Global Summit ~ on ~ Coastal Seas

Baltimore, Maryland USA
28–31 August 2011

The International EMECS Center is making a limited number of grants available to students from developing nations. (See EMECS9 Conference Announcement web page for details.) Limited financial support may also be available for other SSP participants. Contact Dr. Wayne Bell for details.

Conference Meeting Site and Accommodations

Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
700 Aliceanna Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-4339
(410) 385-3000

Only 25 minutes from Baltimore/Washington International Airport, the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel is convenient to travelers. Block cut-off date: August 5, 2011. Reduced EMECS9 Group Rates: $159 plus applicable taxes (currently 13.5%) per night for 1-2 people per room. There is an additional fee of $20 per person for 3-4 people per room. To make your reservation, call 1-800-228-9290 or (410) 385-3000 and specify EMECS9.

Students and Schools Partnership (SSP)

Dr. Wayne Bell, Chair, EMECS9 special session
Students and Schools Partnership (SSP)
Center for Environment & Society
Washington College
300 Washington Avenue
Chestertown, Maryland 21620
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(410) 778-7295

Conference Announcement:
http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/emecs9/
Conference Overview

Environmental Management for Enclosed Coastal Seas (EMECS) hosts its 9th conference, Managing for Results in our Coastal Seas, from 28-31 August 2011 at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, MD, USA.

Coastal ecosystems—including the world’s bays, estuaries and nearshore open waters—are both valuable and vulnerable. The goal of EMECS9 is to share information leading to the preservation of enclosed coastal seas and their irreplaceable resources. The conference crosses barriers of discipline and culture by bringing together international experts, scientists, and key stakeholders to share information, insights, and lessons learned.

Students & Schools Partnership

As in the past, EMECS 9 includes student presentations and discussions in conjunction with the conference. The theme of the Students and Schools Partnership (SSP) session is Community-based Environmental Education. We aim to identify approaches that promote environmental knowledge of citizens and sustainable development of their communities. Sustainability applies to natural resources and ecosystems, and also to the economies and cultures that depend on them.

Breakout Sessions

The SSP breakout sessions at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel contribute to the Education/Communication track of the conference.

• The Online Media Dilemma: Uses and Misuses
• Communication that Makes People Want to Get Involved
• Citizen-science and Student-science
• Communicating in Times of Environmental Crisis

SSP Excursions/Field Trips

Excursion I - Monday, 29 August 2011
Learning to Care: History, Culture, and Future of Coastal Seas

Host: Living Classrooms Foundation and students from their partnership schools

Outline: Participants walk to the Douglass-Myers Maritime Park Campus, arriving for lunch with Baltimore area students.

Afterwards they enjoy demonstrations of partnership programs with Baltimore schools and take part in hands-on activities that are used in teaching environmental stewardship to urban students. An emphasis of stewardship is promoted through knowledge of community history and culture.

After dinner with students and educators, troubadour Geoff Kaufman (from Mystic Seaport) performs. The songs and readings includes active student participation and is open to all EMECS delegates.

Excursion II - Tuesday, 30 August 2011
A Coastal Colonial Town

Hosts: Washington College, Chesapeake Semester students, Town of Chestertown

Outline: Participants board the research vessel Callinectes at the Chesapeake Exploration Center on Kent Island and travel up the Chester River. Along the way they learn how archaeology contributes to our understanding of Chesapeake history and how that knowledge is integrated into the caretaking and coastal management decisions of the ecosystem. After landing in Chestertown they are introduced to Town officials and the Center for Environment and Society, who are working together to create an environmentally sustainable future for the citizens of Chestertown. After lunch they visit the GIS Laboratory at Washington College and meet with Chesapeake Semester students. Participants return by bus over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge for the EMECS9 farewell dinner.

Excursion III - Wednesday, 31 August 2011
Optional – Post Conference

Host: Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center

Outline: Kayak along a Kent Island water trail, learning about erosion protection using living shorelines and environmental education programs for schools and citizens. This is an extra-cost event open to SSP participants. Others may be admitted if space permits.

Application Process

Applications are now being accepted from students who wish to give SSP presentations and to participate in activities relating to the EMECS9 conference.

Student applicants must be 18 years of age or younger to be eligible for the reduced SSP registration fee of $175. They should be willing to give an oral- or poster presentation on subjects related to environmental education or student research in coastal zones or watersheds, and to participate in an exchange of viewpoints. Abstract deadline is 31 March 2011 to be considered for grant support, or it is 1 June 2011 for inclusion in published Conference Proceedings. See EMECS9 Conference Announcement web page for abstract guidelines and required format.