



**SCHOOL OF MARINE &
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES
CONVOCATION**

Celebrating the Class of 2023

FRIDAY MAY 19, 2023



Geoff Bansen
Chief Meteorologist
ABC 6, Providence R.I.

Geoff Bansen graduated in 2010 from SoMAS with a B.S. in Atmospheric Science. He grew up right here on Long Island and caught the weather bug at a young age. He loved watching thunderstorms and blizzards and quickly developed an affinity for meteorology. Nickelodeon and Teen Magazine quickly evolved into the Weather Channel and weather books.

He soon realized that he enjoyed sharing the weather with family and friends as much as he enjoyed learning about it, which began a dream of delivering the weather on TV. After finishing his degree at Stony Brook, Geoff got his start in television as a weather producer, beginning at WPIX 11 in New York City before heading down the New Jersey turnpike to join CBS 3 in Philadelphia. But the desire to become an on-camera meteorologist didn't go away, and in 2015 he finally achieved his goal, signing on as the morning meteorologist for local FiOS 1 News in Westchester.

In 2019, Geoff returned home to Long Island for a successful stint at Local News 12, which included garnering several awards - including an Emmy. In 2021, the big time came calling, and Geoff joined FOX's NYC-based streaming weather startup. Earlier this year, he headed to Rhode Island, joining ABC 6 in Providence as their Chief Meteorologist. Outside of work, Geoff enjoys spending time with his family and friends, staying active in sports and music, and heading to the beach. He's so thrilled to be back on campus to help SoMAS usher the next generation of successful Seawolves into the working world!

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREE

Master of Science in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Bradley McGuire

*The ability of North Atlantic bivalves to filter feed
and accumulate toxins from the harmful algae, *Dinophysis acuminata**

Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

Naomi Miller

*The Link Between Extreme Storms and Climate Action:
A Study of Coastal New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut*

Drs. Donovan P. Finn & Kevin A. Reed, Co-Advisors

Kevin Shaffer

*Evaluating Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
Bioaccumulation in a Long Island (NY) Coastal Lagoon*

Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

Celia Werner

Radar Proxy Updraft Properties in QLCSs During PERiLS – 2022

Dr. Michael M. French, Advisor

Doctor of Philosophy in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Hannah Blair

*Variability, abundance, and composition of acoustic and net tow
measurements of epi- and mesopelagic fish and zooplankton
across the southeastern US outer continental shelf and slope*

Dr. Joseph D. Warren, Advisor

Erica Bower

*Analyzing Global Extreme Precipitation throughout the
Entire Tropical Cyclone Life Cycle in
Observations, Predictions, and Projections*

Dr. Kevin A. Reed, Advisor

Raymond Czaja

*Climate change impacts on pre- and post-settlement processes:
insights on the declining Atlantic surfclam,
Spisula solidissima solidissima, fishery*

Dr. Bassem Allam, Advisor

CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE
Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

Jason Barr

Iryna Ivanyuk

Amanda Cresanti

Josef Moses

Lillian Huynh

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Jacob Addeo

Erin Hwong

Anthony Badalamenti

Bodin Kim-Dailey

Emma Bartik

Sophia LoCascio

Lawrence Bastianelli

Ashley Lopez

Julian Billan

Daniel Maguire

Scott Bloechle

Tyler Mansfield

Nicolas Burzo

Abighail McKinney

Lauren Cappello

Nicki Michailides

Kamryn Cardali

Gabrielle Negron

Jade Carmichael

Amanda Nuzzo

Alex Casamassima

Caleb Pearson

Kaitlyn Cox

Maria Seliquini

Clare Dana

Cassidy Stephen

Lawrence Gaines

Alexa Valentine

Bryan Galvez

Cameron Virgil

Sarah Golden

Morgan Whitman

Brianna Gomez

Madelyn Wicker

Jessica Graham

Qilian Yu

Riley Haas

Minor in Environmental Studies

Elisabeth Bata

William Laffey

Celia Bertlesman

Maria Lynders

Cyd Bloomfield

Jack O'Brien

Juliana Dovi

Adrienne Popescu

Onesun Jeong

Wendy Yang

Sowad Karim

GRADUATE AWARDS

**Nuria Protopopescu Memorial Award for
Excellence in Teaching**

Alyson Lowell

Pikitch Family Endowed Student Research Award

Nathaniel Willse

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREE

Master of Arts in Marine Conservation and Policy

Catherine Alexander

Heather Leonard

Tyler Bailey

Paris Martin

Casey Broecker

Peter Martin

Travis Cutter

Anna Meichenbaum

Christopher Eagler

Katherine Miller

Hayley Fier

Tyler Potter

Thaliyah Fraser

Illusion Rivera

Allison Gallagher

Jessica Salmon

George Kalantzopoulos

Madilyn Sausville

Corinn Kraemer

Master of Science in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Rachel Carlowicz

*Evaluating seasonal abundance, lipid storage,
and energy density of Calanus finmarchicus and
other copepod prey fields in the New York Bight*

Dr. Joseph D. Warren, Advisor

Walter Dawydiak

*Transcriptional Response of Aureococcus anophagefferens
to the Protozoan Grazer, Oxyrrhis marina*

Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

Darren De Silva

*Effects of the harmful alga Cochlodinium (aka Margalefidinium)
polykrikoides on clearance rate of the hard clam Mercenaria mercenaria*

Dr. Christopher J. Gobler, Advisor

CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Bachelor of Science in Coastal Environmental Studies

Zoe Borghardt	Zuzu Naing
Yanze Liu	Tajrian Sarwar
Jonathan Lubiantoro	Kelly Steele

Minor in Coastal Environmental Studies

Emma Campbell	Madison Enda
Kyler Cavalcante Bezerra	

Bachelor of Arts in Ecosystems and Human Impact

Kimberly Dallas	Thomas Kelly
Shannon Haller	Brooke Liebell

Minor in Ecosystems and Human Impact

Victoria Bayevskiy	Julia Lofaro
Abigayle Belknap	Brooke Osekoski
Kaitlyn Cox	Karrthik Pitchayan
Madison Enda	Kellianne Ticcony
Yumin Lee	

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design, Policy and Planning

Patrick Abel	Marlyn Mejia Juan
Zhenyun Bai	Ania Pracel
Henry Chang	Liam Ronan
Joannan Chen	Huining Tang
Emilyn Dimaio	Bryan Villatoro
Kathania Fredes	Erin Witt
Justin Holman	Tina Zheng
Marc Jordan	

Minor in Environmental Design, Policy and Planning

Lucas Stahlmann

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Humanities

Cassandra Larosa

Minor in Environmental Humanities

Christina Faber	Elijah Jordan
Melanie Formosa	Emerson Richmond Burke

Undergraduate Research Honors

Molly Fowler

Bird Strikes: Quantifying the Risk Factors on the Stony Brook Campus
Dr. Sharon Pochron, Advisor

Lucas Iudica

Feeding Off Fire Island: A Diet Summary of Juvenile Dusky Sharks on the South Shore of Long Island
Dr. Bradley J. Peterson, Advisor

Gavin Krois

The Effect of Reef-Safe Sunscreens on the Health of Bioluminescent Dinoflagellates
Dr. Sharon Pochron, Advisor

Ania Pracel

Tourism and Housing Vulnerabilities in the Face of Hurricane Ian: Fort Myers, FL.
Dr. Sara Hamideh, Advisor

Cassidy Stephen

The Role of National Parks in Protecting Biodiversity: An Analysis from Ranomafana National Park
Dr. Patricia Wright, Advisor

Justin Weissman

The ecotoxicity of a fertilizer created by a novel nitrooxidation process
Dr. Sharon Pochron, Advisor

Erin Witt

The Hurricanes and Affordable Housing: How Natural Disasters Further Gentrification
Dr. Sara Hamideh, Advisor

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREE

Doctor of Philosophy in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Wengui Liang

*Regional Mechanisms of Future Hydroclimate
Changes in a Warmer Climate*
Dr. Minghua Zhang, Advisor

Brandyn Lucca

*Improving acoustic target classification and density estimates
of epi- and mesopelagic organisms*
Dr. Joseph D. Warren, Advisor

Caroline Schwaner

*Costs and mechanisms of resilience to
ocean acidification in marine bivalves*
Dr. Bassem Allam, Advisor

Teresa Schwemmer

*Early life physiological and energetic responses of
Atlantic silversides (*Menidia menidia*) to ocean acidification,
warming, and hypoxia*
Dr. Bassem Allam, Advisor

Han Sun

Connectivity Within a Large Partially Mixed Estuary
Dr. Robert E. Wilson, Advisor

Darci Swenson Perger

*Iron and phosphorus cycling and benthic fluxes in
sandy bioirrigated sediments*
Dr. Laura M. Wehrmann, Advisor

Closing Remarks, Dr. Paul Shepson, Dean



**SCHOOL OF MARINE AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES
UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CONVOCATION
MAY 19, 2023**

Welcoming Remarks..... Dr. Paul Shepson, Dean

Convocation Address..... Mr. Geoff Bansen '10

Awarding of Undergraduate Certificates

Atmospheric Programs Dr. Brian A. Colle, Advisor
B.S. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

Marine Programs Dr. Darcy Lonsdale, Advisor

B.A. in Environmental Studies

B.S. in Marine Sciences

B.S. in Marine Vertebrate Biology

Sustainability Programs Dr. Katherine Aubrecht, Advisor

B.S. in Coastal Environmental Studies

B.A. in Ecosystems and Human Impact

B.A. in Environmental Design, Policy and Planning

B.A. in Environmental Humanities

B.A. in Sustainability Studies

Undergraduate Research Honors

Degrees of Distinction and Honors Research Awards.....Dr. Paul Shepson, Dean

SoMAS Dean's Scholarship Awards for Academic Excellence Dr. Paul Shepson, Dean

Petra M. Udelhofen Memorial Scholarship Award..... Dr. Brian A. Colle

Timothy Magnussen Memorial Scholarship..... Dr. Brian A. Colle

Nuria Protopopescu Memorial Award for
Excellence in Teaching Dr. Robert C. Aller

Pikitch Family Endowed Student Research Award Dr. Ellen K. Pikitch & Ms. Susan Pikitch

Awarding of Masters and Doctoral Certificates

Master of Arts in Marine Conservation
and Policy Certificates Dr. Ellen K. Pikitch, Director, MCP Program

Master of Science and Doctoral Certificates in
Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Dr. Jackie L. Collier, Graduate Programs Director

Closing Remarks..... Dr. Paul Shepson, Dean

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREE

Master of Science in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Flynn DeLany

*Positive Community Interactions of
Artificial Eastern Oyster Reefs (*Crassostrea virginica*) on
Cotransplanted Eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) Growth and Survival*
Dr. Bradley J. Peterson, Advisor

Allegra Ervin

*Bayesian Stochastic Stock Reduction Analysis as a
Data-Limited Approach to Assess Historic
Populations of Exploited Fisheries*
Dr. Michael G. Frisk, Advisor

Madeleine Foley

*Assessing Drivers of Route Fidelity in
Two Closely Related Gull Species*
Dr. Lesley H. Thorne, Advisor

Christopher Fragano

*Validation of Atmospheric Model Analyses for
Offshore Wind Energy Assessment
Using Two Floating LIDARS South of Long Island*
Dr. Brian A. Colle, Advisor

Theresa Hong

*Physiological Response to Thermal and Hydric Stress
in the Fiddler Crab *Leptuca pugilator*
Along a Latitudinal Transect*
Dr. Jeffrey S. Levinton, Advisor

Geresa-Leigh Luke

*Thermal Tolerance Variation in Young-of-the-Year Winter Flounder
Across the Southern New England Region*
Drs. Michael G. Frisk & Anne McElroy, Co-Advisors

Jessica MacGregor

*Stressed-out scallops: analyzing drivers of physiological stress and
mortality of the northern bay scallop (*Argopecten irradians irradians*)
in the Peconic Estuary, NY*
Dr. Bradley J. Peterson, Advisor

CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Bachelor of Science in Marine Sciences

Sara Arrasate Resende	Samuel Katz
Elisabeth Bata	Lakshta Kundal
Abigayle Belknap	Jonathan Lubiantoro
Cyd Bloomfield	Clayton McGoldrick
Audrey Calhoun	Sarah Praisner
Emma Campbell	James Quiroz
Kyler Cavalcante Bezerra	McKenna Santilli
Clare Dana	Amira Scantlebury-Chance
Juliana Dovi	Lauren Taveira
Molly Fowler	Kellianne Ticcony
Ashley Goland	Hunter Timpson
Jake Guyer	Alexandra Uszynski

Minor in Marine Sciences

Kamryn Cardali	Josephine Ng
Sarah Golden	Molly Showers
Gavin Krois	Allison Turbush
Abighail McKinney	

Bachelor of Science in Marine Vertebrate Biology

Shivani Annumala	Ana Kreidler-Siwinski
Ariel Arnette	Cass Lamb
Ashley Beggs	Mary Lares
Jonathan Chen	Jonathan Lim
Michelle Efthimiou	Matthew Mazzella
Madison Enda	Connor McCooey
Samantha Fong	Brooke Osekoski
Jackie Graham	Amanda Paoella
Desbe Greenstein	Amber Ringle
Amelia Grillo	Alexander Travagliato
Tabitha Halupa	Samdup Ukyab
Erin Hwong	Matthew Widmer
Lucas Iudica	Christina Woodard
Janiece Jones	
Elijah Jordan	

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

SoMAS Dean's Scholarship Awards for Academic Excellence

Atmospheric Sciences	Amanda Cresanti
Coastal Environmental Studies	Yanze Liu
Ecosystems & Human Impact	Kimberly Dallas
Environmental Design, Policy & Planning	Tina Zheng
Environmental Studies	Sophia LoCascio
Marine Sciences	Sarah Praisner
Marine Vertebrate Biology	Amelia Grillo & Connor McCooey
Sustainability Studies	Alex Casamassima

Petra M. Udelhofen Memorial Scholarship Award

Skyler Harman

Timothy Magnussen Memorial Scholarship

Abbie Austin
Isabella Gagliano

**CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE
Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability Studies**

Alex Casamassima

Bryan Miata

Garrett Davis

Maxwell Montague

Matthew Esposito

Yuanchun Ren

Francesca Greco

Chiara Scharpf

Gavin Krois

Kellianne Ticcony

Nadia Kuban

Justin Weissman

Hong La

Evan May

Minor in Sustainability Studies

Henry Chang

Amanda Nuzzo

Sophia Locascio

Nicki Paraskevi Michailides

Sharon Mire

Qilian Yu

Zuzu Naing

Tina Zheng

Cora Nigro

Minor in Geospatial Science

Amanda Cresanti

Marc Jordan

Emily Dimaio

Ana Kreidler-Siwinski

Justin Holman

Clayton McGoldrick

Tenzin Jangchup

Liam Ronan

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS

Degrees of Distinction

Undergraduate Research Honors

Kamryn Cardali

*The use of Artificial Nesting Boxes in the Ashley Schiff Preserve:
location preference, visitation frequency, and overall effectiveness
amongst Aves via trail cameras.*

Dr. Henry Bokuniewicz, Advisor

Alex Casamassima

*The Effects of Crumb Rubber Leachate on
Earthworm (Eisenia fetida) mass, survival time, and behavior*

Dr. Sharon Pochron, Advisor