

Maile C. Sullivan

Career Summary

Energetic, hard-working, enthusiastic marine affairs professional with highly developed skills in education and community outreach. Detail-oriented team leader with a passion for the ocean, conservation, and a keen interest and experience in environmental sciences. Establishes a sense of community both professionally and personally. Welcomes challenges and embraces change.

Demonstrated Skills

- Communication and outreach to diverse publics
- Program/project management
- Training (including curriculum and professional development)
- Partnership management
- Mediation/conflict resolution
- Management/leadership
- Fundraising/grants management
- Scientific and Social Research

Education

University of Washington, School of Marine Affairs, Seattle, WA

2006 - 2008

M.M.A in Marine Affairs and Policy

Specialization in Marine Tourism

Thesis: Capacity Building for Sea Turtle Conservation Tourism: Establishing Best Practices for International NGOs

Connecticut College, New London, CT

1997 - 2001

B.A. in Environmental Science, Graduated *Cum Laude*

- Teacher Certificate Program, Secondary Education General Science
- School for Field Studies, Marine Resource Management Program, Turks and Caicos, BWI

Professional Work Experience

Washington Sea Grant, Seattle, WA

2011- Present

Marine Education Specialist

Manage K-12 education and outreach programming for Seattle-based programs, including annual Orca Bowl event and NOAA Science Camps. Develop and maintain annual budgets; recruit program participants, volunteers, and teachers; hire, train and supervise seasonal staff and volunteers; oversee compliance with risk management policies and safety procedures throughout all programs; develop and maintain partnerships to support innovative and effective programs; design and implement program evaluation tools; provide program updates and reports as needed.

- Successfully increased recruitment numbers for both Orca Bowl and NOAA Science camp through development and modification of programs to expand audience
- Created new professional development workshops on teaching and learning for NOAA Scientists and camp education staff
- Chaired and hosted the 2014 National Ocean Sciences Bowl Finals competition
- Continued service on term and ongoing committees including: University of Washington Youth Programs Steering Committee (member), NOAA Science Camp Steering Committee (Co-chair), Youth Environmental Education Network (member), UW College of the Environment Diversity Committee (elected member), WSG Diversity Workgroup (member), Storming the Sound Steering Committee
- Received Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators 2018 *Informal Marine Educator of the Year* award; 2019 *President's Award*

Coral Program Specialist

Managed regional coral reef efforts in US coral reef jurisdictions; developed priorities and monitored performance of program components; provided budget forecasting and preparation of funding requests; supported strategic planning efforts including identifying priorities, developing performance measures, and implementing programmatic changes in response to the CRCP's recent external program review; staffed the *Staff Evaluation and Assessment (SEA)* team and the *DEEP Coral Team*; assisted with development of 3-year budgets and recommendations for internal project funding; assisted with review of National Coral Reef Conservation grants and formation of cooperative agreements with external organizations/agencies; managed information needed to support the CRCP including customized, accurate and up-to-date responses to inquiries relative to actions and expenditures associated with the Coral Reef Conservation Act.

- Implemented new, congressionally-mandated *Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program*
- Reviewed NOAA technical documents and reports including Reports to Congress, National Goals and Objectives, CRCP Strategic Plans, etc.
- Served on several working groups to provide support and represent interests of the National Marine Fisheries Service: Budget and Accountability; Data Management; Coral Reef Information Systems; Spend Plan Redesign; Education and Outreach; Deep-sea Coral Program Planning; Mapping and Monitoring
- Acted as communications/outreach co-coordinator for Seafloor Characterization of the U.S Caribbean *Spring 2010 Research Mission aboard the NOAA Ship Nancy Foster: March 18 - April 6, 2010*
- Assisted in the development of 3 regional workshops regarding the conservation of coral reefs
- Developed coral related outreach materials on for Office of Habitat Conservation and the CRCP

Washington Sea Grant, Seattle, WA

2007- 2009

Graduate Student Assistant

Provided support in a variety of programs and projects including but not limited to event planning, education program coordination and assistance in the development of a new database.

- Planned West Coast Governors' Agreement Conference; acted as liaison between Washington Sea Grant and conference chairs; oversaw conference logistics, registration, reimbursements; provided technical support and vendor management.
- Coordinated NOAA Science Camp Program for summers 2007 and 2008; worked collaboratively with Camp Director and NOAA scientists to provide dynamic educational programming; hired and supervised camp staff.; facilitated partnerships between NOAA scientists, Washington Sea Grant, and program vendors; established on-site risk management plan for camp programming; doubled camper attendance and managed registration and correspondence with parents and vendors
- Assisted with development and implementation of new web-based marine education resource database Washington on Water (WOW)

Camp SEA Lab, Seaside, CA

2003 –2006

Education Director

Designed and implemented marine science outdoor education programs for youth ages 8-18; acted as on-site Camp Director for day and residential camp programs and outdoor science school; developed and implemented environmental outreach programs for families, schools, and teachers; conducted program evaluations and presented findings for educational effectiveness of organization; recruited, trained and supervised all education staff; trained regional educators in marine science education literacy and curricula; recruited participants and staff through active program marketing.

- Forged many new partnerships and involvement with regional organizations including regional NGOs, businesses, and governmental agencies
- Wrote and aligned curricula to National, California State and Ocean Literacy Standards
- Developed framework for volunteer program
- Wrote several grants and secured funding for scholarships for underrepresented youth to attend camp
- Grew program from a 5-week summer camp to a year-round marine education program serving over 1,500 youth/year

Marine Conservation Technician

Worked in three national park areas to protect the highly biodiverse and unique tropical island of St. Eustatius; participated in both ecological and educational projects to further the mission of STENAPA Marine Park; facilitated community partnerships for cooperative research with local dive shops, fishermen and other stakeholders; monitored and assessed diver impact on coral reefs within the marine park; presented and instructed marine conservation concepts to local community members and schools

- Developed initial curricula for the “Junior Ranger Program,” an advanced environmental education program that engages youth in projects related to coral reef conservation, watershed protection, etc.
- Led “Snorkel Club” outreach program to introduce and certify Antillean youth in skin diving skills and basic marine ecology
- Communicated conservation messages and marine park news to community via press releases, local radio, newsletters
- Established and implemented first sea turtle tagging and nesting program for island of St. Eustatius
- Conducted diver impact studies on regional coral reef systems
- Coordinated volunteer environmental community service program, enlisting aid from locals, dive companies and tourists
- Secured \$15,000 in grant funding from Netherlands Antilles Department of Environment & Nature for marine education programs and Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) research

Connecticut College Office of Student Life, New London, CT

2000 - 2001

Resident Director

Facilitated community in a 95-student college residential house through educational and social means that challenged and supported the personal development of each student resident; worked collaboratively with faculty, staff, and the Connecticut College community; acted as mediator for conflict, peer counseling and crisis management; interpreted, educated and enforced Connecticut College policies and confronted policy violations.

Consulting and Volunteer Experience

Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators (NAME) Network, Seattle, WA

2012-Present

Regional Board Member/Regional Representative to National Marine Educators Association

Serve on Board of Directors to encourage professional growth among regional marine and aquatic educators by offering workshops, conferences, field-experiences and information sharing in the Pacific Northwest.

Washington State Chapter Co-Director

2014-2019

Co-chaired regional conferences in 2015 and 2019

National Geographic Society, Washington, DC

2010

Consultant

Designed and coordinated events for National Geographic’s *Mission Blue* campaign.

- Collaborated with marine and coastal professionals to conduct workshops to enhance resources and conservation based content available to the marine recreation community
- Provided outreach for Mission Blue at DEMA Conference, 2010

Ocean Conservancy, Washington, DC

2009

Consultant

Gathered and prepared data for Northern Right Whale conservation project; researched historical records, media sources, and reports to glean information for Ocean Conservancy’s whale conservation efforts.

Women’s Aquatic Network, Washington, DC

2009 -2010

Program Officer

Worked with other WAN officers to facilitate events and opportunities to bring together professionals with interests in marine, coastal and aquatic policy, research, management, legislation, and other related areas, and to promote the role of women in marine, coastal and aquatic affairs.

President

Facilitated UW Chapter quarterly activities; led monthly meetings for chapter's officers and all-hands meetings for chapter members; recruited new student membership; collaborated with TCS National, and other student chapters nation-wide.

- Hosted "Blue Drinks" networking events for regional marine and aquatic community
- Planned and facilitated "Brown Bag Lunch" outreach series to integrate regional professionals into marine academic community
- Organized several coastal and community service activities for members
- Chaired partnership between TCS and 2008 FAME Conference

Fisheries and Marine Ecosystems (FAME) Graduate Student Conference, Seattle, WA

2007

Co-Chair

Coordinated a national conference for graduate students involved in interdisciplinary ocean and coastal research; managed several working committees including logistics, fundraising, events, marketing, and scholarships.

- Recruited 100+ graduate students nation-wide to grow FAME from a regional to a national network
- Secured \$25,000 in fundraising efforts to support conference

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Education Panel (SEP), Monterey, CA

2003 – 2006

Education Representative

Collaborated with regional marine and watershed education groups to increase ocean awareness and protection; represented Camp SEA Lab and provided NGO perspective to education community.

- Revised MBNMS Joint Management Plan and provided input for relevant education initiatives

Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA

2003 – 2006

Student Oceanography Club Mentor

Acted as mentor for 80 middle school members in classroom and field-based experiences pertaining to ocean conservation.

- Completed over 200 hours of volunteer service for Aquarium

WILDCOAST International Conservation Team, Northern CA

2002

Intern

Coordinated and presented educational sea turtle conservation programs for Northern California schools and libraries; organized book buying program benefiting school libraries in Baja, Mexico.

Publications

Pietri, D., Soule, B., Kershner, J., Soles, P., and M. Sullivan (2008). *The Arctic Shipping and Environmental Management Agreement: a regime for marine pollution*. Coastal Management Journal.

Presentations

Observations of Marine Wildlife Tourism in Baja, Mexico. Fisheries and Marine Ecosystems Graduate Student Conference. April 2008. Port Angeles, Washington.

Marine Wildlife Tourism Opportunities in Baja, California. 5th Coastal Marine Tourism Congress, *Balancing Marine Tourism, Development and Sustainability*. September 2007. Auckland, New Zealand

Accreditations, Affiliations and Licenses

National Marine Educators Association, Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators, The Coastal Society–University of Washington Chapter, Women's Aquatic Network, Connecticut Secondary School Teaching Certificate, NAUI Open Water Diver, PADI Advanced Open Water Diver, CPR/First Aid, Tender for St. Eustatius Hyperbaric Chamber