Taking the Pulse of the Ocean:
Coastal Ocean Observing in Southeastern North Carolina

with Dr. Lynn Leonard
UNCW Department of Geography & Geology

Tuesday, November 28, 2006 • 6:30 p.m.
Dr. Lynn Leonard has a fondness for "Buoy Toys." As director of the Coastal Ocean Research and Monitoring Program (CORMP) at UNCW, she oversees an interdisciplinary project that collects data through an ever-expanding array of buoys, mooring stations and other instruments along the southeastern North Carolina coast. Established in 2000 and funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), CORMP is a member of the congressionally-mandated Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). CORMP’s real-time meteorological and oceanographic observations provide vital data to support boating safety, weather and ocean forecasting, and more. Our region also benefits from CORMP’s excellent outreach endeavors, which focus on community education, teacher development programs for secondary educators, and development of beneficial partnerships with state and federal entities. The overall goal of the program is to provide an interdisciplinary, science-based framework to promote sound public policies for coastal use, sustainable fisheries, and improved coastal ocean ecosystem health.

In addition to her position with CORMP, Dr. Leonard is a professor of geology. Her areas of expertise are physical sedimentology and marine geology, with research interests focusing on Everglades restoration and impacts of dredging in the Cape Fear River. She was awarded the Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Award in 2000. Dr. Leonard received her bachelor’s degree at the College of William and Mary, a master’s degree from Duke University and a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida.