Notes From the Editors

Yahoo!! We have finally achieved an independence of our own and are now officially the College of Marine Science (since July 1st). This is a very historic time for us all, and the following year will be very exciting. Some members of this College have already been hard at work for the past 6 weeks, considering the implications (see the report from the College Transition Committee later in this issue). Additionally, Peter Betzer has been working hard to make this possible, so congratulations and thanks must also go to him.

Jyotika spent a lot of time trying to survey the students for their input on the transition. If you would like a copy of this report, please email her at jyotika@marine. (Ed. Note: Jyotika has put in countless hours trying to make sure the voice of the students is not lost during the transition to a College. We all owe her a lot of thanks for her hard work.)

USF is also undergoing major changes, as we got a new President (Dr. Judy Genshaft, ex-Vice Provost from SUNY-Albany) on July 1st. Another change at the upper levels of the University system is Dean Stamps (Dean of our old college - College of Arts and Sciences) is now the new interim Provost.

Speaking of changes, this year will see some major improvements in the student health insurance plan. There will be an article in the next edition of SI highlighting the changes.

We wish you all a very happy and safe Independence Day.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jordan Brown Kang, who presented a successful defense entitled “Diel Rhythms in RUBISCO Gene Expression in Cyanophytic and Chromophytic Clades of Cultured and Natural Populations of Phytoplankton.”

Congratulations to Robyn Conmy and Andrew Remsen, who finally made it legal and tied the knot last month!

Congratulations to Amy Wright, who has taken on the daunting task of being the new MSAC President. Thanks go to outgoing president Heidi Crevison for all her hard work.

Congratulations to David Mallinson, who will be leaving USF to take a faculty position at East Carolina University.

Congratulations to Professor David Naar, who was just funded by NSF to map and sample the Nazca Ridge and Salas y Gomez volcanic Chain in 2001 or 2002. Watchstanders will be needed to stand watch from Valparaiso Chile to Easter Island. Although the survey will not be for quite some time, anyone interested in participating should contact him by email (naar@moontan.marine.usf.edu) to get on the list.

Finally, congratulations on a job well done to all the people who helped organize Spring Splash. Despite the bad weather, a good time was had by all who attended.
It's official! The USF Science Journalism Center, a joint effort between the College of Marine Science and the School of Mass Communications, is no longer just a neat idea. We even have letterhead with a new logo (see above) to prove that we're for real! We are proud to announce that our first-ever workshop with the Poynter Institute was a smashing success. It's likely to become an annual event. All told, about 40 people had a hand in making this workshop a success.

We invited nine journalists from around the country to join us for a five-day learning experience entitled "Covering Water - H2WOes in the 21st Century." One participant was (still is, actually) a Pulitzer prize-winning journalist from The Times-Picayune in New Orleans who co-wrote the "Oceans of Trouble" series on the Gulf of Mexico in 1996. From June 18-23, 2000, the journalists were encouraged to dive into a broad range of drinking and recreational water issues - and were coached on how to effectively report these complex issues by award-winning Poynter faculty and four reporters from the St. Pete Times.

Thanks in part to presentations by Joan Rose, John Paul, Carol Steele, Tracey Sutton, and a medley of folks from the Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI), our participants - representing Nebraska, Texas, New Jersey, Louisiana, Georgia, and Florida - left us chock full of story ideas. Thanks are also in order for Kent Fanning (who represented the department at the opening dinner), Linda Kelbaugh (who carted us around in the big white van because I feared disastrous headlines about maimed journalists if I were the one driving it), and of course Peter Betzer, who was integral in launching the Center in the first place and actively participated in the entire workshop (bad cold and all!).

More on the Science Journalism Center in future issues of SI...

By Jen Jarrell

From my perspective, I know how hard it is to keep up with what's going on the marine conservation realm. So I thought I'd take some time to address at least one of the hot topics in this area for all of you interested marine scientists. After all, changes in policy will eventually affect some of our own research plans. As most of you probably know, the concept of marine reserves has gained much interest in the last few years. Although controversial, various scientists and conservationists alike have voiced support over establishing such areas throughout the United States. To date, no-take marine reserves (areas where only non-consumptive use is allowed) exist at various locations, but these tend to be... (cont. on the next page)

Upcoming Events

July 1, Canada Day

July 4, Independence Day. The fact that, for once, Will Smith does NOT have a movie opening on this day also gives us reason to celebrate!!!

July 10, Next Girls Camp session begins

July 16, Full moon

July 30, Partial eclipse of the sun at 9:13 p.m.
very small in area. For example, in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary the Western Sambos Ecological Reserve is a no-take area, which is a 9-mile representative transect of the Keys habitat. There are also four small zones that exist as research-only areas. These no-take and research-only areas are valuable to us as scientists because they allow us to study areas that have very little direct disturbance. In relation to fisheries, these areas are seen as reservoir areas that can help to restore depleted fish stocks. Recently, two gag grouper reserve areas were established within the Gulf of Mexico. Many hope these areas will help to protect grouper spawning aggregations.

Currently, the political “hot potato” in marine reserve establishment is within the Tortugas. If approved, the Tortugas Ecological Reserve will more than quadruple the amount of no-take area that exists in the U.S. The Tortugas Ecological Reserve is proposed as two sections, one denoted as Tortugas North and the other as Tortugas South. Together these two sections total over 150 sq nautical miles. Various jurisdictions overlap in this area, and all entities must approve establishment to varying degrees. If you have research interests in these areas, it’s probably a good idea to express your viewpoint, as multiple options are being considered which range from status quo to designating large proportions as Research/Natural Areas. For more information on what’s being proposed by the National Park Service and the National Marine Sanctuary Program go to http://www.fknms.nos.noaa.gov/regs/summary.html or contact Jeffery Scott, Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Park, Ecosystem Planning and Compliance Office, 305-242-7706.

To express your opinion send comments to the following people by July 31st:

Billy Causey
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
P. O. Box 500368
Marathon, FL 33050

Wayne Swingle
Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council
3018 Hwy 301 N, Suite 1000
Tampa, FL 33619-2266

Russ Nelson
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 S. Meridian St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600

Richard Ring
Everglades/Dry Tortugas National Parks
P. O. Box 279
Homestead, FL 33030

Fact or Fiction?

By Greg Berman
(This is a farce, any and all resemblance to real dolphins or manatees is purely coincidental and was not the intent of this article.)

I’m afraid it is my sad duty to make everyone aware of the terrible outcome of a well-known environmental agency’s attempt to protect endangered species. A recent agency study discovered that an unacceptable amount of dolphins and manatees have lost their lives to tuna netting. Although the cans may say Dolphin-Safe there is now no regulatory committee to oversee that no marine animals are harmed. The agency worked with tuna fishermen in a small harbor in southern California for this experiment. The fishermen made the claim that it’s too dangerous and time-consuming to remove mammals from their nets. The animals damage the nets, themselves, and there is a good chance the men helping them could be hurt as well. The agency set out to find a better way to remove the struggling dolphins and manatees. After 7 months of testing they developed a special marine tranquilizer that was supposed to sedate the animal and make it easier for their removal. Preliminary testing went wonderfully, the mammals simply went into a trance for 20 minutes and afterwards showed no effect of the treatment. The agency then decided to use this small community as a test before allowing the tranquilizer to be used worldwide.

After supplying every boat in the harbor with enough tranquilizers the agency sat back and monitored the reports from their people. In the beginning everyone agreed the new system worked great, the dolphins and even the occasional manatee would very easily be put back into the sea. After a couple of weeks they had double the number of mammals trapped in their nets. It was attributed to the change in season and ignored for the time. After the end of the first month the fishermen were catching entire pods of dolphins and one boat was averaging 5 manatees a day. At the end of the second month it was reported that mammals seemed to be aiming for the nets. There were several times when dolphins waiting at the mouth of the harbor jumped into the nets that were already stowed on board for the day. One particular manatee, which was identified by a large scar on its back and bloodshot eyes (nicknamed Tripper), had to be thrown off a ship 10 times in one week.

At this point it was obvious even to the agency, that they had created junkie dolphins and manatees. These mammals were “jonesing” so much for the tranquilizer that they were putting themselves in harms way and practically shutting down the tuna industry of this harbor. Nobody likes a hopped-up manatee or a dolphin that will do anything for a hit. The agency has decided to slowly wean them off the marine smack. I think this is an unfortunate situation but it is my opinion that it would be best if we just walked away from it and let nature try to sort things out. Please feel free to write to your congressperson and demand that no more of your tax dollars go for buying dolphin drugs and manatee dope. We’re all in this together.

(This article is dedicated to Trippy, we’re all rooting for you in rehab, big guy!)
Don’t forget to check out the latest issue of SI (and some past issues too) on the web at www.marine.usf.edu, then click on “additional information” and “related links.”

Declaration of Independence
Submitted by Terri Slifko

In honor of the upcoming Independence Day holiday, we thought you might find this interesting...Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. 12 had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? 24 were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags. Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward. Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr, noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months. John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember: freedom is never free!

Show off your accomplishments! Have you published anything lately? Let us know so we can print it here.

Joke of the Issue
Submitted by Jen Boehme

Le Bun Mot: The following were winners in a New York Magazine contest in which contestants were to take a well-known expression in a foreign language, change a single letter, and provide a definition for the new expression.

HARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS?  Can you drive a French motorcycle?

EX POST FUCTO.  Lost in the mail.

IDIOS AMIGOS!  We're wild and crazy guys!

VENI, VPI, VICI.  I came, I'm a very important person, I conquered.

COGITO EGGO SUM.  I think; therefore I am a waffle.

RIGOR MORRIS.  The cat is dead.

RESPONDEZ S'IL VOUS PLAID.  Honk if you're Scottish.

QUE SERA SERF.  Life is feudal.
LE ROI EST MORT. JIVE LE ROI.  
The king is dead. No kidding.  
POSH MORTEM. Death styles of the 
rich and famous.  

PRO BOZO PUBLICO. Support your 
local clown.  
MONAGE A TROIS.  I am three years 
old.  
FELIX NAVIDAD. Our cat has a boat.  
HASTE CUISINE. Fast French food.  
VENI, VIDI, VICE. I came, I saw, I 
partied.  
QUIP PRO QUO. A fast retort.  
ALOHA OY. Love; greetings; 
farewell; from such a pain you should 
never know.  
MAZEL TON. Tons of luck.  
APRES MOE LE DELUGE. Larry and 
Curly got wet.  
PORTE-KOCHERE. Sacramental wine.  
ICH LIEBE RICH. I'm really crazy 
about having dough.  
FUI GENERIS. What's mine is mine.  
VISA LA FRANCE. Don't leave your 
chateau without it.  
CA VA SANS DIRT. And that's not 
gossip.  
MERCI RIEN! Thanks for nothin'!  

AMICUS PURIAE. Platonic friend.  
L'ETAT, C'EST MOO. I'm bossy 
around here.  

Local Events  
Now that summer is here, are you 
looking for things to do? Check out 
some of the following ideas, taken from 
AAA’s Going Places magazine.  
*July 1-23: Garry Winogrand: Women 
are Beautiful, Tampa Museum of Art, 
Tampa. Photographs celebrating 
contemporary urban women. Call 813- 
874-8130 for details.  
*July 8-9: Buccaneer Cat Fanciers 
Annual Show, The Coliseum, St. 
Petersburg. All ages welcome to view 
and show cats from all over. Call 727- 
892-5202 for details.  
*July 19-23: 20th Annual Hemingway 
Days Festival, Key West. While living 
in his two-story home in Key West, 
Hemingway wrote many things, 
including “For Whm the Bell Tolls”, 
“Snows of Kilimanjaro”, and “To Have 
and Have Not”. Festival highlights 
include a “Papa” Hemingway look-alike 
contest, a marlin tournament, a street 
fair, and a 5 K race. Call 1-800-LAST-
KEY for details.  

Web Watch 2000  
A recent survey found that there are 
now over one billion web pages. That’s 
one for every six people on the planet! 
It is very difficult to monitor all these 
web pages, but one way is to use “web 
portals.” Some links related to marine 
science are:  
*www.egroups.com – find an e-group 
dedicated to marine science under 
science
*www.marinetalk.com – describes itself 
as “The Internet Portal for Marine 
Science Professionals” – a resource for 
the marine management and technical 
community.

WEB SHORT  
Submitted by Terri Slifko

Hey everyone! Here is an ultra 
groovy new website to check out! 
It's an IQ test that REALLY works! 
This page was intentionally left blank. Why? Because we need more input from YOU! We are always looking for things to publish, so be sure to email your submissions for the next issue of SI to lizz@marine or jyotika@marine ASAP! Only YOU can prevent blank spaces!
Q: I would like to change some of the text box shading to improve the print quality. Can that be done?

A: Yes. To change the shading or color of a text box, select it and double click its borders to open the Format Text Box dialog box. Click the Colors and Lines tab and then choose the new color from the Color drop-down list in the Fill section.

Q: What’s the best way to print this newsletter?

A: Print page 2 on the back of page 1. Fold in half and mail with or without an envelope. For best results, use a medium to heavyweight paper. If you’re mailing without an envelope, seal with a label.

Q: I would like to use my own clip