

# 2023 Knauss Fellowship Webinar



University of Southern California Sea Grant Program

December 8, 2021

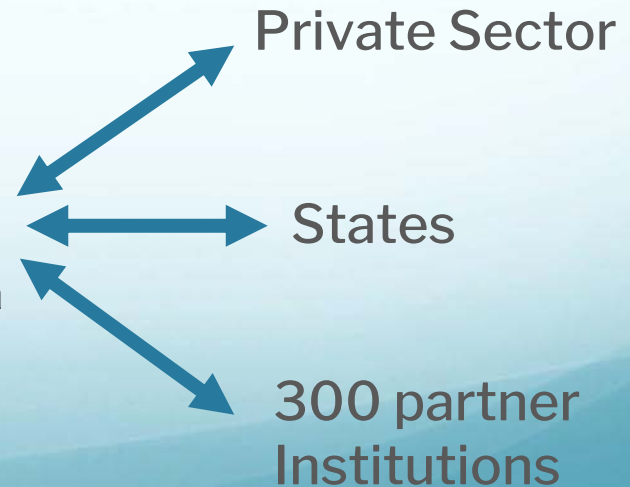
12:00-1:00pm PST





# National Sea Grant Program

- Partnership Program
- Regional networks
- Locally-based infrastructure



# 1966 Sea Grant Legislation

## National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966

- Authorized establishment and operation of SG colleges/ program
- Initiate and support programs of research, extension, education and communication



# 34 Sea Grant Programs in the U.S.






# The state of California has **2** Sea Grant Programs



**Sea Grant**  
University of Southern California

 **Los Angeles**

 **San Diego**

  
**Sea Grant**  
California



## Sea Grant Mission

- To provide integrated research, outreach and education to help Californians balance diverse coastal and marine interests and adapt to changing conditions and needs.
- Sea Grant collaborates with local, state, tribal, regional, national and international partners.

# National Sea Grant Strategic Focus Areas

**\*Climate change cuts across all Sea Grant focus area missions\***

1. Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
2. Resilient Communities and Economies
3. Safe and Sustainable Seafood
4. Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development
  - Fellowships: Increase research & education opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students



# Knauss Fellowship

- Established in 1979
  - Provides unique educational experience to students interested in marine/ocean/Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources.
- One year paid (w/ USC healthcare coverage) fellowship in Washington D.C.
  - legislative (10 fellows) or executive (35 fellows)
- M.S., Ph.D., or J.D. students in marine or aquatic-related fields
- National competition
  - Up to 6 nominees per state Sea Grant program



# 2023 Application Materials

- Curriculum Vitae/Resume (max two pages)
- Personal education and career goal statement (max 1,500 words)
- Two letters of recommendation (one from Advisor)
- Undergraduate and graduate student transcripts (can be unofficial)
- Relevant coursework and future plans for spring, summer, fall 2022 (one page single-spaced)
- \*For applicants in a state ***not served by a Sea Grant Program***, provide a written statement from the National Sea Grant Office

# Evaluation Criteria

<b>Evaluation Area</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Points</b>
Relevant Experience	Curriculum Vitae (CV)	10
	Personal education and career development response	55
	Relevant coursework and future year plans	10
Recommendations	Letters of recommendation	5
	USCSG director letter of recommendation	10
Overall cohesion	All components	10
	Total points:	100

# Personal education and career development response (55 pts)

1. Icebreaker (5 pts) - 2 prompts
2. Career Path and Objectives (25 pts) - 3 prompts; can combine
3. Career Path Experience (25 pts) - 2 prompts

Personal Education and Career Development Response	
<b>Recommended Length</b>	The entirety of the Personal Education and Career Development Responses should not exceed 1,500 words. Section headers will count as part of the overall word count.
<b>Pro Tip</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read each section carefully and make sure to address the full question being asked.</li><li>• Do not repeat your CV, rather expand on it.</li></ul>
<b>Total Points</b>	55 Points

# How to Apply Through USC Sea Grant

- All applications are submitted through USC Sea Grant's online submission portal: [eSeaGrant](#)
- Contact Phyllis Grifman ([grifman@usc.edu](mailto:grifman@usc.edu)) for information or questions while applying for the fellowship
- For eSeaGrant questions while applying, please contact Leah Shore at [lshore@usc.edu](mailto:lshore@usc.edu)







LOGIN

REGISTER

Welcome to eSeaGrant

The online proposal and reporting system for USC eSeaGrant.

Individuals who have applied previously for USC funding may already be in the system: To confirm this, please click the "Forgot Password" link at the bottom of the login form, enter your username (email address), and click "Submit."

If you are unable to login, or if you have any other questions with this site, please contact Phyllis M. Grifman, [seagrant@usc.edu](mailto:seagrant@usc.edu)

Log in

[Forgot Password ?](#)

**ECSION**

Powered by Ecsion Inc.

**USCSG eSeaGrant Website:** <https://usc.eseagrant.ecsion.com/index.php>


- Create username and password

Current Tasks → Fellowship Applications →  
2023 Knauss Fellowship → Add Fellowship Application

The screenshot displays the ECSIION web application interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with the Sea Grant logo (University of Southern California) and a menu with items: Current Tasks (highlighted), Completed Tasks, Open Projects, and Closed Projects. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail 'Tasks > Current Tasks'. The page title is 'Current Tasks'. A red note states: 'Note: If the screen shows the loading animation for more than 15 seconds, please refresh screen and click on the proposal link to continue.' Below this is a card for 'Fellowship Applications' for the '2023 Knauss Fellowship' with a deadline of '18 Feb 2022, 05:00 PM'. It includes a link for 'Instructions' and a blue button labeled 'Add Fellowship Application'. At the bottom of the card, it says 'Fellowship Application not started'. The top right of the interface shows the ECSIION logo, a 'Test PI Test' dropdown menu, and a power icon.

# Complete All Sections and Submit

\*8 required sections and 1 option section\*



< Back To Main Menu

Deadline date:  
02-18-2022 05:00:00 PM  
Due in  
79 days

- Academic Information
- Knauss Fellowship: Curriculum Vitae
- Knauss Fellowship: Personal Education and Career Development
- Knauss Fellowship: Relevant Coursework and Future Year Plans
- Knauss Fellowship: Identify Two Letters of Recommendation
- Knauss Fellowship: Request Letters of Recommendation
- Knauss Fellowship: Transcripts
- Knauss Fellowship: Out of State Applicants Only
- Demographic Questionnaire (VOLUNTARY)
- Submission Preview

ECISION Test PI Test

## Academic Information

Import Data

Mark as complete

Next >>

Please provide information for the following four (4) questions:

1. The name of your graduate school university. For example, the University of Southern California.
2. Please provide an abbreviation of your degree type. For example, PhD, MS, J.D., MAS, MESM, etc.
3. Please provide your degree title. For example, Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, Earth Science, Biology, etc.
4. Please indicate the month and year you will complete your graduate degree (i.e. when coursework, thesis, and defense are completed). For example, May 2022.

**Note:** Questions with red star \* next to it are mandatory. If the mandatory questions are not answered, the form will show a red circle around the question number.

Save

1 Academic Information

Name of University	Degree Type	Degree Title	Graduation Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

2 Where did you hear about the Knauss Fellowship opportunity?

Characters used: 0. No character limit.  
Words used: 0. No word limit.

Save

## Knauss Fellowship: Request Letters of Recommendation

« PREVIOUS

NEXT »

Mark as complete

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Two signed letters of recommendation are required from individuals who have worked with the student, including at least one from a faculty member with knowledge of the student's academic and research (when applicable) performance.

All applicants will be evaluated solely on their application package according to the criteria listed in Section V in the Federal Funding Opportunity. Therefore, letters of endorsement from members of Congress, friends, or relatives will not be accepted. Any letters beyond the two letters of recommendation and the eligible Sea Grant Director's letter will be disregarded by the selection panel.

To send a request to your referee, click on "Request Document". Fill out the name and e-mail address of your referee, and set the "Requested By Date" to February 18, 2022, 5:00 PM PT. You have the option to include one supporting document (e.g., CV) in your request to your letter writer. Click on "Send Request". Once you hit "Send Request", an automated e-mail will be sent to your referee from USC Sea Grant.

You will need to click on the "Request Document" button, twice; once for each referee. When properly set up, each letter writer will show up under the "Request Document" button after you have sent both requests. It is recommended that you follow up with your referees to make sure they received the request.

Letters of recommendation may be submitted through eSeaGrant and must be received by February 18, 2022, 5:00 PM PT. Please be sure to provide your letter writers with adequate time to submit their letters. Any letters beyond the two letters of recommendation will be disregarded by the selection panel.

Alternatively, letters can be e-mailed to [seagrant@usc.edu](mailto:seagrant@usc.edu) by the referee.

### Instruction For Document Provider

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO LETTER WRITERS

(The below will be sent to your referee when the applicant requests a letter)

Thank you for writing a Letter of Recommendation. Letters should discuss the following attributes of the student: self-motivation, response to setbacks, skills and involvement in teamwork, collaborative leadership skills, willingness to learn a new skill or topic, academic and performance and potential. Additionally, the letters should speak to anything else the review panel should know about the strengths that the student will bring to the fellowship. The letters should not include personal contact information or web links to external resources (e.g., LinkedIn, articles, blogs, etc.). The letter should not exceed two pages, single-spaced.

Please submit your letter of support by using the File Upload options and clicking "SUBMIT". If the applicant requesting the letter of support attached a supporting document for your review (e.g. CV), you will find it attached under "Supporting Document". You may close the webpage after you see your submission status located near the top of the screen switch to "submitted". You will also receive a confirmation e-mail once the letter is successfully submitted.

**IMPORTANT:** We only accept files in portable document format (PDF), and the **letter must be received by February 18, 2022, at 5:00 PM PT.** Late submissions may lead to the rejection of incomplete applications. Please note that the student requesting the letter may have provided you with an earlier due date through the eSeaGrant system for convenience. However, the date listed here is when all materials must be received for the application to be considered.


**Please title this document the Student's Last Name\_Recommendation\_Your Last Name. When naming the document please do not use apostrophes (i.e. Smith\_Joe's\_Recommendation).**

Alternatively, letters can be e-mailed to [seagrant@usc.edu](mailto:seagrant@usc.edu) by the referee.

Request Document



Perform this request twice, one for each of your letter writers.

Knauss Fellowship: Request Letters of Recommendation 


« PREVIOUS    NEXT »

Info about person providing the document.

\* First Name


\* Last Name

\* Email

\* Requested By Date   05:00 PM

Optional File for Review by Recipient  
 No file chosen

Once a request is sent, it will show up on the previous page. You have the ability to see the status of the reviewer and resend invite.

#	Name	Due Date	Task Status	Resend Invite	Request	
1	Leah Shore	01-31-2022 05:00 PM	Started	<a href="#">Resend</a>		

# Knauss Fellowship Application Timeline

- **February 18, 2022: Application Due to USCSG by 5 pm PT**
  - We recommend allowing 1-2 months time to complete the application
- **March 2022**: Sea Grant Interviews to select finalists
- **April 1, 2022**: Finalist applications from Sea Grant programs due to NSGO
- **May 2022**: Sea Grant Programs notified of finalist selections
- **June 2022**: Applicants notified of application status
- **October 2022/January 2023**: Placement Week (exact dates TBD); selected applicants will interview with potential hosts in Washington, DC
- **February 1, 2023**: Start of fellowship



# Current and Recent USCSG Knauss Fellows

## 2022 Fellows Class

- **Elliot Matthews**, UC Santa Barbara  
Placement: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); Office of Law Enforcement
- **Nina Yang**, University of Southern California  
Placement: Office of Science and Technology Policy; Executive Office of the President

## 2021 Fellows Class

- **Katherine Ball**, Arizona State University  
Placement: Department of Energy, Wind Energy Technologies Office
- **Laura Ingulsrud**, UC Santa Barbara  
Placement: NOAA, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources
- **Shellby Johnson**, UC Santa Barbara  
Placement: NOAA, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources
- **Demetra Panos**, CSU Northridge  
Placement: US Fish & Wildlife Service, Headquarters, Ecological Services

# Current and Recent USCSG Knauss Fellows

## 2020 Fellows Class

- **Rachel Hager**, Utah State University  
Placement: NOAA Office of Protected Resources

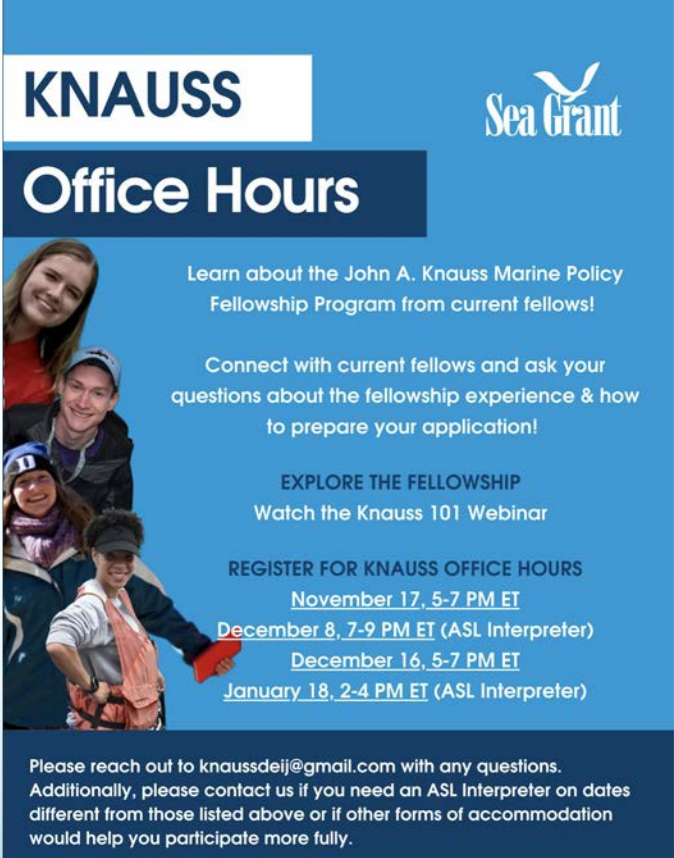
## 2019 Fellows Class

- **Genie Bey**, CSU Long Beach  
Placement: NOAA Office of Education
- **Andrea Daly**, UC Santa Barbara  
Placement: Legislative Branch, U.S. Representative Jared Huffman (CA)
- **Madison Harris**, UC Santa Barbara  
Placement: NOAA/NMFS International Affairs and Seafood Inspection
- **Larissa Lee**, University of Arizona  
Placement: NOAA/NMFS Office of Habitat Conservation, Restoration Center



# Additional Application Resources

- [2023 Knauss Student Guide](#)
- [2023 Knauss Fellowship Application Guide and Tips](#)
- [Knauss Fellowship Blog](#)
- [Knauss Alumni Stories](#)
- [NSGO Knauss Fellowship Webinar](#)
- NSGO Knauss Office Hours:
  - December 8, 7-9 PM ET
  - December 16, 5-7 PM ET
  - January 18, 2-4 PM ET

A promotional graphic for Knauss Office Hours. It features a blue background with a white box containing the word 'KNAUSS' in bold black letters. To the right is the 'Sea Grant' logo, which includes a stylized bird icon. Below the 'KNAUSS' box is a dark blue box with the text 'Office Hours' in white. On the left side of the graphic is a vertical stack of four photos of diverse young people in outdoor gear. To the right of the photos, there is text in white and yellow. The text includes: 'Learn about the John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program from current fellows!', 'Connect with current fellows and ask your questions about the fellowship experience & how to prepare your application!', 'EXPLORE THE FELLOWSHIP Watch the Knauss 101 Webinar', and 'REGISTER FOR KNAUSS OFFICE HOURS' followed by three dates and times: 'November 17, 5-7 PM ET', 'December 8, 7-9 PM ET (ASL Interpreter)', and 'December 16, 5-7 PM ET', and 'January 18, 2-4 PM ET (ASL Interpreter)'. At the bottom, there is a dark blue box with white text: 'Please reach out to knaussdeij@gmail.com with any questions. Additionally, please contact us if you need an ASL Interpreter on dates different from those listed above or if other forms of accommodation would help you participate more fully.'

# Other Fellowships

- NOAA Coastal Management and Digital Coast Fellowships
  - 2-year fellowship; Applications for both are due by January 21, 2022
  - Open to U.S. students who will complete a master's or other advanced degree at an accredited U.S. university between August 1, 2020, and July 31, 2022.
- National Marine Fisheries Office/ Sea Grant Joint Fellowship
  - Joint fellowship in both (1) Population and Ecosystem Dynamics and (2) Marine Resource Economics
  - Applications due by January 27, 2022
  - Open to Ph.D. students in a related field; up to 3 years of funding
- California Sea Grant State Fellowship
  - Fellowship in a CA state or federal agency to learn about implementation of marine policy in California; modeled after the Knauss Fellowship
  - Applications due in summer
  - Recently completed or near completion M.S., Ph.D., or J.D. students in a marine or aquatic-related field at CA universities are eligible
  - For more information about the CASG State Fellowship, contact CA Sea Grant Program Coordinator: Nick Sadrpour at [nsadrpour@usc.edu](mailto:nsadrpour@usc.edu) or 858-246-5269

# Knauss Fellows Panel



**Charlotte Stevenson**

2006 Fellow

Legislative Branch  
Placement: House of  
Representatives Natural  
Resources Committee,  
Subcommittee on  
Fisheries, Wildlife and  
Oceans



**Madison Harris**

2019 Fellow

Executive Branch  
Placement: NOAA  
National Marine  
Fisheries Service (NMFS)  
International Affairs and  
Seafood Inspection



**Amalia Almada**

2016 Fellow

Executive Branch  
Placement: National  
Ocean Service (NOS) and  
the Policy and  
Constituent Affairs  
Division (PCAD)



**Larissa Lee**

2019 Fellow

Executive Branch  
Placement: NOAA NMFS  
Office of Habitat  
Conservation,  
Restoration Center

# Thank You!

For more information on the Knauss Fellowship:  
[dornsife.usc.edu/uscseagrant/knauss-fellowship/](https://dornsife.usc.edu/uscseagrant/knauss-fellowship/)

To learn more about USC Sea Grant:  
[dornsife.usc.edu/uscseagrant/](https://dornsife.usc.edu/uscseagrant/)

For fellowship questions, contact:  
Phyllis Grifman, USCSG Associate Director, at [grifman@usc.edu](mailto:grifman@usc.edu)  
or  
Amalia Almada, USCSG Science, Research & Policy Specialist, at  
[amaliaal@usc.edu](mailto:amaliaal@usc.edu)





# Stipend Example

Knauss 2023 Award Breakdown		
"Bin"	Funding	Allowable Expenses
Salary/Stipend	\$66,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fellow Salary/Stipend,</li> <li>• Fringe/Personnel Expenses (health care, taxes, employee benefits)*</li> </ul>
Discretionary Budget	\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relocation prior to and following the fellowship,</li> <li>• Academic tuition</li> <li>• Journal publication fees</li> <li>• Academic- and fellowship-related travel, conferences fees, online trainings, and workshops</li> </ul>
Placement Week Travel	\$2,500	Travel funding specifically marked for Placement Week-related expenses
Host Office Travel/Training Funds**	\$15,000	Executive host offices have the OPTION to add up to \$15,000 for fellow office-related travel and training. The majority of fellows will not receive these funds directly.

\*NOTE: This may vary by individual state Sea Grant program

\*\*These funds are not guaranteed and vary depending on host office placement.