NOAA Teacher at Sea Program
2017 Year in Review

Overview

• External Evaluation
• 2017 Season
• Web and Social Media
• Alumni Activities
• Perspectives

TAS ‘17 Sian Proctor on board NOAA Ship Oscar Dyson.
External Evaluation (1)

- Report delivered in February 2017

- TAS Program seen as a “once in a lifetime opportunity” that bolstered participants’ professional identities and knowledge

- Alumni appreciated continued opportunities for engagement and growth offered through Teacher at Sea Alumni Association

http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/#/highlights
• **Most Significant Change** Evaluation Technique
  – Identified 15 Significant Change stories in which alumni are making a significant impact on their classrooms and communities

*Video featuring TAS ‘16 Barney Peterson (Everett, WA) describing the value of sailing on a shark survey on board NOAA Ship Oregon II*

http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/#/highlights
2017 Season: By the Numbers

- Teachers sent to sea: 29
- Research Hours: 4900+
- States represented: 20
- Science blog posts: 178
- Active Alumni: 300+
- Outreach events: 31
- Graduate Credits Awarded: 6
- Media (articles, radio, TV): 12+

“In the classroom I am always trying to engage my students in authentic hands-on research. [The TAS] program just took it up another notch for me by putting me out in the field.” - TAS ‘17 Susan Brown
2017 Teacher at Sea Field Season
Web and Social Media (1)

In FY 2017:

350,000+ visits to teacheratsea.noaa.gov

53,000+ visits to noaateacheratsea.blog
Web and Social Media (2)

Most Popular Photo of the Week:
Man, Oh Man-o-War (April 17, 2017)
Photo by TAS ’17 Emily Sprowls

Facebook Reach: 12,263 users
Facebook Engagement: 589 clicks, likes, or shares

Twitter Impressions: 8,017 users
Twitter Engagement: 114 interactions
TAS Alumni Outreach Events (1)

(Top) NOAA Teacher at Sea Program alumni staff the NOAA Education booth at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) National Conference in Los Angeles, March 30 – April 1, 2017

(Right) TAS ‘10 Beth Spear volunteers at the NOAA booth at NSTA Milwaukee, November 9 – 11, 2017
TAS Alumni Outreach Events (2)

TAS ‘17 Karen Grady and NOAA scientist Kristin Hannan speak with visitors to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History about sharks during the “Expert is In” Event, June 28, 2017
TAS Program joined the celebration of NOAA Ship *Oregon II*’s 50th Anniversary in Pascagoula, Mississippi, on October 5, 2017. Since 1990, 76 TAS have sailed on *Oregon II* -- including the very first NOAA Teacher at Sea, Debora Mosher.
Gulf of Mexico TAS Alumni Workshop
Southeast Fisheries Science Center Pascagoula Laboratory
May 5-7, 2017

• 17 alumni from 6 Gulf Coast and Southeast States
• 13 scientists and staff from the Pascagoula Lab
• 3 days of science and networking!
  – TAS Poster Session
  – Science presentations
  – Shark dissection
  – Boat trip on R/V Caretta
  – Trawling Demonstration
  – Beach clean-up
  – Lesson Share
Southwest TAS Alumni Workshop
Southwest Fisheries Science Center La Jolla Laboratory
November 17-19, 2017

• 31 alumni from 5 Southwestern States
• Scientists and staff from the La Jolla Lab
• 3 days of science and networking!
  – TAS Poster Session
  – Tour of SWFSC
  – Ichthyoplankton Lab
  – Experimental Aquarium
  – San Diego Maritime Museum
  – Sailing on the Californian
  – Lesson Share
Teacher Perspectives (1)

“The memories I have made from the Teacher at Sea program will be amongst the ones I will cherish for the rest of my life. Thank you so much for offering this program. I cannot begin to express how impactful it was to me personally and professionally.”

- TAS ‘17 Samuel Northern
“Allowing teachers this opportunity is second to none. I became a student again. This is important in so many ways. It's sometimes easy to forget to put yourself in the students’ shoes and see it through their eyes.”

- TAS ‘17 Helen Haskell
Teacher Perspectives (3)

“The TAS program provides a terrific avenue for connecting teachers and students with current, real world research that is driving important policy decisions related to our oceans and natural resources.”

– TAS ‘17 Kip Chambers
Teacher Perspectives (4)

“The longer we teachers teach, the further we get away from our own science education. I really appreciate the opportunity to reconnect with a current, real world scientific endeavor, in such a special setting, and to spend a little time "back in the lab." It helps me to keep my teaching relevant.”

- TAS ‘17 Anna Levy
Teacher Perspectives (5)

“The Teacher at Sea Program *inspires me to build coalitions* among the school system, scientists and community partners to advance ocean literacy.”
- TAS ‘17 Jenny Hartigan (R)
Alumni Perspectives

“Teacher at Sea is hands down the best teacher development program around. It saved my career the first time I sailed, and it paved the way for new instructional courses at the school I teach at. If it weren't for TAS, I wouldn't be a teacher anymore.”

– TAS ‘11/’17 Staci DeSchryver
I cannot say enough positive things about the relationships developed through this program. I think the chance for us as scientists to reach a broader audience and engage kids about the work we are doing and why is extremely important and useful to everyone involved!

– Biologist Kristin Hannan, SEFSC Pascagoula Lab

NOAA biologist Kristin Hannan speaks with visitors at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History.
I sincerely hope that we will have the Teacher at Sea program around for a long time! They are one of the best ways for us to "get the word out" about the importance of what NOAA is doing to keep track of our constantly changing marine environment. They are also an important link to educating the public about a world which they may not have direct contact with, but which they can view through blogs and photos shared with them by the teachers.

– Fisheries Scientist David Richardson, NEFSC Narragansett Lab

Chief Scientist David Richardson and TAS ‘17 Sam Northern prepare to launch a drifter buoy.