

Lake Champlain 2019 Site Review Team

Matthew Bethel, Ph.D. - Associate Executive Director of Research

Louisiana Sea Grant

Louisiana State University

Bethel earned his doctorate from the University of New Orleans in engineering and applied sciences, with a concentration in environmental sciences. He completed his Master of Science degree in geoscience at Murray State University in Murray, Ken. His Bachelor of Science degree is in geography from the University of Tennessee in Martin, Tenn. Bethel comes to Louisiana Sea Grant from the Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences, UNO, where he worked as a research project manager and postdoctoral scientist since 2006. He also has worked as an image analyst and research project manager at the Institute for Technology Development at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

Rosanne Fortner, Ed.D.- Member, National Sea Grant Advisory Board

Dr. Rosanne Fortner is a retired professor of environmental science education from The Ohio State University and a former middle school science teacher. In her 27 years at OSU she taught environmental communications and education to undergraduates and graduate students on campus, and Great Lakes interdisciplinary sciences for educators at F.T. Stone Laboratory on Lake Erie. From a position as a project investigator, she coordinated the Ohio Sea Grant Education Program until 2005. Her research was directed at identifying needs for science education programs and training, comparing effectiveness of methods for Earth system science education, and assessing the impact of environmental education programs in field and classroom settings. Curriculum development and assessment were also an important part of her responsibilities as an educator, and her 12 books of curriculum activities were funded by Ohio Sea Grant, the National Science Foundation, Great Lakes Protection Fund and other sponsors. She works with current Ohio Sea Grant investigators to bring the curricula into modern technological forms, and to match Great Lakes with marine science learning through online teaching. Dr. Fortner was the Director of the Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence [COSEE] Great Lakes, a collaboration of the seven Sea Grant Education programs in the region, with NSF and Sea Grant support from 2006-2010. With her assistance the scientists and educators of that program developed the Great Lakes Literacy Principles. Fortner is the author of over 80 research and education-based publications, has advised 15 PhDs and 50 MS programs to completion, and served as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Cyprus. She is currently Co-Chair of the Oak Island Beach Preservation Society at her retirement home in North Carolina.

John Meyer. Associate Director of Science Communication & Special Projects College of the Environment, University of Washington

John oversees the science communication program at the College, where he helps scientists become powerful spokespeople for their work beyond the walls of academia. He also assists various groups within the College communicate about who they are, whether through marketing or storytelling channels. When not in the office, he is out exploring shorelines and mountains on foot or building something in his basement workshop.

Sarah Schoedinger, Senior Education Program Manager

NOAA Office of Education

Schoedinger has a master's degree in science at the University of Delaware. After graduating she joined a nonprofit organization called the Consortium for Ocean Leadership where she stayed for eight years before heading off to NOAA in 2004. Schoedinger has worked at NOAA for more than 13 years. Schoedinger's primary responsibility at NOAA is the management of NOAA's environmental literacy program. She helped establish the grant program that now awards millions of dollars a year to science centers, museums, aquariums, zoos and other organizations throughout the country for educational programs. The grants are important to educate the public—from students to teachers to members of the community—on issues related to climate change and vulnerabilities to extreme weather events. They also teach how to mitigate and adapt to those conditions.

Jon Lilley, Program Officer Lake Champlain, New York and Pennsylvania Sea Grant

National Sea Grant College Program

NOAA

Prior to joining Sea Grant, Jon worked in NOAA's Office of Education where he coordinated the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center Network. He holds a bachelor's degree in Geography from the University of Nottingham, a master's degree in Coastal and Marine Resource Management from the University of Portsmouth, and a doctorate in Marine Studies (Policy) from the University of Delaware. After graduating from Delaware, Jon conducted post-doctoral research at Hawai'i Sea Grant and at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research