

Center for Coastal and Marine Studies

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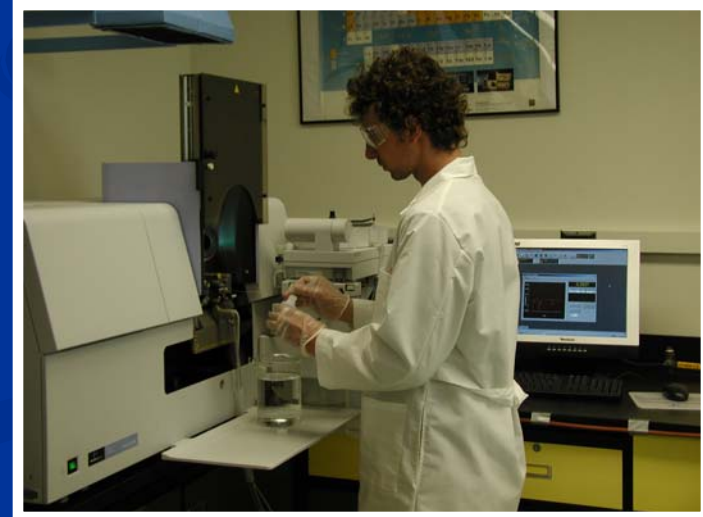
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Need

- Faculty interested in coastal marine research and education are **isolated** in various departments with little interaction.
 - **Marine Biology, Oceanography, Marine Studies, Coastal Ecology, Coastal Systems**
- There is no formal structure that encourages or facilitates **interdisciplinary collaboration** among faculty and students at SCSU.

Need

- There is a need to establish a **culture of research for undergraduate students** at SCSU, consistent with the university's goal of regional preeminence.



Need

- Coastal marine science is a **resource-intensive** enterprise and a mechanism to allow for shared resources (e.g., ship time, specialized instrumentation) is necessary.



Why SCSU?

- Southern Connecticut State University is located centrally along the heavily **urbanized Connecticut coastline** proximate to a variety of diverse natural habitats.
- This setting provides excellent opportunities for research and education focused on the pressures of human development and the need for the **preservation of these natural habitats.**

Mission Statement

- To foster collaborative research and pedagogical initiatives among faculty **across traditional academic disciplines.**
- To focus the efforts of the faculty, staff and students associated with the center on coastal **marine research and education** along Connecticut's heavily urbanized coast and harbors.

Mission Statement

- To use the interdisciplinary nature of coastal marine research to provide a broad spectrum of students with opportunities to **learn science by doing science**.

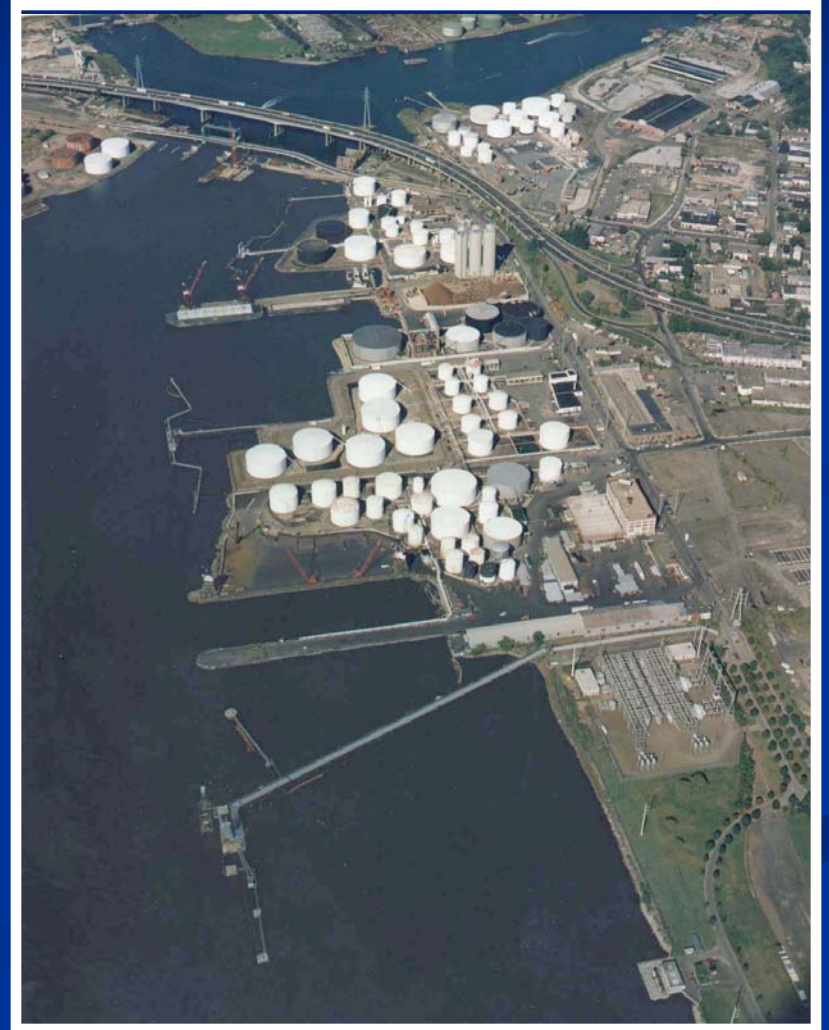


Research

- Focus on applied student-based research designed to address **issues of local and regional importance.**
- Emphasis on **interdisciplinary research**, bringing together faculty from diverse fields to collaborate on important coastal issues.

Research

- Adoption of field sites of environmental significance (e.g., New Haven harbor, Housatonic estuary) for **long-term monitoring** in support of research and educational programs.



Education

- Incorporate state-of-the-art **models for science education**.
- Develop **hands-on, field-based activities** for new and existing curricula.



Center Activities

- Long Island Sound Seminar Series
- Development of new curriculum
 - HON 270 Science Along the CT Coast
 - BIO 204 Intro to Marine Ecology
- Research grants
 - Sediment metal contamination in Ct harbors
 - Salt marsh erosion and impacts of sea level rise
 - Biological inventories of bird and mammal populations in urban landscapes

Summary

- The Center for Coastal and Marine Studies will:
 - Raise SCSU's profile in the community
 - Provide new and innovative research and educational opportunities for all undergraduates
 - Serve as a model for facilitating faculty collaboration in teaching and research

Thank You

