The Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

Host Institution to the 14th Annual IAMSLIC Conference
Miami, Florida, October 3-7, 1968

The Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) was established in 1943 as the Marine Laboratory of the University of Miami. It has grown from its modest beginnings in a boathouse to be one of the United States leading institutions for oceanographic research and education.

Originally a tropical marine biological facility, the Marine Laboratory initiated a program of studies leading to the Master of Science degree in 1949. In 1953, laboratory and classroom buildings were constructed on the School's present campus on Virginia Key, and in the late fifties, the Marine Laboratory expanded its staff and developed its oceanographic capabilities in response to the increased interest in scientific research in the United States. It became the Institute of Marine Science in 1961. Ocean-going research vessels were acquired and additional buildings were constructed to accommodate new wide-ranging projects. In 1969, the Institute, now a School, was named for Dorothy H. and Lewis Rosenstiel in recognition of a major contribution, made through the Rosenstiel Foundation, to encourage progress in the marine and atmospheric sciences at the University of Miami.

Today the Rosenstiel School has a faculty of 70 scientists who conduct sponsored research while offering studies leading to the Master of Science, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. The school offers curricula in applied marine physics, biology and living resources, marine affairs, marine and atmospheric chemistry, marine geology and geophysics, and meteorology and physical oceanography. With the College of Arts and Sciences, the School has developed undergraduate programs leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in marine science or the Bachelor of Arts degree in marine affairs.

In cooperation with the National Science Foundation's University National Oceanographic System (UNOLS), the Rosenstiel School maintains a fleet of research vessels: Columbus Iselin, 170 feet (52m); and Calanue, 62 feet (19m).

The RSMAS Library has extensive holdings in the literature of the atmospheric and marine sciences, especially of tropical seas. It shelves more than 50,000 bound volumes, 25,000 indexed reprints, 5,000 microforms and 2,000 nautical charts. The Library receives 1,100 current journal titles, as well as reports from private, state, federal, and international agencies. There are special collections of atlases, expedition reports, rare books, and marine science newsletters. The Library regularly publishes a Serials Holdings List and an Acquisitions List.