

*CONGRATULATIONS*

School of Marine &  
Atmospheric Sciences  
Convocation Ceremony 2012



*9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.*

*Friday, May 18, 2012*

*Student Activities Center  
Auditorium*



**SoMAS**

School of Marine and  
Atmospheric Sciences



**Stony Brook  
University**

# Convocation Ceremony

Opening Remarks by  
Dr. Minghua Zhang, Dean

## Awarding of Undergraduate Certificates

B.S. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences  
Presented by Dr. Brian A. Colle

B.A. in Environmental Studies  
Presented by Dr. Kamazima M.M. Lwiza

B.S. in Marine Sciences  
B.S. in Marine Vertebrate Biology  
Presented by Dr. Mary I. Scranton

## Stony Brook Alumni Association Dean's Choice Awards

Presented by Dr. Frank J. Roethel

Honors Recognized  
Dr. Minghua Zhang, Dean

## Petra M. Udelhofen Memorial Scholarship Award

Presented by Dr. Sultan Hameed

## Commencement Address "How to be important."

Dr. Carl Safina, Blue Ocean Institute

## Master's Degrees and Doctorates

### Best Thesis/Dissertation Award

Presented by Dr. Anne E. McElroy

Closing Remarks

*The SoMAS community mourns the  
recent passing of Ph.D. candidate*

*Nuria Protopopescu.*

### *Look for me in Rainbows*

*Time for me to go now, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, way up in the sky.  
In the morning sunrise when all the world is new,  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.*

*Time for me to leave you, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, high up in the sky.  
In the evening sunset, when all the world is through,  
Just look for me and love me, and I'll be close to you.*

*It won't be forever, the day will come and then  
My loving arms will hold you, when we meet again.*

*Time for us to part now, we won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, shining in the sky.  
Every waking moment, and all your whole life through  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.*

*Just wish me to be near you,  
And I'll be there with you.*

*Music and lyrics: Conn Bernard (1990). Vicki Brown*

# Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences

Nicole Mary Gallicchio

Keith Jared Roberts

Jason Craig Schaeffer

Alyssa Anne Mathews

Amanda Sarubbi

## Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Amy Lynn Boniciolli

Brian Joseph Hochstrasser

Sang Min Pak

Melissa Coltun

Jaime Raphael Irizarry

Christine Ivellisse Peralta

Kaitlyn Ann Crosby

Kathryn Elizabeth Johnsen

Amanda Jeanne Racaniello

Tara Elizabeth Curasi

Sara Marie Kellog

Amanda Kathy Rowehl

Dana Maryanne Cutolo

Jessica Marie Kennelly

Michael William Ruhnau

Cindy Davison

Sean Michael Kortis

Amamah Sardar ‡

Keith Edward Degraff

Nicole Marie Kropp

Amanda Sawyer

Ashley Marie Federici

Deanna Lynn Lally \*‡

John Mark Sciandra

Sean Patrick Fitzgerald ◊‡

Andrew Lo

Amanda Sylvester

Jacqueline Laura Flareau

Geoffrey James Louie

Lisa Teramoto

Abigail Elizabeth Ford

Elizabeth Georgia Lugten

Allegra Morgan Waters

Vilma Frrokaj

Virginia Catherine Miller

Kenny Zhu

Christine Halloran

Alexander George Neil

## Minor in Environmental Studies

Christian Yesid Castro Sr.

Michael Anthony Grippo

Hui Liu

Jia Juan Chu

Jingyu Huang

Madalyn Rae Murray

Fedora Lyfee Ferrao

Anne-Claire Legros

Shivani Camille Rampersad

\* Banner Bearer

◊ Undergraduate Hooding Representative

‡ Phi Beta Kappa

## Bachelor of Science in Marine Sciences

Melissa Anne Bladek	Nicole Valentina Laible	Brooks Rogers Sorgan
Gareth H. M. Burghes	Edwige Pichonot Lauture	Dean Tarulli
Katherine Josephine Foran	Robert Michael Longiaru Jr.	Andrea Lee Wagner
Daniel Alexander Garatea	Christina Marie Lotito	Danica Denise Warns
Hye Soo Ha	Mark William Lusty	
Lauren Roberta Kubasky	Madalyn Rae Murray	

## Minor in Marine Sciences

Andrew Leonard Bellinger II	Rebecca Anne Kusa	Michael William Ruhnau
Shannon Nicole Cochran	Sophia Lee	Amanda Sawyer
Keith Edward Degraff	Sang Min Pak	Sasha Katya Seroy ‡
Salvatore Gaspar Garofalo	Christine Ivellisse Peralta	Kaitlin Willig
Brian Joseph Hochstrasser	Amanda Jeanne Racaniello	Kaitlin Cristina Zamborsky

## Bachelor of Science in Marine Vertebrate Biology

James Richard Deats †	Kayla Emily Kraker	Jason Shank
Sarah Beth Drucker	Kevin McGee	Nicole Renee Starkweather
Sean Patrick Fitzgerald ◊†	Thay-Ling Moya	Catrina Marie Tedesco
Yelizaveta Kotlyarova	Leanne Camille Perkins	Stephanie Anne Wolfe

\* Banner Bearer    ◊ Undergraduate Hooding Representative

† Phi Beta Kappa

## Doctor of Philosophy in Marine & Atmospheric Sciences

Florian Koch

*The Role of Vitamin B1 and B12 in Controlling  
Phytoplankton Biomass, Diversity, and Dynamics*

Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

Yuan Liu

*Planktonic Microbial Community Structure in Great South Bay, NY,  
Where Aureococcus anophagefferens Bloom Frequently Occurs*

Drs. Paul F. Kemp, Josephine Y. Aller and Jackie L. Collier, Co-Advisors

Christine Anne O'Connell

*Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP): An Ecosystem-based Approach to  
Conservation and Management in Long Island Sound*

Dr. R. Lawrence Swanson, Advisor

Laurie Lynn Perino

*Title not available*

Dr. Dianna K. Padilla

Santiago Salinas

*Thermal Plasticity Within and Across Generations and its Relevance  
to Contemporary Evolution*

Dr. Stephan B. Munch, Advisor

Masatoshi Sugeno

*Semiparametric Bayesian Modeling of Density Dependence*

Dr. Stephan B. Munch, Advisor

Tiantian Tang

*Preservation of Proteinaceous Materials in Marine Environments*

Dr. Cindy Lee, Advisor

Xiaoming Xia

*The Influence of Global Warming Related Diabatic Forcing on Zonal Index Variations*

Dr. Edmund K. M. Chang, Advisor

# Doctor of Philosophy in Marine & Atmospheric Sciences

Sheryl Lynn Bell

*Plankton Community Structure and Nitrogen Assimilation in Embayments*

*Impacted by Brown Tide*

Dr. Jackie L. Collier, Advisor

Zhenrui Cao

*Extracellular Enzyme Activities Revealed by High Resolution*

*Two-Dimensional Planar Fluorosensors*

Drs. Robert C. Aller and Josephine Y. Aller, Co-Advisors

John Carroll

*Influences of Habitat and Predation on Bay Scallop Argopecten irradians*

*Populations in New York Estuaries*

Dr. Bradley J. Peterson, Advisor

Jennifer Szlosek Chow

*The Effects of Marine Particle Composition on Phytoplankton Coagulation Efficiency*

*and the Use of Th-234 as a Proxy for Particulate Organic Carbon Flux*

Drs. J. Kirk Cochran and Cindy Lee, Co-Advisors

Ruth Coffey

*Submarine Groundwater Discharge as an Integral Environmental "Currency"*

*Limiting Population and Development Within the Ecosphere of Small Islands*

Dr. Henry J. Bokuniewicz, Advisor

Owen Michael Doherty

*Impacts of the Intertropical Convergence Zone on Saharan Mineral Dust*

*in the Americas: A Multidisciplinary Study*

Drs. J. Kirk Cochran and Nicole Riemer, Co-Advisors

Jessica Dutton

*Factors Influencing Metal Accumulation in Estuarine Fish*

Dr. Nicholas S. Fisher, Advisor

Juliet West Kinney

*Evolution of the Peconic Estuary 'Oyster Terrain,' Long Island, NY*

Dr. Roger D. Flood, Advisor

# Stony Brook Alumni Association Dean's Choice Award

Atmospheric Sciences

Alyssa Anne Mathews

Environmental Studies

Deanna Lynn Lally

Marine Sciences

Madalyn Rae Murray and

Danica Denise Warns

Marine Vertebrate Biology

Sean Patrick Fitzgerald

# Petra M. Udelhofen Memorial Scholarship Award

Daniel Caputi

# Undergraduate Honors

Sean Patrick Fitzgerald

*A Molecular Genetic Method for Detecting Predation on Winter Flounder by*

*Blue Crabs in Shinnecock Bay, Long Island, NY, USA*

Drs. Jackie L. Collier and Anne E. McElroy, Co-Advisors

Amamah Sardar

*The Possible Effects of Hydrofracking on Broom County, New York*

Dr. R. Lawrence Swanson, Advisor

# Best M.S. Thesis Award

Elizabeth Anne Suter

# Best Ph.D. Dissertation Award

Florian Koch

## Master of Arts in Marine Conservation and Policy

Clare Loraine Atkinson      Sean Patrick Darsee      William B. Lake Jr.  
Morgan Elizabeth Brunelle      Caitlin Farrell Hnis      Colleen Melissa McNamee  
Andrew Carter      Matthew McLeod James  
Caitlin Anne Palazzo Craig      Deborah Jane Klughers

## Master of Science in Marine & Atmospheric Sciences

Cassandra Leigh Bauer #  
*Physical Processes Contributing to Localized, Seasonal Hypoxic Conditions  
in the Bottom Waters of Smithtown Bay, Long Island Sound*  
Dr. R. Lawrence Swanson, Advisor

Sara Cernadas Martín  
*Aerobic and Anaerobic Microbial Ammonia Oxidation in the Cariaco Basin:  
Identification, Quantification and Community Structure*  
Dr. Gordon T. Taylor, Advisor

Martha Marie Divver  
*Examining the Ecological Role of White Perch (Morone americana) Using  
Acoustic Telemetry in the Great South Bay Estuary, New York*  
Drs. Michael G. Frisk and Robert M. Cerrato, Co-Advisors

Tess Misak Geers  
*Developing an Ecosystem-based Approach to Management of the  
Gulf Menhaden Fishery Using Ecopath with Ecosim*  
Dr. Ellen K. Pikitch, Advisor

Jennifer Ayako George  
*The Physical and Biological Mechanisms Controlling the Winter-spring  
Phytoplankton Bloom in Long Island Sound*  
Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

## Master of Science in Marine & Atmospheric Sciences

Angela Michele Richards Donà ◊  
*Investigation into the Responses of Two Phenotypes of the Scleractinian Coral,  
Montastraea faveolata, to Putative Marine Vibrio Pathogens*  
Dr. Gordon T. Taylor, Advisor

Daria Sebastiano  
*Quantifying the Nutrient Bioextraction Capacity of Restored Eastern Oyster  
Populations in Two Coastal Bays on Long Island, New York*  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Levinton, Advisor

David Adam Stark  
*Field Observations and Modeling of the Microphysics within  
Winter Storms Over Long Island, NY*  
Dr. Brian A. Colle, Advisor

Shu Meir Wang  
*A Study of the Extratropical Tropopause: Related to the Upper Tropospheric  
Relative Vorticity and the Distance from the Jet*  
Dr. Marvin A. Geller, Advisor

Jennifer Beth Wurtzel  
*Tropical North Atlantic Sea Surface Temperature Variability over the Last 2000 Years:  
High-resolution Foraminiferal Mg/Ca Records from the Cariaco Basin, Venezuela*  
Dr. David E. Black, Advisor