



## Central Gulf of Mexico - Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence CGOM-COSEE Scientist-Teacher Institute

**Field Institute @ LUMCON: 5:00pm, June 20 – 4:30pm, June 25, 2004**  
**Distance Learning Institute: 6 Sessions, July 8 – August 13, 2004**

The CGOM-COSEE is a collaboration among marine institutes in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida and Texas that is funded by the agencies named below to build partnerships between scientists and educators, promote ocean science education and improve coordination of ocean education initiatives.

The main activity of CGOM-COSEE is a summer institute for scientists and teachers in each state. The Teacher/Scientist Institute is a class for middle school teachers, for which *I am recruiting marine researchers to be the teachers' partners during the field institute*. In Louisiana the class takes place at LUMCON, where participants spend June 20-25 in the marshes, on barrier islands, and cruising the waterways near LUMCON to learn about oceanography through the themes of coastal processes, habitats and organisms, and marine technology. There is a specific schedule of activities, but flexibility is built in to allow us to take advantage of participating scientists' disciplinary specialties.



We plan to keep the doors of learning open in both directions. Teachers will work side-by-side with scientists to learn about estuarine ecology, satellite oceanography, or whatever the scientists' specialties are, using examples from the lab and field. From the teachers, the scientists will learn about the experience of science in the classroom, teaching according to the National Science Education Standards, designing lessons and above all, ways to disseminate their own research to a broader audience.

### What is required of participating scientists?

- Participate in the five-day field institute
- Participate in the six days of online instruction
- Work as a team with a middle school teacher or teachers
- Develop curriculum &/or a workshop for the team's school or district (with your team)
- Lead a discussion or presentation on your research or discipline area

- Deliver a presentation (article, paper, or workshop) with your team at a state, regional, or national meeting.

### What do participating scientists gain?

- Receive a \$300 stipend with room and board for a week at LUMCON
- Exchange ideas with other participating scientists
- Work directly with classroom teachers to improve their content knowledge
- Demonstrate to your department/college willingness to serve the community through work with K-12 teachers
- Learn how to present your research as relevant to the lives of ordinary citizens and students of science
- This experience can be important to any scientist hoping to attain funding from the NSF (by promoting your research as relevant to the general public, you address criterion 2 of the NSF)
- It also addresses national No Child Left Behind legislation to improve elementary and secondary teaching by "...bringing science teachers ... together with scientists to increase the subject matter knowledge of the teachers and improve their teaching skills through the use of sophisticated laboratory equipment and work space, computing facilities, libraries and other resources..."
- Forgetting the service benefits, the scientists who participated last year had as much fun as the teachers did, and are still working with the teachers in more or less involved ways. Scientists who work with teachers frequently find it to be immensely rewarding.



### Funding Agencies

National Science Foundation

Office of Naval Research - National Ocean Partnership Program

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - National Sea Grant College Program.

### Participating Institutions

J. L. Scott Marine Education Center & Aquarium, University of Southern Mississippi

Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium

University of Texas Marine Science Institute

University of Florida, Florida Sea Grant

### Contact Information

For more information, please contact:

Jessica Kastler, Ph.D.

(985) 851-2845 ph.

(985) 851-2874 fax

[jkastler@lumcon.edu](mailto:jkastler@lumcon.edu)

