



Diversity in Woods Hole “Did You Know” Fact Sheet

Did you know...

The six science and research institutions in Woods Hole are:

Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL)
NOAA’s Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC)
Sea Education Association (SEA)
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI)
Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC)

In 2004 the leaders of these six institutions signed a memorandum of understanding committing their institutions to work together to attract and retain a more diverse workforce. This group is known as the Woods Hole Diversity Initiative.

The Diversity Initiative established a Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) with representatives from each institution that meets monthly.

You can go to www.woodsholediversity.org to find the latest information regarding diversity in Woods Hole.

Dr. Robert Harris of Cornell University addressed members of the Diversity Initiative on February 17, 2006.

On June 24, 2006, the six institutions hosted a day for the MIT Summer Research Program students, many of whom are from minority populations, to become acquainted with Woods Hole.

Through a minority fellowship program, WHOI in conjunction with USGS is able to provide special education opportunities to minority undergraduates from U.S. colleges and universities.

On February 23, 2006 the Woods Hole Diversity Initiative hosted a talk by Dr. Damon A. Williams, assistant vice provost for multicultural and international affairs at the University of Connecticut.

SEA hosted a series of Diversity Symposiums over a three year period of time.

In July 2006 WHOI approved the formation of a WHOI Diversity Committee in response to the recommendations of the Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC).

The Woods Hole Research Center has sponsored an education in residence program for visiting scholars from other countries.

Established in 1973, WHOI's Women's Committee is a forum for the ideas and concerns of women associated with WHOI.

MBL offers four different minority and international awards for summer course students including scholarships for underrepresented minority groups and Israeli students.

NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center established an Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Advisory Committee to observe and monitor the Northeast Region's progress on equal employment opportunity and diversity issues.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) offers diverse employment opportunities for students in biology, hydrology, computer science, cartography, geology, geochemistry, administration, and many other fields.

A group at WHOI called GLOW (Gays, Lesbians and Others at WHOI) provides community networking and support for gays, lesbians, bisexual, transexual, and transgendered individuals and their allies.

Annually, MBL welcomes over 400 international scholars, representing over 38 different countries from around the world.

NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center created a diversity initiative in 1995 called "Expanding Opportunities" – through this initiative, the NEFSC hosts and then employs undergraduate and graduate level scientists from under-represented minorities.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has established a Welcoming Committee to help newcomers of all backgrounds adjust to their new community.

SEA's underrepresented student population has risen from 3 to 10 percent over the last four years.

MBL offers the SPINES Program during the summer to unite pre-doctoral neuroscience students.

WHOI established an International Committee in 1990 to welcome international visitors and help them acclimate to the Institution and community.

MBL's Director has been invited to speak at a reception being held at the home of Walter Massey, President of Morehouse College, this fall during the American Society for Cell Biology meetings in Atlanta. Massey, an MBL Trustee, is hosting the event in an effort to increase MBL's visibility within a historically black academic community.

In 2002 NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center began a collaboration with Howard University to produce Ph.D.s with backgrounds in quantitative biology.

The Deputy Director of USGS established the Special Emphasis Program Advisory Committee in 2001 to promote diversity within the USGS.

The Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee made 8 recommendations to the Diversity Initiative as a roadmap to creating pathways of opportunity in Woods Hole.