



Paula G. Coble

Associate Professor
College of Marine Science
University of South Florida

Project Oceanography
Executive Producer

Ph.D. in Chemical Oceanography
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Paula received a bachelor's degree in Biology/Geology from Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. She then earned a master's degree in Marine Studies from the University of Delaware. After receiving her degree she worked at the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences where she participated in research cruises and learned how to write papers and proposals. In 1983, she enrolled in the M.I.T. and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography, and completed her degree in Chemical Oceanography in 1990. Following this time, Dr. Coble, spent three years as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Washington College of Ocean and Fisheries Science.

Paula's research involves the study of sources, cycling, and chemical composition of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in the ocean. DOC plays a major role in the global carbon budget. Dr. Coble uses satellites and spectroscopy to study the ocean.

At Project Oceanography, Paula's major responsibilities include planning the program schedule and making sure the broadcasts and teacher packets are the best that they can be. She works closely with the Project Oceanography staff, the production team, and the science hosts to make sure the whole program runs smoothly. Another aspect of her job is helping the science hosts design their programs to be both understandable and interesting to middle school students.



Carlos de la Rosa

Education Coordinator
Dept. of Environmental Management
Pinellas County, Florida

Ph.D. in Ecology
University of Pittsburgh

Carlos was born in Caracas, Venezuela and received his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He has been biodiversity advisor for various projects with the Organization of American States, the US agency for International Development, and several nonprofit organizations in Central and South America. He was the director of the Riverwoods Field Laboratory (Florida Atlantic University), the US AID's Environmental Management Office, in Costa Rica, and is the current president of the International Foundation for Environmental Restoration, Education and Management. He has held teaching and research positions at West Virginia University, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and is Adjunct Professor at Florida Atlantic University and the University of Central Florida. He is the author of a book on Central American mammal conservation and numerous articles in journals and magazines.



Mark E. Luther

Associate Professor
College of Marine Science
University of South Florida

Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill

Mark received an A.B. in Mathematics and Physics in 1976 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill followed by a M.S. in Physical Oceanography in 1980. He continued his education at Chapel Hill and earned a Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography in 1982. During his educational period, Mark worked as a research assistant in curriculum for the Marine Sciences and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies at Florida State University. He has been at USF since 1990 as is currently an Associate Professor in the College of Marine Science.

Dr. Luther's research involves the development of numerical models of ocean currents and processes and their application to various problems ranging from water quality in Tampa Bay to variability in large-scale ocean circulation and its relation to climate change. He is an internationally known expert on the wind and thermally driven circulation in the tropical oceans and is active in many national and international scientific societies.

Mark is presently the US National Delegate to the International Association for Physical Sciences of the Ocean. He was also closely involved in the planning and implementation of a major international expedition to the Indian Ocean. His research group designed and implemented a shipboard computer system to receive and display information on ocean temperatures, weather patterns, and modeled ocean circulation patterns.

Dr. Luther manages the Tampa Bay Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS) at USF. This system measures tides, currents, and winds around the bay and disseminates this information to the public every six minutes. With his graduate students, he has combined the PORTS technology with a model of currents and water level in Tampa Bay to predict the movement of oil spills or other hazardous material spills.