

SPECIAL ACADEMIC CENTERS

CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS SERVICES

(<http://www.csb.uncw.edu/centers/index.stm>)

The Center for Business and Economics Services in the Cameron School of Business at the University of North Carolina Wilmington is the business research/extension division in the business school. The center's staff provides research services as well as technical assistance in regional economic development. In addition, the center creates and administers seminars and other professional education programs to assist individuals and organizations in developing their managerial, technical, and personal capabilities.

CENTER FOR MARINE SCIENCE

(<http://www.uncw.edu/cmsr/>)

The Center for Marine Science at the University of North Carolina Wilmington is dedicated to interdisciplinary approaches to questions in basic marine research. The mission of the center is to promote basic and applied research in the fields of oceanography, coastal and estuarine studies, marine biotechnology and aquaculture, marine biology, marine chemistry, and marine geology. Faculty members conducting marine science research in the Departments of Biology and Marine Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Geography and Geology, and Physics and Physical Oceanography participate in this program. Center faculty serve on regional, national and international research and policy advisory groups and thereby contribute to the development of agendas on marine research in the United States and the world. International interactions with labs in Europe, North America, South America, Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Africa, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Caribbean, and all regions of the coastal United States augment extensive programs addressing North Carolina coastal issues. By integrating these advisory functions with research programs of the highest quality, CMS enhances the educational experience provided by the University of North Carolina Wilmington for both undergraduate and graduate students in marine science.

The Center for Marine Science occupies a research and education facility located six miles from the main campus on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. The modern Marine Science Center at Myrtle Grove has a total of 99,000 square feet of net indoor space including: group meeting facilities for up to 150 individuals; fully equipped research laboratories, classrooms, and marine science laboratories; a greenhouse with running seawater; a radioisotope laboratory; computer workrooms, cold rooms, walk-in freezers; temperature controlled rooms; autoclave and media preparation room; darkroom; chemical storage and balance rooms; fireproof vault for data storage; clean room; central analytic facility; sample processing rooms; aquarium room with running seawater; indoor storage; outdoor storage; shower/locker facilities; and outdoor facility for tanks with running sea water. Core facilities include: harmful algal identification and toxicology; nutrient analysis; DNA sequencing; and NMR and GC Mass spectroscopy. A 900-foot pier with docking facilities for several coastal research vessels is in place on the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. The seawater system provides raw, filtered, and purified seawater at flow rates up to 600 liters/min; tank farm services; and aquarium room services. The location of the center provides easy access to regional marine environments such as: tidal marshes/mud flats/sand flats; tidal creeks; barrier islands and tidal inlets; the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway; near shore marine environments; the Gulf Stream; hard bottom communities; sand dunes and maritime forests; and both highly developed and minimally developed estuarine environments. The center maintains 22 research vessels ranging in size from thirteen to sixty-five feet and specialized equipment including a Superphantom Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), an ocean environmental sample (SBE-CTD), and an ADCP current profiler.

The Center for Marine Science serves as host for: the NOAA sponsored National Undersea Research Center; an Extension Office for North Carolina Sea Grant; the Marine Mammal Stranding Network; the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve; and UNCW's Marine Quest Program, an extensive community outreach program for public schools and adult education.

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION CENTER

(<http://www.uncw.edu/smec>)

The Science and Mathematics Education Center (SMEC) at UNCW is a member of the University of North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Network (NC-MSEN). SMEC is committed to regional service and endeavors to stimulate teachers' intellectual curiosity and increase exposure to current technology. The center is responsible for the identification, development, delivery, and evaluation of K-12 professional development programming in science and mathematics. SMEC applies the resources of UNC Wilmington to improve the teaching and learning of science and mathematics in the K-12 schools of Southeastern North Carolina. The center, working with faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Watson School of Education, offers a wide range of professional development programs in the areas of mathematics, science, and technology for in-service elementary-, middle-, and high- school teachers. Through center-sponsored seminars, workshops, and courses, teachers can renew licensure in science, mathematics, and technology.

SMEC includes Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics (SVSM), a cost-free, state-funded program for academically talented high-school students who may pursue careers based in science and mathematics. The program brings rising juniors and seniors together in residential settings for four weeks of intensive study on a UNC system campus. Students are invited to the program after a competitive application process at the state level. University faculty and master high school teachers provide the instruction and support for individual student research projects.

Information concerning programs may be obtained by contacting the Science and Mathematics Education Center.

SMALL BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBTDC)

The Small Business and Technology Development Center is a business development service of The University of North Carolina system that provides management counseling and education services to small and mid-sized businesses in all of North Carolina's 100 counties. The SBTDC at UNCW provides services in New Hanover, Pender, Onslow, Duplin, Brunswick, Bladen and Columbus counties. The center helps established firms, high-growth companies and start-up businesses meet today's challenges, manage change, and plan for the future.

Services are well defined and are designed to meet clients' needs:

Management Counseling – The center helps businesses with financing, marketing, human resources, operations, business planning, and feasibility assessment.

Management Education Services – The SBTDC also provides targeted, research-based educational products that are focused on change management, strategic performance, and leadership development for management team, employees, and board members.

In addition, it offers specialized market development assistance in:

- government procurement
- international export financing
- marine trades services
- technology development and commercialization.

For those thinking about starting a business, the SBTDC at UNCW offers a Pre-Venture Orientation (PVO) program on a regular basis. This two-hour class offers an excellent overview of the first steps in starting a business, obtaining financing and business planning. There is no fee to attend the program.

For more information, call the SBTDC at UNCW at (910) 962-3744 or visit our Web site at www.csb.uncw.edu/sbt/dc.