

# 2022 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Sea Grant Advisory Board

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Commerce		2022	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
National Sea Grant Advisory Board		100	
<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	08/08/2022	08/08/2024	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	No	Enacted	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Statutory (Congress Created)			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
33 U.S.C. 1121 et.seq. P.L. 94-461	10/08/1976	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b> 3			
<b>16b. Report Date</b>	<b>Report Title</b>		
01/06/2022	Guam Institutional Status Review Committee Report		
06/08/2022	Report from the 40% Competitive Research and Education Policy for Base Funding Committee		
09/11/2022	The State of Sea Grant Interim Report to Congress		

**Number of Committee Reports Listed: 3**

**17a. Open 5 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 5**

**Meetings and Dates**

Purpose	Start	End
Board members discussed (1) Sea Grant environmental literacy and workforce development efforts, (2) Sea Grant education current strengths and future opportunities, and (3) discussed DEIJA with a panel of experts and voted on one decisional matter of creating a nomination committee for replacing the Chair of Resilience and Social Justice Subcommittee.	11/04/2021	11/05/2021
Board members discussed and voted on the University of Guam Sea Grant's Institutional Status.	01/06/2022	01/06/2022
Board members discussed (1) resilience and social justice, (2) Sea Grant Liaison efforts, (3) marine debris, (4) strategic planning, (5) Sea Grant environmental literacy, workforce development and education efforts, and (6) the 40% competitive research and education policy for base funding and voted on one decisional matter of replacing the Chair of Resilience and Social Justice Subcommittee.	03/07/2022	03/10/2022
Board members discussed the Interim Report to Congress and voted on recommendations in the report from the 40% Competitive Research and Education Policy for Base Funding Committee.	06/08/2022	06/08/2022
Board members discussed resilience and social justice and strategic direction for the National Sea Grant College Program; and voted on two decisional matters of Board Executive Committee membership and the Interim Report to Congress.	09/11/2022	09/12/2022

**Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 5**

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$38,613.00	\$100,000.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$54,374.00	\$95,000.00

<b>18a(4). Personnel</b>		
<b>Pmts to Non-Member</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Consultants</b>		
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per</b>		
<b>Diem to Non-Federal</b>	\$17,713.00	\$75,000.00
<b>Members</b>		
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per</b>		
<b>Diem to Federal</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Members</b>		
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per</b>		
<b>Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per</b>		
<b>Diem to Non-member</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Consultants</b>		
<b>18c. Other(rents,user</b>		
<b>charges, graphics,</b>	\$141,007.00	\$213,500.00
<b>printing, mail, etc.)</b>		
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$251,707.00	\$489,500.00
<b>19. Federal Staff</b>		
<b>Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.30	0.90

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Sea Grant Advisory Board generally meets in-person twice annually and by conference call/virtual meeting as necessary to consider reports from the Advisory Board Committees. The Advisory Board has responsibility to advise on the performance of the National Sea Grant College Program, the status of Sea Grant programs, and the implementation of the Planning, Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) system.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The current membership is balanced to meet the legislative requirement that "not less than eight of the voting members of the Board shall be individuals who, by reason of knowledge,

experience, or training, are especially qualified in one or more of the disciplines and fields included in marine science. The other voting members shall be individuals who, by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially qualified in, or representative of, education, marine affairs and resource management, coastal management, extension services, State government, industry, economics, planning, or any other activity which is appropriate to, and important for, any effort to enhance the understanding, assessment, development, management, utilization, or conservation of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources" Additionally, as part of the Board charter, there is a required balance plan which include information and plans for recruitment and diversity.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The National Sea Grant Advisory Board meets at least twice annually. All meetings and site visits are relevant to the Sea Grant Advisory Board's legislatively mandated responsibilities to provide advice to the Secretary of Commerce, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and the Director of the National Sea Grant College Program on the performance, planning, and operation of the Nation Sea Grant College Program.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

By legislation, the Sea Grant Advisory Board is required to advise the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program concerning (A) strategies for utilizing the sea grant college program to address the Nation's highest priorities regarding the

understanding, assessment, development, management, utilization, and conservation of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources (B) the designation of sea grant colleges and sea grant institutes and (C) such other matters as the Secretary refers to the Board for review and advice. The National Sea Grant College Program is a complex program involving more than 300 universities that participate through 34 university-based Sea Grant programs located in all coastal and Great Lakes states, including Guam and the Lake Champlain region. As can be seen, the Sea Grant legislation provides a strong role for an independent advisory body composed of experts in marine-related fields. The reason is the mandate given to Sea Grant, namely to develop the commitment and involvement of universities to achieve -- through research, education, and outreach -- greater understanding, assessment, development, utilization, and conservation of the nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. The dedicated members of the Sea Grant Advisory Board provide valued advice on these issues to NOAA and the Department that is critically needed to achieve the mandate and oversee the development of the Sea Grant program. There is no other existing group sufficiently knowledgeable about Sea Grant's mission that could provide, over the long term, the balance and breadth of expert advice that is vitally important to a multifaceted, scientific-based program.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

**21. Remarks**

For fiscal year 2022, the National Sea Grant

Advisory Board (Board) Program Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) Review Committee focused its efforts on the development of the 40% competitive research and education policy for base funding report and finalizing the institutional status review of the University of Guam Sea Grant Program. The Biennial Report to Congress Committee focused on the development of the 2022 State of Sea Grant Interim Report to Congress. The Education and Outreach Committee discussed and explored the critical but often neglected role of social justice in developing and implementing resilience strategies and the ways that the National Sea Grant College Program can promote effective mechanisms to support these approaches. Additionally, individuals from the Board continued the Board's involvement in selecting Sea Grant Knauss Fellows, and serving as Board liaisons for the Education, Extension and Communication network teams. Costs for the subcommittees are included in the budget for the parent committee. Please note that a link to the Guam Sea Grant program will be available upon final leadership approval.

## Designated Federal Officer

Susan A. Holmes Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Betzer, Peter	06/25/2021	06/25/2025	Dean & Professor	Special
			Marine Science (retired)	Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Engle, Carole	09/02/2018	09/01/2022	Economist (Aquaculture)	Special
				Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Gibson, Deidre	06/06/2022	06/06/2026	Professor (Marine and Environmental Science)	Special
				Government Employee (SGE)
				Member

Grau, Edward	02/07/2016	01/25/2024	Professor of Zoology at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Gray, Judith	10/05/2015	10/05/2023	Retired, NOAA	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Helmuth, Brian	10/05/2015	10/05/2023	Professor at the Marine Science Center at Northeastern University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Murray, James	01/25/2016	01/25/2024	Retired, NOAA National Sea Grant College Program	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Norosz, Kristine	09/02/2018	09/01/2022	Fellow, Alaska Humanities Forum	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Stirling, Deborah	09/02/2018	09/01/2022	Private Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Target, Nancy	06/06/2022	06/06/2026	University Provost (retired)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 10**

### **Narrative Description**

The Sea Grant Advisory Board is an essential part of NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program. The Advisory Board contributes to NOAA's Mission of Science, Service, and Stewardship in three areas: 1. To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans and coasts; 2. To share that knowledge and information with others; and 3. To conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

<https://www.noaa.gov/our-mission-and-vision>

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Trust in government                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Major policy changes                              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Advance in scientific research                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Outcome Comments

NA

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Unable to Determine        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Cost Savings Other         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Cost Savings Comments

While we have not formally analyzed the cost savings associated with this Committee, anecdotal evidence suggests it is very high. This is based on documented changes made by the 34 Sea Grant programs that have resulted from the Advisory Board's reviews of performance and recommendations for improvements.

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

2,096



### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

In FY2022, the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) received 11 recommendations. The Program Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) Review Committee produced a report on its review of the 40% competitive research and education policy for base funding which included 10 recommendations. The recommendations in this report to the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) include both evaluation and implementation of this policy. The high standard of excellence demonstrated by Sea Grant stems from the cohesive integration of rigorous, competitive, peer-reviewed scientific research with hands-on extension and outreach services and the execution of scientific literacy and education programs. Each of these functional elements of the program is important and interwoven with other functional elements. Implementing a clear policy related to research funding will provide a common currency for program planning and evaluation, and ensure balance among research, extension, and education. The Program Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) Review Committee also conducted a site review and produced a report with one recommendation. The recommendations to the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) is that University of Guam Sea Grant (UOGSG) be designated a Sea Grant Institutional Program. The committee found that UOGSG meets the evaluation criteria as set forth in regulation 15 CFR 918.3 for designation as a Sea Grant Institute. More information is available on the Board website: <https://seagrants.noaa.gov/About/Advisory-Board>

### **What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

80%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

In FY2022, the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) continued to implement the 4 recommendations in the Biennial Report to Congress: 1) continue to support the implementation of the Network Vision Plans, 2) continue and amplify efforts to incorporate social and environmental justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in its organization structure and programming, 3) continue to actively seek opportunities and collaborations to leverage Sea Grant's Unique strengths in building coastal community resilience, and 4) make adjustments based on the findings and recommendation of the Independent Review Panel and Board Evaluation Committee. The NSGO implemented the Program Implementation and Evaluation (PIE) Review Committee's recommendation and designated the University of Guam Sea Grant (UOGSG) a Sea Grant Institutional Program. The NSGO began to implement the 4 recommendations in the Independent Review Panel report: 1) PIER database improvements; 2) PIE policy alignment with OAR program review policy; 3) revisit program allocation policy, and 4) revisit its partnership framework, with continued implementation through the FY23 fiscal year. More information

is available on the Board website: <https://seagrant.noaa.gov/About/Advisory-Board>

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

20%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

Recommendations from the Advisory Board are advisory in nature, and the majority are implemented; however, the National Sea Grant College Program and Individual Programs are not required to implement Advisory Board recommendations if they do not agree with them and/or do not have the current resources to do so. The recommendations from the Board reports are being implemented through updated guidance and policy. This will be an ongoing process.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes  No  Not Applicable

**Agency Feedback Comments**

The Advisory Board receives feedback through meetings of the Board's Executive Committee with the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (when possible), the NOAA Chief of Staff, the Assistant Administrator for NOAA Research and the Director of the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program and his staff. The full Advisory Board is briefed by staff of the NOAA National Sea Grant Office at Board meetings as to the status of the implementation of recommendations. The Board is included in a variety of listservs and announcements regarding information about the program and information relevant to the Board that is sent by the Director. The Director and Designated Federal Officer meet monthly with the Board Executive Committee via conference call.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Issued new regulation             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Proposed legislation              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Action Comments**

Actions based on the recommendations of the board frequently help in the organization of National Sea Grant College Program Priorities.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

**Access Comments**

Sea Grant Advisory Board Website: <http://seagrant.noaa.gov/About/Advisory-Board>