The Planet Ocean Seminar Series

The Planet Ocean Seminar Series is offered to the general public to provide an opportunity for the greater Wilmington community to benefit directly from the topics of information available to the Center in its study areas.

The Planet Ocean Seminar Series is free and open to the public. However, due to limited seating, reservations are required. The seminar will be presented in the main auditorium at the UNCW Center for Marine Science, which is located off Masonboro Loop Road. The seminar will begin promptly at 6:30 in the auditorium. A reception will follow the seminar at 7:30. To make reservations or for further information, please call UNCW Center for Marine Science at (910) 962-2304.

Bluefish Society membership entitles you to preferred seating at Planet Ocean seminars and much more. Please join our "school" of Bluefish Society members and help us keep the outreach tradition at CMS "afloat." For details, call us at 910-962-2304.

Tuesday, March 2, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Harmful Algal Blooms and You: It's a Bloomin' Nuisance

with Lora E. Fleming, M.D., Ph.D.

May 4, 2004: Vice Admiral Conrad Lautenbacher, NOAA Administrator
Lora Fleming is a physician and epidemiologist who specializes in studying how the environment and the workplace can affect human health. In her talk, she will briefly describe what is known and unknown about the exposures and effects of harmful algal blooms on human health. Dr. Fleming will also describe an ongoing interdisciplinary and collaborative research study funded by NIEHS and CDC to study aerosolized Florida red tide toxins and human and animal health.

As the only board certified Occupational and Environmental Medicine physician and Epidemiologist in South Florida, she serves in a unique role at the University of Miami. She is an Associate Professor at its School of Medicine with joint appointments with the Division of Marine Biology and Fisheries at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, as well as secondary appointments in the Departments of Family Medicine and Internal Medicine.

Dr. Fleming's areas of research and teaching are Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Epidemiology. She has performed funded research on: the health effects of methyl mercury contamination in the Everglades; neurotoxic effects of fumigation workers, pesticides and Parkinson’s Disease; evaluation of reported health effects of the fumigant Benlate; the health effects and exposures of hazardous waste incineration and solid waste workers; the chronic health effects of cohorts of licensed Florida Pesticide Applicators and Florida Firefighters; and uses of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) to evaluate U.S. worker health.

She participates in the University of Miami NIEHS Marine and Freshwater Biomedical Sciences Center concerning Marine and Freshwater Toxins, Human Health and Epidemiologic Issues. Working with NIEHS Center colleagues and others, she has created educational materials concerning the human health effects of marine and freshwater natural toxins, and performed research in Ciguatera Fish Poisoning and the blue green algal toxins (cyanobacteria). As Research Director of the Florida Cancer Data System, Florida's incident cancer registry, she works with researchers and students to promote work in cancer epidemiology and prevention. Dr. Fleming teaches physicians and residents and Masters of Public Health, medical, law and undergraduate students in environmental and occupational health and epidemiology. She also acts as a consultant in Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Epidemiology both locally and internationally, and serves on a number of taskforces and committees.

Dr. Fleming received her M.D.-M.P.H. degree in occupational and environmental medicine from Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health and her Ph.D. in epidemiology from the Yale University School of Medicine.