

Southern Association of Marine Laboratories Annual Meeting

April 19-21, 2026,
East Carolina University, Coastal Studies Institute, NC

AGENDA

Note: All times Eastern Time

Meeting Location: [East Carolina University, Coastal Studies Institute](#)

Sunday April 19, 2026

5 pm

Opening Remarks: Dr. Reide Corbett (host)

Followed by Opening Reception at the Coastal Studies Institute on the ECU Outer Banks Campus

Day 1 (Monday April 20, 2026)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tamucc.zoom.us/j/94250072449?pwd=iMz0SHro64LhQpp5S0CMbyrYYN9OVA.1>

Meeting ID: 942 5007 2449

Passcode: 022582

- Morning
 - 8:00 - 9:00 AM Coffee and Breakfast provided at the Coastal Studies Institute
 - 9:00 - 9:05 AM Welcome, Instructions; Lou Burnett Moment of Silence (Loretta Battaglia)
 - 9:05- 9:30 AM Overview of Coastal Studies Institute (Reide Corbett)
 - 9:30-10:30 AM Review of Member Institutions (2-3 minutes per lab, Loretta Battaglia to provide timing) “
 - 10:30-11:15 Lindsay Wentzel and Trip Taylor “*Powering Coastal Aquaculture: Demonstration of Paired Tidal Energy Harvesting and Water Quality Monitoring*”
 - 11:15 AM-12:00 PM Presentation by Federal Science Partners; Q&A
- Afternoon
 - 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch - Taco Bar provided by Johanna’s Catering
 - 1:00-1:15 PM Insights from NAML - Dave Eggleston
 - 1:15-1:45 PM Joel Fodrie – Presentation of Teaching at NAML Institutes Surveys; Attendees take Survey https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_42tkYUT1D1LYJzU
 - 1:45-2:00 PM Amber Whittle-Introduction
 - 2:00-2:15 PM BREAK
 - 2:15-3:30 PM Membership Business Meeting
(All voting by Delegates only; voting by in-person and virtual attendees.)
 - Approval of Minutes [file provided]
 - Thank you to Sue Ebanks who is rotating off board, Clark Alexander transitioning to Past President
 - Welcome to Brian Roberts (Treasurer) and Eric Milbrandt (President-Elect)

- SAML Dues delinquencies – Loretta Battaglia
- Treasurer Report –Brian Roberts
- SAML Student Support Program – Eric Milbrandt, SAML President-Elect and Chair of Student Support Committee
- New Business
- Growing SAML/NAML membership
- Future meeting venues - 2027-LUMCON

3:30 PM Tour of the Coastal Studies Institute

- Evening
 - Hope in the Water Film Screening - The Pioneer Theater, Manteo, NC
 - ***Free registration for the screening is required at the following***
link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/kqctqhq/lp/0fcd4971-eaf7-45cb-ae3c-50756922f852>
 - 5:30-6:30 PM Pre-Party in Pioneer Courtyard - includes dinner from Basnight's Lone Cedar Food Truck
 - 6:30-7:30 PM Screening
 - 7:30-8:00 PM Q&A

Day 2 (Tuesday April 21, 2026)

<https://tamucc.zoom.us/j/98127152992?pwd=IPNBxQU7BvVlKT4ZXFGm6zI7uTEy8F.1>

Meeting ID: 981 2715 2992

Passcode: 741525

- Morning
 - 8:00 – 9:00 AM Coffee and Breakfast provided at the Coastal Studies Institute
 - 9:00 AM SAML Student Support Awards Presentations (moderator Eric Milbrandt)
 - 9:00-9:15 Frank Driscoll “*Seasonal Variability in Carbon Exchange Across Contrasting Mississippi Tidal Marshes*”
 - 9:15-9:30 AM TBD
 - 9:30-9:45 AM TBD
 - 9:45-10:00 AM TBD
 - 10:00-10:15 AM Ariana Cory “*Evaluation of Benthic Environmental Change on the Coastal West Florida Shelf*”
 - 10:15-10:30 AM Zach Zagon “*Characterizing Endozoicomonas and bacterial aggregates across U.S. Coral Reefs - Unraveling Implications for Conservation and Restoration*”
 - 10:30 –10:45 AM BREAK
 - 10:45 – 11:45 AM Internal Roundtable: Navigating Current Funding Challenges
 - 11:45 AM Closing Remarks – SAML President Loretta Battaglia
- 12:00 PM Lunch – To-go lunches provided by Johanna's Catering (lunch options chosen in registration)
- Adjourn

Travel/Accommodation Information:

Closest airports: Norfolk, Va (ORF) or Greenville, NC (PGV)

There is a 10 room block at ***The Tranquil House*** in downtown Manteo, NC for April 19-20

<https://www.tranquilhouseinn.com/>

Need to call the hotel (252-473-1404) and let them know you are reserving for the CSI/SAML block.

- - Other hotels to consider:
 - The Manteo House - <https://themanteohouse.com/>
 - The Island Guesthouse - <https://www.theislandmotel.com/accommodation/>
 - Can provide options on the beach if wanted

Committees of SAML

Board of Directors

SAML Board of Directors

Loretta Battaglia, President 2026-2027

Eric Milbrandt, President-Elect 2026-2027

Clark Alexander, Past President 2026-2027

Brian Roberts, Treasurer 2026-2027 (non-voting)

Sally Brooks, Secretary 2026-2027 (non-voting)

Members-at-Large

Reide Corbett, 2024-2026

Joel Trexler, 2025-2027

Nancy Smith, 2026-2028

Nominating Committee 2026

Clark Alexander (as Past President), Chair

Dave Eggleston

Monty Graham

Finance Committee 2026

Brian Roberts, Chair (as Treasurer)

Loretta Battaglia, President

Eric Milbrandt, President-Elect

Reide Corbett, longest-serving Member-at-Large

Audit Committee 2026

Jim Gelsleichter, Chair

Carys Mitchelmore

Jill Stewart

Other Committees

Student Awards Committee 2026

Eric Milbrandt, Chair (as President-Elect)

Reide Corbett

Brian Roberts