THURSDAY OCTOBER 8, 2015
(McHugh Auditorium, Watermen’s Hall unless otherwise indicated)

15:00-15:45 Registration (Watermen’s Hall Visitors Center & Lobby)
Posters may be set up in the Hargis Library, Waterman’s Hall

15:45-16:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks
John Wells – VIMS/SMS Dean and Director
School of Marine Science History and Current Status
Linda Schaffner (M.A. ’80, Ph.D. ’87) – VIMS/SMS Associate Dean of Academic Studies

16:00-17:00 Opening Plenary
Reflections from a (Mostly) Non-Academic Career: Looking Back and Moving Forward
Paul Sandifer (Ph.D. ’72), former Chief Science Advisor, National Ocean Service, and Senior Science Advisor to the NOAA Administrator

17:00-19:00 Evening Reception (Hargis Library and Library Atrium)
Sponsored by VIMS

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2015
(McHugh Auditorium, Watermen’s Hall unless otherwise indicated)

07:30-08:00 Registration and Light Breakfast (Watermen’s Hall Visitors Center & Lobby)

8:00-8:10 Welcome and Opening Remarks
John Wells – VIMS/SMS Dean and Director
Linda Schaffner (M.A. ’80, Ph.D. ’87) – VIMS/SMS Associate Dean of Academic Studies

8:10-8:45 Past, Present and Future of VIMS Research
Mark Luckenbach – VIMS/SMS Associate Dean of Research and Advisory Services

08:45-10:30 Alumni Presentations – Session 1 (7 talks at 15 minutes each)

08:45 Seven Lessons Learned at VIMS, and Back Again
David Eggleston (M.A. 88, Ph.D. ’91), Professor and Director, NC State Center for Marine Sciences and Technology

09:00 Reflections on an Interdisciplinary Career in Aquatic Animal Health
Teresa Lewis (Ph.D. ’00), Center Director, USFWS Midwest Fisheries Center
09:15  **Snorkeling a 323myo Paleozoic Bay: Community Structure and Depositional Environment**  
*Eileen D. Grogan (Ph.D. '93)*, Professor, Saint Joseph's University

09:30  **Minding the Gap: The Role of Science Communication**  
*Paula Jasinski (M.A. '92)*, Senior Communication Specialist & President, Chesapeake Environmental Communications

09:45  **VIMS Proud - Reflections from an Uber Graduate Director on the Evolution of VIMS to its Current Position at the Echelon of Marine Science Graduate Programs**  
*Sid Mitra (Ph.D. '97)*, Director, Coastal Resources Management Program, East Carolina University

10:00  **A Fish out of (Salt) Water: A Marine Scientist Swims Upstream to Decode the Migratory Strategy of the Landlocked Sea Lamprey**  
*Michael C. Wagner (M.S.'97)*, Associate Professor, Michigan State University

10:15  **Ontogeny, Behavior, and Ecology of the Sea Turtle "Lost Years"**  
*Kate L. Mansfield (Ph.D. '06)*, Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break (Watermen’s Hall Visitors Center & Lobby)

11:00-12:30 Alumni Presentations – Session 2 (6 talks at 15 minutes each)

11:00  **From Sandbar Sharks to Sawfish: Application of the VIMS Tripartite Mission**  
*R. Dean Grubbs (Ph.D. '01)*, Associate Director of Research, Florida State University Coastal and Marine Laboratory

11:15  **Dead Zones around the World**  
*Robert J. Diaz (Ph.D '77)*, Faculty Emeritus, SMS/VIMS

11:30  **Tidal Wetlands, Carbon, and Climate Change**  
*Scott Neubauer (Ph.D. '00)*, Assistant Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University

11:45  **Detecting and Understanding Threats to Eelgrass in the Gulf of Maine: The Times, They Are A-Changin’**  
*Hilary A. Neckles (Ph.D. '90)*, Coastal Research Ecologist, US Geological Survey

12:00  **Coastal River Plumes: Collisions and Coalescence**  
*Katherine L. Farnsworth (M.S. '97, Ph.D. '03)*, Associate Professor, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
VIMS 75th Anniversary
Alumni Research Symposium
Detailed Schedule

12:15 **Twelve years of Changes to the Known Cephalopod Fauna of the Western Central Atlantic Ocean.**
**Michael Vecchione (Ph.D. '79)**, Director, NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service National Systematics Laboratory.

12:30-14:00 Lunch

On your own, at VIMS: Creekside Food Truck in Watermen’s Hall Circle (Inside Seating Available in Chesapeake Bay Hall)

Student & Post-Doc Network Luncheon (pre-registration requested) (Watermen’s Hall – Marine Advisory Services Education Center) *Sponsored by Academic Studies and hosted by GSA Professional Development Committee*

14:00-15:45 Alumni Presentations – Session 3 (7 talks at 15 minutes each)

14:00 **Inspiring a Community to Participate in Restoring the Lynnhaven River’s Water Quality (Virginia Beach, Virginia)**
**Laurie Carroll Sorabella (M.S. '02)**, Executive Director, Oyster Reef Keepers of Virginia

14:15 **A perspective on highly migratory species in the Gulf of Mexico**
**Brett Falterman (M.S. '99)**, Program Manager, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

14:30 **Physical Controls on Hypoxia in Chesapeake Bay**
**Malcolm Scully (M.S. ’01, Ph.D. ’05)**, Associate Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

14:45 **Industrial Chemical Regulation at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: VIMS Preparation for a Career in Environmental Protection and Public Health**
**E. Laurence Libelo (Ph.D. ’95)**, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, U.S. EPA

15:00 **Finding Fish (& Fishermen) from Space**
**Richard Holmquist (M.S. '01)**, Director, Sales at DigitalGlobe

15:15 **Wormcam, a Novel Camera to Understand Benthic Processes**
**S. Kersey Sturdivant (Ph.D. '11)**, Principal Scientist, INSPIRE Environmental

15:30 **Technology and Innovation - Career Opportunities for VIMS Graduate Students from a Marine Science Entrepreneur’s View**
**Charles J. Natale, Jr. (M.A. '82)**, President & CEO, ESS Group, Inc.
15:45-16:00  Coffee Break (Watermen’s Hall Visitors Center & Lobby)

16:00-16:30  Future of VIMS
John Wells – VIMS/SMS Dean and Director

16:30-17:30  Closing Plenary
The Coastal Ocean: My Generation Did the Diagnosis, Your Generation Must Save the Patient.
Don Boesch (Ph.D. ’71), Professor of Marine Science and President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

17:30-17:40  Review of the Schedule for Saturday’s Events
Dave Malmquist – VIMS Director of Communications

17:40-19:00  Poster Session and Evening Reception
(Hargis Library – Inside and Outside)
Oyster Roast sponsored by VIMS

Saturday October 10, 2015

10:00-17:00  Various Family Friendly Activities
Hosted by the Communications Office

17:00-24:00  Fall Party Pig Roast (VIMS – Fort Area)
Sponsored by Graduate Student Association and VIMS