

COSEE GREAT LAKES

- **Principal Investigator:** Rosanne Fortner, Ohio Sea Grant
- **Location:** COSEE GL is orchestrated through the state offices of the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network.
- **Website:** coseegreatlakes.net/
- **Collaborators/Partners:** Educators of the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network (seven programs); scientists in CILER; the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory; and the Great Lakes WATER Institute. Each state also has a primary informal education partner.
- **Co-Principal Investigators and Key Project Partners:** Don Scavia, Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute; Helen Domske, NY Sea Grant; Marti Martz, PA Sea Grant; Steve Stewart, MI Sea Grant; Jim Lubner, WI Sea Grant; Robin Goettel, IL-IN Sea Grant; Bruce Munson, University of MN – Duluth; Rochelle Sturtevant, GLERL; Russell Cuhel and Carmen Aguilar, Great Lakes WATER Institute



Mission: To enhance ocean science literacy in our freshwater region, the North Coast of the U.S.

What We Do: We strive to improve Great Lakes science literacy using exciting comparisons and contrasts with the world ocean, reaching out to the broadest possible audience in a region that includes more than ¼ of the U.S. population. We:

- Expand educator knowledge of science concepts through experiences with researchers
- Engage researchers in learning about how to collaborate with educators
- Build conceptual learning through concept mapping of science experiences
- Involve educators in developing, implementing and interpreting science research
- Explore cultural interpretations of science
- Reach beyond project sites using technology for communications

Who We Are: COSEE GL is the only Center located on the North Coast of the U.S. Our “ocean” is the freshwater inland sea that contains 20% of the world’s supply of fresh surface water. We are the link between salt and fresh for the COSEE Network, and between aquatic scientists and educators in the eight-state Great Lakes region.

Audience: Educators of grades 4-10, informal educators and regional research scientists.



Date Established: January 2006, with Collaborative added in 2008

Why We Were Established: COSEE GL was established to demonstrate the ocean-like importance and science qualities of the North Coast, and to connect regional educators with researchers for enhancing science education.

History: Since January 2006, COSEE GL has conducted research comparing educators’ and scientists’ perceptions of collaboration, and has organized professional development events for both groups to enhance their capabilities for interaction. Major program sites move downstream in “Paddle-to-the Sea” order beginning in Lake Superior. In 2008 we were joined by the Education Aquanauts collaborative.



What We Offer...

COSEE GL engages teachers, aquatic scientists, and informal educators in a broad range of programs, including:

- Summer workshops aboard ship, on shore, and in tropical marine environments
- Student group scholarships for participation in GL/ marine partner programs
- Training of regional scientists at conferences and in their workplaces
- Curriculum materials for Great Lakes learning of marine concepts



Example Offerings...

- Educator workshops: Shipboard and Shoreline Science aboard the R/V Lake Guardian and Lake Exploration Workshops annually
- School for Scientists at IAGLR conference
- Internet outreach: Great Lakes ALIVE!
- Scholarships: marine immersion through partner programs and student field experiences
- Activities: research on educator/scientist collaboration and evaluation using concept maps