THE INFORMATION IN THIS PRESENTATION IS ACCURATE AS OF MAY 28, 2019. HOWEVER, THE TIMELINE AND DETAILS OF THE 2020 GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) CONTAINED HEREIN ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY UPDATES TO THE TIMELINE OR THE RFA WILL BE LISTED ON THE SEA GRANT WEBSITE:

HTTPS://CASEAGRANT.UCSD.EDU/FELLOWSHIPS/
GRADUATE-RESEARCH-FELLOWSHIP-2020

WE URGE POTENTIAL APPLICANTS TO REFER TO THE RFA ITSELF WHEN PREPARING APPLICATIONS AND NOT SOLELY RELY ON THE INFORMATION IN THIS PRESENTATION.

UC San Diego | SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Sea Grant
California

# WEBINAR OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a brief overview of California Sea Grant and the Sea Grant network
2. To describe in detail the graduate research fellowship program opportunity
3. Go over important application components and tips on preparation
4. Answer questions that potential applicants may have

UC San Diego | SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Sea Grant California

# WEBINAR GUIDELINES

- Phone lines muted during presentation

- Ask questions during designated times by:

    - Using the chat dialogue **OR**

    - Unmuting yourself by clicking the "mute" icon or pressing *6 on your phone

- Recording of the presentation will be made available on California Sea Grant website

- Please reserve very specific questions for email to Miho (sgproposal@ucsd.edu)

# 1966 SG LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

- National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966
  - Authorized the establishment and operation of SG colleges/programs
  - Initiate and support programs of research, extension, education and workforce development and communication

# CALIFORNIA SEA GRANT RESOURCES

**Grant** and **fellowship** opportunities for scientists and graduate students

Complete **grant administration** services, including proposal solicitation and review, and post-award fiscal administration

**Extension specialists** dedicated to impartial research and outreach for coastal stakeholders

**Media** and **library** services

Connection to a **nation-wide network** of Sea Grant experts and partners

# Extension Specialists





Sea Grant California — Meet Our Extension Specialists
www.caseagrant.ucsd.edu

**Our Focus Areas**

Education

Healthy Coastal & Marine Ecosystems

Resilient Coastal Ecosystems

Safe & Sustainable Fisheries/Seafood Supply

**What We Do**

Identify emerging marine resource challenges and opportunities

Conduct applied research to address challenges

Collaborate with other academics, businesses, nonprofit organizations, etc.

Translate shared discovery to everyone at the table

**Our Core Values**

Environmental stewardship

Long-term social & economic sustainability

Responsible use of California's natural resources

# SEA GRANT FELLOWSHIPS

- **Work Force Development Goal**: Increase research and education opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students

- Educating the next generation of marine and coastal scientists and policy markers.

# GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP GOALS

(1) Engage highly qualified scientific talent to help advance the state of scientific knowledge;

(2) Provide support for the training and development of scientists able to work in multidisciplinary, field-oriented and/or modeling-based applied research intended to support resource management;

(3) Promote scientific partnerships across agencies, research institutions, and non-profit organizations; and

(4) Invest in people -- particularly the graduate and post-graduate fellows and alumni, who will become future coastal and marine science, policy and management leaders -- and provide them with the knowledge and expertise to thrive now and in the future.

Sea Grant
California

# GRADUATE RESESARCH FELLOWSHIP AWARD

- The fellowship will provide up to two years for both Masters and Ph.D. students

- The fellowship provides an award of up to $40,000 per year.

- The start date for fellowships is February 1, 2020.

- California Sea Grant expects to fund between 10 and 12 fellowships.

**SFA Goal 2:** Provide science-based information to support and grow a sustainable California aquaculture industry to help meet the growing demand for seafood, and minimize negative socio-economic and environmental impacts of aquaculture.

# PRIORITY RESEARCH TOPIC AREA
## Resilient Coastal Communities and Economies

RCCE Goal 1: Support communities and stakeholders to sustainably use, and policy makers to effectively manage, coastal and marine resources.

RCCE Goal 2: Work with communities to improve coastal environmental quality and the quality of human life on the coast.

RCCE Goal 3: Assist communities in reducing vulnerability to coastal hazards.

RCCE Goal 4: Work with communities and partners to plan for and adapt to the effects of climate change, including changes in the frequency and intensity of storms and waves, sea-level rise, ocean acidification and hypoxia (additional examples of effects of climate change may include drought, precipitation, altered flow regime, and/or coastal watershed flows).



Sea Grant California

# Priority will be given to projects that emphasize or include the following:

1. *Work done with a resource economist to quantify the economic impact or benefit of the proposed research project and its societal implications, where:*

   - **Economic impact** is defined as the net change to the economic base of a region that either created or keeps revenue in a given economy that would not exist or leave the region otherwise

   - **Economic benefit** is defined as the net increase in social welfare through market or non-market forces

   - **Societal implications** are defined as the consequences for society as a whole and for particular groups of people

# Priority will be given to projects that emphasize or include the following:

1. *Work done with a resource economist to quantify the economic impact or benefit of the proposed research project and its societal implications*

2. *Restoration projects, or partnerships with organizations that do restoration*

# Priority will be given to projects that emphasize or include the following:

*Examples:*

✓ Working with a community mentor at Heal the Bay, a Sea Grant funded graduate research fellow provided research showing that eelgrass in a local bay was dying off because of water quality issues from an adjacent farm. Because of this, the research fellow and community mentor were able to work with the farm on changing their irrigation practices, which resulted in 4 acres of seagrass being revived, and 4 additional acres being planted. The research fellow worked with a resource economist to quantify the ecosystem services that the healthy eelgrass beds now provide.

# Priority will be given to projects that emphasize or include the following:

*Examples:*

✓ California Sea Grant funded graduate research fellow worked with a local aquaculture farm and fisheries economist to identify a new crab species for aquaculture production. The farm successfully raised the new crab species and was able to sell it to local markets. Production of this new species was more efficient than a previous crab species that was raised and sold, which saved the farm $500,000 a year.

**QUESTIONS?**

# FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be enrolled in a **full-time graduate or professional degree program** at a **California academic institution** prior to the award of the fellowship, beginning **no later than Fall 2019.**

- The degree program must be in natural resources or environmental sciences, environmental policy and management, engineering, social sciences, coastal, aquatic or related sciences

- Must include a **research mentor** and a **community mentor**

*Preference will be given to projects that have existing relationships built with the research and community mentor/s.*

# COMMUNITY MENTOR/S

- Fellows are required to collaborate with at least one community mentor familiar with existing data and/or resource issues central to the proposed research

- Community mentors should be individuals whose work requires the application of scientific information, particularly the information, data, and findings that will result from the fellow's research project

- Community mentors may be agency scientists, restoration program managers, engineers or scientific/technical staff in environmental or other stakeholder organizations

# FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- Submit Reports
- Work with California Sea Grant's Communication team
- Collaborate with a Community Mentor
- Attend California Sea Grant Events
- Acknowledge Support

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS – LETTER OF INTENT

- Name of applicant and contact information
- Title of project
- Name(s) of research mentor(s)
- Name(s) of community mentor(s)
- Brief discussion of the focal topic and approach
- Approximate funding to be requested

*DUE JUNE 14, 2019 by 5:00 PM TO*
*sgproposal@ucsd.edu*

1. Title Page
2. Project Summary
3. Project Narrative
4. Budget & Budget Justification

   *The budget should include, at a minimum, travel support for the fellow to attend one to two California Sea Grant meetings per year around California and attendance at one professional conference.*

5. Letters of Support

   - Letters of commitment from research & community mentors
   - Two signed letters of academic recommendations

6. Graduate & Undergraduate Transcripts
7. Data Management/Sharing Plan
8. Environmental Compliance Questionnaire

**DUE AUGUST 8, 2019 by 5:00 PM via eSeaGrant**

*NOTE: Applicants will not receive access to the full proposal submission portal in eSeaGrant until a few days after the LOI submission deadline.*

QUESTIONS?

R/V Sally Ride, Anacortes , Washington. *Credit: Jeff Dillon.*

UC San Diego | SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Sea Grant California

## KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

1) rationale;
2) scientific merit and impact or outreach quality;
3) innovation;
4) programmatic justification;
5) expected quality and strength of interaction that will be developed between the research institution, the community mentor and her/his organization;
6) practical impact and user relationships; and

# REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals are reviewed by California Sea Grant technical staff and the California Sea Grant Committee (outside panelists selected for disciplinary expertise)

Each proposal is considered on its own merits without regard to campus or institutional affiliation. In addition, the Resources Agency Sea Grant Advisory Panel will review proposals.

The California Sea Grant Management Team and Director make the final recommendations regarding approval of proposals for funding.

# "BIG PICTURE" VIEW OF THE PROPOSAL

- Be Aware of Deadlines! (late proposals cannot be accepted)

- Hook Them Quickly (panel/reviewers, agency staff)

  - Project Summary and Introduction are THE KEY

- A Great Introduction Structure (Briefly):

  - What's The Problem And Why Is It Important?
  - What's Known (Only The Most Important Facts)?
  - What's Unknown And Why Is It Important To Know It?
  - What Will You Do To Address The Important Unknowns?
  - What QUESTIONS Will You Answer?
  - How will your research be used? Who will use it?

# GENERAL TIPS ON PROPOSALS

- Read proposal application instructions CAREFULLY and follow them EXACTLY

- Assume that you are writing for a reviewer in a somewhat related field, rather than for an expert directly in your area

- Polish your proposal extensively
  - Well-focused, well-organized
  - Clear
  - Accurate, free of errors (esp. spelling, typos, grammar, budget numbers)

- Successful proposals will be a "a joy to read" and stand out from the competition

Sea Grant
California

# COMMON ERRORS

- Proposal does not "fit" with the purpose of the RFA or address priority topic areas
- Introduction is too long
- Inadequate expertise in the partnership (i.e. community mentor)
- Broader impacts is missing
- Community mentor and strength of relationship not identified
- Proposal is too ambitious… promises too much for too little money and/or time, unrealistic
- Not enough detail or unclear research methods; inadequate details to determine likelihood of success
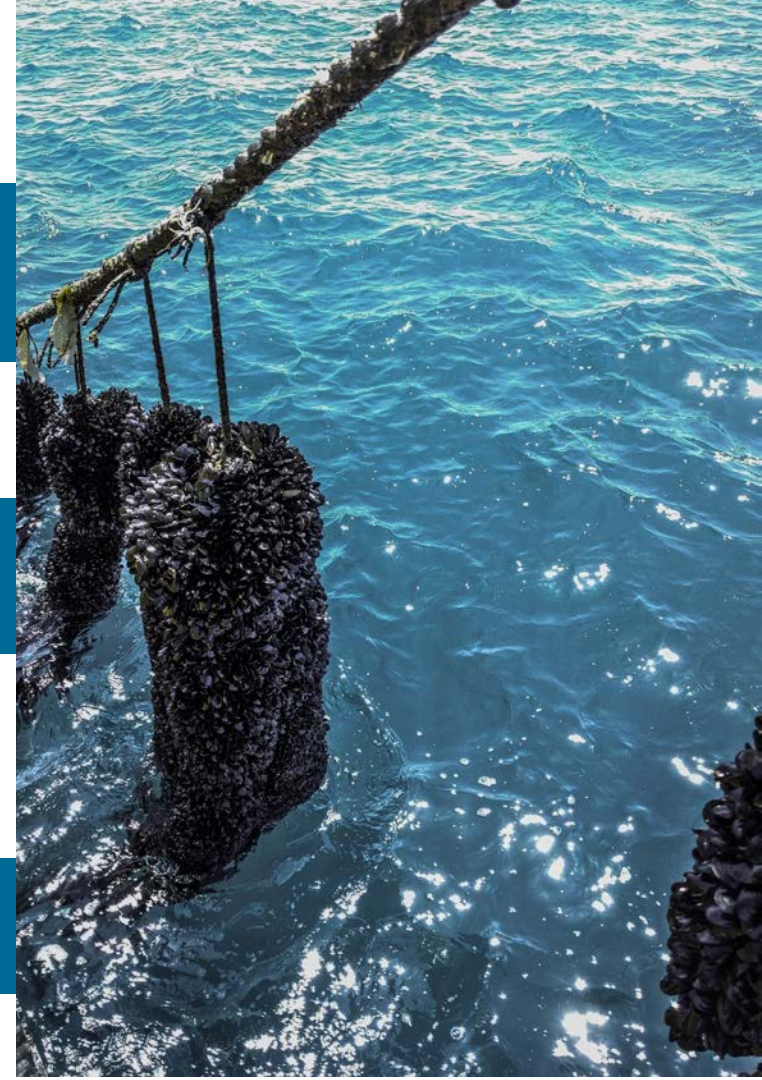
Sea Grant
California

# Timeline

June 14, 2019 (5:00 pm PT): Letters of Intent Due

August 8, 2019 (5:00 pm PT): Applications Due

August – October 2019: Review of Proposal

October 2019 (approximate) – Proposal applicants notified of recommendations

On/after February 1, 2020 – Projects begin

QUESTIONS?

# Interested in Applying for a Graduate Research Fellowship?

## https://caseagrant.ucsd.edu

**Miho Ligare**
Research & Fellowship Coordinator
sgproposal@ucsd.edu
(858) 534-1160

THANK YOU