

The Marine Science & Policy Initiative

MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

Urban Coast Institute

The Urban Coast Institute's (UCI) Marine Science & Policy Initiative is creating new opportunities for Monmouth University to conduct research and policy analysis, enhance student experiences in and out of the classroom, and support community stewardship of coastal and ocean ecosystems.

- ◆ Securing the future for Monmouth University's marine programs with facilities, equipment and program enhancements.

Meeting Challenges

The Initiative grew from a successful 2014 Challenge Grant campaign, in which an anonymous donor pledged \$3 million if the University could raise \$2 million in matching gifts. Today, having met the

The Initiative supports Monmouth University's continued leadership and long-term commitment to marine science and policy programs. It is raising the University's profile as the premier state and regional center for ocean and coastal policy by:

- ◆ Increasing student and faculty research opportunities, recruitment scholarships and community engagement.
- ◆ Fostering collaboration with Rockefeller University on scientific projects with regional, national and international implications.





challenge, these funds are making a variety of innovative research activities and programs possible, including:

- ◆ Scholarships for Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy Program students.
- ◆ Summer Research Program support for students in marine science and policy areas.
- ◆ Graduate assistantships for students in the M.S. in Public Policy, Anthropology, Business/Real Estate, Communications or other relevant programs.
- ◆ Collaboration between the UCI and coastal communities on water quality projects, habitat restoration, hydrography and community resilience.
- ◆ Faculty support and continued curriculum development.
- ◆ Support for research vessels, water quality research, flood warning stations and equipment needed for UCI-related research and marine field programs.
- ◆ The Initiative will also support the goals outlined in the University's strategic plan.

Collaboration with Rockefeller University

Through the Initiative, Monmouth University and the UCI are also building a valuable partnership with

Rockefeller University. Beginning in 2016, the two universities will co-organize four annual conferences on scientific and policy topics of regional and national interest, alternating between the MU campus and RU's in New York City.

The partnership will extend to cutting-edge scientific research projects on topics such as ocean noise, emerging marine exploration technologies and the use of DNA fragments to detect the presence of aquatic species. In addition, Professor Jesse Ausubel, Director of RU's Program for the Human Environment, will visit Monmouth's campus on a regular basis and serve as a student mentor.

Securing the Future

A series of Initiative-funded infrastructure improvements will position Monmouth University and the UCI to flourish in the future. Among the most visible upgrades will be a new UCI office center in the renovated School of Science building that will serve as a hub for cross-university collaboration and public engagement. A full-time UCI Program and Project Director will assist in the implementation of the Initiative, expand outreach to faculty and secure additional funding for these efforts.

The UCI and University will continue to raise funding to support programs in the areas of marine policy, ocean planning, community resilience and climate adaptation, water quality research and the restoration of coastal habitats. To learn how you can contribute, see the box below.

For More Information, or to Contribute Contact

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