

50th Anniversary Conference Announcement
Call for Papers
Association of Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean
33rd Scientific Conference
June 4-8, 2007
St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands



We are pleased to announce the upcoming **33rd Scientific Conference** of the **Association of Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean** hosted by the University of the Virgin Islands **June 4-8, 2007** in St. Thomas, United State Virgin Islands. The AMLC Scientific Conference is held every 2 years and is attended by international scientists, managers, professionals, and students whose interest is focused on issues relevant to the greater Caribbean region. Activities include a complete science program, poster exhibits, social events and field trips. We anticipate having simultaneous English-Spanish interpretation at this meeting.

In celebration of AMLC's 50th year since its founding as the Association of Island Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean (AIMLC), the 33rd Scientific Conference theme is:

50 YEARS OF CARIBBEAN MARINE RESEARCH: CHANGING SCIENCE, CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS, CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

The Program of the 33rd AMLC encourages papers on historical and current research, management or conservation issues within the following topics areas:

- **Connectivity** (habitat linkages between coral reefs, mangroves and sea grass, larval distribution patterns, spawning aggregations, land-sea interactions, biological oceanography)
- **Global & Regional Issues** (global warming, regional patterns of coral bleaching and disease, physical oceanography, remote sensing, GIS, coastal processes, natural disturbances, pollution, sedimentation)
- **Resource Management** (MPA's, ecosystem approaches to coastal management, fisheries, aquaculture, conservation, monitoring and assessment, social economics, public awareness)
- **Ecology** (ecology, behavior, reproduction, disease of Caribbean reef organisms, food web dynamics, reef resilience, deep coral reefs)

Other topics will be considered subject to session time limitations. Please take note of the time schedule for abstract submission, early and late registration, and hotel reservations:

Early registration: January 1- March 31, 2007
Late registration: April 1 – June 4, 2007
Abstract deadline: April 15, 2007
Hotel registration deadline for AMLC special rates: May 15, 2007

Abstracts must be received by April 15, 2007, and may be in English or Spanish. Abstracts must be submitted in the form described in the Abstract Format instructions which are at the end of this package. Upon receipt of your abstract, a brief description of the associated peer-reviewed paper guidelines for authors and submission requirements will be sent to you, along with confirmation of receipt of your abstract. It will be helpful if you assure that your e-mail address is clearly provided when you submit your abstract.

If using postal service to submit your abstract, include a hard copy and an electronic copy on diskette. If using e-mail, attach your abstract to your message – do not incorporate your abstract in the body of your e-mail message – attach the Word file. Submit your abstract(s) to:

Dr. Rick Nemeth
33rd AMLC Coordinator
MacLean Marine Science Center
University of the Virgin Islands
2 John Brewer's Bay
St. Thomas, USVI 00802
Ph: 340/693-1381
Fx: 340/693-1385
nemeth@uvi.edu

We also wish to announce that our keynote speaker for this meeting will be Dr. Rita Colwell, who served as the 11th Director of the USA National Science Foundation, 1998-2004. She now serves as Distinguished University Professor both at the University of Maryland and at Johns Hopkins, as well as serving as Chairman of Canon US Life Sciences, Inc. Dr. Colwell is an internationally respected scientist and educator, and has authored or co-authored 16 books and over 700 scientific publications. In her spare time, she also produced the award-winning film: *Invisible Seas*.

A second featured speaker at the 2007 meeting will be Dr. Craig Venter, one of the world's leading scientists and among the most frequently cited in scientific publications. In 1998, Dr. Venter founded Celera Genomics to sequence the human genome. The successful completion of this research culminated with the February 2001 publication of the human genome in *Science*. He is now working on a broad program to define microbial genomes, including many from marine environments. We encourage you to bring your geneticists and microbiologists to this 2007 meeting. It should be a very worthwhile experience for them.

We have also been able to secure limited funding to support some student travel. The AMLC website www.amlc-carib.org/ has information on how to apply for student travel awards, as well as information on the science program, registration, abstract submissions, peer-reviewed paper guidelines and field trips. If you have questions that cannot be answered on the AMLC website please contact Rick Nemeth at nemeth@uvi.edu or at (340) 693-1380.

Finally, we are very pleased to announce that our meeting sponsors this year include the University of the Virgin Islands, NOAA's Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research, Puerto Rico Sea Grant, the Caribbean Coral Research Institute, the United States Geological Survey, the United States National Science Foundation VI-EPSCoR Program, and the Caribbean Fisheries Management Council.

REGISTRATION

A Registration Form accompanies this Meeting Announcement. Please note that substantial cost saving may be realized by early (before March 16, 2007) registration.

The registration fee covers the initial reception, all meeting rooms, two coffee breaks per day, a book of abstracts, the program, the published meeting proceedings, a souvenir T-shirt and two years membership with the AMLC. Tickets to the closing banquet and local field trips will be sold for at the registration desk when you arrive.

ACCOMODATIONS

The venue hotels will be the Best Western Emerald Beach and Carib Beach Resorts in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands. Our special AMLC room rates for single and double occupancy are U.S. \$119.00 + taxes for the Emerald Beach, and U.S. \$99.00 + taxes for the Carib Beach. The Best Western assumes that we will rent a minimum number of rooms, so we encourage all attendees to stay at either of these hotels. We suggest you make early reservations to assure getting these special rates. You will need a credit card to confirm your reservation. When making reservations indicate you are with the **AMLC GROUP**. To make your hotel reservations contact hotels at:

EMERALD BEACH RESORT
Reservations Manager
Best Western Beach Resorts
St. Thomas, USVI
Tel: 340- 777-8800
Fax: 340-776-3426
E-mail: bookebr@vipowernet.net
Website: emeraldbeach.com

CARIB BEACH RESORT
Reservations Manager
Best Western Beach Resorts
St. Thomas, USVI
Tel: 340-774-2525
Fax: 340-777-4131
E-mail: bookcbr@vipowernet.net
Website: caribbeachresort.com

TRAVEL

Flights should be booked to Cyril E. King Airport, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas , United States Virgin Islands. The Carib Beach Hotel is within walking distance of airport and the Emerald Beach is about half a mile away. Regularly scheduled shuttle service will be available from hotels to conference room on the University of the Virgin Islands St. Thomas campus.