**Recruits’ Corner**

Fellow Recruits,

This year’s conference in Baltimore, MD was shaping up to be one of the best yet. Recruits Co-Chairs Laura and Erin had been working hard with other NSA student members and NSA executives to plan several exciting events for our annual conference, including the Student Breakfast, a Bar Crawl in Fells Point, a meet and greet at Peter’s Pour House, and a Student Session entitled “How I got my job: a career development panel for students”. We were also looking forward to continuing our tradition of running the “Scallop Gallop” 5K race with our fellow members and wearing this year’s Scallop Gallop t-shirt (a crowd favorite!). We are sad that we couldn’t reunite with all of you and strengthen our relationships with one another, but in the months ahead we’ll work hard to continue planning stellar events for next year in Charlotte!

We hope that you continue to reach out to us in the months ahead with your ideas for events and share the work you’ve been doing. For instance, what are you working on during your self-isolation? Michael Doall, Associate Director for Bivalve Restoration at Stony Brook University, is taking over coordinating NSA on Instagram, @nationalshellfisheries. Students specifically will have a monthly showcase. **Please send Erin or Laura what you’ve been working on so we can share your awesome work on our Instagram student showcase!**

With this year’s conference on hold, we look forward with even greater anticipation to the 2021 Annual Conference in Charlotte, NC, to be held at the Sheraton Charlotte Hotel from March 21 - March 26th, 2021. Erin and Laura intend to reschedule all main events originally planned for Baltimore to the Charlotte conference. Students who received SEF Travel Awards for this year’s Baltimore Conference will need to re-enter the lottery next year.

Congratulations to student award winners of the Castagna and Carriker awards! Please don’t forget to apply for these and the Abbe award next year! The application process is short and each award is for $1250. Application numbers have been very low in recent years. **To keep these excellent awards around we need to increase application numbers!**

Please email Laura Spencer (lhs3@uw.edu) or Erin Roberts (erin_roberts@my.uri.edu) with any questions or updates.

Wishing you a healthy spring and summer!

*Erin and Laura*

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**2020 NSA Student Research Awards**

Thank you to the students who applied for research awards this year. These competitive grants provide $1250 in support funding earmarked for student research projects as well as for the Best Student Paper published in the *JSR*.

The Melbourne R. Carriker Award supports a student research project in any topic of shellfisheries. The 2020 Carriker Award was awarded to Samuel Gurr, University of Rhode Island, “Potential for intragenerational pCO2 conditioning of juvenile Pacific geoduck *Panopea*”.

The Michael Castagna Award for student research is an award devoted to the area of applied shellfisheries. Winning this year was Emily Cooksey, University of Arizona, for her proposal entitled, “Prevalence and human health risk associated with *Vibrio* spp. in Pacific oysters”.

Judging of the Sandra E. Shumway Award for the Best Student Paper published in the *JSR* has specific selection and evaluation criteria: (1) The lead author must have been a student when the work was completed, (2) the paper must present the student’s work, not that of a co-author, (3) it will be evaluated on the quality of science and writing, and (4) the importance of the work to the field of shellfish research. A panel of judges evaluated 29 papers, and the award was presented to Mariana Hinzmann, University of Portugal, for her manuscript:


Thank you, again, to all the students for submitting their proposals and for the reviewers for evaluating each these proposals and student papers so thoughtfully.

Application deadline for 2021 is November 1st.

Start planning now! Details are available at www.shellfish.org.

*Steve Allen, Past-President*

**Student Awards Committee**

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*Images of co-chairs Laura and Erin, student conference regrets, and student award winners.*