

Werth Center for Coastal and Marine Studies

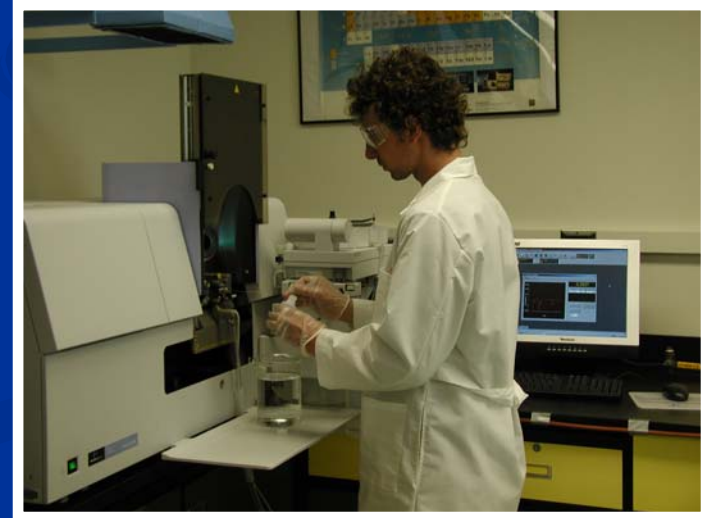
Vincent Breslin, Professor,
Science Education and
Environmental Studies

James Tait, Associate Professor, Earth Sciences

Sean Grace, Associate Professor, Biology

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

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

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 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**.

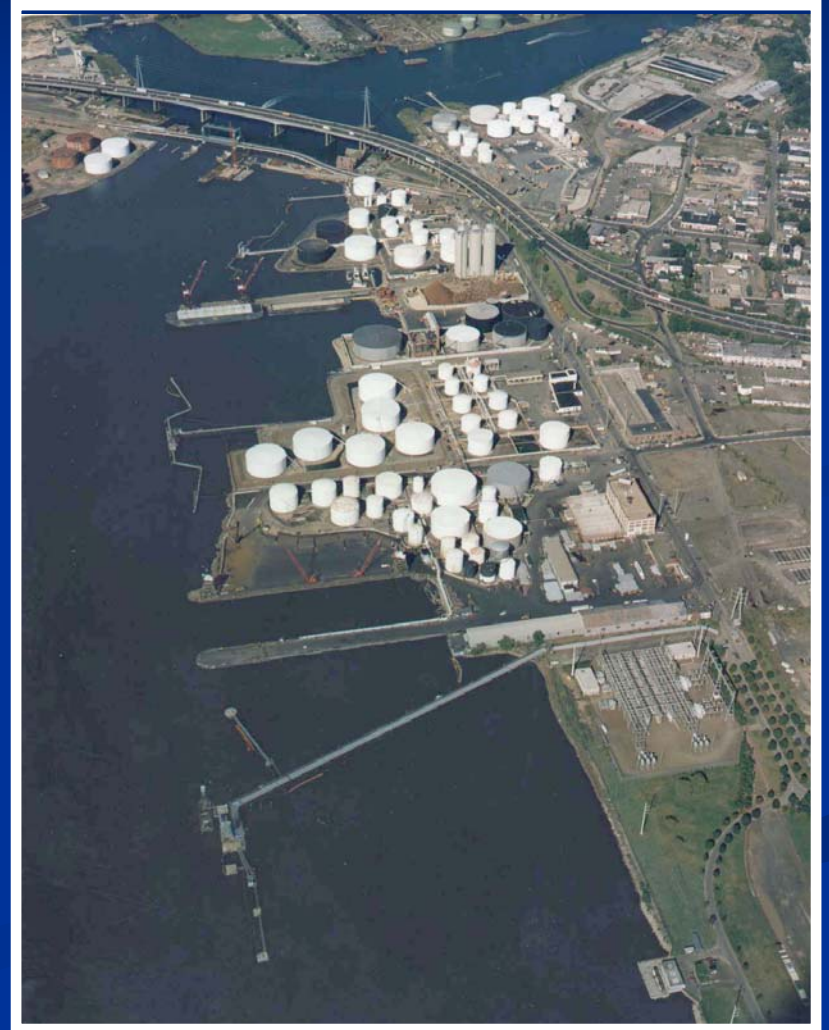


Research

- 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.

