IOOS Advisory Committee Meeting - Speaker Biographies

May 11th, 2022

> Welcome, U.S. IOOS Office Updates, and NOAA Response to Recommendations



Sara Graves - Vice-Chair, U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee

Dr. Sara Graves is the current Director of University of Alabama's Information Technology and Systems Center, and has experience as the Director of the Information Technology Research Center of the National Space Science and Technology Center. She has served on numerous committees, including those for National Academy of Sciences, GCOOS, and NOAA, focusing on data science, open code policy, and geospatial technology, among others.

Krisa Arzayus - DFO/Deputy Director, U.S. IOOS Program



Krisa Arzayus is the Deputy Director for the U.S. IOOS Program Office, located in NOAA's National Ocean Service in Silver Spring, Maryland. She oversees office operations, including budget execution and staffing, while also working on strategic planning and implementation in coordination with Regional and National partners. She also serves as the Designated Federal Official for the U.S. IOOS Federal Advisory Committee, providing oversight and management of the FAC.

Krisa holds a Ph.D. in Marine Science from the College of William & Mary and a B.S. in Chemistry with a minor in Music from Moravian College. Prior to joining IOOS, she served as acting deputy director for the Center for Coasts, Oceans, and Geophysics in the National Centers for Environmental Information. Krisa has also worked for NOAA's Climate Program Office as the Deputy Climate Goal lead and division chief for the Planning and Programming Division. She first came to NOAA as a Knauss Sea Grant Fellow in 2001-2002. Krisa joined NOAA as a federal employee in 2003, working for the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research headquarters as the Climate Lead in what was then the Office of Scientific Support.

Carl Gouldman - Director, U.S. IOOS Program



Carl Gouldman took the helm as Director of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS ®) Office in February 2017. Prior to becoming the director, Carl served as the Deputy Director of the program since June 2014 and has been in NOAA since 2000. U.S. IOOS is our eyes on the ocean, coasts, and Great Lakes, and we are an integrated network of people and technology gathering observing data and developing tracking and predictive tools to benefit the economy, the environment, and public safety at home, across the nation, and around the globe

Before NOAA, Carl spent 3 years in the education department at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where he led field programs teaching students about bay ecology and conservation. He holds a B.S. in political science from Duke University and a Masters (MEM) in Coastal Environmental Management from the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke.



Deerin Babb-Brott - Principal Assistant Director for Oceans and the Environment, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

Deerin Babb-Brott is a principal assistant director for oceans and environment, for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he has worked since 2017. Mr. Babb-Brott has twenty-five years of leadership and management developing innovative and successful responses to challenges in coastal management experience. He specializes in applied ocean policy, coastal and marine spatial planning, marine renewable energy planning and state coastal zone management. Mr. Babb-Brott earned a bachelor's degree in Government and Environmental Studies from Bowdoin College.



Josie Quintrell - Executive Director, IOOS Association

Josie Quintrell currently serves as Executive Director of the IOOS Association, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to empowering decisions about our ocean, coastal and Great Lakes through effective implementation of the US Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The IOOS Association works with the eleven IOOS Regional Associations that design and operate regional coastal observing systems to collect, integrate and produce information for users. IOOS integrates the efforts of multiple federal agencies and the regional system to deliver products to users to protect lives, protect healthy ecosystems, and to support the economic vitality of our coastal regions. Josie has over 25 years experience in coastal and ocean management and policy. She has a Masters in Regional Planning from Cornell University and a B.A. from Colby College. She lives on the coast of Maine with her husband and has two grown children.



Moderator: Ruth Perry - Business Environment Advisor, Shell Renewables and Energy Solutions

Dr. Ruth Perry joined Shell in 2014 and has recently joined Shell Renewables and Energy Solutions as a Business Environment Advisor managing regulatory affairs for Shell's offshore wind portfolio in the Americas. Ruth has nearly 15 years of experience in environmental permitting and ocean research and policy. She advises projects on permitting and in working with stakeholders to develop science-based solutions to understand and mitigate potential impacts to the environment. She helps Shell to develop public-private data collaborations, such as deploying autonomous technologies to monitor hurricanes. She has a number

of peer-reviewed and media publications and serves on many national Committees and Boards, notably including the U.S. National Committee on Ocean Science as part of the U.N. Ocean Decade, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Science Advisory Board, and National Academies Ocean Studies Board. She earned a doctorate in Oceanography from Texas A&M University in 2013 and worked for NOAA before joining Shell.



Dr. David Bigger, Environmental Protection Specialist, Office of Renewable Energy Programs, BOEM

David Bigger currently serves as an Environmental Protection Specialist in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Office of Renewable Energy Programs. David is responsible for avian and bat issues associated with renewable energy leasing, and operations and leads the program's ESA consultations with the US Fish and Wildlife Services. David manages several contracts and interagency agreements for environmental studies aimed at filling in critical information gaps to better inform

the leasing and permit decision process. Prior to joining the Department of Interior in 2010, David was in the private sector where he developed and implemented a scientific research and monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of conservation strategies for a forest habitat conservation plan. David earned his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of California at Santa Cruz.



Adena Leibman, Senior Advisor, Office of the Under Secretary, NOAA

Adena Leibman currently serves as a Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary/NOAA Administrator. Prior to joining NOAA, Adena Leibman was a senior manager for federal affairs at Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) where she led the oceans and wild-caught fisheries national policy work. Before joining EDF, Adena worked for U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI) as his lead ocean and coastal policy staffer and appropriations manager. During her tenure in the U.S. Senate, Adena oversaw the development and passage of the bipartisan Save Our Seas and Save Our Seas 2.0 Acts, which address marine debris and plastic pollution; creation and initial funding of the National Coastal Resilience Fund; and drafting and introduction of the BLUE GLOBE Act, an ocean data and exploration bill. She previously served as plastics

initiative manager and staff attorney with Ocean Conservancy, clerked with the U.S. Department of Justice and Bonneville Power Administration during law school, and started her career in policy as a NOAA Sea Grant Knauss Legislative Fellow. She has a J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School, and a B.S. and M.S. in marine science from the University of South Carolina.



Edward G. LeBlanc - Head of Marine Affairs, Orsted U.S. Offshore

Edward G. LeBlanc assumed the role as Head of Marine Affairs for Orsted U.S. Offshore in November, 2021. As such he is responsible to lead Orsted's Marine Affairs team in fostering stakeholder engagement, facilitating navigation safety, planning fisheries mitigation and compensation, and executing myriad maritime workstreams. From August 2019 to November 2021 Mr. LeBlanc

served as Orsted's Northeast U.S. Marine Affairs Manager, responsible for interacting with government agencies and other stakeholders on a variety of maritime-related issues, but primarily surrounding navigation safety.

Prior to joining Orsted Mr. LeBlanc served for over 40 years with the U.S. Coast Guard in uniformed and civilian positions both afloat and ashore. He served in USCGC DECISIVE, USCGC SPENCER, as well as a USCG/USN officer exchange program aboard the USS CONNOLE. Shore tours included assignment as supervisor of the First Coast Guard District Command Center/Rescue Coordination Center, and regional Chief of Military Personnel. For his last 16 years with the Coast Guard he served as Chief of the Waterways Management Division at Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England, where he represented Coast Guard equities in the Cape Wind and Block Island Wind Farm proposals, development of the MA/RI Wind Energy Area, and various proposals to develop offshore wind farms within that area. Mr. LeBlanc is a native of North Attleboro, Massachusetts and currently resides in Marlborough, Massachusetts.



Gerhard F. Kuska - Executive Director, MARACOOS

Dr. Gerhard Kuska is the Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS, or Mid-Atlantic IOOS), a NOAA federally-certified regional association of academic, governmental, and private organizations from Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras that power understanding and prediction of the Mid-Atlantic ocean, coasts, and estuaries. He is also the Chair of the Board of the IOOS Association. Gerhard has served over the past 35 years in a variety of positions and organizations in the US, Europe, and the Middle East, including with NOAA, the White House

Council on Environmental Quality, the United States Senate, the US Commission on Ocean Policy, and private industry with the sectors for international cargo transportation and for environmental services. He received his Ph.D. in Marine Policy from the University of Delaware.



Jake Kritzer - Executive Director, NERACOOS

Dr. Jake Kritzer is the Executive Director of the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems, or NERACOOS, having joined the organization in June 2020. Prior to NERACOOS, he spent 16 years with the Environmental Defense Fund. There, his primary focus was fisheries science and policy in the U.S., Cuba, China, and elsewhere, with additional work on marine protected areas, watershed management, and other ocean issues. Jake has served on a number of technical, advisory, and regulatory bodies working with the New England Fishery Management Council, Atlantic States

Marine Fisheries Commission, municipal governments, environmental organizations, and industry associations. Jake earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Middlebury College in Vermont and a Ph.D. in marine biology from James Cook University in Australia, and then completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Windsor in Canada. He lives in the seacoast of New Hampshire with his wife, eight-year old daughter, and three dogs.

May 13th, 2022

Climate Services Session - NOAA Climate Perspectives



Mark S. Osler - Senior Advisor for Coastal Inundation and Resilience, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

Mark Osler is the Senior Advisor for Coastal Inundation and Resilience for the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). His leadership advances coastal science and the ability of decision makers to prepare for and respond to changes affecting the nation's coastlines. He serves as senior advisor to NOAA leadership on defining research, applied science, and policy priorities related to understanding and reducing impacts of coastal risk to the public, our national security, and our nation's economy.

Mark's inter-agency leadership includes:

- US Government representative to the G7's Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance
- Federal Coordinating Lead Author Coastal Effects Chapter 5th National Climate Assessment
- Co-Chair Coasts Workgroup US Global Change Research Program
- Co-Chair Subcommittee on Water Information and Services ICAMS
- NOAA representative within various White House interagency for including the National Security Council, Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the Council on Environmental Quality.

Prior to joining NOAA Mark worked for 17 years in the private sector. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Lehigh University and a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Delaware's Center for Applied Coastal Research.



Moderator: Molly McCammon - Senior Advisor, AOOS

Molly McCammon is a Senior Advisor for the Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS), after serving as its founding executive director from 2013 through 2020. She is currently a co-chair of NOAA Science Advisory Board's Ecosystem Sciences and Management Working Group, chair of the IOOS Association's Public Policy Committee, and serves on the IOOS Federal Advisory Committee. She is a past member of the National Research Council's Polar Research Board, serving on its Committee on Designing an Arctic Observing Network. She also served on the initial Advisory Group for the National Academy of Science's Gulf Research Program. Prior to her position at AOOS, she served for 10 years as the Executive

Director of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, managing the restoration program following the 1989 oil spill. McCammon moved to Alaska in 1973 after graduating from the University of California Berkeley, with her early years in Alaska spent as a journalist, homesteader in the Brooks Range, and natural resource policy specialist for state government.



Dan Rudnick - Professor, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Dr. Daniel L. Rudnick is a professor at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where he formerly held positions as Deputy Director of Education, and Director of the Climate Ocean Atmosphere Program. Dr. Rudnick earned his Ph.D. in oceanography in 1987 from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and his B.A. in physics in 1981 at the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Rudnick is an observational oceanographer whose research focuses on processes in the upper ocean. His particular interests include fronts and

eddies, air-sea interaction, the stirring and mixing of physical and biological tracers, the effect of oceanic structure on acoustic propagation, boundary currents, and coastal circulation. He is keenly interested in observational instrumentation, having been involved in the development and/or operations of moorings, towed and underway profilers, autonomous underwater gliders, and profiling floats. Dr. Rudnick has sailed on over 25 oceanographic cruises, over half as chief scientist. He has authored over 130 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Rudnick served as a member of the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Rudnick is a member of the US Integrated Ocean Observing System Advisory Committee. Dr. Rudnick is Chair of the Executive Steering Committee of the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS). Dr. Rudnick is involved with OceanGliders, an emerging network in the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), where he serves as a member of the steering team and leads the task team on a Boundary Ocean Observing Network (BOON).

Jan Newton - Executive Director, NANOOS



Dr. Jan Newton is a Senior Principal Oceanographer and Affiliate Professor at the University of Washington. She is a biological oceanographer with research on coastal dynamics, including effects from climate and humans on water properties and plankton. She has focused on efforts to build ocean observing and connections to society. She is the Executive Director of NANOOS, the Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems, part of U.S. IOOS. She is also a co-director of the Washington Ocean Acidification Center and a co-chair of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network. Her expertise is in linking observations and needs across scales from local to regional to global, and engaging with partners,

be they tribes or shellfish growers in the PNW to optimize NANOOS activities, or via efforts like the UN Ocean Decade, where she co-leads a programme: Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability, OARS.



Jim O'Donnell - Executive Director, Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (CIRCA), University of Connecticut

Dr. Jim O'Donnell is a physical oceanographer. He earned a BSc. (Hons) in Applied Physics from Strathclyde University in Scotland, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Delaware. He joined the faculty of the University of Connecticut in 1987. In 1999 he was promoted to the rank of Professor. He served as interim Head of the Department of Marine Sciences and Director of the Marine Science and Technology Center from 2002 to 2005. He was elected to the Connecticut Academy of Science and

Engineering in 2009. As Executive Director of CIRCA since 2016, he is responsible for bringing together the world-class research and outreach capabilities of the University of Connecticut and the extensive practical experience of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to create and disseminate practical and sustainable strategies to enhance the resilience of the built environment while protecting natural ecosystems in Connecticut and the northeast.

Professor O'Donnell's research focuses on understanding the physical processes that determine the circulation and transport of materials in the coastal ocean. With students and research associates, he is currently involved in both the construction and testing of models and the development of technology to make observations. He is also interested in fundamental geophysical and environmental fluid dynamics and the application of mathematical and statistical methods to the development of models of biogeochemical processes.



Ashley Peiffer - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Fellow, IOOS Association

Ashley Peiffer is the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Fellow for the IOOS enterprise of 11 Regional Associations, U.S. IOOS Program Office, and the IOOS Association. Ashley holds a M.S. in Marine Resource Management from Oregon State University and a B.S. in Marine Science and Biology from the University of Tampa. Ashley brings experience in community engagement and organizational decision-making, most recently through her Master's research on community engagement practices during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also served as a U.S. Peace Corps Science Education Volunteer in Tanzania, where she gained valuable grassroots experience and perspective on community-based capacity building projects.



Nicholas (Miki) Schmidt - Chief, Science and Geospatial Services Division, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management (OCM)

Nicholas (Miki) Schmidt is chief of the Science and Geospatial Services Division for NOAA's Office for Coastal Management. Program initiatives in that division include leadership for the Digital Coast, data acquisition and delivery, and economics. Schmidt holds a master's degree in geography and a bachelor's degree in marine science, both from the University of South Carolina.

An expert in applying geospatial technologies, Schmidt has had a long career with the federal government. From 1988 to 1991, he served as a civilian remote sensing scientist for the U.S. Army's Strategic Defense Command. He then joined NASA's commercial remote sensing program, working with private

industry to develop new remote sensing products and services. Schmidt's work with NOAA began in 1996. He first served as the manager of the NOAA Coastal Services Center's GIS program for four years, then became deputy chief of the Coastal Geospatial Services division. In 2004, he was named division chief or the organization that now calls itself NOAA's Office for Coastal Management.