University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant ranked among the best Sea Grant programs in the nation

According to an independent review panel of experts, the University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) ranks among the top Sea Grant programs in the nation.

A total of 33 university-based Sea Grant programs located in every coastal and Great Lakes state are dedicated to helping citizens utilize scientific information to support a vibrant economy while ensuring ecological sustainability. The programs focus on critical issues such as hazard resilience, healthy coastal ecosystems, sustainable coastal development, sustainable seafood, and sustainable coastal tourism.

Most recently, the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa was reviewed by an outside panel comprised of experts from academia and the private sector. According to these findings, “The Hawai‘i Sea Grant Program is outstanding, clearly one of the top two Sea Grant programs in the nation.” In addition, the panel noted “We recommend that it continue its very effective cooperative and collaborative programs in coastal sustainability in the future.”

In particular, UH Sea Grant was touted for its innovative sustainability faculty initiative. Through this initiative, Sea Grant was awarded seven new faculty positions to increase capacity and research within disciplines directly related to sustainability. These talented new faculty members will bring together schools and colleges from across the university to integrate science, economics, planning, and design into decisions on energy and water conservation, sustainable development of buildings and communities, and public policy.

This top ranking follows closely on another other expert independent review which had similar findings. In 2012, the National Sea Grant Office, which oversees the 33 state programs, conducted a comprehensive review of all of its programs and UH Sea Grant ranked among the top five programs nationwide.

To learn more about UH Sea Grant and the many ways it is serving coastal communities throughout Hawai‘i and the Pacific please visit http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu, email uhsgcomm@hawaii.edu, call (808) 956-7410, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube.

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The University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program is part of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s prestigious School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology. It supports an innovative program of research, education and extension services directed to the improved understanding and stewardship of coastal and marine resources of the state, region and nation. Science serving Hawai‘i and the Pacific for over 40 years.