



News Release

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING PROGRAM

Fisheries and Marine Institute, a WOC Affiliate Member, Creates Master of Marine Studies in Marine Spatial Planning and Management

16 February 2016

The Memorial University Fisheries and Marine Institute will inaugurate the new Master of Marine Studies in Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Management, the first graduate program of its kind in Canada, in September 2016.

“Marine spatial planning is an emerging and important field that is gaining prominence as global demands on our coastal spaces and oceans increase,” said Carey Bonnell, head of the Marine Institute’s School of Fisheries. “We want to position our graduates to apply technology-supported knowledge and expertise and provide the best advice to sustain and use our marine resources through responsible ocean economic activity.”

The program focuses on governance, policy/legislative, ecological, socio-economic, cultural, and technological elements of sustainable ocean and coastal zone development, planning and management. Students will study the mapping and analysis of human activities and environmental features as part of planning environmentally/economically sustainable use of coastal and marine environments. Students will also learn conflict management and facilitation to effectively engage coastal and ocean regulators and stakeholders.

The program has been developed with input from international MSP experts from western Canada, the USA, Ireland, Scotland and the Netherlands, who also serve as key contacts for international internships and research projects. The WOC looks forward to engaging program participants as interns.

More information is available at www.mi.mun.ca/msp or by contacting Krista Sweetland at 709-778-0395 or Krista.Sweetland@mi.mun.ca.

The WOC includes a growing number of research and academic institutions as “Affiliated Organization” WOC Members. The WOC helps create opportunities for institutions with information, programs, technology and services by bringing them into contact with ocean industry operators who are in need of solutions.

[WOC Outreach this Month](#)

3-4 February

SINGAPORE: **Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Preparing for the PrepCom**, National University of Singapore (NUS), Centre for International Law (CIL) - Participant

8-10 February
HONOLULU: **Human Dimensions of Large Marine Protected Areas**, Big Ocean - Panelist

16-18 February
CAPE TOWN: **Sustainable Oceans Lab**, GIZ - Participant

19 February
CAPE TOWN: **Integrated Ocean Management Forum**, South African National Biodiversity Institute - Participant

22-23 February
CAPE TOWN - PORT ELIZABETH: **WOC meetings with South Africa industry and other ocean stakeholders**

24-25 February
CAPE TOWN: **Marine Coastal Management Conference** - Speaker

29 February-1 March
LONDON: **Inmarsat Developer Conference** - Speaker

About the World Ocean Council (WOC)

The WOC is the only international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”. Companies and associations worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in ocean sustainability, stewardship and science by joining the WOC. Members to date include 85+ leadership organizations from a wide range of ocean industries: oil and gas, shipping, seafood, fisheries, aquaculture, mining, marine mining, renewable energy, ocean technology, maritime law, marine environmental services and other areas. For the current list of WOC Members, [click here](#). The WOC News Release is received by 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and the UK/Europe.

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