



Coastal Observing in Your Community

SECOORA Webinar Series: www.secoora.org/webinar-series



Coastal Ocean Circulation Influences on Matters of Societal Concern

The coastal ocean, defined as the continental shelf and the estuaries, is where society meets the sea. It is where bathing and boating abound, where major recreational and commercial fisheries are situated along with maritime commerce hubs, where harmful algal blooms occur, fossil fuels are tapped and alternative energy sources are considered for exploitation, and where tourists and residents simply go to relax. In essence, the coastal ocean is the epicenter for maritime ecosystems services. Managing all of these coastal ocean utilizations, some competitive with one another, and planning for future, sustainable uses, requires the ability to describe the state of the coastal ocean and to predict the effects that may ensue from either naturally occurring or human-induced influences. The state of the coastal ocean is largely determined by the ocean circulation. The circulation is what unites nutrients with light, fueling primary productivity, what determines the water properties in which fish and other organisms reside and what controls the movement of larvae between spawning and settlement regions. The circulation also determines the movement of harmful substances spilled into the sea and the conduct of search and rescue operations. Applications for red tide, gag grouper recruitment and the transport of Deepwater Horizon oil to northern Gulf of Mexico beaches will be discussed.

Webinar

**Tuesday
Feb. 28, 2017**

12 - 1 PM ET

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About the Presenter



Dr. Bob Weisberg,
University of South Florida

Dr. Robert Weisberg is a Distinguished University Professor of Physical Oceanography at the University of South Florida (USF). His current research emphasizes the West Florida Continental Shelf (WFS) and the interactions occurring between the shelf and the deep-ocean and between the shelf and the estuaries. He maintains a coordinated program of in situ observations, analyses, and numerical circulation models aimed at describing and understanding the processes that determine WFS water properties, with applications to matters of societal concern. Dr. Weisberg is on the Board of Directors for the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA) and is a Fellow of the Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA). He serves on the National Research Council Committee on Loop Current Dynamics and previously served on the Committee on New Orleans Regional Hurricane Protection Projects from 2005-2009. He also led the NRL (Stennis, MS) Battlespace Environments site review in 2009. Honors include the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, USF Chapter Scholar of the Year Award in 2011, the NOPP Excellence in Partnering Award in 2008, the USF President's Award for Excellence in 2003 and the USF Professorial Excellence Award in 1998, and the American Geophysical Union Editor's citation for excellence in refereeing for *Geophys. Res. Lett.* in 1995. Dr. Weisberg is a member of the Oceanography Society, the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society and Sigma Xi. He obtained his MS and PhD in physical oceanography in 1972 and 1975 from the University of Rhode Island.

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Join the conversation! Monthly, usually every 4th Tuesday at 12 PM ET, invited speakers will highlight coastal ocean observing in the Southeast.

Contact Abbey Wakely at abbey@secoora.org for more information.

