

Sea Grant

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Sea Grant College Program

*Informational presentation by Matthew Bethel
for the LaSPACE Annual Meeting at Louisiana State University,
Baton Rouge, LA, November 7, 2025*

Sea Grant: **Federal-State** Partnership

34 Programs

50+ Years

**Coastal and
Great Lakes
Resources**



Louisiana Sea Grant College Program at LSU



Sea Grant Building on LSU's campus in Baton Rouge



Michael C. Voisin Oyster Hatchery and Louisiana Sea Grant Oyster Research Lab on Grand Isle



Sea Grant
LOUISIANA

Communications

Roy Kron

Education

Dani Dilullo

Law and Policy

Jim Wilkins

Outreach

Rex Caffey

Research

Matt Bethel

Putting Science to Work for Coastal Communities



Resilient Communities & Economies | Sustainable Fisheries & Aquaculture |
Environmental Literacy & Workforce Development | Healthy Coastal
Ecosystems

Sea/Space Grant
Joint Research &
Student Fellowship
Opportunities

What is **LaSSO**?

The Louisiana Space and Sea Grant Opportunity

- A collaborative fellowship program started in 2021 that is modeled after similar, long-established undergraduate research programs at both LSG and LaSPACE to provide students with hands-on research experiences.
- Award: \$4,500 for a one-year research project.
- Mentored research projects that are relevant to space, earth, coastal and/or marine sciences.



The Louisiana Space and Sea Grant Opportunity (LaSSO)



Jonas Schmidt (2023)

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Advisor: M. Hassan Najafi

*Emerging Computing for
Underwater Image Processing*



Jonathan Russell (2024)

Louisiana State University

Advisor: Robert Rohli

*Quantifying the Role of the
Brown Ocean Effect on
Landfalling Tropical
Systems and Associated
Severe Weather Risks along
the Louisiana Coast*

*Through a 2022 LaSSO-funded research project, **Yusra Soorya** and her advisor **Enmin Zou** at **Nicholls State University** made a bombshell discovery about ocean acidification that was published in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* and featured in other media outlets.

“From this grant, I was able to have funding for my project, which allowed us to make this discovery. We expected detrimental effects from the decreased pH, but instead found something completely different. None of it would be possible without the funding from LaSSO.” **Soorya said.**



What is **GIRAF**?

Graduate Interjurisdictional Research Award Fellowship

- Started in 2024 to promote a greater understanding of the issues researched and create professional development opportunities for the funded graduate students.
- Award: \$10,000 for a one-year research project.
- Use of data from NOAA and NASA to address high priority needs within Louisiana's or North Carolina's nearshore environment.



Remote sensing techniques for coastal monitoring

A virtual presentation and open discussion organized by NC and LA Sea Grant
– Space Grant 2024 fellowship cohort

Tuesday, April 22nd at 2-3:30pm (EST)
Join using the QR code or link below

<https://bit.ly/41MotPB>



Megan Geesin is a Ph.D. candidate in the Integrated Coastal Sciences program at East Carolina University, and she is using drones to assess the coastal protection potential of oyster breakwaters.



Lydia DiPaola is a second year Biological Sciences Master's student at the University of New Orleans, and she is using Sentinel-2 imagery to quantify shoreline loss in Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.



Peggy Mullin is a second year Ecology Master's student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is using drones and satellites to measure submerged vegetation, dissolved organic matter content, and marsh area.

Keep up to date with us @ laseagrant.org



Research **Outreach** **Education** **Law & Policy**

About Louisiana Sea Grant

Louisiana Sea Grant, based at Louisiana State University, is part of the National Sea Grant Program, a network made up of 34 programs located in each of the coastal and Great Lakes states and Puerto Rico. Sea Grant Programs work individually and in partnership to address major marine and coastal challenges. LSU was designated the nation's thirteenth Sea Grant College in 1978. Louisiana Sea Grant had its Program Review in September 2019, conducted by the National Sea Grant Office/NOAA, and LSG was rated as *"highest performance: exceeds expectations by an exceptional margin in most areas/aspects."*

[Read More About Us »](#)

News & Events

- Fisheries Leadership Program Launches Grant for Alternative Oyster Culture Training Received
- First REELS Class Graduates
- Hayes Secures \$500,000 Solar Research Grant
- Black Joins LSG Education Team
- Three Louisiana Knauss Fellowship Finalists Announced
- Grant Extends Wetland Days Programming
- Silver Lining for Ocean Commotion
- Sea Grant Funds LaSSO Project
- New Education Coordinator Begins at Louisiana Sea Grant

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Important Dates

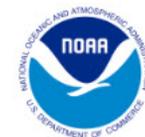
- December 4** — Deadline: Application deadline for Coastal Science Assistantship Program (CSAP)
- December 4** — Deadline: Application Deadline for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)
- December 16-17** — Discover the Louisiana Oyster Workshop for Teachers in Grand Isle, LA

[View Calendar »](#)

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Questions, Comments, & Discussion
