

Impact



VIMS ESL aquaculture team maintain bay scallop grow-out cages. ©Reba Smith

Summer 2019 Newsletter

Virginia Institute of Marine Science

RESEARCHERS UPDATE CHESAPEAKE BAY COASTAL INVENTORY

An updated suite of online maps can help you see the condition of the Chesapeake Bay shoreline along its entire length—every beach, breakwater, boathouse, boat ramp, bulkhead, and bank. The latest iteration of the suite, just completed by researchers at VIMS, also provides interactive tools so users can view each aquaculture site, conservation easement, oyster lease, and underwater grass bed, as well as a model-based recommendation for maximizing shoreline health at any location.

Creating and updating these maps requires a hefty investment of time and human resources. The latest updates combine digital mapping and GPS technology—with researchers from VIMS' Center for Coastal Resources Management (CCRM) poring over thousands of high-resolution aerial images and motoring in small boats along each and every one of the 62,752,800 feet that comprise the Bay's Virginia and Maryland shorelines. Their mapping of tidal wetlands began in 1972 and continued until the late

1980s. In 1990, CCRM researchers began mapping shoreline position and conditions. That work wasn't completed until 2018.

The resulting coastal inventory was the first of its kind worldwide, and now serves as a blueprint for other states with the need for shoreline management. These "Comprehensive Coastal Resource Management Portals" or CCRMPs are accessible via web pages for each of Virginia's 44 coastal localities.

Continued on page 2

ONE TRIBE ONE DAY SURPASSES HIGH-WATER MARK

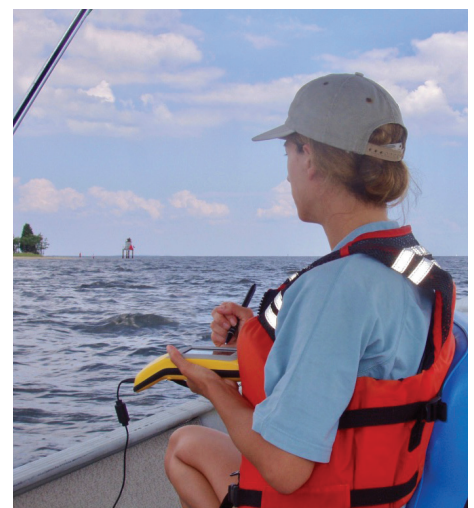
One Tribe One Day 2019 was a huge success thanks to the generosity and competitiveness of VIMS supporters. On this single day of giving VIMS raised \$62,183, beating last year's total by more than \$10,000. VIMS won an honorable mention—and \$5,000—in the William & Mary Gerdelman School & Unit Competition for taking an innovative approach to the day and met two challenges from the VIMS Foundation Board.

Giving on One Tribe One Day comes from alumni, friends, board members, staff, faculty, and students. This year 66% of VIMS faculty, staff, and students contributed. After a day of

friendly competition on campus, the Golden Clam trophy was presented to the Delicious Fishes, the VIMS team that had the highest percentage of participation with 93%. Overall, 597 donors contributed—an 11% increase over 2018.

A general Foundation Board challenge and an alumni challenge helped to stimulate giving and highlighted the board's generosity. Thanks to board members Phyllis Cothran, Michela English, Rick Hill, Chip Hortenstine, Jeanette McKittrick, Charlie Natale, Coby Owens, and

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Karina Nuñez of CCRM maps Maryland's Chesapeake Bay shoreline via GPS off the shore of Calvert County. © M. Berman/VIMS.



SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCE GRADUATES SEVEN

Seven graduate students from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science received their diplomas in the company of family, friends, and faculty advisors during William & Mary's commencement ceremony on May 11.

Dean and Director John Wells said, "VIMS alumni have an admirable track record of leadership in academia, government, and private enterprise, and I have no doubt that this year's exemplary group will continue that tradition with service to the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world."

In her remarks during the diploma ceremony, Professor Linda Schaffner, Associate Dean of Academic Studies at VIMS, cited W&M commencement speaker Glenn Close, who described the challenges that social media brings to today's graduates.

"You have a much harder time of it now than I ever had," said Close. "When I graduated, there was no... Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. I did

not have the added enormous pressure of social media against which to develop as an adult... I didn't have that insistent, seductive noise in my pocket and at my fingertips."

"This generation has faced unprecedented distractions," echoed Schaffner. "And your presence here today shows that you were able—with the help of advisors, colleagues, friends, and family—to focus in on a single body of work and persevere to its completion."

Schaffner added, "The School of Marine Science has a long history of producing outstanding scholars who have gone on to productive careers and significant leadership positions in science, policy, education, and the private sector. I'm sure this year's students will continue that tradition,



The six diploma recipients gather following VIMS' May 11th commencement ceremony. From L: Mr. Chase Long, Ms. Kelley Uhlig, Ms. Kristen Bachand, Dr. Amanda Knobloch, Dr. Qubin Qin, and Dr. Andrew "AJ" Johnson. (Missing from photo: Taylor Goelz)

and help to advance both our field and the reputation of VIMS and the School of Marine Science."

Including those who graduated in August 2018, this semester's commencement group—with 8 master's and 7 Ph.D. awardees in W&M's School of Marine Science at VIMS—brings the total number of degrees earned by VIMS students to 1,061.

Researchers update Chesapeake Bay coastal inventory, continued from page 1

Dr. Carl Hershner, CCRM director, says the impetus for the coastal inventories began with passage of the Tidal Wetlands Act in 1972. Alarmed by widespread dredging and filling of coastal marshes, Virginia's General Assembly passed the legislation to prevent "despoliation and destruction" of wetlands and "to accommodate necessary economic development in a manner consistent with wetlands preservation." Passage of Virginia's Dunes and Beaches Act (1980) and Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (1988) expanded concern and protection to the Commonwealth's sandy beaches, bluffs, and coastal uplands.

"In response to the Tidal Wetlands Act," says Hershner, "the General Assembly directed us to establish and maintain an inventory of tidal wetlands in the Commonwealth, which gave rise to our Tidal Marsh Inventory in the early '70s."

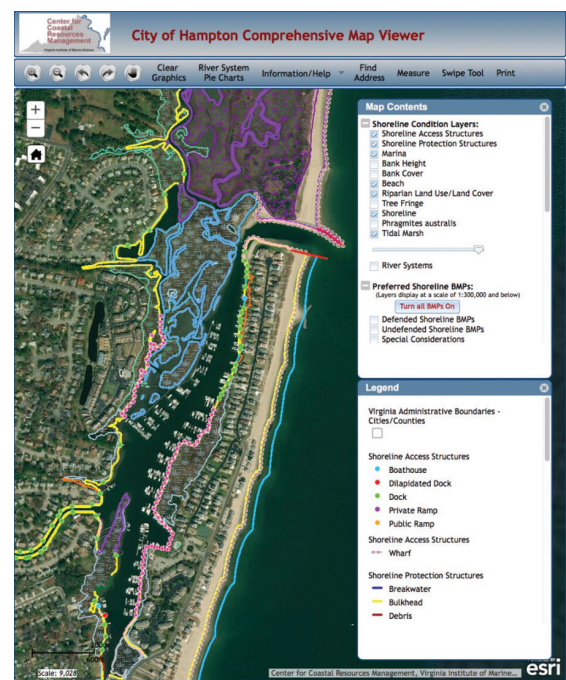
When erosion of the Virginia Beach oceanfront became a major issue in the 1980s, Hershner and colleagues were again called to Richmond to advise legislators on shoreline management. Informed that the state needed an inventory of all its coastal conditions—

marsh and beach—the legislature directed VIMS to add a shoreline inventory to its advisory portfolio. CCRM subsequently merged the Tidal Marsh and Shoreline inventories into a Coastal Inventory Program, the entity responsible for creating and updating today's CCRMPs.

Hershner and Marcia Berman say that all 44 coastal localities in Virginia regularly use the inventory to make management decisions—for instance, whenever a property owner submits a permit to the local Wetlands Board seeking to build a dock or protect a shoreline, or when a county begins to update its comprehensive plan.

The inventory has also become increasingly popular as a blueprint for action at the national level. Said Berman, "We've seen recent use by the Navy, NOAA's Coastal Zone Management program and Environmental Sensitivity Index Atlas, the EPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S.

Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory; and by NGOs like The Nature Conservancy."



A screenshot of the Comprehensive Map Viewer for a section of Hampton, Virginia's Chesapeake Bay shoreline, showing just some of the information available for display by users.



VISITORS EXPLORE MARINE SCIENCE AT ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

VIMS opened its doors to the community at its annual open house, Marine Science Day, on May 18. Focusing on the theme "Search Out," this year's event profiled how VIMS' researchers search out answers to problems in the Chesapeake Bay and in marine systems around the world. Attendees learned how scientists develop healthier oysters, survey fish populations, and monitor water quality.

Exhibits showcasing research on jellyfish, crabs, eels, and more



A family learns about a shark's sharp teeth at Marine Science Day. ©Aileen Devlin

were staffed by VIMS scientists and students who were on hand to answer questions. Popular tours included a look at the Oyster Hatchery, the Seagrass Greenhouse, the Nunnally Ichthyology Collection, and the Teaching Marsh. Excellent weather meant that the beach was open and kids of all ages could wade into the York River for seining. Scientists were on hand to help identify the catch.

The annual Seafood Cooking Demonstration was led by Chef Wade O'Neill, culinary arts faculty with Hampton City Schools, whose demonstration was very popular.

More than 180 faculty, staff, students, and volunteers contributed their time and efforts to make the day a success. Sponsors are also a key to success. This year's major sponsors were 1st Advantage Federal Credit Union, Dominion Energy, The Owens Foundation, Canon Virginia, Inc., and Wanchese Fish Company. Additional sponsors were C.A. Barrs Contractor, Inc., Chesapeake Bank, Langley Federal



Bryor Coles used balloons to create her sea anemone costume. ©Aileen Devlin

Credit Union, Phillips Energy, Inc., Rappahannock Concrete Corporation, and Ricky & Libby's.

Marine Life Costume Contest participants amazed attendees with unique and creative handmade costumes. This year's Grand Prize winner, Bryor Coles, impressed the judges with her clownfish and sea anemone costume. Alexandria Kircher won Best Representation of a Plant or Animal with her jellyfish costume. Most Creative Use of Materials went to Merritt Young for her hermit crab costume. Trystan Smith's crab costume won most original plant or animal. The Youngest Contestant was 2-month-old octopus Ellie Smith, and clownfish Forrest Hudson, age 1½, won Honorable Mention.

VIMS staff and VIMS Foundation Board Vice President Jeanette McKittrick selected the artwork for Marine Science Day programs, posters, and t-shirts from entries submitted by local artists of all ages. This year's grand prize winner was second grader Elaine Owens.

Winners in the K-8th grade category were:

- 1st Place: Elaine Owens
- 2nd Place: Evie Waldron
- 3rd Place: Paul Michael Olsen III

Winners in the High School/Adults category were:

- 1st Place: Cristin Wright
- 2nd Place: Nicolas Gomez
- 3rd Place: Danae Battle

The People's Choice Award, selected by fans of VIMS' Facebook page, went to Elaine Owens (K-8) and Amanda Horan (adult).

POPULAR EDUCATION RESOURCE GETS UPGRADE

Launched in 1998, the Bridge (bridgeoceaneducation.org) is the go-to reference for teachers seeking marine science content. After two decades of heavy use, a full redesign has given the site a new look, a more intuitive user interface, and an expanded resource database.

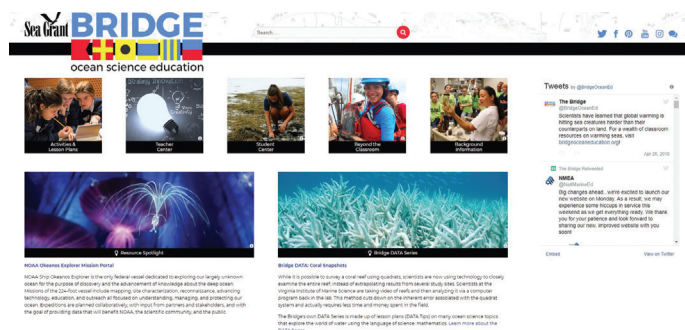
One of five educational projects funded by the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, the Bridge provides concise multimedia background information, downloadable lesson plans, marine career information, professional development opportunities for educators, and a marine education listserv that allows members to informally discuss ideas with educators, researchers, and outreach professionals around the globe. Newly added features

include more detailed search options, an extensive infographic library, and direct links to related content for each resource.



With an ever-growing index database, the Bridge currently features approximately 1,600

reviewed resources and more than 60 in-house lesson plans based on real scientific data sets. Last year, the site averaged around 11,000 page visits each month from viewers in more than 200 countries. The Bridge team is headquartered at VIMS and is supported by the National Sea Grant Office and the National Marine Educators Association.





FLAGSHIP VIRGINIA CHRISTENED IN CEREMONY

First Lady Pam Northam christens the R/V Virginia.

VIMS christened its new flagship research vessel, the 93-foot R/V *Virginia*, in a ceremony at the Yorktown waterfront on April 26. Leading the christening ceremony was VIMS Dean and Director John Wells. Deputy Secretary of Education Fran Bradford and William & Mary Rector John Littel provided remarks.

Virginia's First Lady Pam Northam served as "vessel sponsor," breaking a bottle of champagne as per long-standing maritime tradition as a large crowd of invitees and curious passersby looked on and cheered.



Diane and Bill Pruitt celebrate the vessel christening with Steve Johnsen, VIMS Foundation Board past president. Johnsen and Bill Pruitt were important advocates for the vessel in Richmond.

"It was an honor to be part of this ceremony for such an exciting new chapter in VIMS' impressive history," Northam said. "We look forward to new scientific breakthroughs to increase our knowledge of the Chesapeake Bay and our ability to protect it for generations to come."

Prior to the ceremony, faculty, staff, and students from VIMS led ship tours and staffed displays highlighting research that will take place onboard. The Virginia Choral Society performed.

Harkening to William & Mary's *For the Bold* campaign, Wells began his remarks by noting the *Virginia*



W&M BOV members Warren Buck III and Vice Rector William Payne II got hands-on when wind and rain blew in.

"is indeed a bold vessel." "Our unwavering commitment" he said, "is to use the *Virginia* for cutting-edge research and education of unsurpassed quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries—just as we have been doing on other research vessels at VIMS for nearly 80 years."

"Our plan, Wells added, "was to build a platform that would allow us to also move into offshore waters, spanning the entire East Coast and into the Gulf of Mexico. Innovation is for the bold, and innovation in the design and construction of the *Virginia* makes it arguably the most sophisticated research vessel in its size class in the United States."

While Bradford described the bipartisan support that led the



Vessel captain John Olney gives William & Mary BOV member a tour.

General Assembly to fund the vessel, Littel extolled the researchers and crewmembers that will truly allow the vessel to earn its expected return on investment. "VIMS has neat equipment—ships and drones" said Littel, "but what really makes it a jewel in William & Mary's crown is the quality of its people."

Wells concluded his remarks with special thanks to those who played especially important roles in helping to fund, design, and build the \$10 million vessel. First were Delegate Chris Jones of Virginia's 76th District, and Michael Maul and Scott Sandridge of the Department of Planning and Budget,



Visitors enjoyed tours of the new flagship.

who "recognized the importance of this vessel to the Commonwealth and communicated the value of the project in Richmond."

Wells also thanked members of the Vessel Planning Steering Committee at VIMS: co-chairs Jennifer Latour and Durand Ward; faculty researchers Chris Bonzek, Steve Kuehl, Rob Latour, and Debbie Steinberg; and operations staff Joe Martinez, Richard White, Mark Brabham, and Ron Herzick.

His closing thanks were to the *Virginia's* captain, John Olney, Jr., engineer Keith Mayer, and mate Taylor Moore, who "spent weeks at the shipyard, helping bring the vessel to completion." He also thanked Carol Tomlinson, Gary Anderson, Todd Nelson, and Jim Gartland, who "each played a valuable role."



VIMS' FRIENDS CELEBRATE INNOVATION AT CHRISTENING DINNER

See more pictures from the christening and dinner at www.vims.edu

With the freshly christened R/V *Virginia* as a backdrop, many of VIMS' friends and donors gathered at the Historic Freight Shed in Yorktown, VA, to toast the new flagship and celebrate innovation at VIMS.

In remarks following dinner, Dean and Director John Wells noted that VIMS is not new to innovation. Since its founding as a marine science laboratory in 1940, "VIMS has continuously been home to scientists who want to test the possible," he said. "It has led to myriad innovations, including ones that are helping to save our iconic blue crabs, restore an underwater prairie of seagrass, preserve our shorelines, and address marine pollution. It has helped us discover solutions that will benefit coastal communities and economies around the world, because what we learn here, we openly share."

Wells then shared stories of innovators at VIMS, including faculty and staff working to strengthen sustainable shellfish aquaculture, like Stan Allen, Karen Hudson, Ryan Carnegie, and Emily Rivest;

flood modeler Joseph Zhang, who developed the cutting-edge SCHISM model; and Aquatic Health Sciences professor Juliette Smith, who is using a "cytobot" to detect algae.

The dean & director thanked attendees for supporting innovators at VIMS and gave special recognition to supporters who had given notable gifts over the past year. Oyster sculptures, created by Eastern Shore artist David Turner, were presented by Wells, Campaign Chair Marshall Acuff, and Foundation Board President Phyllis Cothran. Awardees were:

Phyllis Cothran and Arnold Stolberg, who established the Cothran & Stolberg Fellowship to provide support for a VIMS graduate student studying aquatic environmental health and water quality.

Anne Waleski and Dale Smith, who established the Waleski-Smith Fellowship to provide support for a VIMS student advancing aquaculture and contributed to the Innovation Fund Endowment.

Jim and Bootsie Rogers, who created the Video Production Fund to help

VIMS better tell its most impactful stories.

Anne Whittemore, who made a notable gift split between the Innovation Fund, student support, and unrestricted support.

Ron and Bonnie West, who established the Ronald West Family Foundation Military and Veterans Fellowship to provide support for a VIMS student, with preference for students in ROTC, active duty military, and veterans.

Casey and Kay Duplantier, who have made notable commitments to both the VIMS Outreach Fund and student research in Antarctica.

Maynard and Jane Nichols, who have shown an outstanding commitment to VIMS for many years.

Following the presentation, Anne Waleski, chair of the Innovation Fund Award committee, announced the inaugural recipients of awards from the Dean & Director's Innovation Fund.



John Wells (left) and Marshall Acuff (right) thank Phyllis Cothran and Arnold Stolberg for their support.



Ron and Bonnie West receive an oyster sculpture in recognition of their support for VIMS.



Scientists shared their research with guests before dinner.



Maynard and Jane Nichols accept thanks for their support of VIMS.

Photos © Capture Photography/VIMS



FACULTY RECEIVE HONORS

Hale honored with Plumeri Award

Professor Rob Hale received a 2019 Plumeri Award for Faculty Excellence at William & Mary.

Joseph J. Plumeri, who graduated from William & Mary in 1966, established this eponymous award in 2009 to advance the work of exceptional faculty members and to encourage them to engage students in their scholarly endeavors. Eleven years later, 195 recipients—24 from VIMS—have benefited from this generosity, enhancing their teaching, research, and mentorship.

VIMS Dean and Director John Wells says the Plumeri Awards “are a wonderful catalyst that gives our



Professor Rob Hale.

faculty flexibility to involve students in innovative field and classroom activities. We deeply appreciate Mr. Plumeri’s generosity and foresight in supporting Rob and our previous-year award winners.”

Hale plans to use his award stipend to support student research into the potential environmental impacts of microplastic additives.

Researchers receive Cozzarelli Prize

The Editorial Board of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*—one of the world’s most-cited scientific journals—bestowed a 2018 Cozzarelli Prize on a paper authored by a multi-disciplinary research team led by Dr. Jonathan Lefcheck of VIMS.

The prize—which honors the late *PNAS* Editor-in-Chief Nicholas R. Cozzarelli—recognizes outstanding contributions to the six scientific disciplines represented by the National Academy of Sciences. It acknowledges papers that reflect both scientific excellence and originality.

The winning papers were chosen from the more than 3,200 research articles that appeared in *PNAS* last



Lefcheck and Orth with their 2018 Cozzarelli Prize following the Awards Ceremony at the National Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting. © M. Finkenstaedt.

year. The VIMS team’s contribution—which linked the multi-decadal effort to reduce nutrient pollution in the Chesapeake Bay to recovery of seagrasses and other components of the Bay ecosystem—won in the category of Applied Biological, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Lefcheck, who helped initiate the research project while a post-doctoral fellow in the School of Marine Science at VIMS, accepted the award during a ceremony at the National Academy’s annual meeting in Washington, DC. Lefcheck was joined onstage by VIMS professor and co-author Robert “JJ” Orth. Orth heads VIMS’ long-running SAV Monitoring and Restoration program. Lefcheck, who earned his Ph.D. from VIMS in 2015, is now the Tennenbaum Coordinating Scientist for the Smithsonian’s MarineGEO program. SAV stands for “Submerged Aquatic Vegetation,” the scientific term for seagrasses and related plants.

“It’s an incredible honor to be recognized by the Academy for our work, and I’m proud to have had the opportunity to communicate a true success story,” says Lefcheck. “To show that we can intervene and help restore our natural systems—in a place as large and complex as the Chesapeake—gives me hope for the future. Even a year later, the message resonates: we can do it!”

One Tribe One Day, continued from page 1

Gordon Smith for leading the way with a donation of \$20,000. Aquatic Health Sciences received a \$5,000 prize from the alumni challenge, with the highest percentage of alumni donors coming from their department.

Unrestricted gifts to the VIMS Impact Fund made on One Tribe One

Day provide flexibility to underpin basic institutional needs that support the work VIMS does for the marine environment and coastal communities everywhere, as well as activities on campus such as the VIMS Graduate Student Association.



VIMS faculty, staff, and students celebrate One Tribe One Day.



WINNERS OF INAUGURAL INNOVATION FUND COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

Researchers Derek Loftis and Lisa Kellogg were winners of the inaugural Dean & Director's Innovation Fund competition at VIMS. Results of the competition were announced at a dinner in April.

The fund, endowed by the Joan and Morgan Massey Foundation, the Nunnally Foundation, Anne Whittemore, Anne Waleski and Dale Smith, and many grassroots donors is designed to support efforts by VIMS scientists to innovate, commercialize products and services, and spur job growth.

"Our faculty have long pursued innovative research questions with an entrepreneurial spirit," said VIMS Dean and Director John Wells. "The generosity of our donors now enables us to leverage those pursuits, and our Innovation Fund Working Group provides the expertise to winnow submitted ideas and help move them toward fruition."

The working group, chaired by VIMS Foundation board member Anne Waleski, former executive vice president and CFO at Markel Corporation, comprises individuals with expertise in corporate and entrepreneurial settings, innovation, technology, or economic-development who appreciate the role of basic and applied research in spurring market-based solutions that are good for the marine environment and have potential to create jobs.

"Our job is to advise the VIMS leadership team on which concepts pitched by VIMS researchers should

benefit as spendable funds become available," said Waleski. "The six pitches we heard in the fund's inaugural round were all really innovative, and it was hard to select just two!"

A co-winner of VIMS' inaugural Innovation Fund competition was Assistant Research Scientist Derek Loftis, who pitched commercialization of a water-level sensor that uses artificial intelligence, including edge-detection algorithms and image-classification techniques, to detect the extent of floodwaters as captured in a live video stream.

"We plan to integrate the sensor, aptly named the StormSense-VIMS, into our StormSense sensor network," said Loftis.

StormSense is a flood-monitoring initiative established through a grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology in 2016. Since then, the project has effectively doubled the number of sensors in the region. Data from these sensors, plus those operated by NOAA and the U.S. Geological Survey, feed into VIMS' Tidewatch Charts, which users consult for forecasts of the magnitude of coastal flooding throughout Chesapeake Bay and along Virginia's seaside Eastern Shore.

Also selected during VIMS' inaugural Innovation Fund competition was the pitch by Senior Research Scientist Lisa Kellogg. Her idea is to explore the feasibility of developing a fishing-related app for mobile phones, one that could benefit anglers, fisheries scientists, and fisheries managers.

Four other strong pitches were made by Dr. Marjorie A. M. Friedrichs (Hypoxia report card), Dr. Emily Rivest (Boosting the health of oyster larvae using antioxidants), Dr. B. K. Song (Developing a new technique to promote beneficial microbiome



Innovation Fund award winners Kellogg and Loftis celebrate with innovator Morgan Massey, a long-time friend of VIMS.

resistance to shellfish disease in aquaculture industries), and Drs. Andrew Wargo, Wolfgang Vogelbein, and Aman Kohli (Saving the American Eel: A high value emerging industry).

Along with Waleski, four additional business experts serve on VIMS' Innovation Fund Working Group. Michela English is a strategic advisor to corporations and nonprofit organizations and a VIMS Foundation board member. She served as president and CEO of Fight for Children in Washington, DC, from 2006 until 2016.

Caren Merrick is a successful entrepreneur, author, and award-winning business leader. She is CEO of Caren Merrick & Co, where she advises leaders and businesses on growth strategies, including leadership development, management, and marketing. She is a venture partner with NextGen Venture Partners, and previously co-founded and was EVP of webMethods, Inc. a B2B e-commerce and integration platform.

Kersey Sturdivant, a VIMS alumnus (Ph.D. '11), is a principal scientist with the consulting firm INSPIRE Environmental, and an adjunct assistant professor at Duke University.

Rob Quartel is an internationally recognized expert on U.S. national maritime and transportation security policy. He currently serves as chairman and CEO of NTELX, a company providing advanced internet-based supply chain security and transportation management applications.



Innovation Fund Chair Anne Waleski reveals who will receive the first fund awards.

Photos ©Capture Photography/VIMS



Virginia Institute of Marine Science
1375 Greate Road
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

www.vims.edu/impact



SAVE THE DATE

Summer Public Tours

Tuesday July 9, 16, 23 & 30,
10am-noon

Guided walking tour includes
laboratory visit.

Adults and ages 9+

After Hours Lecture & Webinar

Fishy Interactions:

*Understanding the fish
community in Chesapeake Bay*

Thursday, July 25, 7-8pm

Adults and ages 10+

Discovery Lab

Art in Science

Tuesday, Aug. 20, 6-8pm

All ages

After Hours Lecture & Webinar

*Research Around the World:
Asia's last natural and
unstudied major river delta*

Thursday, Aug. 29, 7-8pm

Adults and ages 10+

Marine Life Day

Saturday, Sept. 21, noon-4pm

Eastern Shore Lab,
Wachapreague, VA

Open house: tours, exhibits,
activities, and more

All ages

After Hours Lecture & Webinar

*Forecasting Tidal Flooding:
Helping Hampton Roads
prepare for storms and rising
seas*

Thursday, Sept. 26, 7-8pm

Adults and ages 10+

After Hours Lecture & Webinar

*Cytobots in the Bay: How
technology is keeping
Virginians safe*

Thursday, Oct. 24, 7-8pm

Adults and ages 10+

*All events take place on the
VIMS campus, unless noted.*

No charge for events. Reservations required for most events.
Visit www.vims.edu/events or call 804.684.7061

TEAM KEEPS VIMS GREEN

The Green Team at VIMS supports sustainability initiatives on campus and in the greater community. The team is open to everyone at VIMS, but graduate students are the backbone of the group.

A key mission of the Green Team is to organize conservation-minded events such as beach cleanups, bike-to-work days, and forums on sustainability topics. The team works closely with the Facilities Management Department, which is committed to reducing VIMS' environmental footprint.

In the past, the Green Team has collaborated to fund campus improvements, such as water bottle refill stations and low-flow toilets. Recently the team applied for and obtained funding from the William & Mary Committee on Sustainability Green Fee Fund to purchase a solar-powered charging table. The table is now on campus, where it gives everyone an opportunity to enjoy fresh air and river views while they work, thanks to the solar-powered outlets and phone charging stations at their fingertips.



Acquisition of a new solar-powered charging table is a recent Green Team success.

