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EDITORIAL

Bienvenue, Bienvenido and Welcome from the Centre for Marine Sciences! This is the fourth issue of our quarterly e-newsletters. This issue will highlight the activities that occurred from March to June. We ask that you take some time to read the information provided. Feel free to give us your comments and feedback, as well as any related information you or your organisation may have to contribute.

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Research and Teaching



Coral Disease Survey Team,
Portland Bight

In April Dr Warner was invited to teach a section of the Natural Resources Management (NRM) MSc in Barbados. He gave nine lectures and supervised two field trips within the topic of Coastal Ecology and Management. While in Barbados, he visited the offices of CPACC for discussions on continued collaboration. The trip was funded by the NRM programme

In May Mr. Barry Lipman from Underwater Images gave two beginners courses and an advanced course in underwater photography to UWI students and members of the diving public. Some of the photographs are now on display at DBML.

Seven UWI students and one NYS participant successfully completed a dive training course at DBML. The dive training for the UWI students was part of a Life Sciences course "Diving Technology for Aquatic Scientists", administered by CMS

staff and taught primarily by Mr Peter Gayle.

A second coral disease survey was conducted at Pigeon Island, on the 8th of May 2002. A team from CMS including Dr. George Warner, Peter Edwards, Tatum Fisher, Leandra Cho and Dulcie Linton joined Mr Brandon Hay of the NGO Caribbean Coastal Area Management for a survey of coral diseases in Old Harbour Bay. The reefs were found to have less disease and bleaching than when surveyed last September. This was possibly due to comparatively lower prevailing temperatures in May.

Award of Higher Degree

CMS Scientific Officer Peter Edwards has successfully completed all requirements for the award of the Master of Philosophy degree in Marine Science. His thesis title is Mangrove, seagrass, and coral reef community interactions of the Falmouth coast: Northwest Jamaica. Dr Dale Webber, Department of Life Sciences, supervised the research.

Community Outreach and Public Relations at DBML

On the 17th of April, US Ambassador Sue Cobb and her entourage joined over 500 primary and secondary school children from as far away as Spanish Town in a celebration of Earth Day. The students went for boat rides and toured the lab's exhibits. Ambassador Cobb dove with visiting researcher Prof. J. Crabbe and observed his Earthwatch team

engaged in coral reef research.

The Negril Chamber of Commerce invited Dr Warner to visit over the weekend of 17-19th May to look at the evidence of erosion and discuss remedial measures. It appears that a multi-disciplinary study to look at beach sand supply and short-term dynamics might be the best way forward following the earlier study by the Department of Geography and Geology on beach sand composition and long term dynamics.



Eroded beach in Negril

Dr Warner was also involved in a number of radio interviews first on Hot 102, Radio Interview on the 28th of May and on the Power 106 in on June 10. He was asked to comment on the issue of coral reef health and its relationship between this and overfishing.

CMS Visits and Exchanges

Ms Miriam Balgos, a PhD student in the Centre for the Study of Marine Policy (University of Delaware) and Research Assistant on our joint project on Integrated Coastal Management, made a short visit (15-19 April) to help in the development of our distance learning modules. She liaised with PhD student Ms Leandra Cho who is the CMS Research Assistant on this project. Ms Cho and Mr. Peter Edwards will be visiting the University of Delaware and the Urban Harbors Institute (Boston) in July in order to continue

development of the modules.

Dr Buki Rinkevich from the National Institute of Oceanography, Israel, visited CMS from June 23-26 to finalize this application to USAID for a 4-year joint collaborative programme of exchanges and research on: molecular bioassays for stress, coral propagation using small explants and studies on pattern formation in coral colony growth. The application follows acceptance of a pre-proposal and invitation to submit the full proposal.

Visitors to DBML



In May Dr. Dame from the Coastal Carolina University, visited the lab with a group of students. Dr. Dame conducted a course with 12 US students on Tropical Marine Ecology.

International Meetings and Workshops

Mrs. Dulcie Linton was invited to attend an international workshop on The Role of Indicators in Integrated Coastal Management. The workshop was held in Ottawa (29th April – 1st May), and was hosted by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada, and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. Mrs. Linton made a presentation on Biological Indicators in the Caribbean Coastal Zone and Their Role in Integrated Coastal Management.

Dr Warner was invited to attend to a workshop entitled “Millennium Assessment: Scenarios for Caribbean Marine Environments”, held in Trinidad and Tobago, (18-23 April). The main issues discussed at the

workshop involved forecasting possible futures to assist in policy development. It is hoped that the output will include one or more publications, as well as informing discussions at meetings such as the WSSD in Johannesburg. While in Trinidad, Dr Warner visited the Institute of Marine Affairs for discussions on Integrated Coastal Management and possible research collaboration.

Three members of CMS: Dr Warner, Mrs Linton and Ms Creary, attended the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) Workshop in Cancun, Mexico, June 11-16, they were, funded by UNEP and CPACC. Mrs Linton gave a presentation on the work of CMS as the sub-regional node - Northern Caribbean and Atlantic - for the GCRMN. Mrs Creary gave a presentation on the coral reef monitoring work of CPACC. All three participated in working group discussions on future priorities in coral reef management.

Publications

The following were published during the quarter:

- ?? Mendes JM, Woodley JD, 2002. Timing of reproduction in *Montastraea annularis*: relationship to environmental variables. Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 227:241-251.
- ?? Quinn, N.J. 2002. Subsurface sea water temperature variation in the waters off Manununa Island, Bootless Bay, Papua New Guinea, 1998-2000. Science in New Guinea 26 (1,2,3): 12-16.
- ?? Haley, M.P., Itzkowitz, M. & Cleveland, A.L. 2002. Female choice for males in the Beaugregory Damselfish. Caribbean Journal of Science, 38: 143-144.

Seminar Series

The CMS seminar series for academic year 2001-2 ended in May. CMS was pleased to have been able to host some very interesting seminars. For the last quarter three seminars were held April and two in May. The topics and presenters are outlined below.

In April Seminars were held on the 4th, 11th, and 25th of April – postgraduate students Kayan Campbell and Debbie-Ann Ramsay spoke on Biochemistry of Jamaica's rivers and Groundwater inputs to Discovery Bay; Professor Ted Robinson and Research Assistant Debbie-Ann Rowe spoke on Jamaica's marine geological resources, and Dr Warner spoke on Life histories of Littorinids in the UK.

In May On the 9th May, Data Analyst Tatum Fisher and Life Sciences postgraduate student Andrea Lanigan spoke on aspects of their research at the Port Royal Cays: coral reef monitoring and molecular biology of corals respectively. On 16th May, Life Sciences postgraduates Dayne Buddo and Llewelyn Meggs spoke on their work at Port Royal, on the invasive green mussel, and on lobster settlement and growth respectively

Meetings

The CMS personnel have been involved in a number of meetings over this quarter. CMS was represented at the following meetings and workshops:

National Council on Ocean and Coastal Zone Management
Workshop in Ocho Rios on Marine Pollution in Ports
Ocho Rios Environmental Advisory Group
National Commission on Science &

Technology
Jamaican Hotel and Tourist Association
Official Launch of NEPA
USAID Strategic Planning Meeting
Ocho Rios Environmental Advisory Group
NCOCZM Working Group on Fisheries Related Matters
Scientific Authority for CITES Meeting
Institute of Jamaica Natural History Board
Meeting re dredging of marine aggregate at Yallahs
Council on Ocean & Coastal Zone Management
Kingston Harbour Seabird Count

Staff Matters

Miss Claudia Lewis CMS Secretary is away on two months leave (June-August), and has been temporarily replaced Ms Janice Maxwell.

Mr Peter Gayle received an award for Services to the Environment of St Ann, (June 8)
The St Ann's Bay Chamber of Commerce presented this award to Mr Gayle at an Awards Dinner at Beaches, Ocho Rios. The award arose through Mr Gayle's work at DBML. Drs Quinn and Warner and several DBML staff members attended the dinner.

News from the Region

The Management of the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) proudly announces the implementation of its 2002 Work Plan, which includes the Official Opening of the Park by November, 2002. For more details regarding activities planned for 2002, and for further information about the Tobago Cays Marine Park, please visit their web site at www.tobagocays.org

CMS Web Link

Our featured Web Link for this issue is the National Environment and Planning Agency. Click on <http://www.nrca.org/> and be sure to look at the EIA for the dredging of Kingston Harbour.