

- **Principal Investigator:** Gail Scowcroft, University of Rhode Island
- **Location:** The National COSEE Office is located at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography
- **Website:** [www.cosee.net](http://www.cosee.net)
- **Collaborators/Partners:** New England Aquarium and the University of Maine
- **Co-Principal Investigators and Key Project Partners:** Annette deCharon, University of Maine; Billy Spitzer, New England Aquarium; Liesl Hotaling, Eidos Education



## NETWORK AND NATIONAL OFFICE

**Mission:** "To spark and nurture collaborations among research scientists and educators to advance ocean discovery and make known the vital role of the ocean in our lives." The mission reflects the three-fold partnership, which composes each COSEE Center - partnerships between formal and informal education institutes and research institutes.

**What We Do:** Collectively, Centers have engaged thousands of teachers, ocean scientists, and informal educators in a broad range of programs and projects including:

- Collaborations with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Geographic Society (NGS), National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) and others to develop a national framework for ocean literacy.
- Exhibits, presentations, lectures, seminars, workshops, and regional collaborations to enhance ocean science education and increase ocean literacy.
- Professional development and pre-service programs for teachers that draw on scientists' expertise.
- Teacher-scientist mentoring programs to enhance scientific and technological content in curricula and expand the application of pedagogy in scientific presentations.
- Guidance for scientists on working with teachers, students, and informal education audiences.



- A guide for scientists on how to become involved in effective education and public outreach.
- Education programs that directly involve scientists and the incorporation of high quality education and outreach activities in scientific research proposals.
- Research experiences for community college students and faculty to expose them to the ocean science research enterprise.

**Who We Are:** Since 2002, the COSEE Network has grown to encompass 14 thematic and regional Centers located around the United States. Though each Center is funded individually, the Network of Centers has established its own identity, mission and goals.

**Audience:** Fellow COSEE Centers, ocean science education partners, ocean scientists

**Date Established:** 2002

**Why We Were Established:** To facilitate meetings, oversee the Network web presence and coordinate the National Advisory Council. In addition, the National COSEE Office provides support and guidance to individual Centers.

**History:** Since 2008, University of Rhode Island, University of Maine and the New England Aquarium have worked together to provide leadership and coordination for all COSEE Network activities.

COSEE is funded primarily by the National Science Foundation with support from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The COSEE Network is comprised of 14 Centers plus a National Office.

Some Centers primarily serve specific regions, while others are thematic and focus their efforts on a particular area of expertise and apply these efforts on a national scale. In addition to the work by our Centers, we engage in Network-level activities such as Scientist-Educator Partnerships, Ocean Literacy, and promoting Ocean Careers.

The common thread that runs throughout the entire COSEE Network is partnerships. The COSEE Network encourages, develops and maintains partnerships between ocean scientists and a range of communities, all focused on the outcome of enhanced ocean literacy. These partnerships are developed as models which may then be replicated throughout the Network and beyond. The COSEE Network excels at forming partnerships between ocean scientists and formal middle and high school teachers.

