

UPCOMING EVENTS

★ ***The Making of New International Maritime Law – UNCITRAL and the 2009 ROTTERDAM Rules***
Thursday, April 16, 2009

4:00 PM - 6:30 PM · Room 283

(Panel Discussion 4:00 – 5:30 pm; Reception 5:30 – 6:30 pm)

This program will examine the six year negotiation process to replace a 1924 convention governing international cargo liability, and the implications for marine interests. Attorneys who served on the U.S. UNCITRAL delegation from government and private practice will provide their insights into the intricate process of creating new international law, review the content and status of the Rotterdam Rules, discuss prospects for ratification and examine the ramifications for U.S. ocean and intermodal commerce.

Moderator: William J. Coffey, Beaufort Maritime Group, LLC

Panelists: Vincent M. DeOrchis, DeOrchis & Partners, LLP

Chester D. Hooper, Holland & Knight, LLC

David T. Maloof, Maloof Browne & Eagan, LLC

Jennifer Mehaffey '07, Liebman & Associates

REGISTRATION IS FREE TO STUDENTS. Registration forms are available outside the Marine Affairs Institute (Room 287) or online at <http://law.rwu.edu/sites/marineaffairs/events/>.

★ **Marine Affairs Roundtable**

Friday, April 24, 2009

12 Noon · Room 244

Join Professor Susan Farady and Megan Higgins for an informal lunch on Friday, April 24 at 12 noon in Room 244. In addition to time to discuss issues you might like (courses, joint degree issues, job and career questions), we will hear from students working on alternative energy issues. Gwen Hancock ('09) and Joshua Barker ('10) will give brief presentations pertaining to the research they have been working on regarding the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP (Special Area Management Plan). Derek Drizin ('10), RWU's Chapter Leader for the Pickens Plan, will also give a brief presentation on the plan. **Please RSVP to cferris@rwu.edu no later than Friday, April 17 if you plan on attending.**

★ **Registration Open for Off-Shore Development Conference**

Thursday, April 23, 2009

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Quonset "O" Club, North Kingstown, RI

Registration is now open for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey's 13th Annual Conference, ***Rhode Island's Off-Shore Marine Ecosystem and the Potential Impacts of Alternative Energy Development***. The conference will take place April 23rd in North Kingstown, RI. The Conference is being co-sponsored by: RI Ocean SAMP (including the RI Coastal Resources Management Council, RI Sea Grant, and the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The Conference will include discussion of alternative energy impacts on the marine ecosystem, as well as discussion on marine benthic communities, marine ecology & sustainability, mapping marine habitats & spatial planning, offshore geology of Rhode Island, and effects of offshore wind power development on coastal tourism. To register and view

the full schedule of the Conference: www.rinhs.org/conferences. For more information on the Ocean SAMP see <http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp/>, as well as more information on the CRMC at <http://www.crmc.ri.gov/>.

★ **Summer Marine Affairs Courses**

The Marine Law Summer Program has been integrated with the law school's regular summer curriculum for 2009, in order to provide students daytime opportunities for summer positions while being able to take marine affairs courses at night. Three seminars are offered – Maritime Institutions & Law; Maritime Security Law; and Ocean Management & Policy.

★ **Fisheries and the Bench Workshop**

The Marine Affairs Institute will host the Fisheries and the Bench workshop on May 19, 2009 at the law school. The workshop, funded in part by the National Sea Grant Law Center and the Sand County Foundation, will focus on assisting Federal judges and attorneys to obtain a keener understanding of the principles of fisheries law and the establishment of a better balance between the regulatory and economic interests involved. Hopefully, this will also serve to lessen the tumultuous impact of fisheries litigation by introducing examples of alternative management regimes and thereby encouraging a movement toward fair, innovative community-based solutions. (*By Invitation Only*)

IN THE NEWS

• **President Bush Creates New Pacific Marine Monuments**

Prior to leaving office in January, President George Bush designated the largest marine protected area in the U.S. The protected zones, including parts of the deep Mariana Trench and a string of largely uninhabited reefs and atolls near the Equator and American Samoa, include a total of 195,280 square miles, an area larger than the states of Washington and Oregon combined. Using the authority of the 1906 Antiquities Act (used typically to protect scientific and historical sites), President Bush designated vast tracts of American-controlled Pacific Ocean islands, reefs, surface waters and sea floors as marine national monuments. Fishing, mining, oil exploration and other commercial activity will be limited in the designated area. More information is available at <http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE5045L520090105>.

• **Obama appointments to NOAA and EPA signal ‘sea change’**

In one of his first moves, President Barack Obama tapped Oregon State University professor [Jane Lubchenco](#), one of the nation's most prominent marine biologists, to head the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#). The appointment marks a shift for NOAA, which oversees marine issues as well as much of government's climate work. Lubchenco, a conservationist who has devoted much of her career to encouraging scientists to become more engaged in public policy debates, is a vocal proponent of curbing greenhouse gases linked to global warming and has criticized the agency in the past for not doing enough to curb overfishing. In one of her first actions since confirmation, Lubchenco recently called for the creation of a national climate service that would predict the effects of global warming on communities, similarly to how the National Weather Service sends out info about the weather.

President Obama is nominating Rhode Islander [Cynthia J. Giles](#) to be the next Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance at the [Environmental Protection Agency](#). Giles currently heads the [Conservation Law Foundation](#)'s office in Rhode Island, has worked with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and is married to RWU School of Law Professor Carl Bogus. Congratulations!

- **House Passes Lands Bill**

On March 25, the House passed H.R. 146, a bill that combines more than 150 public-lands measures into a single package, by a vote of 285-140. The bill includes five measures that will benefit the nation's oceans, great lakes and coasts including: Ocean Exploration/Coastal and Ocean Mapping (S. 39 from 110th Congress); Ocean Observation (S. 950 from the 110th Congress); Ocean Acidification (S. 1581 from the 110th Congress); and the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Act - CELCP (H.R. 1907 from the 110th Congress).

- **Senate Introduces Bill that Would Amend the CZMA**

On March 5, Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced *Working Waterfront Preservation Act of 2009* (S. 533). The bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to award a grant to a state or local government of a coastal state, a nonprofit organization, or a fishing cooperative for projects to: (1) acquire real property in a coastal state to provide access to commercial fishermen or persons in the aquaculture industry to coastal waters in working waterfront areas; or (2) make improvements to real property owned by an eligible entity in a coastal state to provide access to such persons to coastal waters in working waterfront areas.

- **House Introduces Renewable Energy Bill**

On March 24, Representative Lois Capps (D-CA) introduced the *Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act* (H.R. 5452). The bill would amend the CZMA to authorize grants to coastal States to support state efforts to initiate and complete surveys of both state and federal waters adjacent to a state's coastal zone, in consultation with the Minerals Management Service and other relevant Federal agencies, to identify potential areas suitable for the exploration, development, and production of renewable energy.

JOB POSTING - SEA GRANT LAW FELLOW POSITIONS

The Institute is seeking students from the classes of '10 and '11 for two (2) research assistant positions to perform legal research and writing on ocean and coastal law issues addressing both specific legal research questions of Rhode Island Sea Grant constituents and longer-term research projects, as well as writing articles for marine-related journals. Student should be prepared to commit 10–15 hours a week, should have an interest in ocean and coastal law, and exhibit excellent writing abilities.

The Law Fellow positions will start June 1, 2009 and pay \$10 an hour.

Please submit the following to Megan Higgins, Research Counsel, Marine Affairs Institute (Room 287) **no later than Friday, April 24 by 4:00 pm**: (1) Letter of interest; (2) Resume; (3) Copy of your transcript; (4) 3-5 page writing sample (*writing samples other than Legal Methods papers are encouraged*).

Any questions should be directed to Megan at mhiggins@rwu.edu or by telephone at 401-254-5734.

MAI STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

- **Admiralty Moot Court**

The RWU team won the annual John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition, held recently in Charleston, South Carolina! Brian Eisenhower ('09) and Manford "Ben" Susman ('09) beat out a very tough LSU team in the finals, and won the Best Brief Award in the competition-giving RWU its first championship in this national competition. The Best Brief Award was shared with team member Amanda Argentieri ('09). See the Dean's announcement at <http://blogs.rwu.edu/law/dean>. Way to go, team!

- **Pace University Environmental Moot Court**

The RWU Pace team, coached by MAI research counsel Megan Higgins, advanced to the quarterfinal round, beating out 47 teams in the process. During the Preliminary rounds, Ashley Medeiros ('09) and Jackson Parmenter ('10) received Best Oralist recognition, Ashley twice and Jackson once. Congratulations to Greg Klipp ('09), Ashley and Jackson!

- **Marine Symposium edition of RWU SOL Law Review**

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 publish a Symposium issue, out in mid-to-late May. We would like to thank the Board for agreeing to publish an issue as a follow-up to the Symposium and for working so diligently with the speakers to bring the issue to fruition.

- **Nick Battista** ('08), a Knauss Fellow, was recently assigned his 2009 fellowship as Legislative Assistant for Representative Chellie Pingree (<http://pingree.house.gov/index.html>), the newly elected congresswoman from Maine. He will primarily be working on ocean and coastal issues, as well as issues in the area of environmental, natural resources, and land management. . This placement is particularly exciting because Congresswoman Pingree lives on an island 12 miles off the coast of Maine, attended College of the Atlantic, and thoroughly understands both the issues themselves and their importance. Rhode Island Sea Grant sponsors the National Sea Grant College Program Dean John A. Knauss Policy Fellowship each year.

- **Gavin Black** ('10) will intern this summer at the International Maritime Organization (<http://www.imo.org/>) in London, England.

- **Jennifer Mehaffey** ('07) recently began her new position as Vice President of Climate Change and Environmental Issues with Liebman and Associates in Washington, DC (www.liebman-associates.com), an environmental consulting firm working with alternative energy/green technology. Prior to that, Ms. Mehaffey, a 2008 Knauss Fellow, was with the Committee on Marine Transportation System, U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, DC.

- **Allison Novelly** ('10), Receptient of the 2009 ABA Environmental and Diversity Fellowship, will work as a summer intern with the Coastal States Organization (<http://www.coastalstates.org/>) in Washington, DC, under the guidance of CSO Executive Director Kristen Fletcher, RISG Senior Advisory Council member and former director of the Marine Affairs Institute and RI Sea Grant Legal Program, .

- **Jackie Rolleri** ('11) will intern in the Providence office of Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (<http://whitehouse.senate.gov/>) during the summer break.