

THREE COUNTRIES ONE GULF
ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

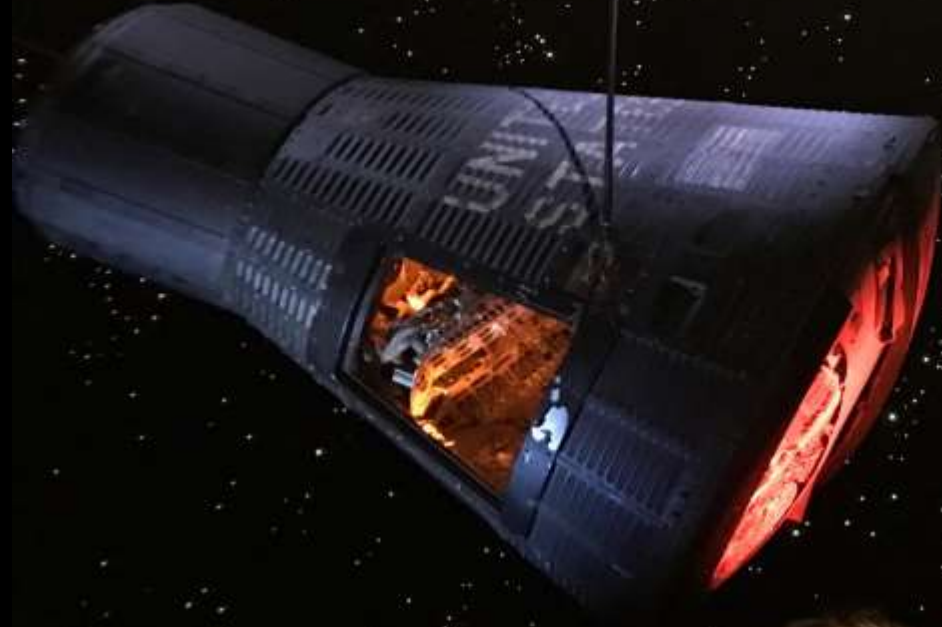
Conservation of a Large Marine Ecosystem through International Engagement, Research, and Education

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SCIENCE IS INTERNATIONAL



**THREE COUNTRIES ONE GULF
ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**Create and support research
partnerships that make a difference**

**Science-to-
science and
science-to-DM
collaborations**

**Cross-cutting
coastal
& marine
science**

**Knowledge
access and
dissemination**

LME

Large areas of ocean,
adjacent to coasts, high
productivity

EBM

a
**Healthy
Gulf**





Create and support research partnerships that *really* make a difference



THREE COUNTRIES ONE GULF
ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

Science-to-science and science-to-DM collaborations



TRINATIONAL INITIATIVE
CUBA - MEXICO - USA

INICIATIVA TRINACIONAL EN CIENCIAS MARINAS Y CONSERVACIÓN DE
GOLFO DE MÉXICO Y EL CARIBE OCCIDENTAL

TRINATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR MARINE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION IN THE
GULF OF MEXICO AND WESTERN CARIBBEAN



7th Trinational Initiative Workshop Nov. 2015 Havana, Cuba

THREE COUNTRIES

STATE OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

ONE GULF

2017
SUMMIT



Main Priority Regional Issues



- PROTECTION
- LIVING MARINE RESOURCES
- COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS
- CLIMATE CHANGE
- SOCI ECONOMIC & MARINE POLICIES

Urgency to continue with the tri-lateral Mexico - US - Cuba Gulf collaboration for the region's long term sustainability

“This agreement, likely the first of many, is a testament to the success of the efforts of HRI Executive Director Dr. Larry McKinney and his staff at HRI to make the Institute and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi key players in the growing academic and research alliances between Cuba and the U.S.,” said Dr. Luis Cifuentes, Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.



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Cuba y Estados Unidos se pronuncian por proteger aguas marinas

Creado el Jueves, 19 Enero 2017 07:25 | Fidel Rendón Matienzo | ACN FOTO/Diana Inés RODRÍGUEZ RODRÍGUEZ

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Tamaño letra: [+](#) [-](#) [=](#)



Larry McKinney (I), director ejecutivo del Instituto de Investigaciones Harte (HRI) para Estudios del Golfo de México de la Universidad de Texas A & M en Corpus Christi y María de los Ángeles Serrano Jerez (D), Directora del Acuario Nacional de Cuba, firman el Memorando de entendimiento entre ambas instituciones, en La Habana, el 18 de enero de 2017.

La Habana, 19 ene (ACN) El Acuario Nacional de Cuba y el Instituto de Investigaciones para Estudios del Golfo de México (HARTE), suscribieron anoche, en esta capital, un Memorando de entendimiento sobre protección de aguas marinas, arrecifes de coral y educación ambiental.

La Máster en Ciencias María de los Ángeles Serrano, directora del referido centro habanero, y el Doctor Larry McKinney, director de HARTE, firman el documento que contribuirá a una mayor colaboración en estudios científicos.

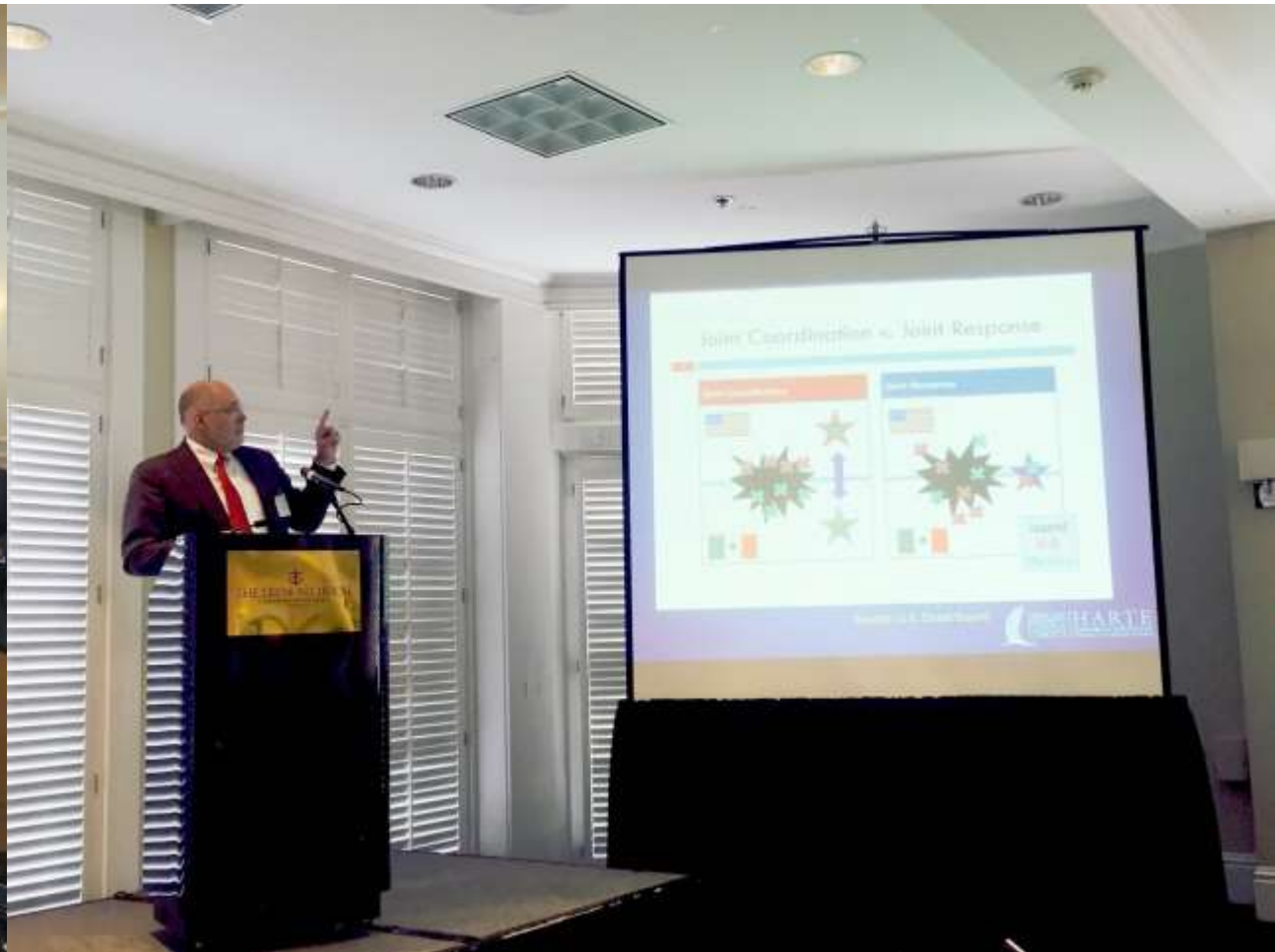
Cross-cutting coastal & marine science



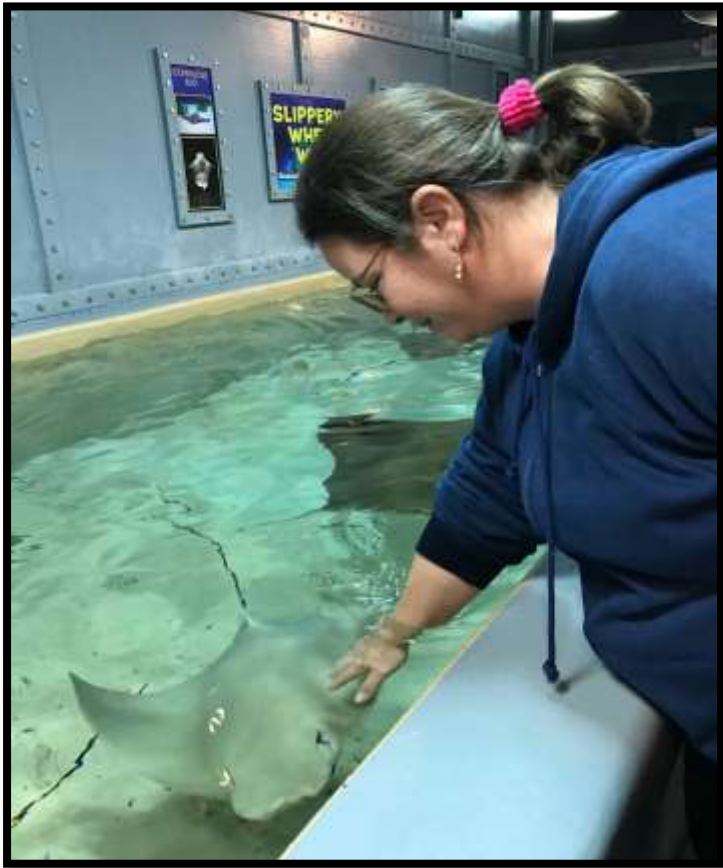
"Biodiversity in the Southern Gulf of Mexico"
Marine macrofauna of the southern sector of the Gulf of Mexico, with emphasis on coastal areas and reefs of the Campeche Bank.

Cross-cutting coastal & marine science

Mexican Energy Reform Symposium held in March 2016



International Chairs for Cuba and Mexico Studies



Knowledge access: Training the next generations

Workshops empower students to develop innovative, integrative, and sustainable solutions to common environmental challenges.



M E X graduate student participants



PABLO SEPÚLVEDA-DÍAZ

Ph.D. Student, UCSB

Interest: invasive species of lionfish and catfish in Cuba and Mexico, impacts and incorporations to local diets
"This workshop offers a perfect opportunity to establish connections that go beyond the meeting... connections that can generate an exchange of information and experiences that may, in the long run, support the production of knowledge about sustainable development and conservation in our countries."

CRISOL MÉNDEZ-MEDINA

Ph.D. Student, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, Chetumal
Interest: social-ecological resilience of fishing communities at Sian Ka'an Biosphere, Quintana Roo, Mexico

"Changes in the Mesoamerican Reef are a direct response to governance and management decisions made in Cuba, the United States, and Mexico. In this context, I believe that an integration of the experiences of those who work in conservation as well as the knowledge of local"



PATRICIA ALEXANDRA ÁLVAREZ DEL CASTILLO CÁRDENAS

Ph.D. Student at Centro Interdisciplinario de Ciencias del Mar, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Baja California
Interest: tourism effects on reef and pelagic ecosystems of the Gulf of California, México

"To be able to share my ideas with other colleagues and to listen to other countries' experiences in Protected Area's management makes this workshop very dear to me... there are very few opportunities to take part in these kinds of events in Mexico."

HAKNA FERRO AZCONA

Ph.D. Student, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, Villahermosa
Interest: valuation of ecosystem services and community adaptation in wetlands of Cuba and México

"Originally from Cuba and with a record of public service in the National Protected Areas Center, Hakna is pursuing training in Mexico to better understand adaptation and how conservation policies such as parks enable coastal communities to better cope with environmental threats. After completing her training, she will return to her position in Cuba to apply her knowledge in future projects."



ROMEO GARCÍA PACHECO

Ph.D. Student, UNAM IZTALAPA

Interest: valuation of seagrass ecosystem services in Los Petenes, Campeche, México
"With an impressive track of work in hydrobiology, sustainability sciences, and multidisciplinary approaches, Romeo is thrilled to be a part of this workshop and hopes to create new connections that will help him better protect the environments that he loves the most, coastal, marshes, and beaches of the Gulf of Mexico."

ULSÍA URREA MARIÑO

MS., OAPI, El Colegio de México

Interest: Coastal and urban planning

"It is clear to me that multidisciplinary groups is the best way to generate robust solutions to coastal zones complex issues. Although this is a real challenge, forums such as SWIM are ideal to learn about the research being developed by colleagues in other countries and to establish solid bases for collaborative work. As my future unfolds, I am thrilled to be a part of it."



Future directions

1

2

5 yrs

Aligned with our Broader Strategy, our goals over the next 3-5 years include:

- Developing a comprehensive biodiversity information system:
GULFBASE/BIOGOMEX
- Connectivity, systematics, and management of key species: best policies for
recreational fisheries
- Mapping of key habitats in the Gulf: Seagrasses
- Human dimensions and wellbeing: **integrating ecosystem services and behavioral models for SLR/Extreme events adaptation**
- Strengthening network of experts and DM support: **Responsive and Objective Science Advocacy (ROSA) and TONE Network**
- **The First Report Card for the Gulf of Mexico**

