

GUIDE TO EXPERTS

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2024

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

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



RESEARCH

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



PUBLIC SERVICE

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



EDUCATION

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

POPULAR TOPICS

CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

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

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

FISHERIES: **David Secor**, Professor: Migration and population ecology of marine fishes, biotelemetry, otolith tracers, fisheries and protected species, offshore wind impacts secor@umces.edu

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

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

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

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

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

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

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

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TOPICS OF EXPERTISE

AGRICULTURAL/ LAND IMPACTS

Eric Davidson, Professor:
Biogeochemistry and
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forests and agriculture,
greenhouse gas emissions,
water quality
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Tom Fisher, Professor:
Terrestrial and atmospheric
nutrient inputs, nutrient
cycling and limitation
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Xin Zhang, Professor:
Environmental science and
policy, biogeochemical
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nitrogen, earth system
modeling, atmospheric-
biosphere interactions
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ALGAL BLOOMS

Pat Glibert, Professor:
Phytoplankton ecology,
nitrogen uptake and
mineralization by
plankton, primary
production and
photosynthesis
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Judy O'Neil, Research
Associate Professor:
Cyanobacteria
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Allen Place, Professor:
Genomics of toxin-
producing dinoflagellates,

mitigation of cyanobacteria
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ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

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Yantao Li, Associate
Professor: Microalgal
molecular biology and lipid
biochemistry, biotechnology
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IMPACT ON MARINE LIFE—

David Secor, Professor:
Migration and population
ecology of marine fishes,
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tracers, fisheries and
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wind impacts
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CHEMISTRY & TOXICOLOGY

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Chemical diversity of
complex dissolved organic
matter in aquatic and
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disinfection by-products,

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weathering, contaminant
transport and hydrology,
sedimentology, wetlands
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and ecosystem health.
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CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION

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materials for wetland

restoration, water quality effects of dredging
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Jeremy Testa, Professor:
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Hali Kilbourne, Associate Professor:
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ARCTIC RESPONSE—
Lee Cooper, Research Professor:
Stable and radioisotope composition of organic materials and natural waters, aquatic plant physiology, high latitude oceanography and hydrology
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Jackie Grebmeier, Research Professor:
Ecological responses of Arctic continental shelves to climate change, benthic ecology/marine ecosystem dynamic; connections among sea-ice coverage, water column processes and sea-floor organisms
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“What you do with coastline management has huge implications in terms of how the tides and storm surge in Chesapeake Bay respond to sea-level rise. Climate change is real; sea-level rise is happening. We have to understand it and plan for it right now.”

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



“The work that we do here understanding how living shorelines perform in the Chesapeake Bay informs federal and state agencies about how they can better manage and permit these structures. Folks everywhere want to know what is the best way to protect our shorelines.”

—Coastal restoration expert Cindy Palinkas on living shorelines

WILDFIRE—

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

COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

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

William Nardin, Assistant Professor: Impact of storms and sea-level rise on

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

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CRABS

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EDUCATION & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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

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FORESTS & TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY

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GENOMICS & GENETICS

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INVASIVE SPECIES

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Lisa Wainger, Research Professor: Modeling economic benefits of management, assessment of invasive species, environmental economic indicators
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MARINE FOOD WEB

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MICROBIAL BIOLOGY

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Allen Place, Professor: Elucidation of molecular mechanisms that permit organisms to adapt to unique circumstances, molecular basis of sex determination
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NUTRIENT DYNAMICS

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OCEAN SCIENCE

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Judy O'Neil, Research Associate Professor: Cyanobacteria ecophysiology and



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

—Matt Fitzpatrick created the Future Urban Climates app

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PHYSICAL—

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OYSTERS

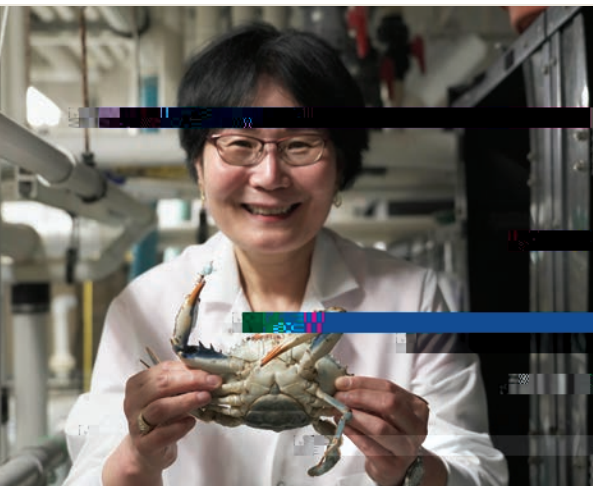
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Oyster Hatchery Manager:
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Michael Wilberg, Professor:
Population dynamics,
quantitative fisheries, stock
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strategy evaluation,



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

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

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SOCIOECONOMIC MODELING

Lisa Wainger, Research Professor: Cost-effective environmental restoration strategies, value of ecosystem services, and other environmental economic modeling
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Xin Zhang, Professor: Environmental science and policy, biogeochemical cycles of carbon/nitrogen, earth system modeling
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STATISTICS

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Vyacheslav Lyubchich, Associate Research Professor: Time series analysis, forecasting, applied statistics, nonparametric inference, machine learning
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STREAM HEALTH & RESTORATION

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URBAN WATERFRONTS

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WATER QUALITY

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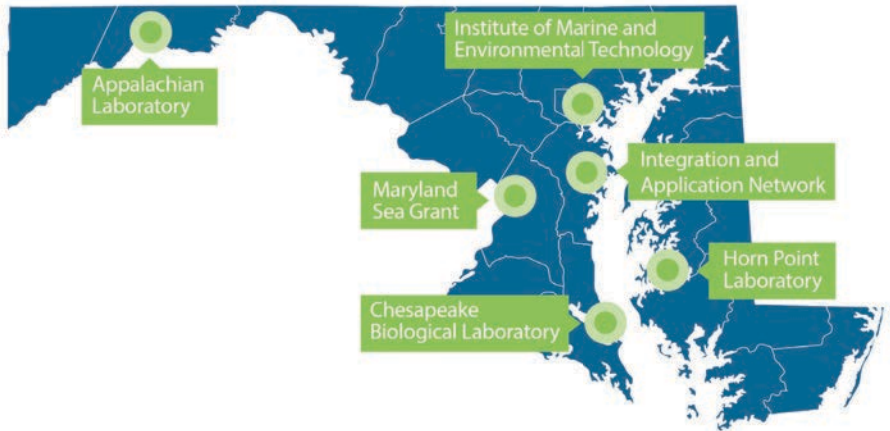
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The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science is one of 12 universities in the University System of Maryland.



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