

2011 Coastal Zone Student Program

Special Student Program at Coastal Zone 11 Conference!

Attention all students! For over 33 years Coastal Zone Conference (CZ) has been the largest international gathering of ocean and coastal management professionals in the world. CZ 2011 will have a robust student program. The program is designed with student needs in mind, presentations and activities specifically for students.

Program Activities

The program consists of:

- Student presentation (oral and poster) competition
- Special panel session ('Navigating Your Early Career', Monday, 11:00-12:00)
- Café Conversation ('Finding the Perfect Job', Tuesday, 2:45-4:00)
- Student/Professional Networking (Wednesday 11:45-1:00)
- Job Board

Materials

Students will also receive a special package of materials. These packages will be available at the Student Table near the registration area. Please stop by to check-in for CZ11 staffing information and for a student package.

CZ 11 Job Board

There will be a Job Board – a place to post available jobs and to post resumes or curriculum vitae. It will be near the registration desk.

If you think you will have a job opportunity open at the time of the conference, or think you might have one available soon after, please think about posting the position on the Job Board.

If you are currently looking for a position, remember to bring copies of your resume or curriculum vitae, at minimum to post on the board.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Student Presentation Competition

Student presentations, both oral and poster, will be entered in to the competition. Judges will review and score the presentations per a set of criteria. Three (1st, 2nd, 3rd) awards will be granted for each category – oral presentation or poster presentation.

Student Oral and Poster Presentation Awards

The Coastal Zone 2011 Conference encourages students to discuss the issues facing our world's oceans, coasts and Great Lakes, and discover new strategies, solutions, and tools to plan for the future. Three (3) awards (first, second, third) will be given in two (2) categories: graduate student oral presentation and graduate student poster presentation.

Award for best oral presentation by a graduate student

Award: Certificate of award for each level of award (first, second, and third place).

Eligibility: Presently matriculated graduate students and law students; all students who have presentations accepted for the conference are automatically entered in to the competition.

Conditions: Students must make an oral presentation; student must be the first author of the presentation; presentation should reflect student's work and not that of an advisor; presentations should reflect excellence in research, clarity in presentation, and personal knowledge. Winners will be determined by the judges' scores

Award for best poster by a graduate student

Award: Certificate of award for each level of award (first, second, and third place)

Eligibility: Presently matriculated graduate students and law students; all students who have presentations accepted for the conference are automatically entered in to the competition.

Conditions: Students must be present at the two formal poster sessions (Monday July 18th, 6-8pm and Tuesday July 19th, 11:30-1pm); student must be the first author of the presentation; presentation should reflect student's work and not that of an advisor; poster presentation should reflect excellence in research, clarity in presentation, and personal knowledge in a discussion with the judges; students will be interviewed by several judges during their poster sessions, and winners will be determined by the judges' scores.

CZ11 Special Panel Sessions for Students

‘Navigating Your Early Career’

Monday, July 18, 2011, 11:00-12:00

Session Abstract: An environmental career is a great, rewarding way to change the world! However, navigating through the process of obtaining the right education and dream job is not always the easiest thing to do. This session is targeted specifically towards students to help them map their way to a fulfilling career. The session features a panel of speakers who will share information on topics that students want and need to know. Panelists will speak on prestigious internship opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, including deadlines and how to apply; hints on how to get a Federal, private industry, or overseas job – including resume writing skills and navigating USA Jobs; asking “Is this the job I want?” and other soul-searching questions students need to ask themselves. Find out what professionals learned the hard way and wish someone told them when they were students!

Panel Presentations:

‘NOAA Student Opportunities’ – Ms Chantell Haskins. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and information service delivery for transportation, and by providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA's Office of Education administers four scholarship programs for students pursuing degrees in a discipline area related to oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology, or education, and supportive of the purposes of NOAA's programs and mission, e.g., biological, social and physical sciences; mathematics; engineering; computer and information sciences; and teacher education. Through the Educational Partnership Program (EPP) Undergraduate Scholarship and the Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship, approximately 120 students are selected annually for a two year scholarship. Scholars have the opportunity to conduct a paid ten-week summer internship at a NOAA facility and funding to travel to a national conference to present their internship results. The Graduate Sciences Program is aimed primarily at providing training and career work experience for students in NOAA-related fields while conducting research and completing their academic requirements. The Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program supports independent graduate level research in oceanography, marine biology and maritime archaeology.

‘Internships, Fellowships and Other Student Programs at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’ – Ms Roberta Miller. Numerous opportunities are available within U.S. EPA for students from high school to post doctoral levels to gain vital career experience while contributing to the mission of protecting human health and safeguarding the environment. The Agency’s primary internship programs for college graduates and those with advanced degrees are EPA’s agency-wide Environmental Careers Program, the Office of Research and Development Post Doctoral Program, and the Presidential Management Fellows Program. These programs emphasize a graduate’s

career and leadership development. We anticipate additional opportunities in the near future for graduates with the pending establishment of the government-wide Pathways program. For currently enrolled students who are interested in a career with the Federal Government, the Student Career Experience Program in EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) and in the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention offers career-related employment that enriches students' academic experience through valuable work experience. Also available for students desiring Federal work experience are internships in the Student Temporary Employment Program and Volunteer Student opportunities. The Office of Research and Development also offers numerous grant and fellowship opportunities for students pursuing particular research topics. Our Agency employees interact with: industry; nonprofit organizations; state, local, and tribal governments; and other federal agencies. Assignments may be in Washington, DC, in any of our 10 regions, 39 labs, or administrative centers nationwide and may include geographic rotations. The presentation will highlight these student programs how to apply for these prestigious positions.

'Landing that Perfect Position' – Mr Jeff Benoit. You want a job – perhaps for your first position after graduation or maybe you wish to shift career paths. Competition is keener than ever and budgets remain tight so it is best to focus on the fact that many coastal jobs will become available in the next few years. That trend, driven by retirement (that opens a cascade of opportunities throughout an organization) and shifting job markets (each nation will require more experts to address climate change, new ocean priorities, ecosystem approaches, marine transportation, etc.), is especially true for state and federal government agencies. In some disciplines, 25-50% of the jobs will open before your fifth college reunion. This talk will focus on seeking work for the federal government but many of my suggestions apply equally in other job markets.

You need a plan. I will offer insights on how to sharpen your search and improve your prospects, with an eye on four key factors:

- Geography -- where do you want to work;
- Subject matter – what do you want to do;
- Preferred sector – public sector (local, state, regional, national, international) or private sector (environmental group, industry, consulting firm, other);
- Type of work – research, policy, management, teaching, etc.

You need to get started. Based on those bounds I will suggest several first steps. A little encouragement will enable you to generate your own optimism, which will be a valuable addition to the talent and commitment that brought you to CZ11. Notice I haven't mentioned luck, but careful planning can increase your chances of getting lucky.

'Is This the Right Career or Job for Me?' – Mr Aaron Barnett.

I. Purpose -- The purpose of this presentation is to share with students and others a more intimate look at what a career decision process can look like with tools and concepts designed to help facilitate a decision making process for individuals faced with career and/or job uncertainty.

II. Scope -- This 15-minute presentation will be divided into two parts:

Part I: Approx' 5-7 minutes will be sharing some of my own experiences as an individual undergoing a mid-career change – sharing the decision process of a former small business person to student and discuss some of the criteria I have laid out to guide me. They are:

- Values
 - Will this job or career path be a good fit with my own set of values and principles?
 - Serious self-assessment: What is important to me?
- Family obligation
 - Will this job satisfy the obligations to myself and/or my family?
 - Willingness to relocate?
 - Is the compensation package sufficient?
- Challenge
 - Does this job present the level of intellectual challenge I would like?
 - Critical thinking
 - Interdisciplinary environment (policy/planning)

Part II: The remaining part of the presentation will be devoted to presenting an array of available tools and resources to help guide individuals through this process leaving a few minutes for questions. Possible examples include: Meyers-Briggs, Campus career centers, Personal career coaches, many on-line resources.

CZ11 Student Café Conversation

‘Finding that Perfect Coastal Job’

Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 2:45-4:00

The Café Conversation is designed to provide job seeking assistance from professionals to students in an informal setting. Coastal professionals will be available to: 1) share job hunting skills (resume writing, web searches, USA jobs, interview techniques, etc.); 2) identify steps toward the best positions for each person; and 3) discuss the full range of opportunities from internships to permanent positions in agencies and industry, on science or policy, in DC or elsewhere. Agencies, industries, non-profits, employee search firms, and others have been invited to send representatives. Themed areas in the room for group discussions will be marked. Participants will be able to change areas as needed.

CZ 11 Student / Professional Networking Lunch

Student Networking Lunch

Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 11:45-1:00

Fox and Obel Cafe

Students are invited to attend a student/professional networking lunch to be held at the Fox and Obel Cafe, 401 E Illinois, Chicago, IL on Wednesday July 20, 2011 from 11:45 to 1:00. Buffet lunch will be provided.

Students will have the opportunity to network with other students, coastal zone professionals, and informally ask questions of professionals working in featured occupations. The featured occupations are: Coastal biology/ecology, Physical and Chemical Oceanography, Coastal Zone Management, Policy and Legal Issues, Outreach and Education, and Technology Development.

For more info:

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