EXPERTS JOIN FORCES TO UNLOCK CO₂ CONUNDRUM

An international team of scientists has solved a mystery that has puzzled marine chemists for decades. They have discovered that fish contribute a significant fraction of the oceans’ calcium carbonate production, which affects the delicate pH balance of seawater. The study gives a conservative estimate of three to 15 percent of marine calcium carbonate being produced by fish, but the researchers believe it could be up to three times higher.

Published January 16, 2009 in Science, their findings highlight how little is known about some aspects of the marine carbon cycle, which is undergoing rapid change as a result of global CO₂ emissions.

Until now, scientists believed that the oceans’ calcium carbonate, which dissolves in deep waters making seawater more alkaline, came from marine plankton. The recent findings published in Science explain how up to 15 percent of these carbonates are in fact, excreted by fish that continuously drink calcium-rich seawater. The ocean becomes more alkaline at much shallower depths than prior knowledge of carbonate chemistry would suggest which has puzzled oceanographers for decades. The new findings of fish-produced calcium carbonate provide an explanation: fish produce more soluble forms of calcium carbonate, which probably dissolve more rapidly, before they sink into the deep ocean.

Corresponding authors Drs. Frank Millero, Martin Grosell and Pat Walsh at the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science and Dr. Rod Wilson of the University of Exeter note that given current concerns about the acidification of our seas through global CO₂ emissions, it is more important than ever that we understand how the pH balance of the sea is maintained. Although we know that fish carbonates differ considerably in their chemical make-up, the team has really only just scratched the surface regarding their chemical nature and ultimate fate in the ocean. Scientists clearly need to investigate this further to understand what this means for the future health of the world’s oceans.
2009 marks the anniversary and celebration of several important scientific milestones, including:

- 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his *On the Origin of Species*
- 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, founder of the National Academy of Sciences
- 400th anniversary of Galileo’s first use of a telescope to study the skies
- 400th anniversary of the publication of Johannes Kepler’s first two *Laws of Planetary Motion*

A special web site www.yearofscience2009.org will help the general public learn more about this year-long national event. Every month throughout the year, the site will feature a new scientific theme, in which organizational leaders in that discipline share the excitement of their science. The web site also provides engaging resources and highlights free events connected to the monthly theme such as science cafes, festivals, open houses, blogs, podcasts, and school visits by scientists to share their work.

**EXPERTS JOIN FORCES TO UNLOCK CO₂ CONUNDRUM**

(Continued from page 1)

Millero, Grosell, Walsh and Wilson – who was the recipient of the University of Miami’s prestigious 2005 Rosenstiel Award – along with Rosenstiel School Marine Biology and Fisheries graduate student Josi Taylor, collaborated with other British and Canadian scientists to reach the conclusion published in the current issue of Science.

The researchers suggest that fish carbonates dissolve much faster than those produced by plankton, and at depths of less than 1,000 m. Less soluble carbonates, produced by plankton, are more likely to sink further and become locked up in sediments and rocks for tens or hundreds of millions of years before being released. Fish carbonates, on the other hand, are likely to form part of the ‘fast’ carbonate system by more rapidly dissolving into seawater.

The combination of future increases in sea temperature and rising CO₂ will cause fish to produce even more calcium carbonate, which is in sharp contrast to the response by most other calcium carbonate producing organisms. Fish’s metabolic rates are known to increase in warmer waters, and this study explains how this will also accelerate the rate of carbonate excretion. In addition, our existing knowledge of fish biology shows that blood CO₂ levels rise as CO₂ increases in seawater and that this in turn will further stimulate fish calcium carbonate production.

The study was carried out by the University of Exeter (UK), University of Miami (USA), University of Ottawa (Canada), University of British Columbia (Canada), Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (UK) and University of East Anglia (UK). The research was supported by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and the Natural Science Foundation.

Above, in a study published in Science magazine on January 16, 2009, University of Miami scientists and collaborators in the UK and Canada unraveled a mystery that has puzzled marine chemists for decades. They have discovered that fish contribute a significant fraction of the oceans’ calcium carbonate. The study gives a conservative estimate of 3 – 15 percent of marine calcium carbonate being produced by fish, but researchers believe this value could be as much as three times higher.

Fish like the flounder that drink calcium-rich seawater, excrete more soluble forms of calcium carbonate, some of which dissolve before they sink into the deep ocean. Dissolution of fish-produced calcium carbonate likely explains the well documented increase in alkalinity at increasing ocean depths.

Freshwater fish drink very little, while most marine fish ingest copious amounts of seawater to maintain salt and water balance. The European flounder is euryhaline and illustrates that no intestinal calcium carbonate is formed in freshwater (Figure A) and only a brief period in seawater results in the formation of x-ray opaque calcium carbonate precipitates in the intestinal lumen (Figure B). The calcium carbonate precipitates are formed regardless of feeding and are excreted to the surrounding seawater, where it impacts the pH balance. Photo Credit: Rod W. Wilson, Exeter University
GRAD STUDENTS! SIGN UP FOR SEEDS SPEED MENTORING EVENT

Thinking about your next career steps? Preparing job applications? Polishing your CV? If you’d like some professional advice on how to put your best face forward, here is your chance. The newly established UM SEEDS (Scientists and Engineers Expanding Diversity and Success) program is sponsoring a speed-mentoring event at the Rosenstiel School. The organizing committee has invited eight mentors and is now inviting an equal number of mentees to sign up. The inaugural SEEDS Speed Mentoring Event is scheduled for February 2 at the Rosenstiel School. Lunch will be provided following the speed mentoring to allow for more time for exchange.

What is “Speed Mentoring”? Yes, you’re right, it is just like speed dating—only different. Faculty will be arranged at mentoring stations; postdocs and late-stage graduate students are then paired with mentors and offer their CVs (or brief self-evaluation) for written comments. At the five-minute mark the mentee moves to a new mentor’s station to receive more comments on the document and likely, comments on prior comments. These events provide intense interactions on a crucial career document, and also let people evaluate which mentor may best fit their aspirations. And, of course, they are also great fun!

When/Where: Monday, February 2, 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m., RSMAS SLAB seminar room, S/A 103.

Bring: A 1-2 page professional document to jump-start your five minute interaction with a mentor: your short CV, an outline of your self-evaluation or five-year plan, or the specific aims of a grant proposal, etc.

Pre-event Q&A: Monday, January 26 at noon in S/A 103.

RSVP: To secure a spot, please e-mail Su Sponaugle (ssponaugle@rsmas.miami.edu) AND sign up electronically at the SEEDS website as soon as possible: http://www.as.miami.edu/seeds/. We will notify you if you have secured a mentee spot!

About SEEDS: The National Academies report Beyond Bias and Barriers documented that, despite advances in the proportion of women and other underrepresented minorities in science and engineering graduate programs, the proportion who become faculty continues to lag behind. Accordingly, University of Miami Provost Tom LeBlanc has established a University-level SEEDS office as a focus for diversity programs across all three UM campuses. SEEDS orchestrates grass-roots efforts to study and improve our climate and policies. SEEDS has been awarded an NSF ADVANCE grant for seven programs designed to provide opportunities for all scientists and engineers at UM.
SEA SECRETS EMBARKS ON VOYAGE THROUGH NWP

Join us at the next Sea Secrets Lecture on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, where David Thoreson, Explorer and Filmmaker from Blue Water Studios will present, Exploring The Northwest Passage In The Era Of Climate Change.

Come along with David Thoreson as he sails north along the west coast of Greenland into the Northwest Passage. Experience what it is like to explore the planet’s polar regions through his amazing photographs and tales of adventure, and learn from his firsthand accounts how climate change is causing dramatic ice loss. Thoreson will also share his perspective on the history of exploration in the Northwest Passage and how it is changing as climate on our planet shifts.

Programs take place in the Rosenstiel School Auditorium, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway on Virginia Key, beginning with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the lecture at 6:00 p.m. (See page 6 for all upcoming Sea Secrets Lectures)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR 2009 SEA SECRETS LECTURE SERIES

The UM Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, and the Ocean Research and Education Foundation, announce the roster of distinguished scientists and explorers who will speak in the 2009 Sea Secrets lecture series. The events, which are free and open to the public, will take place in the Rosenstiel School Auditorium, beginning with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the lecture at 6:00 p.m.

Sponsored by The Lawrence J. and Florence A. De George Charitable Trust, and the Charles N. and Eleanor Knight Leigh Foundation, Sea Secrets is designed for the South Florida non-scientific community. Sea Secrets is organized by Drs. Bob Ginsburg and Ellen Prager.

Wednesday, March 11
Extreme Makeover: Planet Earth Edition
Dr. Brian Soden, Associate Professor of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography
University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

Wednesday, April 15
Invasion Of The Lionfish
Lad Akins, Director of Special Projects
Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF)

Wednesday, May 13
Mysterious Monikers Of South Florida
Larry Perez, Author
South Florida Natural Resources Center

A GATHERING OF PROVOSTS

A delegation of provosts from colleges and universities across the country toured the Coral Gables and Virginia Key campuses this month, and discussed advances in higher education. Left to Right: Marty Wyngaarden Krauss, Provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Brandeis University; Thomas J. LeBlanc, executive vice president and provost at the University of Miami; Paul Ludden, provost of Southern Methodist University is holding the Aplysia californica; and Eric Spina, Provost of public – seating is limited. Additionally, Milner will provide a lecture on Darwin's life and research at noon on February 16 in the Rosenstiel Auditorium. For more information, please contact Laura Bracken at lbracken@rsmas.miami.edu. Syracuse University.
LIBRARY LINES

Spring Semester Hours for RSMAS Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday – Friday</td>
<td>8:30 am – 9:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>1:00 – 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundays</td>
<td>1:00 – 9:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Recess</td>
<td>March 14 – 15, Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16 – 20</td>
<td>Open 8:30 am – 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Open 1:00 – 9:00 pm</td>
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Library Resources Training Sessions

- **RSMAS Library Orientation:** Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 12:00PM in the Library Map & Chart Room. This orientation workshop will introduce you to the resources and services available at the University of Miami Libraries: the catalog, research databases, programs and services, your library account and much more. A tour of the RSMAS library can also be incorporated if there is interest. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and get help! This workshop is especially helpful for new RSMAS faculty, new students, non-traditional and transfer students, as well as division administrators, and research assistants. We hope to see you there!

- **RefWorks Training:** Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 12:00PM in the Library Map & Chart Room. RSMAS Library will offer an information session focusing on RefWorks, the personal web-based citation manager. This introduction will explain the ins and outs of RefWorks and how it can benefit your research: creating and managing your personal reference databases, importing RSS feeds, generating bibliographies (various output formats), sharing your references with colleagues. If you have a question concerning RefWorks, or would like to see a specific procedure demonstrated, please let Angela Clark aclark@rsmas.miami.edu know in advance.

- **Citation Searching:** Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 12:00PM in the Library Map & Chart Room. This session will focus primarily on citation searching in Web of Science but will also introduce other citation resources such as Scopus and Google Scholar. We will also review basic citation metrics. If you have questions concerning citation searching in advance of training please contact Lisa Fish, efish@rsmas.miami.edu.

Course Support from the Library

RSMAS faculty, please contact Angela Clark or Lisa Fish if you would like assistance for incorporating science literature and/or literature searching in your Blackboard page or other course development work.

YEAR OF SCIENCE 2009

(Continued from page 1)

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LITTLE SALT SPRING RECEIVES $100,000 GIFT

The William G. Selby and Marie Selby Foundation has awarded the University of Miami (UM) a grant in the amount of $100,000 to manage and operate the Little Salt Spring (LSS) archaeological and ecological preserve in North Port, Florida. LSS is a valuable prehistoric site due to its great age and exceptional preservation of ancient organic material.

The grant from the Selby Foundation will help support the initial site development and construction of a multi—purpose, hurricane-resistant building for teaching, research, visitors and storage. The new facility will replace the trailers that currently serve to house artifacts and equipment, accommodate educational and research activities, and host visitors. The capping challenge grant of $100,000 is designed to encourage other donors to support this project.

The spring, located about ten miles from the Gulf of Mexico, was donated to the University in 1982. The site consists of a sinkhole surrounded by an undisturbed native hammock containing several rare and endangered plant species. The sinkhole is filled with anoxic water (lacking in dissolved oxygen), which does not allow bacteria and microbes to live. This unusual feature has allowed the preservation of organic material deposited there thousands of years ago.

Since 2005, UM has partnered with the Florida Aquarium (Tampa) to assist in the underwater research. Earlier this year, the National Geographic Society awarded funding to the University, which worked with high skilled-divers from The Florida Aquarium, to explore the marine archaeological site at LSS. In 2006, researchers from Washington State and Pennsylvania State University also began long-term collaborative projects concerning the botanical remains, vertebrate paleontology, geology, and DNA of plant and animal remains found at the site.

The proposed site development and expansion of the facilities will allow the University to increase site research and excavation and will accommodate many more Sarasota County-based visitors, giving UM the opportunity to share this important archaeological resource with the community, while developing an important scientific and educational hub for university students, researchers, and other academics.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, EVOLUTION

Two hundred years after the birth of famed naturalist and father of modern evolutionary theory, Charles Darwin, his ideas are still inspiring new forms of scientific and artistic innovation. Richard Milner, a physical and cultural anthropologist, author of the Encyclopedia of Evolution and regular contributor to Natural History magazine, has created a one-man musical performance, “Charles Darwin: Live and in Concert,” that is entertaining audiences the world over. In celebration of Darwin’s 200th birthday, on February 16 at 6:15 p.m., Milner will bring his musical production to the Rosenstiel School Auditorium.

Victorian naturalist Charles Darwin is brought to life by Milner in a one-man musical filled with witty, original songs, science, and madness. An author of award-winning books on Darwin and evolution, Milner’s unique lyrics have delighted audiences from Germany to Australia. He appears as Darwin, Thomas Henry Huxley, A. R. Wallace, and Stephen Jay Gould, belts out a blues for the 1925 Scopes “Monkey Trial,” and somehow Maurice Chevalier and Jimmy Durante also get into the act. Milner recently performed this marvelous, thought-provoking, and hilarious entertainment aboard a cruise ship in Darwin’s beloved Galapagos Islands.

Darwin Day is an international celebration of the life and scientific accomplishments of Charles Darwin. The year 2009 marks the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his groundbreaking On the Origin of Species. Sponsored by Dr. Robert N. Ginsburg, in partnership with the Rosenstiel School’s Outreach/Communications Office, the event is free and open to the public – seating is limited.

Additionally, Milner will provide a lecture on Darwin's life and research at noon on February 16 in the Rosenstiel Auditorium. For more information, please contact Laura Bracken at lbracken@rsmas.miami.edu.
2009 RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY CONFERENCE, FEB. 21

Faculty and graduate students are welcome to join the 2009 Research and Creativity Conference, both as participants and as attendees on Saturday, February 21 from 9:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Memorial Building on the Gables campus.

The format this year is more inclusive than in previous years. There will be oral presentations (organized into panels) and performances, as well as posters and artwork displays. Students are greatly encouraged to register and participate. It is an excellent opportunity for them to give a 15-minute presentation on their research to an audience of faculty, students and employees, as well as community members.

This is also an excellent opportunity for faculty members to find out about research initiatives in other UM schools and departments, which might spark interdisciplinary efforts. Faculty may register as attendees, or offer their services as a session commentator or a poster judge.

Check out the website http://www.miami.edu/grad/rcconference to sign up online!

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MSGSO CORNER

RecycleMania!

Dear RSMAS Community,

RecycleMania! began on Sunday, January 18, and will run through Saturday, March 28. This event is a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. This is the third year the University of Miami will participate in the program. Over 200 colleges and universities around the country will participate over the 10-week period to see which school can collect the most recyclables, and which school can most significantly reduce its overall waste production, including trash and recyclables.

The following is a list of items that can be counted toward the school's recyclables total and are available to be recycled on the Rosenstiel School campus:

**Office paper**
Including windowed envelopes, colored office paper, staples are ok - but NO glossy paper, magazines, phone books, etc.

**Cardboard**
Dumpster located in NW corner of front parking lot

**Commingled plastic (#1-#7), glass, and aluminum containers**
Bins located under the front stairway of SLAB

In addition to the recyclables that count toward our school total for RecycleMania! here are some other recycling options on campus that you are encouraged to utilize:

**Batteries**
Bin under the front stairway of SLAB

**Printer cartridges / toner**
Bin under the front stairway of SLAB

**Cell phones**
Bin under the front stairway of SLAB

**Used / old computer parts / electronics**
Must fill out an IDR that can be obtained through facilities

REMEMBER, if any NON-RECYCLABLE items are found in the recycling bins, ALL items will be dumped in the TRASH. Please adhere strictly to signs and instructions!!!

Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with you to make the Rosenstiel School, and the University of Miami greener! For more information, go to http://www.recyclemaniacs.org/.

- MSGSO
In February 2009, the Rosenstiel School and Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution will host the 12th Annual National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB) Florida Regional Competition. Dubbed the ‘Manatee Bowl,’ it will take place on February 7 in Miami, FL, at MAST Academy and on the Rosenstiel School campus.

NOSB, a national high school “Jeopardy-like” competition, is designed to enhance students’ knowledge of math and science as they relate to the ocean. This competition heightens awareness, visibility and public understanding of the global importance in ocean-related research. NOSB fosters collegiality and teamwork, competition, imaginative thinking and factual recollection. Your participation will facilitate the continued growth of young minds in the marine sciences and have a long-term impact on many of the participants and their education.

NOSB organizers are currently looking for volunteers to serve as judges - no experience necessary! Judging roles include:

- Runner
- Timekeeper
- Scorekeeper
- Rules judge
- Science judge
- Moderator
- Graders

General information on NOSB judging roles can be found at http://www.oceanleadership.org/link/nosb/volunteers/officials, and information regarding the 2009 Manatee Bowl can be found at http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/support/advancement/nosb-2009/.

For further information or to get involved, please contact Laura Bracken at lbracken@rsmas.miami.edu or 5-4207.

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**ALL ABOUT THE ‘U’**

Rosenstiel School Assistant Professor of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography, Dr. Sharan Majumdar (at right, center) and first year graduate students Angela Colbert (at right, right) and Andy Hagen (at right, left), all prepared for the Career Fair at the 89th annual American Meteorological Society meeting in Phoenix, AZ in early January. Organized around the broad theme of “Urban Weather and Climate: Now and the Future,” the event brought many prospective students a glimpse the research possibilities available at the Rosenstiel School.

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**FACILITIES UPDATE**

**DUSTING OFF A CLEANER, ‘GREENER’ U**

Ushering in a new year and a new outlook for the Rosenstiel School's commitment to a cleaner, ‘greener’ space, UGL Unico Operations Manager, Ricardo Reyes is already hard at work planning improvements. After eight years of service on the Coral Gables campus advancing steadily to new and more challenging positions, Reyes has decided to focus his talents on establishing, among other projects, a ‘Green Cleaning’ program at the Rosenstiel School. The program, which has already begun on the Gables campus, replaced toxic cleaning chemicals with biodegradable products that are harmless to the environment. With an eye toward efficient control of resources and organization, Reyes will work extensively in reducing the School's expenses, while maintaining the highest level of service to make progressive improvements in the cleaning and maintenance of our facility.

Reyes office is located next to the Fitness Center on the back of the Physical Plant Building, the number is N-165A.
ALUMNI UPDATE

Continue to enjoy reading about your former classmates, and let us at the Rosenstiel School know where you are and what you've been doing, by sharing news about yourself in a future issue of Soundings. Your contact data will update our listing in our Rosenstiel School Alumni Directory. Submit your contact information and latest news by accessing: http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/alumni/update.cgi

Left: New Horizons: On the occasion of the First Seminar of Oceanographic Numerical Modeling (Seminário sobre Modelagem Numérica Oceanográfica) - ModOceano held at the Instituto de Estudos do Mar Almirante Paulo Moreira – IEAPM in Arraial do Cabo, Brazil, several graduates of the Rosenstiel School's Division of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography Ph.D. program assembled for a group picture. (L to R: João Lorenzetti, Ph.D. ’85, MPO, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais; Afonso Paiva, Ph.D. ’99, MPO, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro; Eric Chassignet, Ph.D. ’88, MPO, Florida State University; Ivan Soares, Ph.D. ’03, MPO, Federal University of Rio Grande; Edmo Campos, Ph.D. ’90, MPO, University of São Paulo; Belmiro Castro, University of São Paulo).

Right: Kiwi Class: The Fourth International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals, held Nov 28 – Dec 2, 2008 at the University of Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand, played host to a small reunion of Rosenstiel School alumni that graduated during the 1970’s. [Back row left] Ronald Thresher, M.S. ’74, MBF; Ph.D. ’77, MBF, CSIRO, Australia; [Back row right] Dennis Opresko, M.S. ’70, MBF; Ph.D. ’74, MBF, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; [Front row left to right] Kenneth Sulak, M.S. ’75, MBF; and Ph.D. ’82, MBF, US Geological Survey; Charles (Chuck) Messing, M.S. ’75, MBF; Ph.D. ’79, MBF, Nova Southeastern University; and Stephen Cairns, M.S. ’73, MBF; Ph.D. ’76, MBF, Smithsonian Institution.

ALUMNI NEWS

Efthymios Serpetzoglou, M.S. ’05, MPO
Since May 2007, Serpetzoglou has been employed as research associate in the Hellenic Center for Marine Research, Institute of Inland Waters (www.hcmr.gr), and as a member of a so-called “excellence team,” supported by a prestigious EU Marie Curie Excellence Grant (EXT) and dedicated to studying various aspects of the water cycle (over land areas). His research is focused on mesoscale land-atmosphere interactions, and is mainly facilitated by numerical atmospheric and land surface models and in-situ and remote-sensing observations.

Dave Goldman’s, M.S. ’94, MBF
“Trained as a biological oceanographer, Goldman left a career as a researcher for the University of Miami to pursue painting as a profession. For the last four years, he has made a living selling his airy landscapes and seascapes.” Read the full article here: http://www.blueridgenow.com/article/20090112/NEWS/901110230/1042/NEWS?Title=Painter_captures_the_sea_and_sky#
ROCK YOUR RESEARCH AT 1ST RSMAS STUDENT SCIENCE PARTY

The MSGSO will be hosting the First Annual Rosenstiel School Student Science Party Friday, February 6th!

The Student Science Party will consist of a poster session where students from all six divisions are encouraged to display posters and present their research to the Rosenstiel community. This is a great opportunity for students to share their research with fellow students and professors from other divisions.

Friday, February 6 is also the same day prospective graduate students will be visiting the school, creating a great opportunity to show the high caliber work being done on our campus. Posters can be from any conference you have presented at during the past year or you can make a new poster.

The poster session will take place during the afternoon and during the prospective student dinner in The Commons! Details and sign-up information are available on the MSGSO website. If you are interested in helping with the science party, please send your information to Kelly Jackson (kjackson@rsmas.miami.edu). And remember, your efforts will be rewarded with STF Points!

A GRADUATE OF THEIR OWN

Veronica Tejeda, Secretary in the Graduate Studies Office, graduated in December with a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from the University of Miami College of Arts and Sciences. She began her studies in the Fall of 2003 and has been steadily completing her degree part-time. Congratulations Veronica!

IN REMEMBRANCE

On October 30, 2008, after a hard five-year fight with cancer, Dr. William (Bill) Peterson passed on to a more peaceful place. Peterson approached his illness with the same relentless perseverance he applied to any obstacle that came his way. His strong, positive attitude saw him through a surgery he was not expected to survive and many months of physical therapy learning to walk even though all the doctors told him he never would walk again. He lived his life to the fullest extent that he could. Unfortunately, the disease was unbeatable. Peterson was a teacher by example, a man of few but powerful words. He was one of the bravest, most positive men many will ever know. Peterson touched each of us in different ways whether it was through work or play, and each of our memories of him will be unique. He retired from his position as Senior Scientist in the Earth and Environmental Institute at Penn State University in 2005, and continued working part time as a Senior Web Designer for West Arete Computing, Inc. until August 2008.

Plans are underway to hold a memorial to take place sometime this spring.

THE LAST WORD

“… We will restore science to its rightful place, and wield technology’s wonders to raise health care’s quality and lower its cost. We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories. And we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the demands of a new age. All this we can do. All this we will do …”

- President Barack H. Obama, inaugural address, January 20, 2009