



NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
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NEFSC Scientist Honored by American Fisheries Society for Leadership in Diversity

Dr. Ambrose Jearld, Jr. has been honored by the American Fisheries Society for his efforts at promoting demographic diversity in society, and for his leadership in the effort to bring diversity to the science community in general and the Woods Hole science community in particular.

Jearld, Director of Academic Programs at NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), received the 2011 Emmeline Moore Prize at an award ceremony during the Society's Annual Meeting in Seattle in September. The career achievement award, named for the first female president of the American Fisheries Society, consists of a bronze medal and a certificate. The award was presented to Jearld by AFS President Wayne Hubert.

After earning a Ph.D. in zoology, Ambrose Jearld, Jr. taught college biology and zoology in Pennsylvania and Washington, DC, before moving to Falmouth, Massachusetts, where he has been a fisheries biologist at NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center's Woods Hole Laboratory since 1978. He has conducted and published research, and served as an administrator and manager, holding positions as chief of fishery biology investigations and chief of research planning, evaluation, and coordination.

He is currently Director of Academic Programs and is involved in numerous educational outreach activities locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the Sea Education Association, and is a member of the National Association of Marine Laboratories Education and Diversity Working Group. He is active in numerous professional and technical scientific societies, including the American Fisheries Society, American Geophysical Union, and the research society, Sigma Xi.

Jearld is a charter member and former chair of the Woods Hole Black History Month Committee, and is chair of the Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee, a multi-institution committee that advises six Woods Hole science organizations. He is also director of the Woods Hole Partnership Education Program, or PEP, a summer science intern program designed to promote diversity in the Woods Hole science community by recruiting talent from groups that are underrepresented in marine and environmental sciences. Forty five students from 30 colleges and universities have participated to date in the three years the summer internship program has been conducted.

The Woods Hole Partnership Education Program is a project of the Woods Hole Diversity Initiative. Participating institutions are: NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Sea Education Association, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, U. S. Geological Survey, Marine Biological Laboratory, and Woods Hole Research Center. The Woods Hole Diversity Initiative's primary academic partner is the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Emmeline Moore (1872-1963) was a biologist and fisheries scientist who became the first woman biologist for the New York State Department of Conservation in 1920, and was elected as the first woman president for 1927-1928 of the American Fisheries Society, the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to strengthening the fisheries profession, advancing fisheries science, and conserving fisheries resources.

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Related links:

American Fisheries Society: <http://www.fisheries.org/afs/aboutus>

Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee: <http://www.woodsholediversity.org/>