



MARINE AFFAIRS INSTITUTE

Roger Williams University School of Law



Marine Affairs Updates - Fall 2009

Issue 1

September 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS



Joint Degree Informational Meeting

Friday, October 16

12:15 PM - Room 30

Prof. Susan Farady along with Prof. Richard Pollnac, Chair of the Department of Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, will meet with students interested in the J.D./M.M.A. program to discuss the program and its requirements and answer any questions you may have. *Please RSVP to cferris@rwu.edu if you plan on attending.*



Marine Affairs Roundtable Luncheons

12:15 PM - Bay View Room

If you missed our roundtable luncheon on September 25th, join us at one of the following:

Friday, October 23

"International Marine Affairs Issues"

Lauren Engel '09 and Gavin Black '10 will speak about their internships with the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Maritime Organization.

Friday, November 20

"Marine Affairs Courses, Jobs and Careers"

Discuss course and career choices with Professor Farady and your peers.

Please RSVP to cferris@rwu.edu if you plan on attending.



The Ecology of Marine Windfarms: Regional Perspectives on Impact Mitigation, Siting and Future Uses

November 2-4, 2009

8th Annual Ronald C. Baird Sea Grant Science Symposium

Newport Harbor Hotel, Newport, RI

This symposium will bring together international experts in wind energy, biotechnologies, seafoods, fisheries, aquaculture, and leading legal and policy experts to discuss innovative methods for the integration of these future uses into wind-farm marine areas. Panels of experts will address the following:

- Marine Spatial Planning, Economic, Policy and Legal Issues
- Status of Innovative Aquaculture Technologies Suitable for Integration with Offshore Renewable Energy Systems
- Innovations in Fisheries Systems
- Designing and Management Offshore Structures to Enhance Coastal Habitats and Fishing
- Discussions on Formation of International Working Groups on Knowledge Transfer, Mitigating Impacts and Future Uses of Windpower Areas.

The student rate for all three days and including dinner is \$192. (Please contact the Marine Affairs Institute at cferris@rwu.edu regarding a daily rate.) Additional information on the symposium is available on the bulletin board outside of the Marine Affairs Institute or by visiting the symposium website at <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/baird/2009/>.

IN THE NEWS

- **President Obama Launches Interagency Ocean Task Force**

On June 12, 2009, President Obama issued a Presidential Memorandum that calls for the development of a national ocean policy and implementing strategies. The memorandum will establish an interagency task force that is to recommend within 90 days: (1) a national ocean, coastal and Great Lakes policy that, among other things, protects and maintains these important ecosystems; and (2) a structural framework for coordinated implementation of the policy. In addition, within 180 days that task force is to recommend a mechanism for effective marine spatial planning, which will help prevent "ocean sprawl" - as we face more and more proposals for offshore energy and other developments in the ocean. This will help move toward a clean, renewable energy future that protects ocean ecosystems.

The Task Force released an Interim Report on September 18, and convened its' only public hearing on the East Coast in Providence, Rhode Island on September 24 (see http://www.projo.com/news/content/Ocean_hearing_09-25-09_KMFRA8Q_v8.38ad70a.html). See Professor Farady's testimony to the Task Force at <http://law.rwu.edu/sites/marineaffairs/news/>.

More information is available at

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Oceans-Month-and-Memorandum-regarding-national-policy-for-the-oceans/.

- **Rhode Island Issues First Year Progress Report on Ocean Planning**

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council released a one-year report on the progress of the Ocean SAMP (Special Area Management Plan), a two-year comprehensive planning process for Rhode Island waters and adjacent areas. According to the report, "The plan will serve as a coastal management and regulatory tool, based on the best available science, which promotes a balanced and comprehensive, ecosystem-based management approach to R.I.'s ocean-based resources."

See the report and more information at

<http://www.seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp/>.

- **Massachusetts Releases Draft Ocean Management Plan**

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs released a draft of its comprehensive ocean plan for Massachusetts waters on June 30, 2009. Public hearings were held throughout Massachusetts in September and comments will be accepted until November 23, 2009.

See the Draft Plan and other information at <http://www.mass.gov/czm/oceanmanagement/index.htm> for more information.

- **Marine Affairs Awarded Grant to Support Renewable Energy in Rhode Island**

The Marine Affairs Institute is part of a successful grant awarded to communities in the East Bay region of Rhode Island. The East Bay Energy Consortium, consisting of nine communities in the East Bay from Providence to Newport (including Bristol, where the Marine Affairs Institute is located) received a grant from the Renewable Energy Fund, funded in conjunction with the Rhode Island Foundation and Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation to conduct a comprehensive study to determine the feasibility of multiple terrestrial and marine sites for wind turbines within the East Bay. The Marine Affairs Institute will provide legal research and analysis to investigate the existing regulatory framework to site terrestrial and/or nearshore marine wind energy facilities in Rhode Island, and the legal issues posed by nine different municipalities desiring to act as one entity for purposes of siting and utilizing wind energy facilities. The study is anticipated to be completed in 2010.



MARINE AFFAIRS LIBRARY

The Institute has a large selection of marine, environmental and maritime related books and periodicals which are available for you to review either in our office or to borrow on a short term basis.

Some of those periodicals include: Coastal Services, Coastwatch, Commercial Fisheries News, Marine Technology Reporter, National Fisherman, Providence Business News, SandBar, SeaTechnology and WaterLog.

A sampling of additional books that are available include: Ecosystem-Based Management for the Oceans; Smithsonian Ocean: Our Water, Our World; Marine Reserves; Cod; The Great

Lobster War; Compilation of Maritime Laws; and EcoGuide to Careers that Make a Difference.

MAI STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

• **Marine Symposium Edition of RWU SOL Law Review**

The Marine Law Symposium Special Edition of the Law Review will be published in late August-early September. The Law Review Board has been working with the speakers from the 7th Marine Law Symposium (held in October 2008 on marine renewable energy) to finalize the issue for publication. More information regarding the Symposium is available at <http://law.rwu.edu/sites/marineaffairs/symposia/seventhMLS.aspx>.

• **Wendy Waller ('02)**, was recognized by the Providence Business News with its "40 Under Forty" award for 2009. Wendy is a staff environmental attorney with Save The Bay in Providence and a graduate of the joint degree program between RWU School of Law and the University of Rhode Island.

Sea Grant Law Fellows

The following students worked as Sea Grant Law Fellows this past summer handling research and writing on projects as outlined below:

• **Kirby Aarsheim ('10)**, worked with both the Quonset Development Corporation's Legal Counsel and Port Director to provide an analysis of the triennial review process (state and federal review and revision) for the approval of the state's new or revised water quality standards, the approval process for marine construction, and the dredging process (both the pre-application process and the application contents).

• **Christian Connolly ('11)**. Pacific Energy Ventures, based in Portland, OR, is a consulting firm working on the publication of a "Siting Methodologies Handbook for Advanced Water Power Projects." Chris provided research and analysis of federal, state, and local policies, and regulatory requirements for siting hydrokinetic projects to assist in development of the Siting Methodologies Handbook.

• **Pamela Cunningham ('11)**, worked with the URI Cooperative Extension, URI Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (RI NEMO), and Save The Bay to complete its publication entitled "A Local Official's Guide to Regulating Land Use in Wetland Buffers and High Water Tables to Protect Water Quality." Pam worked with Save The Bay's Legal Counsel and Town/City Planners to research existing and potential regulations to manage land use in wetland buffers and marginal sites to protect the quality of drinking water supplies, coastal waters, and other water resources.

• **Alastair Deans ('11)**. More coordination in the marine renewable energy project licensing process is necessary for projects to go forward in the United States. Alastair analyzed the

viability of Memorandums of Understanding to facilitate agency coordination for the Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition.

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Visit our website at
<http://law.rwu.edu/sites/marineaffairs/>

Please stop by the Marine Affairs Institute to check out our library or to find out more information regarding the Joint Degree Program in Marine Affairs with the University of Rhode Island.

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30 PM

or feel free to contact us at the email addresses indicated above.



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