Envisioning a diverse ocean workforce that understands technical and social challenges facing coastal communities and the natural environment

**Mission**

The Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program will increase the number and diversity* of higher-education graduates who are work ready, trained in, and able to apply marine science, policy, management, and outreach skills to the most-pressing coastal and ocean issues facing Oregon and the nation.

*Diversity refers to persons from various cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds who contribute a diverse perspective stemming from various lived experiences, skills, and interests.

**Goals**

**Prepare** students for graduate school and/or careers in marine science, policy, management, and outreach through funding support and hands-on experience

**Support** host-organization program initiatives and facilitate scholars’ understanding of their work’s importance in accomplishing the broader host organization goals.

**Promote** integration of diverse perspectives into problem solving for coastal Oregon to provide richer and more inclusive solutions.
Oregon Sea Grant Summer Scholars Program

Program-specific goals

In addition to the overall Scholars Program goals, encourage the success of Summer Scholars during and after their internship through cultivating an inclusive environment, creating a broad professional network in the marine field, offering professional development opportunities with an emphasis on science communication, and fostering a supportive mentor/mentee relationship.

Objectives

Professional Development

**Partner** with a variety of host organizations (public agency, non-profit, non-governmental) that provide internship positions with hands-on experience in marine science, policy, management, and outreach.

**Develop** science communication skills through specialized training, blog posts, written reports, and oral presentations.

**Inform** scholars of professional development opportunities through online resources, and facilitate connections with other scholars and professionals to create a broad network.

Scholar Support

**Provide** access to cultural resources, coordinate recreational events, and create a social media group to encourage a positive and inclusive environment among the cohort.

**Assist** scholars in identifying how their internship position fits within the broader vision, mission, and values of Oregon Sea Grant and their host organizations periodically throughout the internship.

**Align** expectations of the scholar and mentor as needed over the course of the fellowship to foster a supportive mentor/mentee relationship.

Program Assessment

**Evaluate** the program’s success at achieving its goals through surveys and discussions with the scholars and mentors.

**Review** the recruiting, application, and interview process biennially to ensure we are accessing and placing a diversity of scholars interested and experienced in marine and coastal issues.