

And the awards go to ...

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The smallest state in the union has one of the largest Sea Grant programs in the country, and the program boasts major accomplishments in maintaining the quality of the coastal environment and achieving sustainable seafood production. For spear-heading these achievements and for "superior contributions" to "furthering marine and coastal research, education, and outreach," the Sea Grant Association (SGA) presented the SGA Distinguished Service Award to former Rhode Island Sea Grant Director Scott W. Nixon at Sea Grant Week 2001-the biennial conference of all Sea Grant programs nationwide. During his tenure, from 1984 to 2000, Nixon built the program from \$2.5 million annually to its current \$3.4-million level. Under his leadership, the program supported, and continues to support, vital coastal research and outreach activities. The SGA is an advisory body composed of representatives from each of the academic institutions nationwide that participate in the National Sea Grant College Program. The SGA Distinguished Service Award is not presented on a regular basis; it is given to select individuals in recognition of their outstanding ability to further the Sea Grant mission.

For excellence in outreach work, David L. Beutel was recognized with a URI Outstanding Outreach Award for his efforts in fisheries and aquaculture. Beutel is a Sea Grant Extension specialist at URI whose outreach program helps people who harvest fish for a living or for recreation to do so more efficiently and sustainedly. The program seeks to connect the fishing industry, recreational fishing, and aquaculture with science, management, and society through programs of education, research, and experience. This was the second year that URI has recognized individuals and groups for outstanding research, outreach, and intellectual property.