

Communicating Your Science

Opportunities with Louisiana Sea Grant

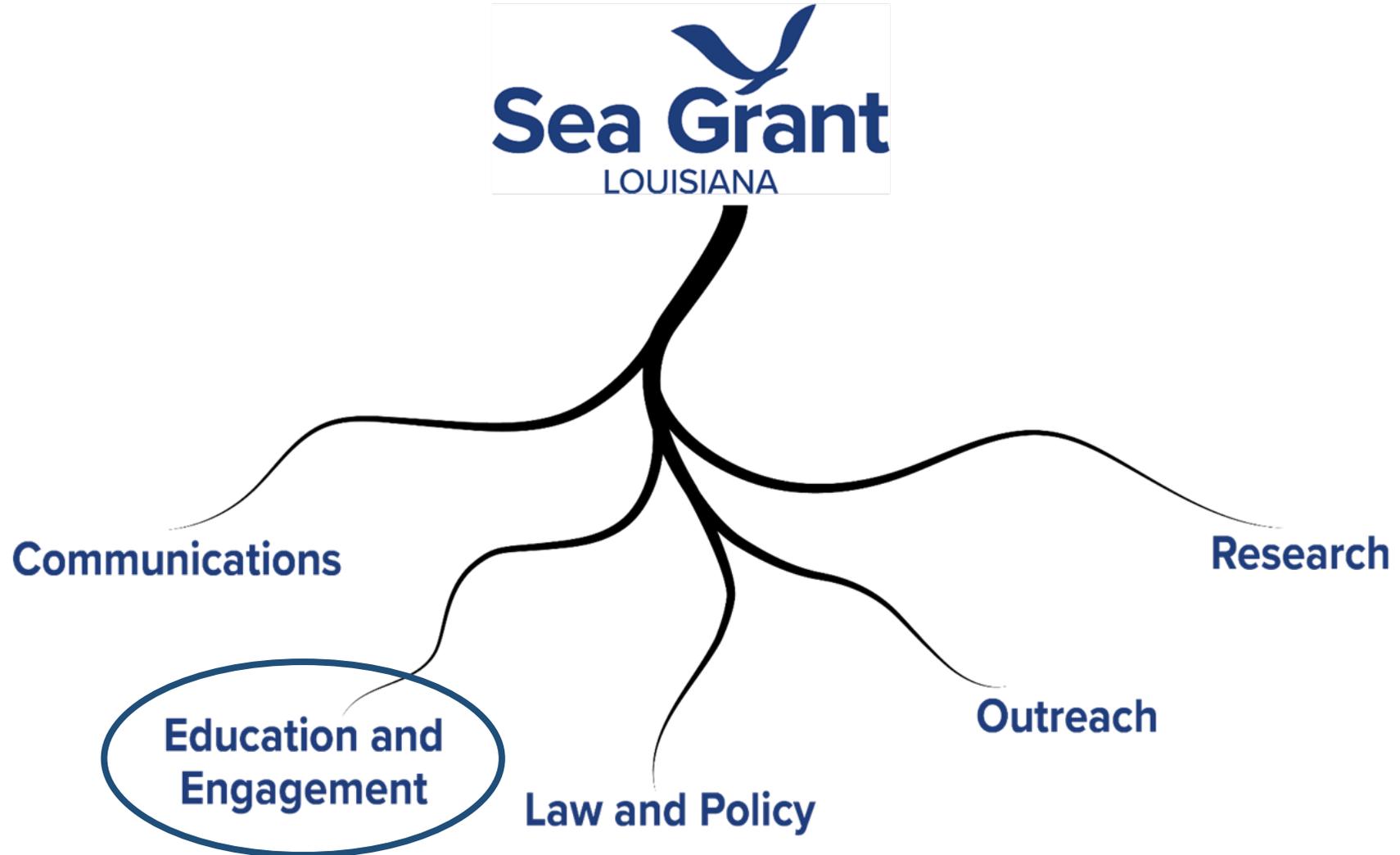


Dr. Vanessa van Heerden, Engagement Specialist, Louisiana Sea Grant

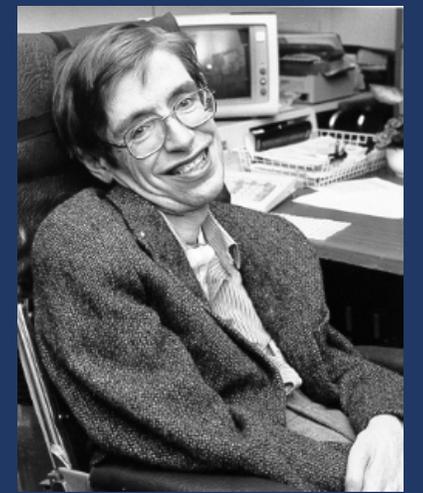
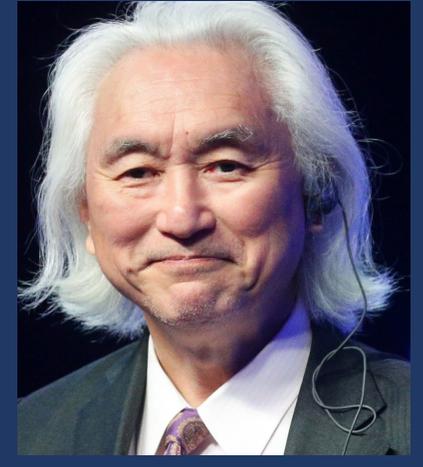


Sea Grant Overview

What is Louisiana Sea Grant?



The world needs good communicators...



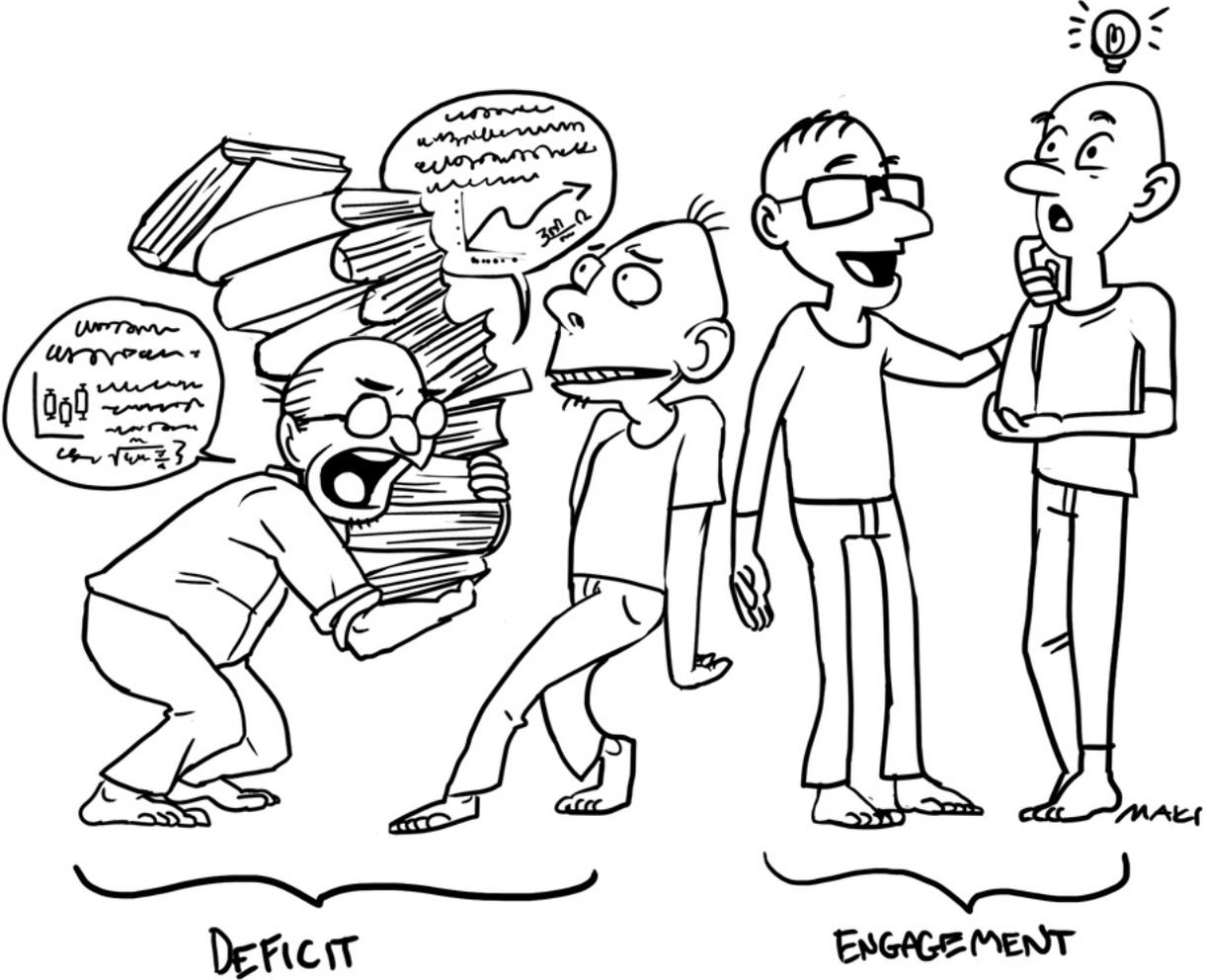
and practice can make you one of them.

The Three Fundamentals of Effective Communication

Audience

Language

Listening





Upcoming Opportunities



SciComm Summit

Goal: to enhance the communication skills of graduate student researchers and foster a community of practice for science communication.

- Fall 2026 or Spring 2027
- Openings for Planning Committee



Graduate Research Scholars

One-week retreat for grad students:

- Communications training
- Community engagement
- Cross-discipline networking

Retreat Dates:

Unknown (follow us on social media)



www.laseagrant.org/outreach/ladia/scholars/

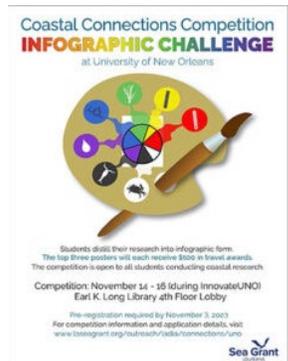
Coastal Connections Competition

Infographic or Presentation Competition

Top 3 each get \$500 travel award

Next Competition:

Unknown (follow us on social media)



<https://www.laseagrant.org/outreach/ladia/connections/>



LSU EnvironMentors

Year-long research mentorship initiative:

- Communications training
- High school student mentorship
- Cross-discipline networking

Program Dates:

Accepting mentors in
Fall 2026

What is LSU EnvironMentors?

LSU EnvironMentors (EM) is an award-winning after-school science mentoring initiative that connects high school students with passionate LSU undergraduate and graduate mentors. Together, they work one-on-one throughout the school year to explore environmental science through hands-on research, fieldwork, and meaningful mentorship.

Program Framework

- **Weekly Mentorship:** LSU students dedicate 2+ hours weekly to mentor high school protégés.
- **Real Research Projects:** Each protégé conducts a year-long scientific research project, culminating in a formal poster presentation and competition.
- **Field Trips & Labs:** Students gain exposure to biological, oceanographic, and environmental research methods through weekly activities and field trips across Louisiana.
- **Critical Thinking & Communication:** Students sharpen essential academic and life skills, learning to analyze data and communicate across audiences.

Why It Matters

LSU EnvironMentors creates transformative experiences that benefit both high school protégés and LSU student mentors.

High School Students Gain:

- Confidence in science and communication
- Real-world research experience
- Increased likelihood of graduating high school and attending college
- Exposure to diverse STEM careers

LSU Mentors Gain:

- Leadership and teaching experience
- A stronger connection to community
- Skills to support the next generation of environmental change makers

CORE SKILLS

RESEARCH

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY



IDENTITY OUTCOMES

"I AM A RESEARCHER."

"I AM CONFIDENT."

"I AM AWARE & I CARE."

INTERESTED IN BEING A MENTOR?

Contact:
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Naya Black
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Follow us on Instagram!
@lsu.environmentors



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!



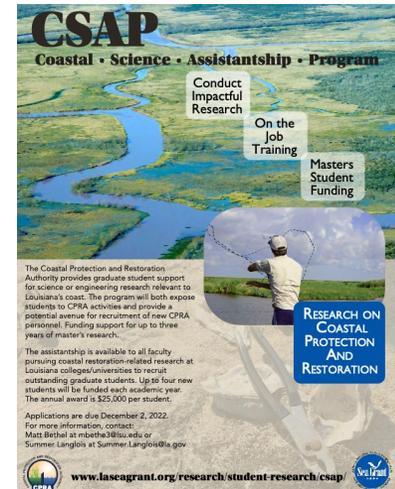
<https://www.laseagrant.org/environmentors/>

CSAP

Coastal · Science · Assistantship · Program

- Master's student funding for up to three years
- Internship with CPRA
- Faculty apply and then identify student

Deadline: December 2025



CSAP
Coastal · Science · Assistantship · Program

Conduct Impactful Research
On the Job Training
Masters Student Funding

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority provides graduate student support for science or engineering research relevant to Louisiana's coast. The program will both expose students to CPRA activities and provide a potential avenue for recruitment of new CPRA personnel. Funding support for up to three years of master's research.

The assistantship is available to all faculty pursuing coastal restoration-related research at Louisiana colleges/universities to recruit outstanding graduate students. Up to four new students will be funded each academic year. The annual award is \$25,000 per student.

Applications are due December 2, 2022.
For more information, contact:
Matt Bethel at mbethel@louisiana.gov or
Summer Langlois at Summer.Langlois@louisiana.gov

www.laseagrant.org/research/student-research/csap/

CPRA logo and Louisiana state logo.

Knauss Fellowship

- 1 Year Paid D.C. Fellowship
- Legislative or Executive

Application Deadline: February 2026

37 years of opportunities for promising students to explore the national policy process

70+ National Capital Region fellows trained in the past three years

1,113 fellows developed in the program since 1979

747 fellows placed in federal departments and agencies

366 fellows placed in the U.S. Congress

Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship

Launching illustrious careers, Sea Grant Knauss Fellowships offer direct experience working on the latest issues in ocean and coastal management, fisheries and research.

WHERE HAVE THEY COME FROM?
Fellows hail from 32 of the 33 Sea Grant Programs

WHERE WERE THEY PLACED?
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
NASA
National Science Foundation
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Coast Guard
The White House
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Department of Transportation
Environmental Protection Agency
The Office of the Coastkeeper of the Navy

Sea Grant
50
YEARS
1974-2024



Gulf Science Policy Fellowships

- National Academies of Science Gulf Research Program
- 1 Year Paid Fellowship
- Placement in Gulf Region Host Offices

Deadline: February 2026

UROP

Undergraduate · Research · Opportunities · Program

Up to \$3,000 for research support
Supplies, travel, wages, etc.

Full-time undergraduate student

Deadline: December 2025



The graphic features a background image of a person in a field. Three circular callouts contain the text: 'gain career experience', 'work with faculty', and 'conduct your own project'. Below these is a circular inset showing a close-up of a biological specimen. The text 'Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program' is on the left, and 'COASTAL RELATED RESEARCH' is in a yellow circle. At the bottom left is the Sea Grant logo and the URL www.laseagrant.org/research/student-research/urop/. A small text block at the bottom right provides details: 'UROP provides talented undergraduate students interested in pursuing advanced studies in coastal-related research with a hands-on experience under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Student projects receive funding up to \$3,000. All full-time undergraduate Louisiana University students and their faculty mentors are eligible to apply. Applications are due December 11, 2019. Projects commence in March. For more information, contact Katie Lee at klee@lsu.edu.'

www.laseagrant.org/research/student-research/urop/

Ocean Commotion

Coastal Education Event at LSU

Exhibitor and volunteer opportunities for any person doing coastal or environmental work

Great education metrics

Lunch and a free t-shirt

www.laseagrant.org/education/projects/ocean-commotion/



“Nothing in science has any value to society if it is not communicated.”

- Anne Roe



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