What is the Marine Technology Society?

The Marine Technology Society (MTS) was founded in 1963 as a way to build relationships between agencies with different purposes (i.e. academia, industry, and government). “To promote awareness, understanding, advancement and application of marine technology” is the guiding principle behind the society. Marine technology is used ubiquitously across all fields of marine science and maritime applications. Because of the intrinsic need for technological solutions MTS aims to:

1) Facilitate a broader understanding of the relevance of marine technology to wider global issues by enhancing the dissemination of marine technology information.

2) Promote and improve marine technology related educational programs.

3) Advance the development of the tools and procedures required to explore, study, and further the responsible and sustainable use of the oceans.

Source: www.mtsociety.org/About.

New Members

MTS, in coordination with Teledyne, offers coverage of membership fees for new members at the beginning of each calendar year. We encourage new students and returning students to obtain a membership! The annual fees are covered by our parent chapter, so your MTS membership is not a costly burden.

In fact, having an MTS membership will allow you to apply for scholarships and fellowships. Additionally, each year MTS holds a conference that student members have the opportunity to go to at little or no cost to themselves. Keep your eyes out for the upcoming Teledyne application.

What has USM’s MTS Section done recently?

Since the August newsletter, MTS at USM has hosted three full section meetings, one a month.

- Several members participated in the NAVOCEANO University Day Poster Session (Oct. 2016)
- Coastal Clean-up (Oct. 2016): MTS members hosted a site in Gulfport with nearly 200 volunteers turning out to clean the coastline. Several other student members cleaned up the beaches in their local community.
- Ocean Commotion (Oct. 2016) is an ocean science education day sponsored by Louisiana Sea Grant in Baton Rouge, L.A. MTS student members hosted an exhibit and had both graduate and undergraduate volunteer attend the event.
- Projects including the pH meter and drone studies have made progress and have good momentum. (see page 2).

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HIGHLIGHTS

MTS “ALL HANDS” MEETING

PLACE: 1022 Rm 101
TIME: 12:00 PM TUESDAY, NOV 22ND

During the Chair’s absence the Vice-Chair will discuss upcoming plans and opportunities. Contact: Laura Whitmore (laura.whitmore@usm.edu) or Peng Ho (peng.ho@usm.edu).

MTS student members (Naomi Yoder, Laura Whitmore, and Victoria Young) and undergraduate volunteers (Tyler Santiago and Beckah Campbell) at Ocean Commotion in Baton Rouge, Oct 27th, 2016.

Our Scientific Projects

Proposal #1: *Low-cost Aerial Drone Applications*

Development of localized techniques for using drones to monitor small scale changes in the coastal environment.

- We have conducted two test flights on a Waveland, MS beach bracketing a summer flooding event. The tests primarily aimed to test methodology. Results will be presented at the Bays and Bayous meeting at the end of November.

- Funding for the remainder is undetermined. However, a consulting firm has expressed interest in the project.

Proposal #2: *pH Monitoring in the Mississippi Sound*

pH monitoring in the Mississippi Sound is next to non-existent and the region is prone significant freshwater inputs which may change pH for a significant length of time. This project has the potential to incorporate citizen science with improving regional oceanographic monitoring.

- We are in the process of ordering materials to construct two photometers. Simultaneously, we are seeking the funding to continue in to the second and third phases of the project, which include constructing ten more photometers and distributing them to citizen scientists, identified by the Gulf Coast parent chapter and the Marine Education Center at USM’s GCRL.

- A proposal was submitted to the USM Foundation through Dr. Howden requesting the entire budget.

Both of our projects are moving forward nicely. MTS Headquarters intends to fund a start-up amount to kick of each project. With that funding, the pH project will build 2 photometers for design testing and QA/QC ($200.00). The continuation of the project is dependent on the successful acquisition of grant monies. The drone project was given $150.00 to license an operator.

*To view the proposal to MTS Headquarters contact Laura Whitmore (laura.whitmore@usm.edu) or Peng Ho (peng.ho@usm.edu)*

MTS student members (Stephan O’Brien, Laura Whitmore, and Naomi Yoder) and FSU student volunteer (Alex Cory) at Coastal Cleanup in Gulfport, Oct 22nd, 2016.