NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Nives Dolšak reviews accomplishments that have occurred in 2024 so far, including students presenting outstanding thesis and capstone presentations, the completion of SMEA's 2024 strategic plan, a successful SMEA Community Reception, and more.

Featured Alumna: Professor Leah Gerber, 1993

Leah Gerber, best known as the Founding Director of the Center for Biodiversity Outcomes, shares her journey to becoming a professor at Arizona State University. Reflecting on her time at SMEA, Gerber credits the interdisciplinary focus of the program for her holistic approach to conservation, integrating research, education, and policy.
**SMEA Teaching, Research, and Activities**

Explore the buzz at SMEA! This section showcases recent highlights, including a SMEA capstone visit to Juneau, Alaska, where students explored a mine and shared their research. You'll find new faculty and student publications, the vibrant SMEA Community Reception, and much more!

**Washed in on the Tide: Alumni Updates**

This section highlights alumni accomplishments to inspire current students. This is a random walk through of what we’ve recently observed or heard about from alumni.

**SMEA Alumni Employed in Sustainable Shipping**

SMEA faculty, students, and alumni make important contributions to marine decarbonization, especially one that incorporates community engagement and addresses environmental justice. This article highlights the work of several SMEA alumni, including their roles in sustainable maritime practices, air quality improvement, and community-focused environmental initiatives across various organizations and government bodies.
Diving into Kelp Conservation and Research
First-year SMEA student Taylor Hughes reflects on her research journey and the experience she gained through her research assistantship funded by SMEA. Her work focuses on testing how biotic factors affect bull kelp population dynamics. Dive into the story to read more about her research journey!

Interdisciplinary Marine Affairs Concepts During the Cold War
Professor Emeritus Vlad Kaczynski shares his areas of interest and the services he delivered as a Fulbright Scholar. His impactful career has fostered significant educational and environmental collaborations worldwide.

Your Support of SMEA Students Makes a Difference
SMEA expresses gratitude to its alumni and supporters for their significant contributions to the program. Your donations aid in the training of the next generation of marine and environmental leaders.