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2021 Highlights

Happy Holidays from the Darling Marine Center

Greetings from the Darling Marine Center. It has been a very full year, with lots of exciting developments.

With the DMC Strategic and Master Plans as our guides, we have been able to make great investments in the campus. Thanks to financial support of the U.S. Economic Development Administration and matching funds from the University of Maine and state marine bond funds, we replaced our commercial grade pier, and flowing seawater pumps and pumphouse, renovated our oldest flowing seawater laboratory, and replaced the primary electrical cable that powers the campus.

I invite you to come and see our waterfront improvements next summer, when we bring DMC tours back as a regular part of our public programming.

This summer, we welcomed more than 24 undergraduate interns to the DMC. Thanks to the support of many generous donors, students worked in faculty research laboratories, at field sites statewide, and on the experimental sea farm in Lowes Cove.

This fall, we had 29 students join us for Semester by the Sea, our residential marine science program. Tens of students from UMaine and other colleges and universities throughout the region joined us for field trips and other hands-on learning opportunities, as well.

With your support in 2022, the DMC will continue to proudly serve as a hub for collaborative research, education and engagement. We will create new knowledge with scientific colleagues around the world and contribute to training the next generation of marine scientists and professionals through our courses, workshops and community and industry engagement programs. Please join us.



Wishing you a healthy and happy 2022,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Heather Leslie".

Heather Leslie, Ph.D.

Director, Darling Marine Center

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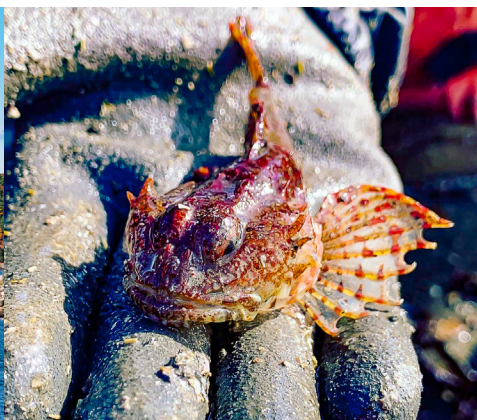


Strategic Investments

- We completed waterfront infrastructure improvements in early 2021, thanks to funds from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, State of Maine, UMaine and the DMC endowment.
- DMC researchers and students began using the pier immediately as a research platform and outdoor classroom, and through its support of our research fleet.
- The renovated flowing seawater lab has hosted business incubator clients and multiple experiments on marine species' responses to changing environmental conditions.

Research

- We welcomed two new staff this year, Adam St. Gelais, innovation specialist with the UMaine Aquaculture Research Institute and Chris Cash, assistant director of the UMaine Lobster Institute.
- A DMC based team including faculty, staff and students affiliated with the School of Marine Sciences, Maine Sea Grant, ARI, and the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, supported development of the DMC experimental aquaculture station, thanks to funds from U.S. Department of Agriculture and private donors.



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Education

- During the summer, 24 undergraduate research interns conducted research on topics ranging from the larval diet of lobsters to the ecology of deep-sea corals.
- In the fall semester, 29 undergraduates participated in Semester by the Sea, the residential experiential academic program hosted in partnership with the School of Marine Sciences.
- In total this year the DMC supported courses and research learning experiences for more than 35 graduate and 149 undergraduate students, as well as for high school students.

Community Engagement

- Thanks to a generous anonymous gift, DMC faculty and students supported hands-on learning, mentoring and community science opportunities for high school and undergraduate students in partnership with Lincoln Academy and local shellfish harvesters, shellfish farmers, and other community and industry partners.
- We hosted a series of Shoreline Science Talks, welcoming more than 80 members of the public for intimate conversations with four DMC based UMaine School of Marine Sciences graduate students.



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Giving



The Darling Marine Center invites you invest in the DMC Student Research and Experiential Education Fund. Gifts will support student research and experiential education programs at the DMC.

We welcome financial gifts of any amount and appreciate any support you can provide. You can give by:

- Using the University of Maine Foundation's online portal, and specifying the Darling Marine Center as the recipient at dmc.umaine.edu/giving
- Mailing a check to the University of Maine Foundation, designating Darling Marine Center on the memo line and mailing to:

University of Maine Foundation
Two Alumni Place
Orono, ME 04469

If you would like to discuss additional giving options please contact the DMC Director at 207.563.8299

Thank you for considering our students as a recipient of your gift.

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The Darling Marine Center is a proud part of the University of Maine. Our mission is to connect people to the ocean by generating and sharing knowledge of coastal and marine ecosystems, and the human communities that are part of them.

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Photo credit: UMaine staff, and UMaine School of Marine Sciences students Jack Rigazio, James Greenwood, Sarah Risley, Shay Hubbard, Zach Procter, and Dara Yiu.

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