Fellows, supporting proposal development, faculty and staff payroll, student research, and more. A \$20,000 GIA investment by the Coastal Resources Center, for example, contributed to a \$13M marine conservation project in Madagascar. Additionally, CI provided \$27,900 in catalyst and leveraging grants to support interdisciplinary research and outreach, including projects at CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites (CRDS). These strategic investments bolster the University’s research capabilities and also position CI and its Senior Fellows as leaders in addressing critical environmental challenges.



# STRENGTHENED THE NETWORK OF CI SENIOR FELLOWS



## THE EVENT OFFERED A HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN HOW TO DIG FOR CLAMS.

The CI welcomed 19 new Senior Fellows in 2023 and 11 in the first half of 2024. The network now has over 240 Senior Fellows, who are scholars and practitioners from a broad range of disciplines. Through the Senior Fellow network, the CI provides space for research enrichment and collaboration, multidisciplinary dialogue and networking, and access to unrestricted support. An annual field trip is one of several events open to the Senior Fellows each year. In 2023, the team organized a well-attended annual meeting and clam-digging event. Partnering with Jody King, long-time Narragansett Bay quahogger, and Azure Cygler,

Fisheries & Aquaculture Extension Specialist with Coastal Resources Center and RI Sea Grant, the event offered a hands-on experience in how to dig for clams, the equipment needed, and the management strategies that have kept RI in the quahogging industry for so long. In 2024, the Senior Fellows visited Roger Williams Park – one of the CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites (CRDS) – to learn about the challenges and engagement opportunities in the water “life cycle”, from the Mashapaug Pond watershed, through Roger Williams Park to the Pawtuxet River and Narragansett Bay.





# SUPPORTED INTERDISCIPLINARY PROPOSALS

All URI CI Senior Fellows have the opportunity to collaborate on proposals that align with the CI mission and benefit from the GIA program. Upon request, the CI team provides technical support to, and in unique cases, leads, the development and implementation of proposals within the team's expertise. In 2023, CI supported several interdisciplinary proposals, including NSF Global Center: Blue Climate Solutions, successfully awarded to Emi Uchida (Environmental and Natural Resources Economics), a RI Sea Grant proposal entitled "Combining monitoring and numerical simulations of Nature and Nature Based Solutions to coastal erosion: Block Island, a numerical test site", successfully awarded to Annette Grilli (Ocean Engineering), and the NOAA Resilience Challenge proposal submitted by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. CI also led the successfully funded SEA-C proposal (read more in Implemented CI Initiatives) and the recently awarded NSF EPSCoR ECORE RII Rhode Island Inclusive Network for Excellence in Science and Technology (RII-NEST).

## ADDED VALUE & RETURN ON INVESTMENT: BUILDING THE NETWORK AND SUPPORTING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

The CI significantly contributes to growing research dollars at URI by expanding its network of Senior Fellows and supporting interdisciplinary proposal development. The network now includes over 240 scholars and practitioners across disciplines. CI fosters research collaboration, interdisciplinary dialogue, and provides technical assistance for proposal development, leading to substantial funding successes such as the EPSCoR and NSF Blue Climate Solutions awards. These efforts not only enhance URI's research capacity but also solidify its reputation as a leader in coastal science.



“The Coastal Institute significantly contributes to growing research dollars at URI by expanding its network of Senior Fellows and supporting interdisciplinary proposal development.”

## Welcomed first cohort of Emerging Coastal Leaders

The Emerging Coastal Leaders Program is a new awards program offered by the CI for URI graduate students from interdisciplinary backgrounds who aspire to pursue careers in coastal, marine, and estuarine science and management. The awardees are selected based on their academic achievements and exceptional work as emerging leaders in their chosen fields of study. This award provides not only a stipend, but also access to the larger CI Senior Fellow network of mentors for research development. The first cohort of five Emerging Coastal Leaders were announced in December 2023.



ASTA HABTEMICHAEL, PhD candidate in Chemical Oceanography



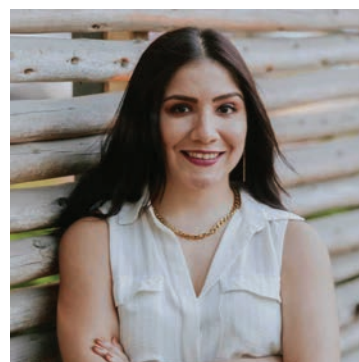
REBECA LINHART, PhD candidate in Natural Resources Science



JASON NOEL, PhD candidate in Ocean Engineering



EMMANUEL OYEWOLE, MA student in Marine Affairs



SONIA REFULIO-CORONADO, PhD candidate in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics



## Engaged and Mentored Students

The CI employs several students each year and has a long-standing partnership with the URI Masters in Environmental Science and Management (MESM) Program. In 2023, CI had the opportunity to collaborate with three students:

- Sarah Schechter, a URI MESM student, who used ArcGIS to develop data layers and maps related to coastal access and coastal use in Bristol County. Sarah used output from numerical models and other datasets to identify locations where public access may be threatened by sea level rise and erosion. This work was completed as part of the Sustained and Equitable Access to Rhode Island's Coast in a Changing Climate (SEA-C) project, headed by the Coastal Institute and funded by Rhode Island Sea Grant.
- Mallory Lentz, a URI MESM student, worked on data collection, management, and communication pieces for the North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit.
- Julie Maurer, a URI Marine and Evolutionary Biology MS student, worked on communications products for the Climate Response Demonstration Sites (CRDS), including the creation of site-based ArcGIS storymaps, which have fully replaced our existing web pages, and feature articles and podcasts around community science at Napatree Point.

The CI Director and Science Director also served on multiple masters and doctoral committees through adjunct faculty appointments in Oceanography and Marine Affairs, respectively. CI staff also collaborated with faculty by providing lectures and content for several URI classes (e.g. NRS 543, SciComm and the Marine Affairs Seminar).



Sarah Schechter



Mallory Lentz



Julie Maurer

The CI employs several students each year and has a long-standing partnership with the URI Masters in Environmental Science and Management (MESM) Program.

## SERVED ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

CI team members serve on several internal and external advisory boards, including the URI internal advisory committees for STEEP, the Plastics co-lab, and the URI Global Steering Committee. We serve the Bay Campus by participating in the GSO strategic plan development committee, coordinating activities of Studio Blue at GSO, and contributing to the GSO JEDI committee and sub-committees. CI team members also serve on external advisory committees, including the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program's Steering Committee, which sets the overall direction for the program and provides guidance on bi-state work to protect and preserve Narragansett Bay and its watershed.

# PROVIDED SERVICE TO FEDERAL, STATE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Celebrated 24 Years as North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (NAC CESU) Host

The North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (NAC CESU) is a collaboration between nine federal partners, led by the National Parks Service (NPS), 38 non-federal partners, and one tribal partner (the Narragansett Indian tribe). With URI as the host university, the CI Director also serves as the NAC CESU Director. The NAC CESU platform serves to support targeted collaborative research, technical assistance, education, and capacity building between the federal and non-federal partners. Between 2019 and 2023, URI received nearly \$9M through 29 separate NAC CESU-facilitated awards. The team also received separate funding from the NPS to develop an Experts Database, a tool to connect experts within the CESU research network, fostering more collaboration between federal and non-federal partners. The Experts Database also features experts to provide support for environmental emergency response. In association with the NAC CESU cooperative agreement, several NPS scientists are residents at URI, fully engaged in the research and intellectual atmosphere of their respective academic departments. Several NPS staff are URI alumni and they continue to hire students into internships, terms, and permanent positions. In 2023, CI welcomed Brian Mitchell, NPS Research Coordinator/Science Advisor for the NAC CESU, now a critical part of the URI NAC CESU team.



USGS scientists lugging gear in Fire Island marsh. Photo credit: C. Roman/National Park Service



In addition to supporting a robust network of Senior Fellows, CI has fostered close relationships with resident National Park Service (NPS) scientists, duty-stationed at URI. Brian Mitchell, the NPS North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (NAC CESU) Research Coordinator is a critical part of our team, involved in overseeing and supporting CESU activities.



Dr. Brian Mitchell, PhD (on left): North Atlantic Coast CESU National Park Service Research Coordinator.

In association with the NAC CESU cooperative agreement, several NPS scientists are residents at URI, fully engaged in the research and intellectual atmosphere of their respective academic departments.

## **ADDED VALUE & RETURN ON INVESTMENT:** NORTH ATLANTIC COAST COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNIT

The NAC CESU, led by the National Park Service and hosted at URI, is a collaboration involving federal, non-federal, and tribal partners. Between 2019 and 2023, URI received nearly \$9M through 29 NAC CESU awards, funding targeted research, technical assistance, education, and capacity building. The NAC CESU's revamped Projects Database and newly funded Experts Database enhance collaboration by connecting experts within the CESU network and supporting environmental emergency response. The Experts Database, synergized with Scientific Support for Environmental Emergency Response (SSEER) (read more on page 13), incorporates a federal emergency response component, utilizing experts to assess, reduce, and remediate threats to environmental and public health and safety during emergencies. With NPS scientists integrated into URI's academic departments, this strategic partnership fosters research excellence, creates job opportunities for students, and addresses critical environmental challenges, ensuring a high return on investment.



# HOSTED SOURCES, TRANSPORT, EXPOSURE, AND EFFECTS OF PFAS (STEEP), THE URI SUPERFUND

The CI serves as host to the URI Superfund Research Program (SRP) Center—STEEP—led by CI Senior Fellow Rainer Lohmann, a professor at the Graduate School of Oceanography. In this role, the CI provided critical proposal development support for the \$8.1M renewal of STEEP and bridge staffing to ensure smooth operations during staffing transitions. CI also leads Research Translation (RT) responsible for STEEP’s website, social media, and engagement materials and ensuring that the critical and cutting-edge science conducted by STEEP is communicated in plain language to a wide range of audiences. In this role, CI organizes a series of public lectures, and last year hosted an exclusive screening of the movie *Burned: Protecting the Protectors* at URI. In addition, RT assisted and promoted events held by partner Silent Spring Institute in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. RT worked closely with STEEP’s training core and professors Madison Jones and Emily Diamond of the URI Harrington School to provide science communication training to URI and Harvard graduate students. RT also supported trainees as the future of science communication by providing mentorship; and likewise, trainees represent STEEP in the world beyond the lab as they integrate into STEEP engagement and research translation efforts.



STEEP trainees at Rhode Island State House event.

“Trainees represent STEEP in the world beyond the lab as they integrate into STEEP engagement and research translation efforts.”

## ADDED VALUE & RETURN ON INVESTMENT: URI STEEP SUPERFUND RESEARCH PROGRAM

The CI played a pivotal role in securing an \$8.1M renewal for STEEP, providing essential proposal development support and bridge staffing for seamless operations. CI’s leadership in Research Translation ensures the dissemination of STEEP’s cutting-edge science to diverse audiences through its website, social media, and engagement materials. The CI also supports trainees as future science communicators. This strategic investment in STEEP advances PFAS research and fosters public understanding, ensuring a significant return on investment in environmental health and safety.



# SUPPORTED RI AGENCIES AND LAWMAKERS

## COORDINATED THE SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SSEER) NETWORK



The annual SSEER meeting in 2023 featured a chemical spill drill organized by Jim Ball (RI DEM OER), Greg Bonyng (URI EDC), and Amber Neville (URI CI) (left to right).



Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between URI and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Office of Emergency Response (RIDEM OER), the CI hosts the SSEER Network, designed to serve in the rapid assessment, reduction, or remediation of threats to public health and safety and the environment. This MOU, which has a ceiling of \$500,000, improves environmental emergency preparedness, response, and recovery in RI by providing a mechanism to quickly mobilize URI researchers and deploy funds in the event of an environmental emergency. A 2023 highlight was the annual meeting, which brought together scientists, government personnel, town officials, and first responders in a training drill to simulate a hypothetical railroad derailment resulting in a chemical spill which threatened to contaminate Narragansett Bay. Professor Isaac Ginis also provided an outlook for the 2023 hurricane season.

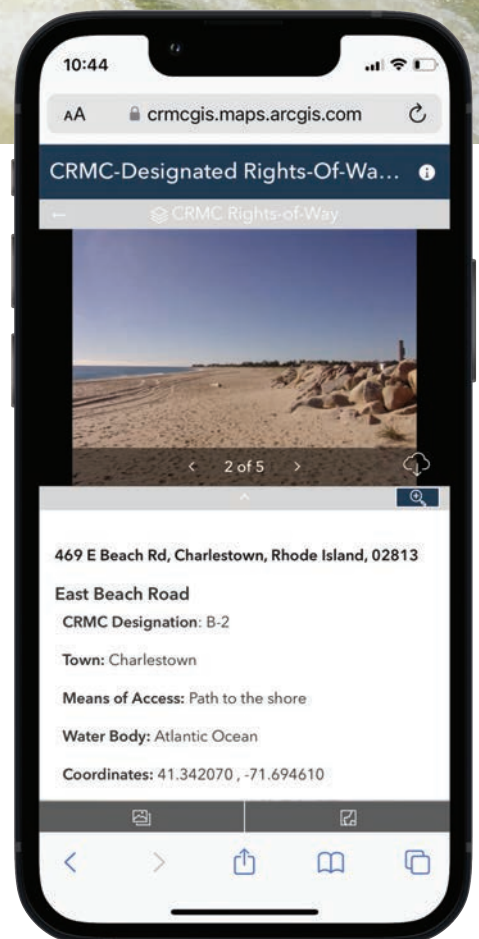
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## Informed State Decision-Making

The CI continues to be a trusted and active partner for the state of Rhode Island on policy issues that affect Narragansett Bay and the state's south shore. Examples include:

- Maintaining a cooperative agreement with the RI CRMC to develop and update Rhode Island's online database and map viewer for all state rights-of-way to the shoreline.
- Routinely providing research, testimony, and science briefings to members of the general assembly on issues such as coastal resilience, climate change, beach nourishment, and public shoreline access. This includes testimony at legislative committees, personal briefings, and info sessions for lawmakers.
- Serving as chair of the RI Environmental Monitoring Collaborative, coordinating 20 contributing members in the development and implementation of a statewide strategy for environmental monitoring.



Map viewer of RI rights-of-way to shoreline.



# STIMULATED DIALOGUE THROUGH OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

## SUPPORTED STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



The CI partners with URI-based and community-based partners to organize and sponsor lectures, conferences, and other outreach and engagement efforts. In 2023, the CI co-published two issues of the 41° N Magazine and also provided sponsorship contributions (\$500 to \$1,500) for several local conferences and meetings including the Metcalf Inclusive Science Symposium, the RI Land and Water Summit, RIFMA, NEERS, and RINHS. The CI also organized a dedicated session at the ASBPA National Coastal Conference, which highlighted a range of URI projects focused on coastal access research and moderated a session at the 2024 RIFMA annual conference to showcase the flood hazard modeling, monitoring, and visualization systems under development at URI.

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41° N Magazine is co-published by RI Sea Grant and the Coastal Institute.



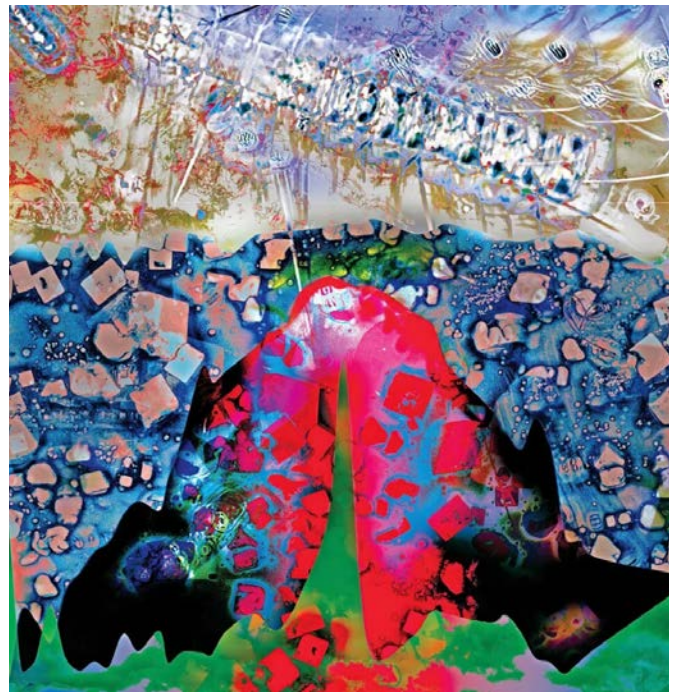


# REVITALIZED STUDIO BLUE

Studio Blue, a dynamic multimedia learning commons located on the Narragansett Bay Campus, seamlessly blends ocean and coastal-themed art with science. The space fosters deeper emotional connections to ocean and coastal studies through the creative works of artists and students, enriching holistic learning and captivating the hundreds of guests who visit year-round.

This year, the CI helped revitalize Studio Blue with the creation of a diverse committee representing educational and outreach groups at URI. The committee facilitated improvements to enhance the space, established usage guidelines, and worked collaboratively to coordinate and promote exhibits. With GSO's Chowder and Marching student committee, Studio Blue co-hosted a Bay Campus Art Exhibition in May 2024, featuring artwork from students, faculty, and staff. From August 15 to September 20, 2024, Studio Blue will feature The Synergy Project, curated by the Art League of Rhode Island, an exhibition illuminating art and science collaboration.

Inspired artistic innovation exhibited in Studio Blue is driven by volunteers from the Coastal Institute, the Graduate School of Oceanography, the Coastal Resources Center, the Inner Space Center, Rhode Island Sea Grant, and the URI Fine Arts Department. Together they ensure that Studio Blue continues to thrive as a vibrant space where the fusion of art and science deepens engagement with ocean and coastal topics.



"Sensual Data" by Cynthia Beth Rubin, in collaboration with URI Professor of Oceanography Susanne Menden-Deuer and Andria Miller, '23.

**Communicating Science in a Crisis**  
Chris Reddy, GSO Alum (Ph.D. '98)  
Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI)

Advertisement for Dr. Chris Reddy lecture on crisis communication.

## Hosted Annual Science Lecture

The CI annually hosts a science lecture, and this year brought Dr. Christopher Reddy, Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, to GSO to speak about communicating science in a crisis. As one of the world's foremost oil spill scientists, Reddy addressed the complexity of science and need for clear communication. The event was well-attended with over 80 participants. In-depth interviews highlighting Reddy's passion for science communication were also shared widely via the URI STEEP, GSO, and STEEP networks. These interviews were written by GSO alum Matthew Dunn and edited by CI Marine Research Specialist Jaclyn Witterschein. Both the recording of Reddy's lecture and interviews have been made available online.





Researchers study the long-term impacts of climate change on natural processes at Napatree Point Conservation Area.

## IMPLEMENTED CI INITIATIVES

### EXPANDED REACH OF CLIMATE RESPONSE DEMONSTRATION SITES

CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites (CRDS) explore place-based approaches to climate change resilience, where researchers, practitioners, municipal leaders, and community members work collaboratively to test, monitor, and demonstrate management and adaptation strategies.

Within each CRDS the goal is to identify programs and methods that enhance the adaptive capacity of coastal communities and share strategies that have helped build consensus around implementing such measures.

**Napatree Point Conservation Area** is a natural area, where CI and our partner, The Watch Hill Conservancy, monitor ecosystem shifts to better understand long-term impacts of intensifying storms and climate change on natural processes, including geology and floral and fauna habitat. In 2023, CI supported weekly water quality monitoring, invasive plant and terrapin surveys, and eelgrass transect mapping and analysis. Funding also supported outreach events and the hiring of a summer Naturalist for public engagement.

**Bristol County** is a mixed-use site, where communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems intersect, and are among the most vulnerable in Rhode Island, imminently threatened by the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge. In 2023, CI funded communications and outreach, focusing on coastal access and resilience strategies.

CI funded communications and outreach, focusing on coastal access and resilience strategies.





As part of the urban watershed, Roger Williams Park serves as pilot area for innovative water treatment solutions.

**Roger Williams Park** is part of an urban watershed, where ponds are plagued by pollutants and bacteria, and serves as pilot area for innovative water treatment solutions. In 2023, CI supported our partner, The Nature Conservancy by funding an Urban Stormwater Education Coordinator who oversaw a participatory cyanobacteria monitoring program and connected with the community as a liaison for stormwater challenges in Rhode Island. Pilot projects around the ponds demonstrate potential solutions for water quality remediation and integrated public engagement.

Pilot projects around the ponds demonstrate potential solutions for water quality remediation and integrated public engagement.

In 2024, the CI is expanding the CRDS program to Block Island, a community facing unique climate challenges such as reliance on mainland ports for essential supplies, storm impacts, sea level rise, and saltwater intrusion in drinking water. The island's active sea level rise committee collaborates with several Senior Fellows:

- Bryan Oakley, leading a decade-long beach monitoring program to track erosion.
- Annette Grilli, examining nature-based infrastructure to protect Corn Neck Road.
- Amelia Moore and Madison Jones, developing augmented reality public education content exploring the African American and Native American history on the island. This innovative work, supported by a CI catalyst grant, aims to integrate underrepresented narratives into Block Island's historical discourse.

## ADDED VALUE & RETURN ON INVESTMENT:

### CI CLIMATE RESPONSE DEMONSTRATION SITES

CI investment enhances climate resilience through collaborative, place-based research. CI connects communities with expertise, links URI students to local concerns, and supports pilot projects to catalyze funding. In 2023, CI funded monitoring, surveys, and public engagement, outreach and resilience strategies, and education through the CRDS. CRDS addresses unique climate challenges and leveraging ongoing research and public education initiatives. With long-standing and trusted relationships with local community partners, the CRDS provide excellent field anchors for applied research. This is evidenced by two recently awarded NSF EPSCoR Track 2 awards led by CI Senior Coastal Fellows with implementation in two of the CI Climate Response Demonstration Sites.



# LAUNCHED COLLABORATIVE PROJECT ON RI COASTAL ACCESS

The Rhode Island Sea Grant funded project, Sustained and Equitable Access to Rhode Island's Coast in a Changing Climate (SEA-C), has developed research to inform decision-making regarding climate change impacts to public access in Rhode Island's coastal areas and understand user groups most likely to be affected. The project focuses on Bristol County, where the CI has existing partnerships through a Climate Response Demonstration Site. The SEA-C team includes partners from the URI's Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (Emi Uchida), Marine Affairs (Jesse Reiblich), the RI Coastal Resources Management Council (Leah Feldman) and the USEPA (Nate Merrill) and supports new research on how climate change will impinge on the public's ability to access and utilize the coast; where restrictions to access will be most likely to occur due to coastal dynamics, shoreline structures, land use, or local ordinances; which user groups are most likely to be impacted; and what local actions are needed to minimize these impacts, especially for underserved communities. The SEA-C project has catalyzed several research partnerships. Co-PI's Reiblich and Vinhateiro were recently awarded a small grant from the National Sea Grant Law Center's 2024 Coastal Resilience Program to investigate the effectiveness of Rhode Island's nascent coastal shoreline access law, with particular focus on regulation and enforcement, current and potential legal challenges, and impacts from climate change.

## RETURN ON INVESTMENT:

## SUSTAINED AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RHODE ISLAND'S COAST

SEA-C promotes equitable coastal access amidst climate change. It assesses climate impacts, identifies potential access restrictions, determines affected user groups, and recommends actions to minimize impacts, especially for underserved communities. Using GIS mapping, cell phone data, and legal research, SEA-C supports URI graduate students and collaborates with RI Sea Grant's Law Fellow Program. The initiative has spurred newly-funded research partnerships and publications, enhancing climate resilience and protecting coastal access, ensuring a high return on investment.



RI shoreline public access marker.

# LOOKING AHEAD

The CI's accomplishments over the past year underscore our **commitment to advancing interdisciplinary coastal research and fostering collaborations that support resilient and diverse coastal communities**. Our strategic investments, from catalyst grants to the launch of new initiatives like the SEA-C project, have fueled significant research and strengthened our network of Senior Fellows. The first cohort of Emerging Coastal Leaders highlights our dedication to nurturing the next generation of coastal scientists and managers.

Looking forward, we are enthusiastic about expanding our Climate Response Demonstration Sites to Block Island and continuing to provide robust support for URI's mission of becoming a global leader in research and positive change. Our focus will remain on **promoting justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion within all our endeavors, ensuring that our work benefits and includes underrepresented and marginalized groups**.

We remain steadfast in our **commitment to serve URI, the State of Rhode Island, and our partners in addressing the pressing challenges of climate resilience, environmental conservation, and coastal access**. The CI looks forward to another productive year of innovative research, meaningful partnerships, and impactful community engagement. We invite continued collaboration and feedback to enhance our collective efforts in preserving and enhancing our coastal ecosystems for future generations.





# FY 24 GRANT-IN-AID REQUESTS

Ian (Rod) Mather (A&S/History) - \$1,326.63: Conference travel to present research on submerged cultural landscapes in Belize, contributing to global understanding of submerged cultural resources and coastal management.

Marta Gomez-Chiarri (CELS/FAVS) - \$711.69: Support for a doctoral student to present research at the Gordon Research Conference in Marine Microbes, advancing knowledge on microbial ecology in estuarine systems and supporting disease management in shellfish.

Susanne Menden-Deuer (GSO) - \$4,779.32: Personnel & fringe for summer salary to develop research proposals, supporting research on the effects of plastics and temperature on plankton communities, crucial for coastal resilience studies.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$198.00: Travel expenses for candidate interview for a leadership position in coastal management, facilitating hiring for a key role in advancing coastal resilience programs.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$300.00: Contribution towards gift cards for winners of a Research and Scholarship Photo Contest, encouraging research dissemination through visual storytelling and enhancing public engagement.

Kelton McMahon (GSO) - \$690.00: Equipment repair to support research on Rhode Island's state coral, essential for ongoing research on coral growth and adaptation in New England waters.

Lisa Philo (CELS/NRS) - \$337.63: Funding for grad student hours to create visual content for stormwater training, supporting the development of educational resources to improve stormwater management and coastal water quality.

Susanne Menden-Deuer (GSO) - \$254.66: Subscription to cloud service for data backup, enhancing data security and continuity for ongoing coastal research projects.

Heather Stoffel (GSO) - \$400.00: Conference registration and room costs for student researchers, supporting professional development of students and fostering the next generation of coastal scientists.

Hongjie Wang (GSO) - \$1,083.00: Purchase of laboratory supplies and books, supporting student research and enhancing their ability to conduct research across various ecosystems.

Austin Becker (CELS/Marine Affairs) - \$2,700.00: Conference travel to present on research in Barbados, contributing to global discussions on coastal resilience and climate impacts on supply chains.

Matthew Bertin (Pharmacy) - \$916.16: Purchase of materials for molecular biology procedures, supporting research on marine toxicology and its implications for coastal ecosystems.

Tatiana Rynearson (GSO) - \$525.00: Purchase of an RNA extraction kit for phytoplankton research, advancing understanding of how climate change impacts key species in coastal ecosystems.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$391.01: Purchase of computer equipment for a coastal researcher, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of research and project management.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$5,253.08: Salary and fringe for Marine

Tech II supporting PFAS research, providing critical support for ongoing research addressing emerging environmental contaminants in coastal areas.

Elizabeth Herron (CELS/NRS) - \$875.13: Equipment repair for annual maintenance of balances and thermometers, ensuring accuracy and reliability in field monitoring and sample processing and supporting data-driven decision-making.

Heather Stoffel (GSO) - \$200.00: Purchase of a tent for outreach events, supporting public engagement and education on coastal and marine issues.

Heather Stoffel (GSO) - \$2,286.44: Purchase of items to repair the MERL boat used for research, maintaining essential equipment for marine research and monitoring activities.

Rebecca Graham (GSO) - \$1,752.45: Purchase of a field computer for coastal research, enabling real-time data collection and processing during fieldwork and enhancing research efficiency.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$2,000.00: Conference travel to attend the 4th National PFAS Conference, facilitating collaboration and knowledge exchange on PFAS research, a key area of environmental concern.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$500.00: Sponsorship for the National Marine Educator's Association Conference, supporting educational initiatives focused on marine and coastal environments and promoting informed public engagement.

Heather Stoffel (GSO) - \$390.75: Purchase of office supplies for upgrading computer systems, enhancing operational efficiency and supporting research activities.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$800.00: Support for open-access publication costs, facilitating wide dissemination of research findings and contributing to global knowledge on coastal and marine science.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$165.34: Various purchases to support communication directives, enhancing communication efforts and promoting research outcomes.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$2,500.00: Dinner for STEEP External Advisory Committee meeting, supporting the evaluation of the STEEP project and ensuring alignment with goals and funder requirements.

Sunshine Menezes (CELS/NRS) - \$1,985.00: Support for student participation in planning Metcalf Institute's Annual Science Immersion Workshop, providing students with valuable experience in science communication and public engagement on coastal issues.

Sunshine Menezes (CELS/NRS) - \$1,412.06: Purchase of a new Apple computer monitor, enhancing research productivity and supporting the development of science communication materials.

Roxanne Beinart (GSO) - \$771.49: Equipment repair for a microbial culture hood, essential for ongoing research on coastal microorganisms and contributing to the understanding of coastal ecosystems.

Jeremy Collie (GSO) - \$5,726.30: Travel support for a project team meeting in Seattle, facilitating collaboration on a project focused on developing climate-resilient harvest strategies for marine fish stocks.

# FY 24 GRANT-IN-AID REQUESTS

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$800.00: Purchase of a Dell computer for research support, enhancing the capacity for data management and research activities in aquaculture and coastal initiatives.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$365.00: Catering for RISG Advisory Council meeting, supporting stakeholder engagement and feedback on coastal research projects and aligning with URI's goal of inclusive partnerships.

Emi Uchida (CELS/ENRE) - \$543.00: Membership fees for the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, recognizing scholarly excellence in environmental economics and promoting interdisciplinary research.

Corey Lang (CELS/ENRE) - \$3,615.38: Summer salary to finish a manuscript on environmental referendums, advancing understanding of voter decision-making on environmental issues and supporting integrating human decision-making with environmental conservation.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$126.30: Registration for a webinar on Indigenous wisdom and scientific knowledge, enhancing understanding of diverse perspectives in coastal management and aligning with URI's commitment to inclusive partnerships.

Peter Freeman (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$445.00: Travel support for students attending the World Fisheries Congress, providing students with exposure to global fisheries management issues and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$235.84: Subscription to Otter.ai for note-taking and transcription, supporting effective communication and documentation of research activities and enhancing URI's outreach efforts.

Tatiana Rynearson (GSO) - \$200.00: Shipping of live phytoplankton cultures for research on climate change, facilitating international collaboration on research examining the impacts of climate change on phytoplankton.

Kimberly Ohnemus (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$695.00: Conference attendance at the 2024 Women in the Sciences Leadership Workshop, providing leadership training for a coastal researcher and supporting professional development and gender diversity in coastal science.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$3,300.00: Payment for an article in 41N Magazine on urban rivers, enhancing public understanding of urban water, promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

J.P. Walsh (GSO) - \$200.00: Processing fees for a visiting student from France, supporting international collaboration and knowledge exchange on coastal erosion and management.

Karen Kent (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$12,406.28: Personnel & fringe for Sarah Gaines working on proposal development, supporting the development of new research proposals and aligning with URI's goal of advancing interdisciplinary coastal research.

Peter Freeman (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$2,500.00: Conference travel for Lauren Josephs to present at the World Fisheries Congress, facilitating the sharing of research on fisheries management and supporting URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Yeqiao Wang (NRS) - \$2,131.10: Purchase of a laptop for

geospatial analysis in coastal research, enhancing the capacity for remote sensing and geospatial analysis in coastal projects and supporting URI's research goals.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$730.78: Purchase of promotional materials for RI Sea Grant and CRC events, supporting outreach and public engagement and promoting the work and goal of CI.

J.P. Walsh (GSO) - \$60.00: Course fees for a staff member's professional development in offshore wind permitting, enhancing expertise in offshore wind development and aligning with URI's focus on sustainable coastal resource management.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$4,586.00: Conference travel to present PFAS research at the EU-SETAC conference, facilitating international collaboration on PFAS research and addressing a key environmental issue affecting coastal regions.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$2,260.00: Travel support to attend the International Partnering Forum (IPF) on offshore wind energy, enhancing knowledge and networking in offshore wind energy, a critical area for coastal resilience and sustainability.

J.P. Walsh (GSO) - \$2,000.00: Conference travel for a student to present microplastics research at the Ocean Science Meeting, providing a platform for sharing research on microplastics and addressing emerging environmental challenges.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$4,000.00: Support for a science communication event in partnership with Metcalf Institute, enhancing science communication on offshore wind and seafood industry issues and promoting informed public discourse.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$1,000.00: Conference travel for a PhD student to attend the DHS annual meeting, supporting the sharing of research on coastal resilience and disaster preparedness and promoting community resilience.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,000.00: Travel support for a postdoc to attend the Maine Fishermen's Forum, facilitating networking and knowledge exchange with fisheries stakeholders and supporting research on sustainable fisheries management.

Keri Newman (CRC-US/GSO) - \$2,000.00: Copy editing and proofreading services for marine debris and aquaculture portfolios, ensuring high-quality research outputs and enhancing the impact and reach of URI's work.

Corey Lang (CELS/ENRE) - \$1,041.01: Purchase of survey software for research on environmental referendums, supporting research on voter decision-making and its impact on environmental conservation and aligning with URI's goal of integrating human decision-making with environmental sustainability.

Elizabeth Herron (CELS/NRS) - \$500.00: Equipment repair for a water quality analyzer, ensuring accurate water quality monitoring and supporting data-driven decision-making in coastal management.

Peter Freeman (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$2,272.58: Conference travel for a student to present at the World Fisheries Congress, providing a platform for students to share research on fisheries management and advancing URI's goal of fostering future leaders in coastal science.



Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$780.99: Purchase of office supplies for the new STEEP coordinator, supporting the operational efficiency of the STEEP program and enhancing its impact on PFAS research.

Monica Allard-Cox (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$31.98: Purchase of a white noise machine for office privacy, enhancing the working environment for CI staff and supporting productivity and focus.

Kelton McMahon (GSO) - \$3,090.00: Equipment repair for Gas Chromatographs used in coral research, supporting critical research on coral adaptation and resilience in coastal environments.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$405.99: Purchase of an office chair for the new STEEP coordinator, improving the working conditions for staff supporting critical PFAS research.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$279.82: Purchase of a computer docking station setup for the new STEEP coordinator, enhancing the operational efficiency of the STEEP program and supporting its goal of addressing PFAS contamination.

April Pariseault (CRC-US/GSO) - \$785.00: Travel support for presenting at the Adult Higher Education Alliance Conference, enhancing knowledge on engaging diverse populations in coastal management and promoting inclusive partnerships.

Peter Paton (CELS/NRS) - \$402.10: Purchase of color bands for shorebird research, supporting research on the movement and conservation of shorebirds and contributing to URI's goal of advancing coastal ecosystem conservation.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$3,103.00: Travel support for attending a conference on Marine Protected Areas, enhancing knowledge and networking on MPA management, promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Peter Freeman (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$8,424.00: Travel support for a panel discussion at the World Fisheries Congress, facilitating international collaboration on fisheries management and advancing URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Charles LaBash (CELS/NRS) - \$1,000.00: Purchase of chairs for conference rooms, enhancing the facilities used for meetings and workshops and supporting collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Heather Stoffel (GSO) - \$371.00: Purchase of color cartridges for printer used in outreach activities, supporting communication and outreach efforts and promoting URI's research and initiatives.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$1,000.00: Support for advisory services during the RIAKE Madagascar proposal co-creation process, enhancing proposal development for a major coastal management initiative and aligning with URI's goal of advancing interdisciplinary research.

Peter Freeman (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$4,940.00: Travel support for a panel at the World Fisheries Congress, facilitating international collaboration on fisheries management and advancing URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Evan Preisser (CELS/NRS) - \$1,859.68: Conference travel for students to present research on invasive species in coastal ecosystems, providing students with professional development opportunities and fostering future leaders in coastal science.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$172.00: Application fee for an international student to apply for a lab position, supporting the recruitment of talented researchers and enhancing

research capabilities.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$1,570.99: IP1 & fringe for communication coaching, enhancing the communication skills of researchers and supporting effective outreach and engagement.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$275.00: URI catering setup fees for an offshore wind training event, supporting stakeholder engagement and knowledge exchange on offshore wind energy and aligning with URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$900.00: Conference room rental for an offshore wind training orientation, supporting the training of stakeholders in offshore wind energy, promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Sunshine Menezes (CELS/NRS) - \$2,548.00: Professional development workshop on integrating climate change into curricula, enhancing the capacity of CI researchers to engage in climate education and aligning with URI's goal of promoting informed public discourse on climate change.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$325.69: Reimbursement for lunch during a STEEP session with federal delegation, supporting networking and collaboration with federal representatives and enhancing the impact of URI's research on PFAS contamination.

Azure Cygler (CRC-US/GSO) - \$350.00: Booth rental at the New England Saltwater Fishing Show, supporting outreach and engagement with the fishing community and promoting sustainable fisheries management.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$7,520.00: Support for a postdoc in STEEP instrumental analysis, enhancing the research capacity of the STEEP program and supporting its goal of addressing PFAS contamination in coastal areas.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$986.21: Purchase of STEEP t-shirts for identification during research and outreach, enhancing the visibility and cohesion of the STEEP team and supporting their work in community outreach and research dissemination.

Sarah Gaines (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$393.70: Travel costs for a partner's participation in a USAID workshop, supporting the development of a new USAID proposal, promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$2,219.00: Purchase of a tower computer for data processing, enhancing the research capabilities of CI projects and supporting the analysis of complex environmental data.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$25.98: Purchase of a frame for a team training activity in shellfish farming, supporting the development of training materials and enhancing URI's education and outreach efforts.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,200.00: Conference travel for attending a marine conservation conference, supporting professional development and networking and enhancing URI's capacity to address coastal resilience and marine conservation issues.

Karen Kent (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$4,787.27: Personnel & fringe for Sarah Gaines working on proposals, supporting the development of new research proposals and advancing URI's goal of promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Karen Kent (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$4,546.00: Conference travel for attending a conference in Ghana, supporting the development of international collaborations on coastal and marine resource

# FY 24 GRANT-IN-AID REQUESTS

management and aligning with URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Sarah Gaines (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$3,000.00: Travel costs for a contractor's participation in a marine biodiversity workshop, supporting the development of a new USAID proposal and advancing URI's goal of promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Karen Kent (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$4,445.00: Conference travel for presenting research on women shellfishers and food security, supporting the sharing of research on gender and food security in coastal fisheries and advancing URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Tetsu Hara (GSO) - \$2,570.69: Conference travel to present research on coastal air-sea interaction processes, facilitating the sharing of research findings and supporting URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Emi Uchida (CELS/ENRE) - \$1,100.00: Conference travel to attend the Environment for Development Annual Meeting in Ghana, supporting networking and collaboration on environmental economics and advancing URI's goal of promoting interdisciplinary research.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$328.00: Networking lunch for STEEP RETCC with federal representatives, enhancing the visibility and impact of research on PFAS contamination and supporting its goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Elizabeth Herron (CELS/NRS) - \$150.87: Purchase of protective supplies and chemicals for dissolved oxygen kits, supporting water quality monitoring and data collection and contributing to URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$650.00: Conference registration for presenting research on coastal hazards, facilitating the sharing of research findings and supporting URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Lisa Philo (CELS/NRS) - \$573.71: Purchase of a new laptop and monitor for GIS data work, enhancing research and analysis capabilities in coastal projects and supporting URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$122.00: Purchase of EndNote software to support research projects, enhancing research productivity and data management and supporting URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Chuck LaBash (CELS/EDC) - \$552.53: Purchase of a camera integration kit and conference registration, supporting research and networking in GIS and geospatial technology and advancing URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$318.25: Expenses for the Seafood Cook Off event, supporting community engagement and education on sustainable seafood and aligning with URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$204.76: Purchase of apparel

for RI Sea Grant staff, enhancing staff representation at events and supporting URI's outreach and public engagement efforts.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$155.00: Repair of an iPad Mini tablet used in research, ensuring the functionality of research equipment.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$175.00: Purchase of an office chair for an Offshore Wind Energy specialist, supporting the operational efficiency of staff working on offshore wind initiatives.

Tatiana Rynearson (GSO) - \$8,253.09: Summer recontracting for research on climate change impacts on phytoplankton, supporting critical research on coastal ecosystems.

Tetsu Hara (GSO) - \$1,179.12: Conference travel to present research on coastal air-sea interaction processes, facilitating the sharing of research findings and promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Isaac Ginis (GSO) - \$4,600.00: Support for hiring a URI undergraduate for summer research, providing valuable research experience for students and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$300.00: Purchase of extra RAM for PC computers in support of research projects, enhancing research productivity and data management.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$371.00: Support for grad student tuition for continuing education in coastal resilience, supporting the development of expertise in coastal resilience.

Peter Paton (CELS/NRS) - \$162.00: Purchase of binoculars for student research and ornithology classes, supporting hands-on research and education on coastal bird species and promoting coastal ecosystem conservation.

J.P. Walsh (GSO) - \$1,267.87: Travel for CoastSnap training to inform about erosion and data tracking, supporting the development of citizen science tools for coastal erosion monitoring.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$282.13: Repair of the Imaging Flow CytoBot used in Narragansett Bay, ensuring the functionality of a critical research instrument.

Roxanne Beinart (GSO) - \$1,258.86: Purchase of research supplies for coastal microbe research, supporting ongoing research on coastal ecosystems.

Hirotsugu Uchida (CELS/ENRE) - \$1,187.94: Travel support for a PhD student to present research at a fisheries economics conference, providing students with professional development opportunities and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$70.54: Purchase of a fold-away easel and markers for use at RI Sea Grant events, supporting effective communication and presentation of research findings.

Ian (Rod) Mather (A&S/History) - \$1,508.00: Purchase of a small, lightweight Apple laptop for underwater archaeological fieldwork, supporting ongoing research on the impacts of climate change and plastics on coastal ecosystems.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$224.54: Purchase of



AV equipment for Communications Director, enhancing communication efforts and promoting research and initiatives.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$563.43: Purchase of AV equipment for digital media management, enhancing communication efforts and promoting URI's research and initiatives.

Susanne Menden-Deuer (GSO) - \$4,294.38: Personnel & fringe for proposal development on ecosystem dynamics, supporting the development of new research proposals and advancing URI's goal of promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$250.00: Purchase of email credits for event advertising, enhancing communication efforts and promoting URI's research and initiatives.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$375.00: Purchase of promotional items for events, supporting outreach and public engagement.

Corey Lang (CELS/ENRE) - \$4,573.33: Purchase of stamps for conducting a survey on land conservation decision-making, facilitating research on public decision-making regarding land conservation.

Chuck LaBash (EDC/CELS) - \$15.00: Purchase of the MapPilot app for drone goal planning, supporting research on coastal habitat mapping.

Elin Torell (GSO) - \$220.00: Consultant support for facilitating a workshop in Madagascar, enhancing proposal development for a major coastal management initiative and advancing interdisciplinary research.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$35.00: Registration for a cooking class to inform a research article, enhancing research and communication efforts.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$170.00: Contribution towards lunch and refreshments for a URI/NOAA partnership meeting, supporting stakeholder engagement and knowledge exchange on fisheries research.

Matthew Bertin (Pharmacy) - \$381.91: Purchase of research supplies for toxic diatom studies, supporting research on marine toxicology and its implications for coastal ecosystems.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$329.99: Purchase of a projector for RI Sea Grant meetings, enhancing the capacity for effective communication and presentation of research findings and supporting outreach and public engagement efforts.

Gail Scowcroft (ISC/GSO) - \$1,894.82: Purchase of a computer to support project management, enhancing research and communication efforts.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$1,399.99: Purchase of a Dell laptop for department use in webinars and meetings, enhancing the capacity for effective communication and presentation of research findings and supporting URI's outreach and public engagement efforts.

Melissa Omand (GSO) - \$1,738.13: Purchase of a new Macbook Pro for research and project management, supporting ongoing research on ocean-degradable biopolymers and coastal sustainability.

Marta Gomez-Chiarri (CELS/FAVS) - \$1,719.20: Payment for open access publication fees, facilitating the wide dissemination of research findings and contributing to global knowledge on aquaculture and coastal management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$548.00: Purchase of t-shirts for the RI High School Seafood Cook-Off, supporting community engagement and education on sustainable seafood.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$530.48: Reimbursement for travel expenses related to PFAS research, supporting ongoing research on PFAS contamination in coastal areas.

Scott McWilliams (CELS/NRS) - \$2,670.00: Purchase of hardware for monitoring migratory birds, supporting research on the movement and conservation of migratory birds.

Jason Parent (CELS/NRS) - \$348.97: Purchase of cloud computing credits for LiDAR drone mapping, supporting research on coastal habitat inventory and restoration.

Jason Parent (CELS/NRS) - \$349.99: Purchase of a mobile hotspot router for field mapping, enhancing real-time data collection and processing during fieldwork.

Chuck LaBash (CELS/EDC) - \$21.00: Purchase of a navigation fin for an underwater camera, supporting research on submerged aquatic vegetation in coastal habitats and contributing to URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$835.00: Purchase of fish for the Seafood Cook-Off event, supporting community engagement and education on sustainable seafood.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$58.67: Online advertising for RISG events, enhancing communication and outreach efforts.

Elin Torell (CRC/GSO) - \$3,700.00: Personnel & fringe for proposal subgoals, supporting the development of new research proposals and advancing URI's goal of promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$916.00: Covering tuition for a STEEP trainee, supporting the education and training of researchers working on PFAS contamination and advancing URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$500.00: Purchase of office supplies for project data organization, supporting operational needs and enhancing research efficiency.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$255.61: Lodging for a staff member attending the Northeast Sea Grant Conference, supporting professional development and networking opportunities and fostering collaboration on coastal and marine resource management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$1,224.00: Transportation for students on a field trip to Block Island, providing students with hands-on learning experiences and fostering the next generation of coastal scientists.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$500.00: Purchase of a printer for research activities, enhancing research productivity and supporting data management and aligning with URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$199.98: Renewal of SSL certificate for a research website, ensuring the security and functionality of a research website.

Tracey Dalton (RI Sea Grant/GSO) - \$446.76: Purchase of a GoPro camera for a photo contest prize, encouraging research dissemination through visual storytelling and enhancing public engagement.

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Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$3,736.00: Personnel & fringe for project reporting across U.S. portfolios, supporting the effective management and reporting and enhancing the impact and reach of work.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$86.00: Purchase of headphones, keyboard, and mouse for project management, supporting operational needs and enhancing research efficiency.

Austin Becker (CELS/MAF) - \$1,775.00: Purchase of conference registration, software, and equipment for students, supporting the professional development of students and enhancing their research capabilities and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$112.00: Reimbursement for refreshments for an offshore wind meeting, supporting stakeholder engagement and knowledge exchange on offshore wind energy.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$1,000.00: Travel for a prospective STEEP trainee to visit GSO, supporting the recruitment of talented researchers for the STEEP program.

Sunshine Menezes (CELS/NRS) - \$1,824.00: Personnel & fringe for staff planning the Metcalf Institute's Annual Workshop, supporting the organization of a major science communication event.

Arthur Gold (CELS/NRS) - \$1,184.00: Summer recontracting for assistance with the Roger Williams Park pond restoration project, supporting a key coastal resilience project and promoting sustainable coastal and marine resource management.

J.P. Walsh (GSO) - \$1,267.87: Conference travel for attending a planning event for the USAID Red Sea Initiative, supporting the development of new international collaborations on coastal and marine resource management.

Rainer Lohmann (GSO) - \$2,800.00: Purchase of a replacement combustion tube for PFAS analysis, ensuring the functionality of critical research equipment.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,650.00: Purchase of a Dell computer for project management and proposal preparations, enhancing research and communication efforts.

Chuck LaBash (EDC/CELS) - \$500.31: Personnel & fringe for seagrass mapping activities in Little Narragansett Bay, supporting research on coastal ecosystem conservation.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$1,400.00: Reimbursement for team dinner in the Philippines for a coastal project team, enhancing team collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$476.86: Reimbursement for VAT payments in Fiji for a coastal project, supporting the operational needs of an international coastal project.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$6,500.00: Conference travel for attending a co-creation meeting in Madagascar for USAID proposal development, supporting the development of new international collaborations on coastal and marine resource management.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,335.00: Travel costs related to the Northeast Sea Grant Regional Meeting, supporting professional development and networking opportunities and fostering collaboration on coastal and marine resource management.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$468.00: Purchase of Dell monitors for work on fisheries and aquaculture, enhancing research productivity and supporting data management and aligning with URI's goal of promoting sustainable coastal resource management.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,200.00: Travel for attending the IPF Offshore Wind Conference in Baltimore, enhancing knowledge and networking on offshore wind energy, a critical area for coastal resilience and sustainability.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$450.00: Purchase of webcams and speakers for conferences and webinars, enhancing communication efforts.

Scott McWilliams (CELS/NRS) - \$374.95: Purchase of research supplies for wildlife radio telemetry system, supporting research on wildlife movements in coastal ecosystems.

Jennifer McCann (CRC-US/GSO) - \$1,550.00: Purchase of a laptop and accessories for work on Offshore Wind Energy initiatives, enhancing research and communication efforts.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$1,714.00: Replacement of computer for the Imaging Flow CytoBot used in Narragansett Bay, ensuring the functionality of critical research equipment.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$1,863.00: Travel for Post-doc to have in-person meetings with colleagues, enhancing collaboration and knowledge exchange and promoting interdisciplinary coastal research.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$5,000.00: Payment to consultants for the Hay Tao project, supporting the operational needs of an international coastal project.

Elin Torell (CRCIntl/GSO) - \$2,000.00: Conference travel for a grad student to attend the IMPACT conference, supporting the professional development of students and enhancing their research capabilities and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Yeqiao Wang (CELS/NRS) - \$2,015.26: Conference travel for attending the AAG Annual Conference, enhancing professional development and networking opportunities and fostering collaboration on coastal and marine resource management.

Roxanne Beinart (GSO) - \$1,560.03: Personnel & fringe for supporting an undergraduate researcher, providing research experience for students and fostering future leaders in coastal and marine science.

Tatiana Rynearson (GSO) - \$1,000.00: Covering monthly expenses for the Marine Science Research Facility, supporting research on the impact of climate change on coastal ecosystems.

Jeremy Collie (GSO) - \$3,055.98: Conference travel for a research project on climate-resilient harvest control rules, facilitating collaboration on fisheries management research.

Colleen Mouw (GSO) - \$1,200.00: Purchase of filters for a water purification system, supporting research on harmful algal blooms in Narragansett Bay.

Elin Torell (CRC-Intl/GSO) - \$1,069.14: Reimbursement for VAT payments in Madagascar for a coastal project, supporting the operational needs of an international coastal project.





URI students haul a seine in the surf zone, Fire Island National Seashore. Photo credit: C. Roman/National Park Service









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