



# OUR WORLD - UNDERWATER SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY®

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Program  
April 16, 2016 – New York Yacht Club – New York





DANNY FILMING A SCHOOL  
OF SPAWNING BOHAR SNAPPER.  
TAKEN DURING A 2 WEEK  
UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY  
WORKSHOP IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH SCUBA TRAVEL AND THE  
TORNADO FLEET.

SHARK & YOLANDA REEF  
RAS MOHAMMED NATIONAL PARK  
EGYPTIAN RED SEA  
© ALEXANDER MUSTARD

# Welcome



It is such a pleasure to welcome you to New York City and to the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary celebration of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society®. It is a real treat for me as president of the society to bring the “family” together each year to renew friendships, celebrate all of our interns and Rolex Scholars, and acknowledge the efforts of our volunteers. Once again, we celebrate a long history of extraordinary scholarship, volunteer service, organizational partnership, and corporate sponsorship, especially an amazing, uninterrupted partnership with Rolex, our founding corporate sponsor.

This year, we bring three new Rolex Scholars and four new interns into our family resulting in an accumulative total of 94 Rolex Scholars and 93 interns since the inception of the society, and all of this has been accomplished by our all-volunteer organization. Forty-two years of volunteers have been selfless in their efforts serving as directors, officers, committee members, coordinators, and technical advisors all motivated to support the society’s mission “to promote educational activities associated with the underwater world.”

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support by the society’s many organizational partners and corporate sponsors throughout the years. The one constant in the Society’s “life and history” has been the Rolex family which has been our “partner in education” during every one of our 42 years of educational outreach and scholarship.

I take this opportunity on behalf of the directors and officers of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® to thank 42 years’ worth of volunteers, hosts, organizational partners, and corporate sponsors for supporting us and sharing in our dream of a better planet.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael N Emmerman".

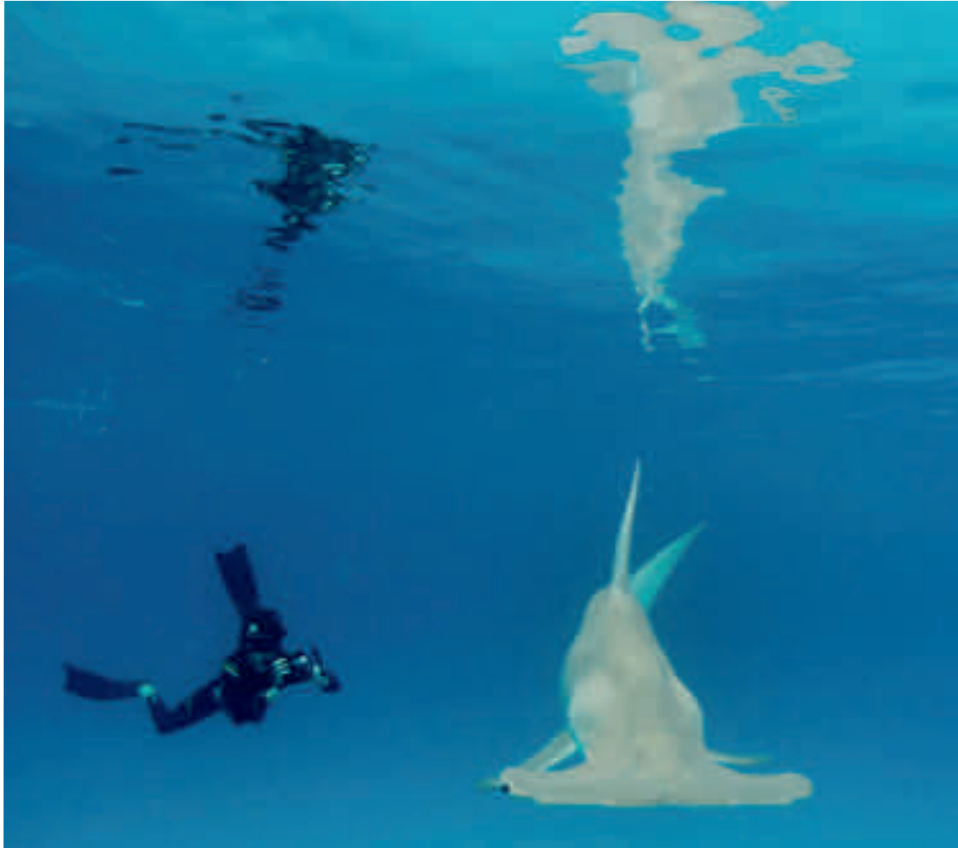
**Michael N Emmerman, BCFE FACFEI**

President

Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society®



PARTNERS IN EDUCATION  
SINCE 1974



BENJAMIN BUCHAN  
HAMMERHEAD ©CHARLOTTE SAMS

# OUR WORLD - UNDERWATER SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY®

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Program\*

## WELCOME

**James A. Corry**, Chairman  
**Stewart Wicht**, President and CEO, Rolex Watch USA Inc.

*Climate Change: Anyone Can Change Everything*  
**Dr. Joe MacInnis**, M.D., C.M., O.O., Founding Patron

## 2015 ROLEX SCHOLARS YEAR IN REVIEW & FLAG RETURN

*Lessons from the Sea*

**Michele A. Felberg**  
2015 North American Rolex Scholar

*Frame by Frame*

**Daniel J. Copeland**  
2015 European Rolex Scholar

*Clear Perceptions*

**Benjamin L. Buchan**  
2015 Australasian Rolex Scholar

## DINNER\*\*

## VOLUNTEER of the YEAR AWARD

## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 ROLEX SCHOLARSHIPS

**Christopher K. Millbern** 2016 North American Rolex Scholar

**Felix Butschek** 2016 European Rolex Scholar

**Maya T. Santangelo** 2016 Australasian Rolex Scholar

\**Neptune's Nightmare*

\*\**The Phone Call*

courtesy William D. Lovin, Marine Grafics

# History

**From its roots in the Midwestern United States 42 years ago, the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® has grown into a global organization. 94 Rolex Scholars — in North America, Europe, and Australasia — along with 93 interns in North America and Europe have created a significant legacy for our organization. Many of our Rolex Scholars and interns have gone on to distinguished careers in the underwater sciences, marine research, and photography.**

It all began in 1969, when Joyce Markstahler and Jim Mackie-Smith formulated the idea of a Middle Coast dive show. They approached Harry Shanks, President-YMCA Metro Council of Chicago, for assistance in developing the Our World-Underwater (OWU) Dive and Travel Exposition. Harry supplemented the initial cadre of volunteers with the officers of the Metro Council and premiered that first OWU show at Chicago's Playboy Hotel in 1971.

The initial idea was that the profits from the show would be donated to the YMCA scuba program in Chicago. Joyce named the new dive show "Our World-Underwater," and LeRoy Winbush designed the logo, which is still in use today. The upper half of the logo features the Great Lakes of the United States, reflecting the primary diving environment of the Society's founders and supporters. The logo is a permanent reminder of the society's roots.

spoke with Dr. Joe MacInnis, a Canadian physician and well-known explorer. They discussed a proposal from the OWU Board of Directors to use \$1,500 of the OWU dive show profits to finance research. Dr. MacInnis in turn proposed an alternative idea. He suggested using the money to invest in an individual with an experience-based scholarship that would cultivate the individual in the industry and the underwater world. Then and there, on September 3, 1972, the Our World-Underwater Scholarship was born.

During the next year and a half, Joyce Markstahler and Joe MacInnis worked to develop a list of hosts and experiences that would provide a credible scholarship experience to a young person, so they could be developed as a future steward of the waters of the world. The inaugural Our World-Underwater Scholarship was awarded to Mark Bensen in 1974.

In 1972, Harry Shanks and Joyce Markstahler traveled to San Francisco to attend the "Man in the Sea" dive show. During a cruise on San Francisco Bay, Joyce and Harry

94 ROLEX SCHOLARS, 93 INTERNS,  
AND SO MANY VOLUNTEERS  
AROUND THE WORLD HAVE  
ALL CREATED A SIGNIFICANT  
LEGACY FOR OUR ORGANIZATION  
AND OUR FUTURE.

The first few scholarships were managed by the Scholarship Committee of Our World-Underwater, which was initially chaired by Dr. MacInnis.

In 1978, the Scholarship Committee of Our World-Underwater was incorporated as a separate entity in the State of Illinois as the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® (OWUSS). For many years, the annual meetings for the scholarship society were held in Chicago during the OWU show.

In 2000, the directors of OWU sold the rights of the dive show. Since that time, the scholarship society is no longer associated with OWU, and, in 2005, the scholarship society moved its annual meeting to New York City. The scholarship society has thrived through the invaluable assistance of its many dedicated volunteers and sponsors, who have worked hard to promote educational activities associated with the underwater world. Rolex Watch USA has been the Society's "partner in education" since 1974. As the society's Founding Partner, Rolex has worked with the board of directors in the form of advice and counsel since our inception. Additional support comes from throughout

the diving industry in the form of diving and underwater photographic equipment, advanced and specialized dive training, hosting experiences and subsidized travel, and an engraved diver's watch donated by Rolex to each of the scholars.

In 2001, Rolex SA, Geneva, saw the positive impact of the award and agreed to sponsor a European Rolex Scholar, giving the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® international reach and exposure. In 2001, the scholarship of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® was renamed the Rolex Scholarship and all scholars dating back to 1974 became Rolex Scholars.

In 2007, Rolex Australia further expanded the society's international outreach with the addition of the Australasian Rolex Scholarship. In addition to the Rolex Scholarships, the OWUSS currently offers internships in North America. The North American summer internships are offered for a one- to three-month period and are primarily directed at college undergraduates. Internship recipients receive a grant to help fund travel, room and board, and a stipend to cover living expenses.



# 2015

NORTH AMERICAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
**MICHELE A. FELBERG**

## DISCIPLINES

- > Dive medicine
- > Underwater photography
- > Underwater archaeology
- > Marine fisheries management
- > Marine research, field work, specimen collection
- > Scientific diving
- > Shark handling
- > Nonprofit management
- > Eco-tourism management
- > Crown of Thorn eradication
- > Marine education and outreach
- > Hyperbaric training
- > Marine lab research

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- > DAN Instructor (for 7 courses)
- > TDI/SDI Closed Circuit Rebreather
- > TDI/SDI Advanced Nitrox
- > TSI/SDI Decompression Procedures
- > PADI Scuba Instructor Certification
- > PADI Sidemount Diver Certification
- > PADI Tech50 Certification
- > Naui Drysuit Diver
- > Junior Park Ranger
- > NPS American Samoa

## TRAVEL

- > North Carolina
- > Dominican Republic
- > Cayman Islands
- > Boston
- > Vancouver Island
- > Washington
- > Florida
- > Bahamas
- > Solomon Islands
- > Vanuatu
- > Fiji
- > American Samoa
- > South Australia
- > Sydney, NSW
- > Papua New Guinea
- > California
- > Mexico
- > 50 flights
- > 14 ferry rides
- > 30 days living on boats



PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
© JAYNE JENKINS

BEQA ADVENTURE DIVERS  
© DANNY COPELAND



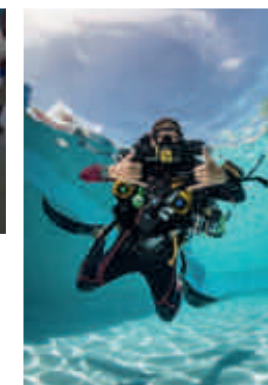
REEF FISH SURVEY  
© BECCA GRAESSER



PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
© JAYNE JENKINS



FIJIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN  
LINDBLAD EXPEDITION  
© BEN BUCHAN



DIVETECH ON GRAND CAYMAN  
© KARL SHREEVES



**2015**  
**EUROPEAN**  
**ROLEX SCHOLAR**  
**DANIEL J. COPELAND**

**YEAR IN REVIEW**

- > more than 150 dives
- > 50 flights
- > 23 experiences
- > 12 countries including; England, Wales, Egypt, Maldives, Canada, USA, Bahamas, Mexico, Australia, Fiji, Argentina and Antarctica
- > 7 continents
- > 3 rescued drones
- > 2 Hurricanes
- > 1 badly broken propeller

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

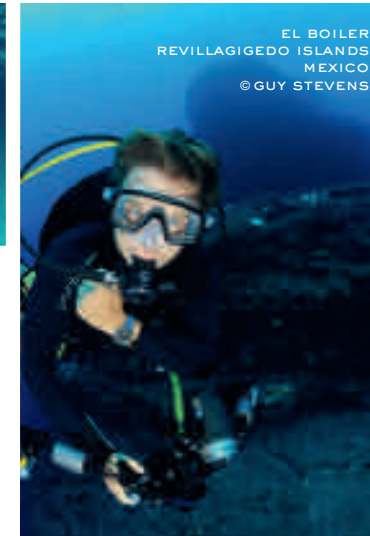
- > Open Water Scuba Instructor (PADI)
- > Commercial / Scientific Scuba Diver (HSE Scuba)
- > Rebreather Trained (TDI on Inspiration unit)
- > Boat Handling Qualification (RYA)
- > Planned, filmed & edited first short-film on Hanifaru Bay in the Maldives.
- > Assisted on an underwater film shoot for BBC Oceans
- > Camera Assistant for National Geographic photographer Thomas Peschak on assignment in Mexico
- > Credited Cameraman & Field Producer for Nat Geo short film on manta ray Crittercams
- > Videos viewed by >1.6 million people.
- > Dream achieved to visit & work at the Bimini Biological Field Station in Bahamas
- > Runner-up in The Prince of Wales' Commonwealth Environmental Photography Awards *Out of the Blue* competition. Image of Crown of Thorns Starfish outbreak in Maldives viewed by Commonwealth Heads of State, including HRH Prince Charles
- > Image of coral reef taken under instruction from Dr. Alex Mustard achieved 'Highly Commended' in international underwater photography competition, Ocean Art 2015
- > Dive Co-ordinator for environmental film project installing novel cameras to record coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef
- > Learnt how to cook Naan bread, badly



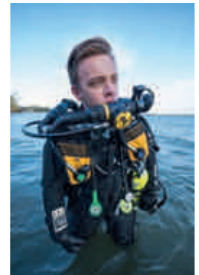
DANIEL J. COPELAND & FRIENDLY BATFISH © KATHY WHITE



MALDIVES © GUY STEVENS



EL BOILER  
 REVILLAGIGEDO ISLANDS  
 MEXICO  
 © GUY STEVENS



ONTARIO, CANADA  
 © DANNY COPELAND



**2015**  
**AUSTRALASIAN**  
**ROLEX SCHOLAR**  
**BENJAMIN L. BUCHAN**



MICHELE AND BENJAMIN  
 MT. YASUR ON TANNA ISLAND, VANUATU  
 © JOHANNA WERMINGHAUSEN

**TRAVEL**

- > Australia
- > USA
- > Bahamas
- > Fiji
- > Papua New Guinea
- > Solomon Islands
- > Vanuatu
- > Palau
- > Yap
- > Guam
- > Pohnpei
- > 38 flights

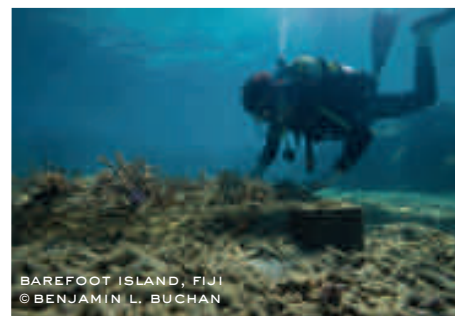
**EXPERIENCES**

- > Underwater Photography and Videography
- > Reef Surveys
- > Photogrammetry
- > Underwater Stereo Video
- > Fish Hatchery Operation
- > Manta Tagging
- > Marine Education Programs
- > Shark Feeding and Handling
- > Cavern Diving

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- > 260 Open water Dives
- > 8 Cavern Dives
- > IDC Staff Instructor Certification (PADI)
- > Caribbean Reef Shark Awareness Certification (PADI)
- > Public Speaking Course (RogenSi)
- > Marine Radio Certification

“ON BAREFOOT ISLAND, I WAS MAINTAINING THE CORAL PLANTING STATION.”



BAREFOOT ISLAND, FIJI  
 © BENJAMIN L. BUCHAN



BAREFOOT ISLAND, FIJI  
 © THOMAS VIGNAUD



JUPITER, FLORIDA  
 ELENA HAUBOLD, JEFF TROTTA AND BENJAMIN L. BUCHAN  
 © DANIEL NORWOOD

OUR WORLD-UNDERWATER SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY®



“THE KIDS IN THIS PHOTO CAME OUT FOR A MARINE EDUCATION PROGRAM, WHERE WE TAUGHT THEM ABOUT THEIR LOCAL CORAL, FISH LIFE AND WHAT THEY CAN DO TO PROTECT IT. AFTERWARDS, THEY WERE GUIDED ON A SNORKEL ON THE RAINBOW REEF.”

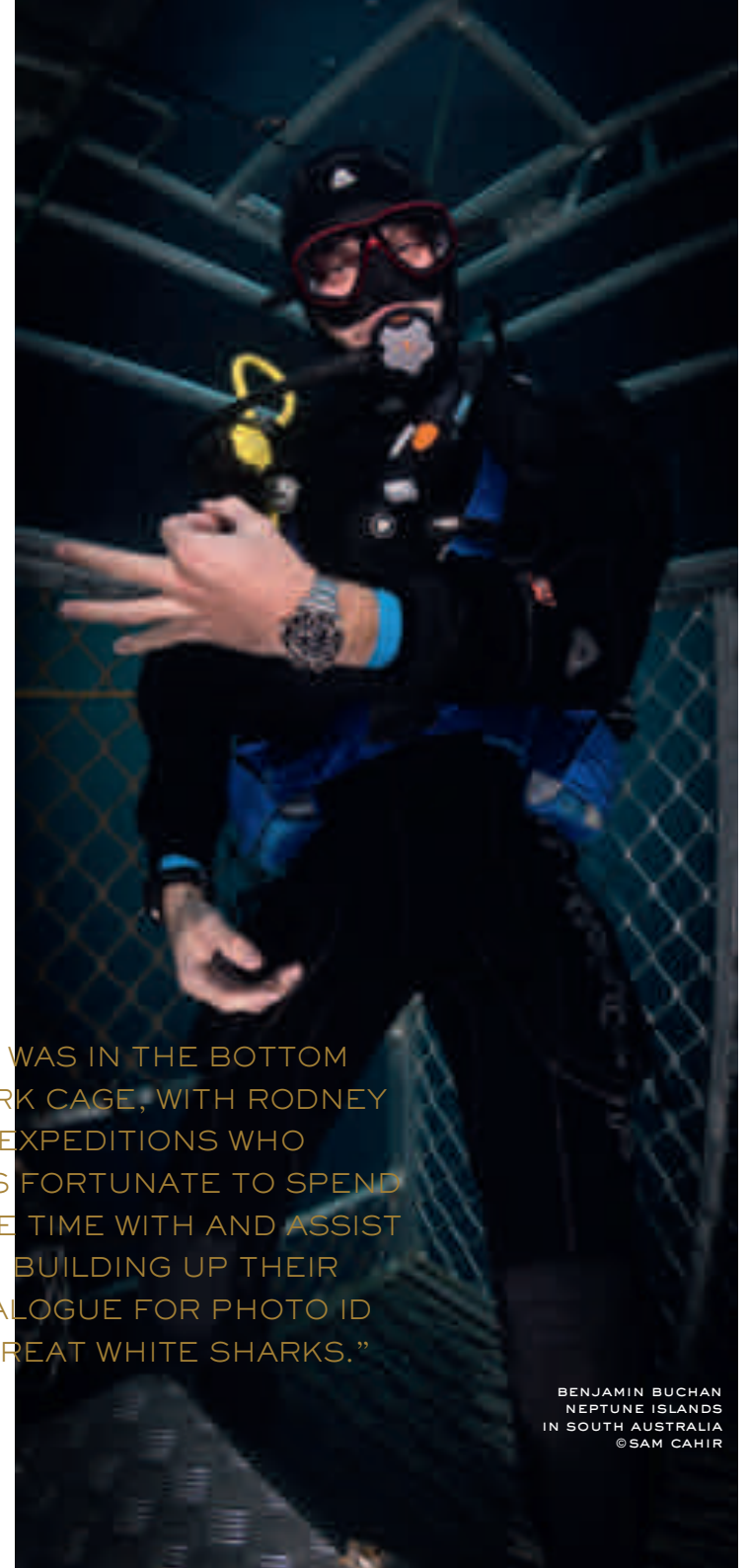
ON A SMALL ISLAND JUST OFF TAVEUNI FIJI ©JULIE KELLY



MICHELE FELBERG AND THE MARINE CREW  
U. S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
AMERICAN SAMOA ©MICHELE FELBERG



SAN BENEDICTO VOLCANO  
REVILLAGIGEDO ISLANDS  
MEXICO ©DANNY COPELAND



“THIS WAS IN THE BOTTOM SHARK CAGE, WITH RODNEY FOX EXPEDITIONS WHO I WAS FORTUNATE TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH AND ASSIST WITH BUILDING UP THEIR CATALOGUE FOR PHOTO ID OF GREAT WHITE SHARKS.”

BENJAMIN BUCHAN  
NEPTUNE ISLANDS  
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
©SAM CAHIR



## 2016

NORTH AMERICAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
**CHRISTOPHER K. MILLBERN**

Chris Millbern is a latecomer to the underwater world, but his passion for diver safety and adventure has made him a natural fit for the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society's Rolex Scholarship Program.

Born 26 years ago in Newport Beach, California, Chris was raised on ocean swims and thousands of viewings of National Geographic's "Really Wild Animals: Deep Sea Dive" VHS tape, which he of course still holds on to today. Majoring at UCLA in Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution, Chris became a concerned conservationist and backpacking guide, combining his love of adventure sports and the biological sciences in any way possible. While enrolled, Chris participated in studies involving Belizean crocodilian parasitology, the effects of anthropogenic noise on Nicaraguan spider monkeys, heavy metal poisoning in Arizona rattlesnakes, and earned the Santa Monica Audubon Society Research Award for his work on anticoagulant poisoning in local bobcat populations. He learned a deep appreciation for the importance of protecting our environment, but he missed the ocean and his young dreams of exploring with National Geographic started to feel impossible.

It wasn't until a spontaneous Open Water class his senior year that everything changed. Realizing how much he was missing by living on the surface,

Chris became dedicated to making the world of diving his own. In the next two years, he would become a PADI Rescue Diver, AAUS Scientific Diver, and join the UCLA Hyperbaric Medicine team as an E.M.T. and Certified Hyperbaric Technologist. Working both internationally and with patients in hundreds of chamber dives, he became enamored with hyperbaric medicine and took every opportunity to teach it. He has given educational talks to local dive shops, high school programs, visiting international physicians, and even the 95<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medical Squadron from Edwards Air Force Base.

As a newly minted Diver Medic, Chris has begun working with ecological survey groups across the California coast. Balancing his love of conservation and hyperbaric medicine, he first wants to develop his skills as a diver so as to better contribute to the teams and projects he works on. Encouraging marine preserves through responsible ecotourism, driving research and public policy towards pragmatic solutions, and bringing a love of the ocean to a new generation of divers are all things Chris hopes to achieve. Most importantly, he wants to give back: "The underwater world has given me a sense of purpose and the community has given me a home. All I really want is to keep the environment safe, and the people who protect and enjoy it even safer."



## 2016

EUROPEAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
**FELIX BUTSCHEK**

Felix, 24, grew up in Innsbruck amidst the alpine mountains of Austria, far away from the sea and without any notion about the diversity of marine life. This changed rapidly in 2009 when Felix was awarded a full scholarship to complete high school at the Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific on Vancouver Island. When he chose a marine science class and started to scuba-dive, Felix was immediately hooked on the wonders of the marine environment. By the time he left school, Felix had attained the PADI Divemaster qualification and realized that he wanted to pursue a career in underwater science.

After a year of social service in Austria, Felix moved to the Scottish west coast in 2012 to study Marine Science with Arctic Studies at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS). He joined a local British Sub Aqua Club branch (BSAC) and in collaboration with his dive club and SAMS, he helped in the discovery and identification of several WWII flying boats near Oban. This fascinating endeavour sparked his interest in underwater archaeology and sonar technologies. In a small team of students, Felix set up a university BSAC branch at his college to share his passion for diving. He has since trained as a BSAC assistant instructor and become proficient in accelerated decompression procedures. In his second

year at university Felix also completed a five-week course in scientific diving with the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research.

In 2014-15, Felix spent an exchange year on Svalbard, at 78°N in the Norwegian Arctic. This was a transformational experience in its extensive fieldwork including two weeklong research cruises in marine geology and biology. Felix consequently chose to dedicate his BSc research project to the study of climatic variability and ice sheet dynamics on Svalbard, reflecting his interest in climate change from geological to human timescales. Last January, Felix participated in a course on stereo-photogrammetry with the UK National Facility for Scientific Diving. He is keen to develop 3D visualization further and apply it to study and to promote the marine environment.

Felix is most enthusiastic about temperate and polar marine environments and conservation efforts in the Arctic, which is heavily affected by climate change. For him, the award of the European Rolex Scholarship 2016 is a dream come true. Felix believes that his experiences during the scholarship year will shape his career in the underwater world and help him share his passion for remote polar seas.



# 2016

AUSTRALASIAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR

MAYA T. SANTANGELO

I was born in California, and moved to Sydney, Australia when I was 11. With the ocean at my doorstep, a love for adventure and nature was encouraged from a young age, and I learned to scuba dive at 14. From the beginning, the underwater world captivated my imagination and I knew that diving would play a huge part in my life. I developed a close relationship with the local dive shop and spent my free time as an intern, soaking up as much dive experience as possible. Over the years I worked towards becoming a PADI Instructor. My love for diving undoubtedly fueled my interest in marine biology.

In 2011, I began studying a Bachelor of Science at the University of Sydney, later transferring to James Cook University to pursue a degree in marine biology. Immersing myself in learning about the underwater world I had grown to love through diving, I became particularly interested in the functional importance of predators within marine ecosystems, and effective ocean conservation.

After graduating, I undertook a research internship at Lizard Island Research Station, which exposed me to a wide variety of marine research projects on the Great Barrier Reef. I then moved to Palau to work as a professional dive guide with a leading dive center. Supporting a marine sanctuary through

diving tourism was an experience I found both incredibly rewarding and educational, allowing me to get up close and personal with some of the most incredible marine life imaginable, and giving me first hand exposure to the world of conservation. I jumped at every opportunity and new challenge to apply and foster my knowledge as a marine biologist, taking on roles in education, conservation and research activities, including working with Palau International Coral Reef Center, presenting scientific lectures to guests, and featuring as a marine biologist on two separate filming assignments.

With more than 10 years of diving, my experiences so far have been hugely rewarding in allowing me to give back a measure of what has been given to me, raising awareness and inspiring a love for the ocean in others. I am continually inspired with a sense of awe and respect for life underwater, and a sense of wonder of the fascinating aspects of life yet to be explored. Committed to life as an ocean ambassador, I hope to make positive contributions to our world underwater by engaging in scientific research critical to developing effective conservation and management of our oceans, and sharing this knowledge, raising awareness, to ensure the sustainable use and future of its resources.

“I AM FEEDING SHARKS  
AS PART OF CRISTINA ZENATO’S  
SHARK HANDLING COURSE.”

MICHELE A. FELBERG



©CRISTINA ZENATO

# 2016 Internships

**DR. LEE H. SOMERS  
AMERICAN ACADEMY  
OF UNDERWATER  
SCIENCES (AAUS)  
SCIENTIFIC DIVING  
INTERNSHIP**



Allie D. Sifrit,  
University of Hawaii  
at Manoa

Allie Sifrit is from Aurora, Colorado. In December of 2015, she graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology with Honors and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish. During her time at UHM, she learned how to scuba dive, traveled, and conducted research. Allie began diving in October of 2012. In October of 2015, she completed the PADI Dive Master course. Allie is extremely interested in coral reefs and marine protected areas and was able to conduct benthic reef surveys in the Philippines on two occasions with Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation (CCEF) and in the US Virgin Islands with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In the summer of 2013, she participated in a study abroad program in Salamanca, Spain. She was also able to complete a research project for the Honors Program which used DNA to search for clones in a population of the coral *Acropora hyacinthus* in Palau. Since graduating from UHM, she has been working in Denver, Colorado as a macro-invertebrate sorter in the laboratory at GEI Consultants. Allie is extremely excited to spend the summer in Georgia as the Dr. Lee H. Somers AAUS scientific diving intern. She also looks forward to beginning a Master of Marine Affairs at the University of Washington in the School of Marine and Environmental Affairs in September 2016.

This internship provides experience for a young person **interested in a future in science, diving for research, or scientific diving-related fields**. Intern applicants can be students from colleges and universities with an interest in science and diving. The program runs from mid-May through August and will include training at one of several AAUS organizational member sites. This training will give the intern **the necessary dive qualifications to allow participation on research projects requiring scientific diving and introduce the intern to careers that utilize scientific diving as a tool**. Once trained as an AAUS-recognized diver-in-training, **interns will participate in underwater fieldwork** at one or more locations and research facilities associated with AAUS.

**BONNIER DIVE  
GROUP PUBLISHING  
INTERNSHIP**



Melissa J. Smith  
University of Florida

What drew Melissa Smith to diving, apart from an ingrained love and appreciation of her home state of Florida's waters, was her overwhelming sense of curiosity. This is the same sense that drew her to journalism, and she is excited to have the opportunity to merge those two worlds as the 2016 Bonnier Dive Group Publishing Intern.

Melissa will be graduating from the University of Florida in May 2017 with a bachelor's degree in journalism and a minor in sustainability studies. She loves all things outdoors; from hiking and camping to fishing and paddling. She is especially interested in environmental issues such as invasive species removal and monitoring reef systems off Florida's coastlines. Melissa is currently the copy desk chief at *The Independent Florida Alligator*, which is the largest student-run newspaper in the country. She has also worked at *Sea Watch*, a magazine published by the Coastal Conservation Association Florida; and for *WUFT News*, the PBS affiliate in Gainesville, Florida.

Based in Winter Park, Florida, the recipient of this internship will **gain valuable real world experience in magazine publishing**. Bonnier Corporation is one of the largest consumer-publishing groups in America, with nearly 50 special-interest magazines and related multimedia projects and events. The Bonnier Dive Group includes *Sport Diver*, *Scuba Diving*, and *Undersea Journal*. The intern will have the opportunity to contribute to these and other Bonnier Corporation publications.

Melissa is excited to join the Bonnier team in Winter Park this summer and help continue to give a voice to the research and work that is done by the Rolex Scholars and the other interns of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society®.

# 2016 Internships

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RESEARCH INTERNSHIP

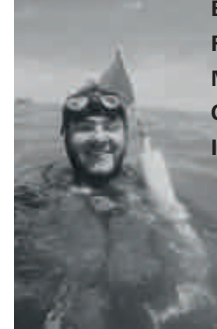


Garrett J. Fundakowski,  
University of Richmond

Garrett Fundakowski is a senior from Bear, Delaware. He will be graduating from the University of Richmond in May 2016 with a B.S. in Biology and Mathematics and a minor in Integrated Sciences. During his freshman year, he joined the lab of Dr. Malcolm Hill, whose research revolves around the relationship between sponges and their algal symbionts. For the past three years, Garrett has worked on a variety of projects for the lab including a large-scale field survey of rivers and streams in Virginia to look at the distribution and abundance of freshwater sponges, in addition to a set of photosynthetic inhibition experiments in the Florida Keys to investigate the population dynamics of algal symbionts within a sponge host. Additionally, he began molecular work for a local adaptation study of a sponge species in the Florida Keys and assisted with the development and testing of a differential equation model of the dynamics of a two-symbiont, one-host scenario. During the fall semester of his junior year, Garrett traveled to Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean and studied at the CIEE Research Station. There, he obtained his Advanced Open Water, Rescue Diver, and AAUS Scientific Diver certifications and completed an independent research project on the depth dependence of filter-feeding mechanisms in sponges. These experiences have strengthened his passion for the marine environment, and he believes this internship will provide more opportunities to develop his skill set and focus his career goals.

The National Park Service Research Internship provides a unique opportunity to **work with leading archaeologists, underwater photographers, and scientists** in the National Park Service and other agencies in the American state and federal government. Specific work projects will be determined based upon the interests of the intern as well as the needs of associated projects. The internship is based in Denver, Colorado, but it is expected that the intern will travel to projects within the continental United States and potentially overseas as part of this internship. Experiences could involve a specific project in a single park or a larger project in multiple parks.

## THE REEF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION (REEF) MARINE CONSERVATION INTERNSHIP



Patrick M. Peck,  
Shippensburg University

Offered in Key Largo, Florida, the Marine Conservation Internship provides an opportunity to experience the working at a **nonprofit environmental organization. REEF is a grassroots, non-profit organization of recreational divers dedicated to protecting and preserving the underwater environment.** Outside duties include environmental presentations to local and visiting schools, university, dive, and public groups; working with other local marine conservation entities; and opportunities for conducting marine life surveys during local dives. **Office duties include handling memberships, incoming marine life survey data, answering e-mail, and dealing with the public.**

As a kid living in Chile, I spent days exploring the coast and its marine inhabitants. When not in the water, I'd listen to my father's numerous dive stories. Unfortunately, as life went on, I had to return to the farmlands of central Pennsylvania. I became a "fish out of water" and lost my connection to the sea. It was not until a change in majors halfway through my undergraduate career that I was able to rediscover and rekindle my passion for the aquatic world. I am currently a senior at Shippensburg University majoring in Geoenvironmental Studies with a minor in Biology and a certificate in GIS.

I became a certified diver in 2009, however some unfortunate events lead me away from diving. It was once I rediscovered my lost passion for the ocean and met other divers in the university that I began participating again not only for recreation but for research as well. While the majority of my experience has been in the cold, dark, fresh water sites in the Northeast, it only took one dive in the warm, clear waters of the Caribbean to get hooked on coral reefs and their unique ecology.

My research and field studies courses have lead me to work in various ecosystems ranging from the Florida Keys to the Island of Curaçao and the Chincoteague Bay. My research has focused on coral and oyster reefs and using new photogrammetry methods to study them. I am honored to have been choosing as an Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® intern, and I am very much looking forward to working with the REEF team!

# Partners

## FOUNDING PARTNER

Rolex

## FOUNDING PATRON

Joseph B. MacInnis, M.D.

## CORPORATE SPONSORS

Animal Ocean  
Apeks Marine Equipment Ltd  
Aqua Lung America, Inc.  
Beqa Adventure Divers  
Bonnier Dive Group  
Disabled Divers International  
DIVER Group  
Divers Alert Network (DAN)  
Diving Unlimited International (DUI)  
Duiken-Netherlands  
DYK-Diver Group Scandinavia  
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Robert M. Adams	(NA 1975)	Adam B. Ravetch	(NA 1985)	Kirsten A. Bassion	(NA 1998)	Matthew J. Carter	(AU 2009)
Douglas C. Zinn	(NA 1975)	Patty Debenham	(NA 1985)	Julie S. Barber	(NA 1999)	Joshua Stewart	(NA 2010)
Neal Shapiro	(NA 1975)	Patrick J Kilbride	(NA 1985)	Alison L LaBonte	(NA 2000)	Ingrid Rushfeldt Krüger-Stokke	(EU 2010)
Pete Romano	(NA 1975)	Alan C. Hilton	(NA 1986)	Jennifer Jeffers	(NA 2001)	William Arlidge	(AU 2010)
Robin MacFadden Parish	(NA 1976)	Norbert Wu	(NA 1986)	Joe R. Stevens	(EU 2001)	Christian Clark	(NA 2011)
Ronald L. Coley	(NA 1976)	Craig M. Lee	(NA 1986)	Stefanie Wells Misner	(NA 2002)	Erin McFadden	(EU 2011)
S. Ryan Taylor	(NA 1976)	Michael Topolovac	(NA 1987)	Richard E. Somerset	(EU 2002)	Anthea Ibell Madill	(AU 2011)
S. Craig Cary	(NA 1977)	Wesley R. Strong	(NA 1987)	Kerry Nickols	(NA 2003)	Megan Cook	(NA 2012)
Charles D. Wheatley	(NA 1977)	Donna M. Schroeder	(NA 1987)	Jade Berman	(EU 2003)	Oscar Svensson	(EU 2012)
Richard Henry Salas	(NA 1977)	Karen Van Hoesen	(NA 1988)	Joseph C. Hoyt	(NA 2004)	Yoland Bosiger	(AU 2012)
Stephen C. Earley	(NA 1978)	Beth Kneeland Pickett	(NA 1988)	Phoebe Rudomino	(EU 2004)	Jeffrey B. Hester	(NA 2013)
Susan B. Schoen	(NA 1979)	Gregory G. Shellenbarger	(NA 1989)	Anna Watson Hanson	(NA 2005)	Chloé Maréchal	(EU 2013)
John McClelland	(NA 1979)	Jamie L. King	(NA 1989)	Vibe Schourup-Kristensen	(EU 2005)	Stefan M. Andrews	(AU 2013)
Charles R. Seaborn	(NA 1979)	Heather L. Dine	(NA 1990)	Michelle Fetzer	(NA 2006)	Ana Sofía Guerra	(NA 2014)
Stacey A. Tighe	(NA 1980)	Steven M. Barnett	(NA 1990)	Delia Ní Chiobháin Enqvist	(EU 2006)	Elena Salim Haubold	(EU 2014)
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Jay C. Moreland	(NA 1984)	Craig L. Nelson	(NA 1996)				

# The Interns

**BAIZAROVA, Martina**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award  
2005 & 2006

**BARCHUS, Sarah**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2013

**BASSION, Kirsten**  
REEF 1997

**BEECHAM, Dan**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2004

**BENNETT, Andrew**  
Blackbeard's Cruises 2008

**BENSON, Bridget**  
U.S. Navy 2006

**BILLUPS, Brianna**  
National Park Service 2010

**BLINICK, Naomi**  
National Park Service 2011

**BODENSTEIN, Dan**  
U.S. Navy 2007

**BONE, David**  
Aquarena 2008

**BOWIE, Jacqueline**  
REEF 2005

**BROGAN, Kate**  
Blackbeard's Cruises 2009

**BURKHEAD-WEINER, Davita**  
REEF 2003

**BURFEIND, Dana**  
Divers Alert Network 2001

**CALVER, Tim**  
National Geographic Society  
Ford Fellow 2002

**CALINI, Danielle**  
REEF 2009

**COFFEY, Charles**  
Divers AlertNetwork 2000

**CODALBU, Andrew**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2004

**COTTON, James**  
Divers Alert Network 2010

**COX, Schyler**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2014

**FOOTE, Elizabeth**  
NURC 1998

**FUNDAKOWSKI, Garrett J.**  
National Park Service 2016

**GHANI, Aiysha**  
REEF 2006

**GIBEILY, Christopher**  
U. S. Navy 2008

**GRAY, Jeff**  
NURC 1996

**HACK, Nicole**  
COARE 2014

**HAJDUCZEK, Barbara**  
REEF 2002

**HALL, Kara B.**  
REEF 2015

**HARDY, Steve**  
Divers Alert Network 2004

**HARMAN, Leah**  
Darling Marine Center 2000

**HENDRICKS, Lisa**  
Mitigation Water Project  
Dubuque IA 1995

**HOWELL, Ruth**  
Darling Marine Center 2001

**HOBAN, Mykle**  
AAUS 2010

**JAFFEE, Adam**  
NURC 2001

**JOSEPH, Mariclaire**  
Divers Alert Network 2012

**KITTREL, Casey**  
Man-In-The-Sea 1997

**KOCHERGINA, Anna**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2008

**KRZYSTAN, Andrea**  
Divers Alert Network 2006

**LANE, Claire E. Kitchin**  
REEF 2011

**LEVINE, Ari**  
Darling Marine Center 1998

**LEVY, Jessica**  
REEF 2012

**LYONS, Jennie Noll**  
U.S. Navy 2004

**MASON, Julia**  
National Park Service 2013

**MAXWELL, Henry**  
Divers Alert Network 2005

**MAZILLE, Guillaume**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2003

**MCNALLY, Lucy**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2006

**MICHALIK, Courtney**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2011

**MITCHELL, Catherine R.**  
AAUS 2015

**MOBLEY, Kenyon**  
NURC 1997

**MOORE, Rebekah**  
REEF 1996

**MULLENS, Abigail Smigel**  
Rodale Magazine 2001

**MYERS, Robert A.**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2015

**MYHR, Molly**  
REEF 2001

**NESS, Jeremiah**  
Aquarena 2007

**NEWCOMER, Katherine**  
AAUS 2014

**NIELSON, Alec**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2012

**NUTTAL, Marissa**  
REEF 2007

**OLENYCH, Noah**  
Mitigation Water Project 1995

**ORR, Andrew**  
Aquarena 2004

**PATRYLAK, Ryan**  
Divers Alert Network 2009

**PAYNE, Katy**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2005

**PECK, Patrick M.**  
REEF 2016

**PIERCY, Robert**  
HydroOptix 2005

**PRUTZMAN, Steve**  
REEF 2004

**PUGSLEY, Andrew**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2002

**ROACH, Stephanie F.**  
REEF 2008

**SCHEM, Jessica**  
REEF 2014

**SCHRAMM, Aurora**  
Aquarena 2010

**SHAGREN, Chad**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2010

**SHILLING, Eric**  
Lake Michigan  
Biological Station 2000

**SHOELSON, Adam**  
Divers Alert Network 2008

**SIFRIT, Allie D.**  
AAUS 2016

**SKERRY, Brian**  
National Geographic Society  
Ford Fellow 2001

**SLAUGHTER, Sally**  
Darling Marine Center 2003

**SMALLEY-NORMAN, Yasmeen**  
National Park Service 2014

**SMITH, Melissa J.**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2016

**SNOW, Ryan**  
NURC 2000

**SPECTOR, Michael H. "Pike"**  
National Park Service 2015

**SPILLMAN, Shannon**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2008

**SPLAIN, Ellen**  
REEF 2013

**STRAW, Jessica**  
Darling Marine Center 2005

**TEPPER, Joseph**  
European Young Photographer  
Award 2011

**THOMPSON, Scott**  
Divers Alert Network 2002

**THOMSON, Annie**  
AAUS 2012

**TYMON, Teresa**  
AAUS 2013

**VATLAND, Sarah**  
Darling Marine Center 2002

**WALKER, Jenna**  
AAUS 2011

**WATT, Alison**  
Monterey Bay Aquarium 2012

**WHITE, Allison**  
NURC 1999

**WHITE, Timothy**  
National Park Service 2012

**WILLIAMS, Kristine**  
Divers Alert Network 2003

**WOLFE, Ronald**  
Lake Michigan  
Biological Station 1995

**ZEIGLER, Erin**  
Divers Alert Network 2007

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