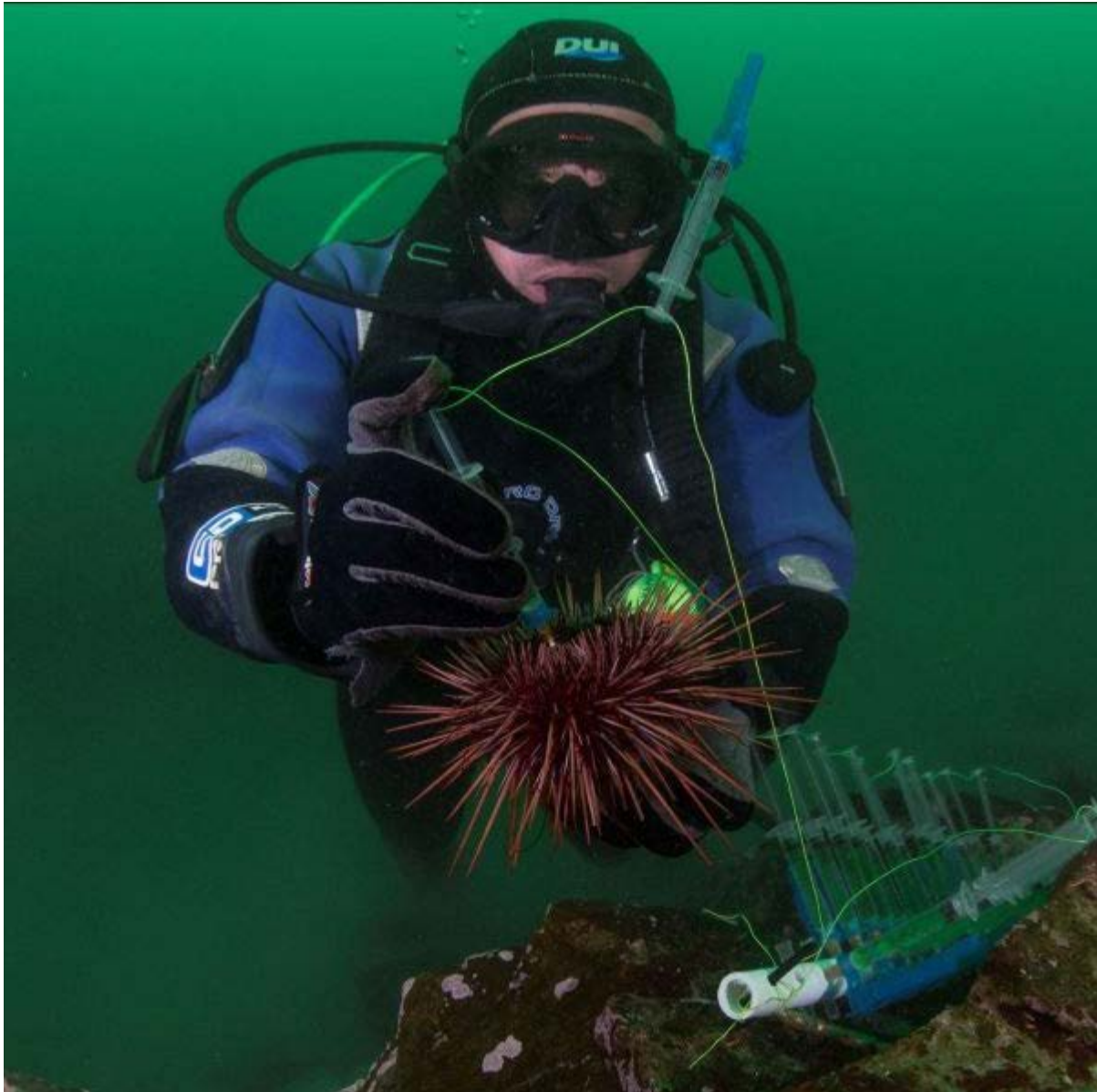




Academic Diving Program

Update May 2020



New Student Representative for the Diving Control Board Nate Spindel

NEWS

The FSU Diving Control Board (DCB) has extended the suspension of diving operations until at least mid-May due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Board determined suspension was necessary to protect the safety and health of divers and support

personnel. The suspension began on Monday March 30th. Any divers who believe they may have been infected with COVID-19 should receive medical clearance before returning to diving.

The conclusion of the 2020 Introduction to Scientific Diving class has been postponed as a result of the pandemic. Divers-in-training will have to wait for the suspension to lift before punctuating their training on a charter aboard the R/V Apalachee on a date to-be-determined. The next training class is scheduled for spring 2021. For more information, visit [the Coastal and Marine Laboratory website](#) or contact the DSO at cpeters@fsu.edu.

The Academic Diving Program welcomes Nate Spindel as the newly appointed Student Representative for the Diving Control Board. Nate brings many years of experience as a Scientific Diver and over 1000 dives to the position. He replaces Kevin Olsen, who has served on the Board since 2017. The Board also has a new Diving Medical Officer in Dr. Christopher DeLisle, the Medical Director for University Health Services, and a new University Counsel in Audrey Wilson, who serves as the Associate General Counsel for Sponsored Research. Each member of the Board are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Vice President for Research.

DIVER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr. Scott Burgess has been awarded another NSF grant. Dr. Burgess' newest project will explore the consequences of kin structure in benthic marine systems.
- Eli Myron was recently awarded a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship and will be traveling to the Philippines to begin his project on “Enhancing Philippine Reef Restoration Strategies Through 3D Reconstruction.”
- Rachael Best, Randi Bowman, Ethan Cissell and Blake Hamilton have all been awarded the FSUCML Board of Trustees Scholarship.
- Dr. Sophie McCoy and Josh Manning were awarded the hosting position for the AAUS Mitchell Scholarship.
- Barry Walton successfully defended his thesis on “The Influence of Abiotic Factors on Spatial Temporal Patterns of Marine Catfishes within the Apalachicola Bay Estuarine System.”
- Ethan Cissell has been awarded the Explorers Club OceanX Grant.
- Nate Spindel has been awarded the Phycological Society of America Grant-in-Aid of Research, Lamarr and Edith Trott Endowed Scholarship and the Mote Research Assistantship from the William R. and Lenore Mote Eminent Scholar in Marine Biology Endowment at FSU.
- Blake Hamilton was awarded a grant from the PADI Foundation for The effects of environmental variation on trophic interactions, community composition and fish movement in Apalachicola Bay, Florida

Have you received a diving related grant or award lately? Please let us know at [fsucml-](#)



Graduate Student Ethan Cissell

SCHOLARSHIPS

The AAUS Foundation awards several scholarships to graduate students engaged in, or planning to begin, a research project in which diving is an important research tool or the research topic is diving science. This includes awards for travel, equipment and research expenses. The proposal deadline is June 30th. [Learn More](#)

The Academy of Underwater Arts & Sciences (AUAS) is overseeing applications to the Zale Parry Scholarship Program. FSU graduate student Nate Spindel was awarded this scholarship in 2018. The program is open to those candidates who are currently enrolled in a [graduate](#) school program (Masters or Ph.D.) in the diving fields of study (Marine Conservation and Education, Diving Medicine and Hyperbarics, Ocean Engineering, and Underwater Archeology). Due to the pandemic, applications are not being accepted at this time. You can monitor the status of the scholarship on the AUAS website. [Learn More](#)

The Women Divers Hall of Fame is offering 20 training grants for open water dive training. Each grant is for \$1000. Training grants are available to provide funding for underwater training and/or including scuba equipment. The deadline for applications is May 31st. [Learn More](#)

Our World Underwater Scholarship Society awards a Rolex North American Scholarship to provide a hands-on introduction to underwater and aquatic-related endeavors for a student diver considering a career in an underwater-related discipline. The range of experiences may include active participation in field studies, underwater research, scientific expeditions, laboratory assignments, equipment testing and design, photographic instruction, and other specialized assignments. Applications are due December 1st. [Learn More](#)

PADI Foundation Scholarships encourages and supports research and education related to aquatic environments. Applications are accepted beginning November 1st and are due January 10th. [Learn More](#)



Dr. Scott Burgess' new NSF grant will have divers working offshore of the FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Perrotti, Angelina & Winsborough, Barbara & Halligan, Jessi & Waters, Michael. (2019). *Reconstructing Terminal Pleistocene-Early Holocene Environmental Change at Page-Ladson, Florida Using Diatom Evidence*. 10.1080/20555563.2019.1689010.
- Cissell, EC, JC Manning and SJ McCoy (2019) *Consumption of proliferating cyanobacterial mats on Caribbean reefs*. Scientific Reports, 9:12693. doi: 10.1038/s41598-019-49126-9
- Koenig, CK, FC Coleman, CR Malinowski. 2020. *Atlantic Goliath Grouper of*

Florida: to fish or not to fish. *Fisheries* 45(1)

- Burgess, SC, LS Sander and M Buenro (2019) *How relatedness between mates influences reproductive success: An experimental analysis of self-fertilization and biparental inbreeding in a marine bryozoan*. *Ecology and Evolution*, 9:11353-11366. DOI: 10.1002.ece3.5636
- Olsen KC, Ryan WH, Winn AA, Kosman ET, Moscoso JA, Krueger-Hadfield SA, Burgess SC, Carlon DB, Grosberg RK, Kalisz S, Levitan DR (*in press*) *Inbreeding shapes the evolution of marine invertebrates*. *Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/evo.13951>
- Edmunds PJ, Burgess SC (*in press*) Emergent properties of branching morphologies modulate the sensitivity of coral calcification to high P_{CO2}. *Journal of Experimental Biology*. <https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.217000>
- DK Okamoto, SC Schroeter, DC Reed. Accepted. *Effects of Ocean Climate on Spatiotemporal Variation in Sea Urchin Settlement and Recruitment*. *Limnology and Oceanography*.
- DK Okamoto, M Hessing-Lewis, JF Samhuri, AO Shelton, A Stier, PS Levin, AK Salomon. In Press. *Spatial variability within exploited metapopulations obscures risk of collapse*. *Ecological Applications*. <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/eap.2051>
- L Rogers-Bennett & DK Okamoto. 2020. *Mesocentrotus franciscanus* and *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*. In: *Sea Urchins: Biology and Ecology*. Editor: JM Lawrence. Elsevier Science & Technology. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-819570-3.00032-9>

Please submit your diving related research publications to fsucml-dso@fsu.edu.

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