

Oregon Sea Grant Scholars Program

Vision: 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.

Summer Scholars Program:

Program-Specific Goal:

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:

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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