



MARINE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

From coastal cities to remote coral reefs and polar seas, innovative solutions to today's environmental challenges span the boundaries between science and policy. The School of Marine and Environmental Affairs (SMEA) trains students in both disciplines, producing versatile critical thinkers who are equipped to resolve contemporary issues in marine and ecological systems.

IMPACT: CONNECTING SCIENCE TO POLICY

SMEA trains the next generation of ocean and coastal managers, planners and decision-makers. In addition to working with coastal communities and industry leaders, students and recent graduates participate in programs like the Washington Sea Grant Hersman Fellowship and the Washington, D.C.-based John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship. These experiences provide invaluable firsthand knowledge on how to navigate and create lasting solutions to environmental problems. The School's 700+ alumni span the globe, working in all levels of government, nonprofit and private sectors in organizations related to the wide spectrum of marine and environmental affairs.

CURRENT INITIATIVES

In addition to the Master of Marine Affairs' (MMA) traditional coursework and Thesis Track, graduate students now have the opportunity to choose a Professional Track, which matches them with practitioners to develop solutions to complex environmental problems.

ADVISING POLICYMAKERS AND THE PUBLIC

Visibility and representation contribute to impact. SMEA faculty and alumni sit on various prominent advisory groups, which have included the Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification, the Puget Sound Partnership's Science Panel and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, among others. Faculty are also go-to sources for respected news organizations, appearing on prominent media platforms such as Forbes, NPR and The Seattle Times to provide insightful analysis and sound public information regarding environmental affairs.





NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

Faculty and students alike are recognized leaders in the field of marine and environmental affairs. Recent achievements and awards include the first ever College of the Environment Community Diversity Commitment Award and the Seattle Aquarium's Conservation Research Award. New research from the school connects global climate change science, policy, and Indigenous sovereignty; helps secure sustainable seafood; uses environmental DNA to track sensitive marine species; develops partnership between tribes, regulatory agencies, citizen scientists and local community members to protect rivers and estuaries; and uses markets and other institutions to manage invasive species, blue carbon, biodiversity, carbon pollution and fisheries.

SUPPORT

Philanthropic partnerships with alumni and community members fuel and amplify SMEA's work. Individual and foundation contributions support leading-edge programs, recruitment and retention of talented faculty and critical funding opportunities for promising students. To learn more about giving to the School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, please contact the College of the Environment Advancement team: envadv@uw.edu, 206-221-9319.

CONTACT

For more information about the School of Marine and Environmental Affairs, please contact uwsmea@uw.edu, 206-543-7004.

We acknowledge that we are on the land of the Coast Salish peoples, land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations.

RESEARCH

- Ecosystem-based management
- Coastal zone, ecosystem and resource management
- Climate change and ocean acidification
- Environmental law and policy
- Environmental protection and restoration
- Marine tourism
- Policy processes and analysis
- Sustainability science
- Maritime commerce, technology and security

DEGREES OFFERED

Master of Marine Affairs

BY THE NUMBERS

Faculty: **12**

Graduate students: **58**