

## SOUNDINGS

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## SOUNDINGS

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Miami, FL 33149

### PIONEER IN UNDERWATER ACOUSTICS MEDAL

Dr. Frederick Tappert will posthumously be awarded the Pioneer in Underwater Acoustics Medal at the December meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. The award will be presented to his wife, Sally Tappert by his former student, Kevin Smith, PhD who is currently at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. There will also be a special session dedicated to Fred's exceptional work at the Spring ASA meeting in Nashville.

#### FUNDING RECEIVED JUNE/JULY

During the month of June \$1,369,976 was received for new and additional research projects. In July the total was \$1,060,847. These funds are managed through the Sponsored Programs Team Office.

#### LOCAL RESEARCH PROJECT

If you are interested in a pilot study entitled "Evaluation of Microbial Recreational Water Indicators in the Subtropical Marine Environment" check out

<http://www.eng.miami.edu/~hmsolo/Hobe/HCframes.html>

This project involves Hobie Beach and is funded through the RSMAS NIEHS Center. For more information on the project contact Helena Solo-Gabriele at [hmsolo@miami.edu](mailto:hmsolo@miami.edu)



University of Miami



Dr. Harding Michel, was a special guest at the History of Oceanography event in the Smith Commons, January 2000

Pioneer in Underwater Acoustic Medal will be awarded posthumously to Dr. Fred Tappert - see pg. 4



# SOUNDINGS

ROSENSTIEL SCHOOL OF MARINE & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE

Virginia Key Campus

June/July 2002

## SCHOOL LOSES SCIENTIST/BENEFACTOR/FRIEND WITH THE PASSING OF DR. HARDING MICHEL

She retired many years ago but her involvement with the School never faded. Dr. Harding Michel was one of the pioneer professors at the Rosenstiel School and the first female professor to dedicate her career to marine biology at RSMAS. A memorial service will be held in the Smith Commons in the next several weeks to remember her life, career, and service to the scientific community. The campus will receive e-mail notice once details are available. Her daughter Caroline Owre asks that memorial gifts be sent to the Office of Advancement at the Rosenstiel School. Any funds received will be designated for students. The entire campus is invited to attend the memorial, especially the graduate students who she cared for so deeply. Contact Michele Rowand for more information (305-361-4994).

## 26th ROSENSTIEL AWARD PRESENTED TO DR. STEPHEN BELCHER

Dr. Steven Belcher received the 26th Rosenstiel Award at a dinner in his honor on May 29, 2002 in the Smith Commons. The award, which includes a gold medal and a check for \$10,000, was given for contributions to the understanding of turbulent flow over rough surfaces. This year's award was decided by the Division of Applied Marine Physics. Joined by his wife and son, Dr. Belcher was lauded by Dr. Michael Brown for "his studies of turbulent flow over rough surfaces, and especially those contributions that relate to wind wave growth and decay and the mechanical coupling between the ocean and atmosphere. Turbulence is often described as the great unsolved problem of classical physics." Dr. Brown noted that "It is an amazing feat for a researcher as young as Dr. Belcher to have made so much progress towards understanding this difficult subject. Dr. Belcher's work is characterized by the combined use of excellent physical insight; the use of powerful approximate analytical methods, especially matched asymptotic expansions; the judicious use of numerical methods; and a close collaboration with experimentalists. One of the more notable aspects of Dr. Belcher's short career is that only six years after receiving his Ph.D., he was asked to write a review article for the journal Annual Reviews of Fluid Mechanics on the subject of turbulent air flow over hills and waves." Dr. Brown noted that such an invitation is a significant achievement at any stage of one's career. Upon receiving the award, Dr. Belcher said "I feel truly humbled". He went on to say "I share this award with my colleagues. I wouldn't be standing here without them. And I am pleased that my wife and son can share in this with me. I receive this with a truly humble heart".

The next Rosenstiel Awardee will be chosen by the Division of Marine Geology and Geophysics.





Deadline for publication in the next issue is August 15th.

“It took 28 dives in Biscayne National Park before I saw my first legal sized snapper or grouper” Dr. Jerry Ault

Not all observations were negative. Nassau Grouper and Goliath Grouper that have been protected for some time are reappearing according to Dr. Ault

# MEGA-DIVE IS ONE FOR THE BOOKS!



Photo of divers aboard the 100 ft. M/V SPREE taken by Jiangang Luo

If you want to meet a man who is “stoked” about his work in marine science then stop by and chat with Jerald Ault of Marine Biology and Fisheries. Plan to stay for more than a minute or two because he has a lot to say. He is busy pulling together all the facts from the recently completed 30 day marine life census event down in the Keys that involved 52 scientists, and averaged 75 dives a day, “..without injury or incident” he is proud to note. There were a total of 1,806 dives coverings 230 miles of coast and ocean. This remarkable event was covered by the Miami Herald, The Associated Press, The Chicago Tribune, The Christian Science Monitor, National Geographic and NBC.

“The purpose of all this intensive study is to assist Sanctuary management in assessing the efficacy of the protected areas. It is an integrated endeavor that crosses political boundaries.” Park services, federal organizations, universities and other groups are working collaboratively in the Keys to monitor re-population progress and to assess management plans. This work is in conjunction with a 5 year review by Congress to establish baselines for areas co-managed by parks, states and sanctuaries. “We are making assessment not by counting the catch dead on the dock but by looking at what is alive in the water. It is extremely revolutionary and cost effective which is what gets the agencies excited.” Dr. Ault elaborated “While were assessing the development of long term methodologies for the Florida Keys there is no reason why these techniques cannot be applied to the Caribbean.” The paper “A retrospective (1979-1996) multi-species assessment of coral reef fish stocks in the Florida Keys” which was published in 1998 related to this same work won the award for the Best paper published in the Journal Fishery Bulletin. Jim Bohnsack who co-authored the paper with Jerry Ault and Geoffrey Meester won the award for best publication by a NMFS scientist.



# SOUNDINGS MARY ROCHE FELLOWSHIP ESTABLISHED

Through a generous gift to the Rosenstiel School from the family of Mary Roche, a fellowship has been established for graduate students whose research focuses on exploration of the ocean and includes time at sea “to honor Mary’s memory and to encourage others to follow their dreams and study the ocean.” It will be awarded to one graduate student annually. Mary Roche was a graduate student in the Division of Marine and Atmospheric Chemistry who died tragically in a hiking accident a year ago. The first fellowship will be awarded fall of 2003.



“...one of the most ambitious surveys of marine life ever undertaken.”

National Geographic



Resident Dive Master Rick Gomez and companion participate in census project in the Florida Keys. Photo by Joe Contillo of NMFS



Who is surveying who?

An inquisitive moray eel looks out from behind sponges as graduate student Ashley McCrea compiles the fish census in the Florida Keys.

Photo by Dr. Jerry Ault