



Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia – April 11 & 12th, 2014

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission Deadline: Sunday, March 9th, 2014

The 2013-2014 Marine Affairs Students Society organizing committee for the 2014 Sustainable Ocean conference is pleased to invite interested students to submit an abstract for oral or poster presentations. The conference will include a documentary film with panel discussion, oral and poster presentations.

*This annual student-led conference is made possible through the **Sobey Fund for Oceans**, a generous gift by Donald R. Sobey. The Fund is a unique partnership formed between the Marine Affairs Program (MAP), Dalhousie University and WWF-Canada; a leader in marine conservation.*

Society has an extensive supply of information available from a diversity of disciplines about marine issues. Scientific knowledge, local knowledge, indigenous knowledge and personal experiences are some of the approaches used to understand the marine environment and our interactions with it. Incorporating these knowledge systems into effective management and policy for sustainable oceans is an ongoing challenge.

The student conference aims to address these challenges by integrating and exploring the following themes:

- ***Sustainability & Knowledge Systems***
Natural and social sciences, Local Ecological Knowledge, Indigenous Knowledge, and sustainability;
- ***Marine Governance, Policy & Law***
Tools and rules for managing coastal and Ocean Environments;
- ***Communication Between/Among Stakeholders & Policy Makers***
Approaches to communication, stakeholder engagement, collaboration, consultation, education, participation and negotiation in the formulation of policy;
- ***Addressing Uncertainty In The Marine Environment***
Strategies and approaches for addressing uncertainty in coastal and ocean management and development.

Attendance is free, but registration is required.

Topics for papers and posters: Individual papers or co-authored group projects written for any course during the current and previous academic years and from multiple disciplines are encouraged and accepted. **Twelve** (12) outstanding graduate abstracts for oral presentations and **Twelve** (12) graduate and undergraduate poster abstracts, addressing sustainable oceans in the context of the above themes are being sought.

Winners of the best posters and oral presentations will receive a monetary award and be provided with a publication opportunity in the Marine Affairs Program *Technical Series*. All accepted papers and posters will be published in the conference proceedings.

Submission Guidelines: should be between **300-500 words** and should be submitted to OceansConf@dal.ca. In your submission please also consider the following questions:

- *How do you think your research can contribute to effective management? and;*
- *How does your chosen topic address issues surrounding the knowledge/policy interface?*

Accepted poster abstracts are eligible for a \$30 stipend to help offset printing costs.

Selection Process: Qualifying abstracts will be selected by members of the Marine Affairs Program student community. Successful applicants will be notified by late-March.

Monetary awards of up to \$100 will be given for the best presentation and poster in each of the student categories (Graduate poster and oral presentation, undergraduate poster).

Acknowledgements: This conference has been made possible through the **Sobey Fund for Oceans**, a generous gift by Donald R. Sobey. The Fund is a unique partnership formed between the Marine Affairs Program (MAP), Dalhousie University and WWF-Canada; a leader in marine conservation. The goal of the **Sobey Fund for Oceans** is to inspire inventive multi-disciplinary approaches for creating healthy oceans and sustainable economies through student-led conferences, scholarships and student work placements.

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Please contact the conference organizers at OceansConf@dal.ca if you have any questions