CSU COAST Science Policy Internship: Remote with California Ocean Science Trust

Demetra Panos
May - August 2020
400 hours you say...
Where did all the time go!?

Working with OPC SAT
• Support OPC SAT term renewals

Kelp project development
• Support development of socioeconomic concept sketch

DEI: Internal and External Initiatives
• Support internal DEI initiatives
• Aid in development of DEI assessment proposal

Scientific Guidance in Support of MPA Decadal Management Reviews
• Support meeting facilitation and project management

Other Projects and Skill Development
• Research for GHG emissions of ships at berth
• Project management and facilitation skills
• Science Communication – Case study for Climate WG
• Adobe InDesign and Illustrator
• Copy editing – OAH Gaps Analysis
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At Ocean Science Trust we recognize our unique position as a boundary organization to expand our DEI efforts externally through working partnerships with organizations, institutions, and agencies in the marine and coastal science landscape. Our current external initiatives intend to:

1. Bring visibility to the DEI problem in the coastal and marine landscape
2. Empower scientists, agencies, and organizations to promote institutional and cultural change
3. Support the creation of new science-policy graduate education opportunities with equitable access
4. Draw attention to environmental justice issues in the marine and coastal landscape and bring them to the forefront

OST is convening an OPC Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT) DEI Advisory Committee to explore opportunities to elevate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in OPC SAT activities, initiatives, and work modes as it relates to advancing equity objectives in the OPC Strategic Plan.

As science advisors to the state we carry a responsibility to ensure that information, recommendations and actions are the most salient and legitimate to tackle the pressing challenges facing our coast and ocean. At the same time this unique role gives us important visibility and a unique voice to amplify the need for a more just and inclusive science landscape.

Assessing and addressing disparities in the marine and coastal science and decision making landscape in California

As we recognize the need for more diverse perspectives on marine and coastal issues in order to develop equitable and efficient solutions, it is apparent the lack of diversity that currently exists in the field is limiting the potential for diversity in decisions and solutions to issues facing the ocean and coast. We know that the problems seen, the questions asked and the answers considered depend on who is at the table, who asks the questions and who funds the answers. The most legitimate science advice will come from scientists who reflect California’s diversity.

This project is two-fold:
1. Conduct an in-depth assessment of diversity, equity, and inclusion within California’s ocean and coastal education pipeline
2. Engage Experts to Develop Recommendations and Strategies for Increasing Ocean and Coastal Workforce Diversity

Through this work, we aim to take important steps towards supporting an ocean science workforce that reflects California’s diversity and to provide recommendations for cultivating a more equitable and inclusive space in the
Goals

**Goal 1** Generate understanding and refine skills in project development and design, specifically under a science policy lens.

**Goal 2** Exercise and hone translational science writing and communication skills.

**Goal 3** Gain a better understanding of California's current political landscape with regards to ocean and coastal policy and the role and function of OST in this space.
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THANK YOU!