Show Hosts

Paula G. Coble, Ph.D.
Chemical Oceanographer

University of South Florida
St. Petersburg, FL

Show Host for Coral Reefs I: Introduction to the Dry Tortugas and Coral Reefs V: Reef Protection and Preservation

Project Oceanography Position: Executive Producer and show host

Where do you work: University of South Florida, Department of Marine Science

What do you do at Project Oceanography? My major responsibility is to plan the program schedule and be sure that broadcasts and teacher packets are the best they can possibly be. I work closely with the Project Oceanography staff, the production team, and the science hosts to make the whole program work smoothly. A big part of my job is to help the science host design their programs to be both understandable and interesting to middle school students. I also teach some Project Oceanography segments, about my own research and sometimes as a substitute for scheduled hosts.

Education: I have a degree in Biology/Geology from Mt. Holyoke College, a women's college in South Hadley, Massachusetts, and a Master's Degree in Marine Studies from the University of Delaware. After completing my master's thesis, I worked at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences for seven years. This was an important part of my training and education because I got to participate in research cruises and learn how to write papers and proposals. In 1983, I enrolled in the M.I.T. and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography, and completed my degree in Chemical Oceanography. The next three years were spent as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Washington College of Ocean and Fisheries Science.

What do you find most interesting about your job? What I like best about my job is that it is really so many different jobs. I get to learn about lots of research that is outside of my field by talking to scientists from all over the country, and I also get to learn about the latest broadcast technologies. It's also exciting to work with the students and teachers who participate in Project Oceanography.

Walt Jaap
Biological Oceanographer
Florida Marine Research Institute
St. Petersburg, FL

Show Host for Coral Reefs II: Reef Surveys and Deep Worker

Where do you work? I work at the Florida Marine Research Institute in St. Petersburg, FL. Currently, I have a long-term ecological monitoring program in the Florida Keys and the Dry Tortugas.

What are some your career highlights? Currently, I am working on the Deep Worker submersible project that focuses on the Tortugas Banks in a remote area that is being considered as a Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Ecological Reserve. The area is in relatively deep water, thus Deep Worker provides scientists with an opportunity for extended missions and observations. The submersible allows us to dive to depths greater than 100 feet.

In the past, I have done saturation missions in Hydrolab in the Bahamas, Aquarius off Key Largo, participated in submarine lockout diving from the Johnson Sea Link, and led or participated in many coral reef research expeditions in Florida, Caribbean, and the Pacific. I have also published numerous scientific publications about coral reefs.

Education: I obtained my bachelor's degree from the University of Miami. I have attended graduate school at the University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science and the University of South Florida, Department of Marine Science.

PAMELA HALLOCK MULLER, Ph.D.

BIOGEOLOGICAL OCEANOGRAPHER

University of South Florida,
St. Petersburg, Florida

Show Host for Coral Reefs III: Corals, Forams, and Reef Health.

Where do you work? I work at the University of South Florida, but much of my research occurs in the Florida Keys, and Belize.

What do you study? By studying the geologic record and modern coral reefs, my students and I gain insight not only into environments of the past and present, but also the potential effects of human activities on the future of Earth's ecosystems. Our work has implications for cell biology, coral reef ecology, environmental management, global environmental change, evolution, paleoceanography, sedimentology, and hydrocarbon exploration.

Some of my ongoing projects include changes in reef communities of the Florida Keys and Glover's Reef, and Belize, bleaching in reef-dwelling foraminifera as an indicator of increasing ultraviolet radiation, and effects of increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide on calcification and reef-building communities. We are also actively studying the use of nutrients as a control on algal symbiosis and tropical benthic communities. Another focus of research has been to study the human impacts on coral reefs, and to make the findings known through published papers, and conferences.

Education: My career has kept me very busy for the last 30 years. I obtained my Master's Degree in Oceanography at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu in 1972 and then my Doctoral Degree in 1977 from the University of Hawaii, Honolulu as well.

Research and Students: I have been awarded more than 1.5 million dollars in research grants and contracts and been invited to over 50 lectures to the scientific community and professional organizations around the world. I work actively with students. I have advised 25 students during their thesis/dissertation quests, and served as a committee member for 35 others. I have also worked with many secondary students with science fair projects.

David J. Mallinson, Ph.D.
Geological Oceanographer

University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, Florida

Show Host for Coral Reefs IV: Coral Reefs as Indicators of Paleoclimate.

Where do you work? I work at the University of South Florida in the Department of Marine Sciences.

What do you study? Present research includes understanding shallow marine sediment resuspension and the effects on optical remote sensing; the paleoceangraphy of the South Ocean and the Australian Antarctic Seaway, and the origin and paleoceangraphic implications of relict reefs on the south and west Florida margins.

Education: I obtained my doctoral degree from the University of South Florida in 1995. Prior to that, I attended East Carolina University to obtain a bachelor and master of science degree in geology. Currently, I am an associate research scientist at USF.

Research and Students: In addition to my research duties, I am a guest lecturer at USF. I also work on publishing several papers and obtaining grants from foundations such at the Office of Naval Research, the National Undersea Research Center and the Florida Institute of Oceanography.