Proposal for 2019 IAMSLIC/SAIL Conference

 Port Aransas, Texas

**DATE:** June 10, 2015

**TO:** IAMSLIC 2015 Conference Site Selection Committee

**FROM: Liz DeHart**, Head Librarian, Marine Science Library,

The University of Texas Marine Science Institute

**RE:** Proposal for 2019 IAMSLIC/SAIL Conference in Port Aransas, TX

# INTRODUCTION

Thank you for considering the Marine Science Library at the University of Texas Marine Institute in Port Aransas, Texas as host for the 2019 IAMSLIC Conference in the SAIL region. I would be delighted to answer any questions or provide additional information, if needed. We look forward to this grand opportunity and would be proud to host IAMSLIC and SAIL in 2019!

**University of Texas Marine Science Institute:**

The University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute is the oldest and most significant marine research facility on the Texas coast. We are changing our understanding of the world's oceans and coasts and educating a global population dependent on the ocean ecosystem. What began humbly in 1941 as a small, rough-lumber shack on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico in Port Aransas is now home to cutting-edge research, education, and outreach programs.

Mission and more information: <https://utmsi.utexas.edu/about>

**Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve:**

The Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve or “Reserve” is a federal and state partnership that conducts research, education, and stewardship programs. This program is funded by [the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov/) and is managed by [the University of Texas Marine Science Institute](http://www.utmsi.utexas.edu/). There are 28 Reserves around the country and each reserve is a "living laboratory" in which scientists conduct research and educators communicate research results.

More information: <http://www.missionaransas.org/about.html>

# LOCAL HOSTS

Liz DeHart, Head Librarian, University of Texas Marine Science Library,

 l.dehart@austin.utexas.edu

 Denise Landry-Hyde, Reference/Distributed Learning Librarian, Texas A&M University-CC,

 denise.hyde@tamucc.edu

 Robert W. Dickey, Department Chair, Director, University of Texas Marine Science Institute

 Jace Tunnell, Mission-Aransas NERR Director, Marine Science Institute

 Ann Vaughan, President/CEO, Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Bureau

Sponsors:

Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce and Tourist Bureau

Conference planners:

 NERR Coastal Training Coordinator

Beth Avery, retired, averyb@otherwhen.com

John Conover, LUMCON Library, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium,

 jconover@lumcon.edu

Alyson Gamble, Mote Marine Library, agamble@mote.org

Emily Harrell, NOAA NMFS Panama City Laboratory, Emily.harrell@noaa.gov

Anne Moser, Water Library, University of Wisconsin, Madison, akmoser@aqua.wisc.edu

Joyce Shaw, Gunter Library, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, MS, joyce.shaw@usm.edu

# PROPOSED DATES

Traditionally, the IAMSLIC conference is held in October, if possible. The proposed dates for 2019, from Sunday to Friday are:

* Oct 6-11, 2019
* Oct 13-18, 2019
* **Oct 20-25, 2019 – 1st choice**

# MEETING VENUE

Meetings, lunches and breakout sessions will take place at the Marine Science Institute campus in Port Aransas.

Available facilities include:

* Large auditorium in the Visitor Center with seating capacity for 185 people <https://utmsi.utexas.edu/visit/visitor-center>
	+ No venue charge, graciously provided by MSI Director
	+ Podium, tables, chairs, large projection screen, LCD projector, wi-fi
	+ Access to Gift Shop
	+ Access to Estuary Explorium <https://utmsi.utexas.edu/visit/estuary-explorium>
* Estuarine Research Center (ERC) Conference Room (capacity 15) is available for Executive Council or smaller group meetings
	+ Large conference table, wide screen, data and phone connections, wi-fi, coffee/beverage set-up
* New Breezeway Lyceum
	+ For relaxing during the day, as well as for poster sessions if desired, including small reception
	+ Comfortable sofas, chairs, tables, chairs, wi-fi

# TRAVEL TO VENUE

**Flying:** The Corpus Christi International Airport (CRP) has 3 major airlines providing non-stop flights to Houston and Dallas: American, Southwest and United. As an international airport, CCIA operates more than 2 dozen flights a day. In 2015, flights from most major US cities, such as New York, Chicago, Raleigh, and Ft. Lauderdale average anywhere from $400-$700 round trip. International flights from Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, Auckland and Brazil average about $1,500-$2,300 round trip. Mexico, Panama, Jamaica and Bermuda average about $500-800.

More information via Google Flights: <https://www.google.com/flights/>

The Corpus Christi International Airport is approximately 41.3 miles (<http://mapq.st/1M1Xi3a>) from the conference venue (49 min) and 41 miles from the hotel (46 min) <http://mapq.st/1Hsfhke>.

**Other options** (rental car needed, trip fare would be cheaper than flying into CRP):

Fly into San Antonio International Airport, 178.6 miles slightly NW of hotel (2 h 41 min)

 I-37 S > US-361 N

Fly into Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS), 246.4 miles NE of hotel (3 hr 45 min)

 I-37 S > US-361 N

# ACCOMMODATIONS

There are 2 options available:

**Choice 1 -**

Accommodations will be provided by the following 2 hotels, which are in close proximity of each other and 6-7 minutes (1.3 mi) from venue location; hotels are 0.10 miles from each other. If the Holiday Inn cannot accommodate all the attendees, we will use the Best Western, as well.



**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**, IHG Green Engage system, 4.5 offers **74** guest rooms, 1.5 blocks from beach, 1 minute walk to the Best Western Ocean Villa, walking distance to shops and restaurants.

<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/port-aransas/portx/hoteldetail>

**October** discount group/conference rates: $119.00-129.00/night; rates subject to change; 2015 quote provided by manager, Melanie Nixon

Amenities: <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/port-aransas/portx/hoteldetail/amenities>

outdoor pool, hot tub, business center, health & fitness center, free standard internet service & Wi-Fi, complimentary, full hot breakfast bar.

**Best Western Ocean Villa**, certificate of Excellence 2014 winner, offers **49** guest rooms, 3 short blocks to the beach, 1 minute walk to the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, walking distance to shops and restaurants.

[www.bestwestern.com/oceanvilla](http://www.portaransas.org/port-aransas-business-directory/accommodations/hotels--motels/best-western-ocean-villa/visit)

**October** discount group/conference rates: $71.00/weekdays; $143.00/weekends; rates subject to change; quote provided by manager

Amenities: complimentary, full hot breakfast bar, heated outdoor pool, cable color TV, Wi-Fi, business center services, hairdryer, iron/ironing board, coffee/tea maker, refrigerator, microwave, 37-in flat screen TV, and desk/work area.

**Choice 2 -**

Accommodations will be provided by the **Hampton Inn & Suites**, newly built in 2013, offers **78** guest rooms, 8 min (2.3 mi) from venue location, and ½ mile from beach

<http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hampton-inn-and-suites-port-aransas-CRPPAHX/index.html>



**October** discount group/conference rates: $100.00/weekdays; $115.00/weekends; 2015 quote provided by manager, Ravi Patel.

Meeting room could be used for Welcome Reception / $250.00

Amenities: complimentary, full hot breakfast bar, outdoor pool with hot tub, cable color TV, Wi-Fi, business center services, fitness center, coin laundry, hairdryer, iron/ironing board, coffee/tea maker, refrigerator, microwave, 37-in flat screen TV, baggage storage, and much more.

# LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

**Ground transportation**:

* **Metropolitan Shuttle** in Corpus Christi is available for $100 / hour or as needed, with negotiated prices for ½ day or full day field trip excursions

<http://www.metropolitanshuttle.com/>

Arrangements have been made for shuttle service to and from Corpus Christi airport

See attachment [..\IAMSLIC SAIL 2019\Shuttle Service for Marine Science Institute.docx](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cdlandry.TAMUCC%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CIAMSLIC%20SAIL%202019%5CShuttle%20Service%20for%20Marine%20Science%20Institute.docx)

* **Daisy Charters** – price being negotiated
* 6 taxi services available at the Corpus Christi Int’l Airport

Flat rate is $109.00 / one way to Port Royal Ocean Resort

* **Car rentals**: Alamo, Avis, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National, Thrifty

# FOOD

All 3 hotels mentioned above include complimentary breakfasts. MSI will provide food choices for any receptions, venues, and catering possibilities.

**Dining at MSI:** Services will be provided for coffee/tea, breakfasts, lunches, and breaks/snacks as needed throughout the day. For certain lunches a local catering service will be used.

* [**Breakfast**](http://www.nsucatering.catertrax.com/shopdisplayproducts.asp?categoryID=1&cat=Breakfast&intOrderID=&intCustomerID=)**:** ranges from simple at $5-6/pp to full selection at $10-15/pp.
* **Lunch:** Lunches can either be [cold salads, wraps or sandwiches](http://www.nsucatering.catertrax.com/shopdisplayproducts.asp?subCategoryID=56&cat=Signature+Sandwiches&categoryID=2&intOrderID=&intCustomerID=) or [hot lunch buffets](http://www.nsucatering.catertrax.com/shopdisplayproducts.asp?subCategoryID=12&cat=Poultry+Selections&categoryID=7&intOrderID=&intCustomerID=), ranging from $10/pp to $15/pp.
* [**Snacks**](http://www.nsucatering.catertrax.com/shopdisplayproducts.asp?categoryID=8&cat=Breaks&intOrderID=&intCustomerID=)**:** Snacks and breaks range from $5/pp to $10/pp.
* **Coffee/Tea set up:** $15-$20 ; sodas $35-40.
* **Dinner:** Dinner on your own and one night for banquet.

# WELCOME RECEPTION VENUE

The welcome reception would have to depend on choice of hotel accommodations. Options include:

* Hampton Inn meeting room - $250.00 / requires no transportation for attendees
* Mustang Island Art Gallery, which is directly next door to the Hampton and provides receptions (proposal being investigated) / requires no transportation for attendees
* A 3rd option is being decided

# BANQUET VENUE

There are many options for the banquet venue.

**Option 1-**

**Dinner and Entertainment-**

Third Coast Theater <http://www.seashellvillage.com/third-coast-theater-t-3.html>

An on-site intimate, music venue featuring many of Texas’ top live music performers. They can seat up to 150 guests in a great indoor/outdoor setting. This will not require additional transportation to the event since it is 1 minute from the Holiday Inn and Best Western. MSI staff and friends have used this location for retirement parties and weddings. Cost to be determined, as well as catering needs.



**Option 2-**

Depending on possible day-trip tours, banquet may be held at a restaurant in Rockport or downtown Corpus Christi. Places in consideration depending on program:

 Allegro Bay Restaurant & Bar - Rockport

 <http://allegrobayrockport.com/>

 Republic of Texas Steakhouse – Corpus Christi (very pricey, 20th floor of Omni Hotel)

 <http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/corpus-christi/dining/republic-of-texas>

 Water St. Market

 <http://www.waterstmarketcc.com/#home-1>

# REGISTRATION/TICKETS

Online registration, printing of tickets for events, etc., would be provided by the RegOnline Committee using IAMSLIC’s RegOnline account. Other options and assistance may be needed for some attendees.

# SPEAKERS

World renowned researchers and scientists from the Marine Science Institute and the Harte Research Institute in Corpus Christi are potential guest speakers. Keynote speaker is currently being researched and fee may be needed.

**Potential speakers, depending on availability and their respective areas of specialization:**

* Jace Tunnell: Director; Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Reserve
* Edward Buskey: Zooplankton ecology, Estuarine ecology
* Kenneth Dunton: Aquatic plant ecology, coastal ecosystem processes, coastal marine systems from tropical to polar latitudes
* Deana Erdner: Phytoplankton ecology, focusing on molecular biology and ecology of marine eukaryotic algae, emphasis on harmful and/or toxic species
* Brad Erisman: Fisheries ecology, reproductive biology, behavioral ecology, population dynamics, fisheries management and conservation biology
* Lee Fuiman: Associate Director, Fisheries and Mariculture Laboratory, Behavior, sensory ecology, morphology, and physiology of fish larvae and marine mammals; larval fish culture, broodstock management
* Zhanfei Liu: Marine organic geochemistry/environmental analytical chemistry, oil spill
* Tracy Villareal:  Ecology of oceanic phytoplankton, understanding processes and interactions
* Benjamin Walther: Fish migration ecology, Nursery habitat ecology, population connectivity
* Wes Tunnell: Endowed Chair, Harte Research Institute, Biodiversity and conservation science
* Paul Montagna: Endowed Chair, Harte Research Institute, Ecosystems and modeling

**Graduate students may also serve as speakers**

# FIELD TRIP OPTIONS

* Sunday prior to conference – Optional field trip to ?
* Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-CC
	+ <http://www.harteresearchinstitute.org/>
* South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center
	+ <http://www.stxbot.org/> (Liz is member)
* Visit to the Texas State Aquarium
	+ <https://texasstateaquarium.org/>
* USS Lexington, including 3D Mega Theater
	+ <https://www.usslexington.com/>
* Bayfront/Downtown, Corpus Christi
	+ Take a walk along the seawall, small beach
	+ <http://www.visitcorpuschristitx.org/explore/downtown/>

All of these museums are in close proximity of each other, Shoreline Blvd.

* Art Museum of South Texas, affiliated with Texas A&M University-CC
	+ on Shoreline Blvd in Corpus, along seawall
	+ <http://www.artmuseumofsouthtexas.org/Home.aspx>
* Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History
	+ <https://www.ccmuseum.com/>
* Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures
	+ <http://www.asianculturesmuseum.org/>

Restaurants downtown:

* Brewster Street Icehouse
	+ <http://www.brewsterstreet.net/>
* Water Street Market
	+ <http://www.waterstmarketcc.com/#home-1>
	+ Oyster Bar, Seafood Company, Executive Surf Club
* Landry’s Seafood
* Thai Spice

# OTHER ACTIVITIES

* Rent a golf cart – the unofficial convertible of the island!
* Beaches, birds and nature
* Fishing (surf and pier) and boating
* Parasailing - <http://www.chuteemupparasail.com/>
* Skydiving - <http://www.skydivesouthtexas.com/>
* Boutiques, shops, art galleries and yes, the good ‘ol souvenir shops!
* Rentals: Jet ski, paddle boards, kayaks, surfboards, body boards, skim boards, carts, scooters, and bikes
* Golfing <http://palmillabeach.com/golf> and believe it or not, miniature golf at Kody’s Restaurant and Bar <http://www.kodysrestaurant.com/>