



# ANNUAL REPORT 2015



# **OUR STORY**

t Ocean Discovery Institute, we empower urban, underserved young people to become science and conservation leaders. But when we tell people our mission, a couple of questions usually follow:

How do you do it?

And what does leadership mean?

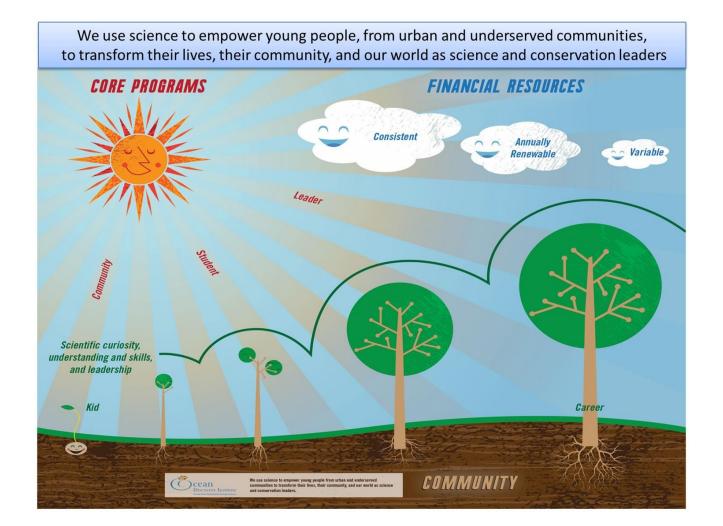
In 2015 we developed a new tool to explain the how –

a business model called our Sustainable Ecosystem (illustrated below).

In this ecosystem, we nurture young people from seed to tree, from curious youngsters to science and conservation leaders.

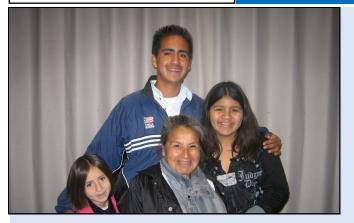
This ecosystem is best understood by using one of our City Heights families – the Figueroas – as an example. And as we share their story, you'll get a better understanding of what leadership really means.

Continued on next page





## **OUR STORY**



**Our ecosystem** has three elements that help our seeds grow – soil, sunlight, and rain.

The soil is our community – our families and educational partners who nurture our young people every day. A great example is Hermalinda Figueroa, the inspiring grandmother of three of our Ocean Discovery students – Tony, Abigail and Aurora. She is not only a role model for her grandkids, she's a pillar of the community as a dedicated volunteer for both Ocean Discovery and local schools. Every day, she displays leadership, wisdom, and a relentless commitment to improving her community. Without family members like Hermalinda, students would not be prepared to seize the opportunities we provide.

The sunshine, providing energy for transformation, is our range of programs, which reach young people at all stages of their development. These programs are strengthened by the involvement of scientists from partner organizations like the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Both Tony and Abigail completed internships, after-school programs, and conducted real research alongside scientists – experiences that set them up for academic success. Aurora, now in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, is following in their footsteps.

**The rain** comes from our donors – from generous individuals to foundations, corporations and government agencies who provide the resources for growth. Year after year, we receive generous support from our *Bubble Up!* Gala attendees, Visionary Community, and longtime funders like The Harriet E. Pfleger Foundation, Qualcomm, the Sidney E. Frank Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to name a few.

What does it look like when our "seeds" are cultivated in this nurturing environment? Well, Tony has grown into a full-fledged "tree," having graduated from UCLA with a double major in Geography and Environmental Studies. He now works for FlyWire Cameras. Abigail is continuing her growth, working towards her degree at Palomar College. And Aurora has some successful role models to look up to as her aspirations take root.

That's leadership. That's the impact Ocean Discovery makes.





## **REACH AND IMPACT**

### **OUR REACH**

3,841 Number of students participating in hands on science in the classroom. Number of students participating in science and conservation in their 930 neighborhood 109

Number of students progressing on their path to college and career in our after-school programs

### **OUR IMPACT**

### Students perform better in science

Percentage increase in science knowledge among students receiving our 40% in-class programs

The average science GPA of our high school participants, rising from 3.2 an average of 2.2

### Students graduate and pursue careers in science and conservation

8%

Percentage of 24 year olds from low income backgrounds nationwide that have attained a bachelors degree

80%

**60%** 

Percentage of our after-school students who earn degrees within 5 years

Percentage of our after-school students who graduate with degrees in science and conservation









## **STUDENT SUCCESS**

### GRADUATES

These Ocean Discovery students earned college degrees in 2015:

#### **Master's Degree**

Anai Novoa, USD, Marine Science

#### **Bachelor's Degree**

Adrian Alvarez Lara, Point Loma Nazarene, Psychology Ulisses Barraza, UCLA, Chemical Engineering Christian Castro, SDSU, Psychology Antonio Figueroa, UCLA, Geography and Environmental Studies Isabel Herrera, UC Santa Cruz, Sociology Daisy Mercado, USD, Environmental Studies Yajaira Nunez, USD, Ethnic Studies Jared Ocampo, SDSU, Chicano Studies and English Ahiram Rodriguez, UCSD, BioTech Amanuel Weldemariam, UCSD, Nano-engineering



### CAREERS

*These Ocean Discovery students secured employment in science and conservation in 2015:* 

Khan Chi Dam, fisheries observer, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Antonio Figueroa, sales manager, Flywire Cameras
Isabel Herrera, AmeriCorps Fellow, Ocean
Discovery Institute
Anai Novoa, junior scientist/field technician, WHOI/ NASA research cruise
Carla Pisbe, manager of business development, Ocean Discovery Institute
Ahiram Rodriguez, data analyst, Adidas



## LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

### Living Lab Set to Take Shape

Ocean Discovery Institute currently serves 6,000 young people in City Heights every year. We will soon reach the 14,000 additional young people who are eagerly awaiting these opportunities. This growth will be made possible with the help of our partners at the San Diego Unified School District through the creation of our Living Lab, a 12,000 square foot, LEED-platinum science education facility slated to open in 2017.

cean

Discovery Institute

#### 2015 Milestones Reached

- Completion of the \$15 million capital campaign needed for construction
- Approval of construction documents
- Finalization of permits with the Division of the State Architect and the City of San Diego
- Awarding of the contract to Soltek
   Pacific Construction

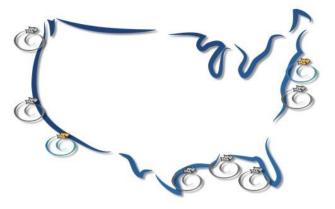


2016-2017 Projected Milestones

- February, 2016: Demolition of current structures on site
- February, 2016: Construction begins
- 2017: Living Lab opens to the public

### **Expansion to the East Coast**

With the support of a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Ocean Discovery Institute began in 2013 to explore the possibility of replication of our educational model to high-poverty,



ethnically-diverse communities elsewhere in the United States. After considering several sites, Ocean Discovery identified Norfolk, Virginia as its location for replication. This progress was made in 2015:

- Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with NOAA to fully leverage the agency's assets and capabilities
- Welcoming our partners to San Diego for the first time. NOAA, Norfolk Redevelopment Housing Authority, and the Norfolk Department of Parks and Recreation visited to become immersed in our business model



## VOLUNTEERS

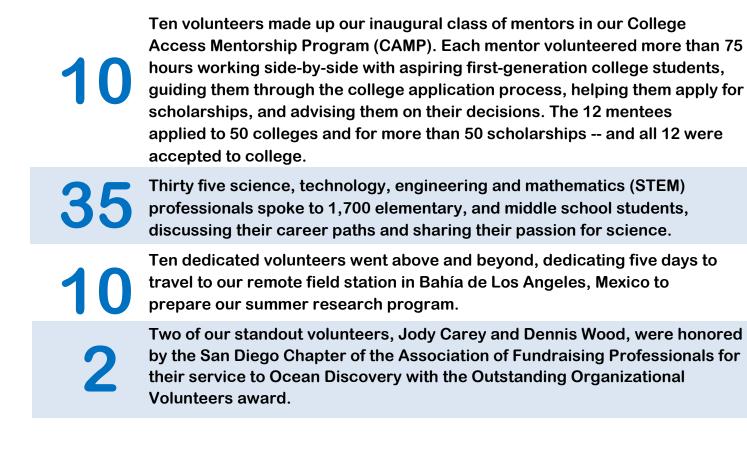
### **VOLUNTEER IMPACT**

Ocean Discovery could not impact young lives without the dedication of community members donating time and expertise. Volunteers made the following impact in 2015:

815 volunteers engaged 7,228 volunteer hours served \$166,738 approximate value



## **VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS**





# How You CAN HELP IN 2016

#### Join the Visionary Community

 Become a member of our Visionary Community by signing up for monthly automatic payments starting at just \$10 a month. As a member, you will be part of a collective impact that provides the consistent funding our programs need to grow and thrive. Members receive special recognition and insider communications.

# 2.

#### Volunteer

We count on our dedicated volunteers to make our programs the best they can be. You can assist in the classroom, create educational materials for our students, or help out with other projects at our main office.



#### Donate today

Make an immediate impact on the lives of underserved young people by making a one-time donation to Ocean Discovery Institute. You can support whatever area you're most passionate about – environmental stewardship, science discovery, or student achievement.

# 4.

#### Visit the Living Lab site

Join us every Wednesday at 9am for a tour of the Living Lab site under construction. If you can't make it then, schedule another time to see this vision becoming a reality.



For more information about any of these opportunities, contact MacKenzie Sandy at msandy@oceandi.org or 858-488-3849.



## **SUPPORTERS**

Ocean Discovery's community of investors includes individuals, foundations, corporations, and government entities. Each one empowers us to operate day to day and make a positive impact on thousands of young lives. Thank you for your support!



#### Impact Circle \$250,000 + (Cumulative Giving)

**Bank of America Charitable** Foundation The Boeing Company **California Coastal Conservancy California Department of Parks and** Recreation **City of San Diego David C. Copley Foundation** Harriet E. Pfleger Foundation J.W. Sefton Foundation **National Oceanic & Atmospheric** Administration, Office of Education **National Science Foundation** Award #1324962 **Orca Fund at The San Diego** Foundation **Price Philanthropies** 

San Diego Unified School District Sidney E. Frank Foundation Walter J. & Betty C. Zable Foundation

#### Innovation Circle \$100,000 + (Cumulative Giving)

Anonymous (3) aTyr Pharma County of San Diego Floyd Pickrell Hervey Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation Joan Eichen Linda and Joel Fisler Lynn Gorguze and US Congressman Scott Peters National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Pacific Islands Regional Office National Oceanic & Atmospheric **Administration, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center National Oceanic & Atmospheric** Administration, Western Regional Office QUALCOMM, Inc. REI **Reuben H. Fleet Foundation Fund at** The San Diego Foundation **Rokenbok Educational Fund at The** San Diego Foundation San Diego Gas and Electric Scott Grimes **Sierra Club Foundation Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project** Susan Flieder and Paul Eichen **Unified Port of San Diego Yvette Diuri** 



#### Discovery Circle \$25,000 +

Cox Cares Foundation Cox Communications Elizabeth Keadle Fund at The San Diego Foundation Gwendolyn Meyer Marie Jose Kaasenbrood The San Diego Foundation

## Empowerment Circle \$10,000 - \$24,999

**Barbara and Roger Sweeney California Coastal Commission Carrera Joffe Foundation Colwell Family Distributable Fund** at The San Diego Foundation **David Bialis Dina and John Johns Farrell Family Foundation Fieldstone Foundation Gary and Denise David** The Joan and Irwin Jacobs Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation **McCarthy Family Foundation** Piper Products, Inc. **ResMed Foundation Rice Family Foundation Steve McIntee and Bob Meinzer Union Bank Foundation** World Wildlife Fund

## **SUPPORTERS**

#### Opportunity Circle \$5,000 - \$9,999 Dream Circle \$1,000 - \$4,999

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**Adrienne and Tom Klopack** Aileen and Benson Lam Ali and Jack Pariseau **Ann Hatfield Merritt** Anonymous (2) Anthea and John Wang Arthur P. & Jeanette G. Pratt Memorial Fund at Union Bank **Barbara and Rick Cohen Barbara Tennent and Steven** Barkan **Barry Snyder Bernard Puckett Bianca and Jason Waiton Bumble Bee Foods, LLC Carla and Greg McElroy Carol and Tom Goodwin Carolyn Muhlstein and Will Turner Cliff Schneider** Cook + Schmid **Cubic Corporation** Cynthia and Fred Lawley **Cynthia Strauss Danielle Hossfeld Dave Kempton and Andrew** Woodmansee **David Ohanian Deborah Stout Deloitte & Touche Endangered Habitats Conservancy Erika and Michael Swimmer Gail and Gary Hooker** Genentech. Inc **Genette and Michael McGowan Hughes Marino Jacquie Gering** Jennifer Sporl and Jackie Crosbie Karin Zeh and Miguel Garcia Guzman Kathlien and Jon Sundt **Kevin Cottrell and Marc Grock Kiwanis Club La Jolla Kristin and Richard Markell** Laura and David Melbourne Liz Carnes **Lizbeth Pastenes** Mary Kay and Paul Dunmire **Mary Morrison Monterey Ridge Educational** Foundation **Morgan Stanley Foundation** NRG Energy, Inc. **On Call Staffing Solutions, Inc. Otilia McLarry** 



Papoose Conservation Wildlife Foundation Patagonia **Paula and Jeffrey Woodson Perla and Jeff Myers Phillip Barker and Garry Williams RECON Environmental, Inc. Rory Centanni and Steve Rojas Rotary Club of San Diego** Foundation San Diego County Fish and Wildlife **Advisory Commission** San Diego Junior Lifeguard Foundation San Dieguito Equine Group **Scripps Institution of** Oceanography Sean Caddell and Guenter Seide Shara Fisler Sharon and Ben Masek Shelly and Ted Griswold The Junior League of San Diego **The Morrison & Foerster** Foundation **Thella Bowens Theresa and Drew Talley Tia Quinn Torrey Hills Elementary PTA Transition Opportunity Fund at** The San Diego Foundation **Tristan Brand** U.S. Bank University of San Diego Vanessa and Ben Ballentine Victoria and Moises Baron Waitt Foundation at The San Diego Foundation Weinstein Foundation

#### Inspiration Circle \$1 - \$999

Aaron Bercovitch Adam Perez Adrienne Beeson and Noel Bray Hoagland Adrienne Garcia Alberto Medina and Guillermo Ladron Alex Calero and Brendan Reed Alex Dahl Amalia Di Lucca Amazon Smile Foundation Amy and Erik Carstensen Amy Wallen and Eber Lambert Andra Donovan

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**Coby Wagman** Cody Hooven **Coleen Whitelaw Collin Carlier Corepower Yoga Craig Hooker and Carlos Nelson Curt Wittenberg Customer Service Advantage Cygnet Theatre Dalia Rodriguez Dan Kansteiner** Daphne's California Greek Dashe Real Estate, Inc. **Dave Elvenia David Sandstrom** Dawn and Dan Cosio **Deana Pickett Debora L. Williams Deborah Rego Diana Kutlow Diane Malmstrom Diane Stricklin Douglas Levin** 



Eight Elements West Eileen Benjamin Elaine Frassanito Elizabeth and Joe O'Loughlin Ellen Correia Ellen Peters Elvia Meza and Jordan Snodgrass Emily and Darren Day



## **SUPPORTERS**

Emily Young and Serge Dedina Emma Schnurr Enzo Greco Erin Luna Eva and Bill Yancey Faye and Hank Mlinarich Felicia Shaw Francisco Villegas Gail and Carlton Gasior Gary Jethani Gayle Gilman and Jeff Swimmer Gillian Hamilton Glen Wellbrock Grace Bick Greg Lemke Jasmin McLeod Jason Anderson Jeanette Day and Dave Catalino Jeannie Esposito Jeannie Fulton Jeannine and Jeffrey D. Watkins Jeannine Ross and Tom Carlson Jeff Hansen and Kevin Maxwell Jeff Lindeman Jeffrey Williams Jennifer and Byron McCoy Jennifer and Eric Cathcart Jennifer and Robert MacAller Jennifer Ott and Dick Rol



Grea Murphy **Grimes Family Fund at The Sonora Area Foundation Guy Pacurar Heidi and Stuart Krantz** Heidi Reilly and Bob Hart **Helen Macalister** Holly and Matt Whitehead **Hope Mirendil Hornblower Cruises & Events** Irene Kelly Jacob Isaac Lowry **James Eckman** James Pennise **James Purpura Janet Wilson and Nigel Hook Janie DeCelles** 

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Maria Lagace **Marilyn and Charlie Dashe Mark Christian Mark Sanderson Cimino** Mary Patterson **Mary Wong** MaryAnne and Ted Pintar **Matthew Sieve Maura and Frank Pavlot Megan and Peter Cooper Melissa and Beniamin Foster** Melissa Katiqbak **Melissa Nichols** Michael Dodt **Michelle Nadeau and Jacquie Schwoerke Michelle Thorton Mireille Garcia** Mobile Mini Nancy and Steven Kemnitz **Natalie and Matt Kansteiner Neva and Glen Parker** Nicole La Grange and **Robert Lawson Nicole Yen Nolan Bellisario Optimist Club of Carlsbad** Pati Gutierrez **Patricia and Joe Ayers** Patti Knight Paul McClellan Paula and Kai Medeiros **Pete Shannon PRP** Wine **Rachel and Christopher Lawson Rachel Clark Rachel Kincaid Rachel Whelan Rebecca Hyde Edwards Ricardo Moran Richard Armstrong Richard Lauzier Rick Sayen Rob Venable Rob Wellington Quigley, FAIA Robert Hinzman Robert Jackson Robert Lauzier Rochelle Mothokakobo Rosa Woodward Ross Anderson Rov Wilson Rudy Vargas Ryan Goerl** Sally Holloway Samantha Thompson

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San Diego Natural History Museum San Diego Repertory Theater Company San Diego Zoo Global Sandra Talbird Sanilinn Meza Sara and John Blake Sarah Schoedinger Scott Anders Shaan Akhtar **Shannon Biszantz** Shannon Bottenberg Sheila Hennika Sherry Kaye Sherylin Doig **Simon Dinkin Sky Sailing Inc** Sonya Vargas Sophia Greco **Stephanie and Dominic Lassalle Stephanie and Lee Barken** Stephanie Canzano Stephanie Nehasil and Joel Barkan **Stephen Jenner** Sue and Mark Denny Sue Thompson **Susan Conrad Tanner Barnes Ted Anasis** 

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#### Visionary Community (Monthly Automated Giving)

**Aaron Bercovitch** Adrienne and Tom Klopack Adrienne Beeson and **Noel Bray-Hoagland** Aileen and Benson Lam Alberto Medina and **Guillermo Ladron** Amalia Di Lucca **Amy and Erik Carstensen Amy Wallen and Eber Lambert** Andra Donovan Andrew Zingale Anne Correia **April Lacerenza Arlene and Keith Fink Barbara and Rick Cohen Barbara Tennent and** Steven Barkan **Barbra Calantas and** Walter Hernandez **Barry Snyder Benita Allen Bernard Puckett Bink Cook Brian Duncan Brooke Pinnix Carla Pisbe Carla Scheidlinger Carol and Tom Goodwin Carol Kemnitz and Brad Bebeau Carolyn Meyer Carolyn Muhlstein and Will Turner Catherine Crisp Cathy and Frank Terzoli Christina Fahy Christine Whitcraft Christopher Smith Cliff Schneider** Codv Hooven **Coleen Whitelaw Collin Carlier Curt Wittenberg Dan Kansteiner David Sandstrom** Dawn and Dan Cosio **Diane Malmstrom Diane Stricklin Dina and John Johns Douglas Levin Elvia Meza and Jordan Snodgrass Felicia Shaw Gail and Carlton Gasior Genette and Michael McGowan** 

## **SUPPORTERS**

**Glen Wellbrock Greg Murphy Heidi and Stuart Krantz Helen Macalister** Holly and Matt Whitehead Ileana Ovalle Engel and John Engel **Irene Kelly Jackie Crosbie and Jennifer Sporl Jacquie Gering James Pennise Janet Wilson and Nigel Hook Jasmin McLeod Jason Anderson Jeffrey Williams Jennifer and Eric Cathcart** Jennifer and Robert MacAller Jennifer Ott and Dick Rol **Jim Archer Pennise** Joanie Snodgrass **Jody Carey and Dennis Wood** 

**Mary Patterson** Matthew Sieve Maura and Frank Pavlot **Megan and Peter Cooper Melissa Nichols Michael Lucas Natalie and Matt Kansteiner Nicole La Grange and Robert Lawson** Patti Knight Pete Shannon **Phillip Barker and Garry Williams Rachel and Christopher Lawson Ricardo Moran Rick Sayen Rob Venable Robert Hinzman Rochelle Mothokakobo Rory Centanni and Steve Rojas Roy Wilson** 

\$38,314

Funds raised

### **Visionary Community**

140

#### Monthly donors

Joe Austin **Julie Lucas** Katheryn and Randy Stambaugh Kathy and Doug Dunmire Kelly and David Barkan **Kim and Peter Tomsovic** Kim Cupini **Kristen Goodwin** Kurt Gering and Nick Wagman **Kurt Schaefer** Lanika Cervantes LaTresa and Scott Pearson Laura and Terry Kemnitz Libby and Chic Dohoney Libby Dohoney Linda and Joel Fisler **Lindsay Goodwin Lourdes Contreras** MacKenzie and Joe Sandy Macy Maid **Margaret Arnone** Maria Cortinez Maria Lagace Marie Jose Kaasenbrood **Marilyn and Charles Dashe** 

**Rudy Vargas** Sandra Talbird Sanilinn Meza Scott Grimes Sean Caddell and Guenter Seidel Shaan Akhtar Shara Fisler Sharon and Ben Masek Shelly and Ted Griswold **Stephanie Nehasil and Joel Barkan Teresa Vautier Theresa and Drew Talley Theresa Fenner and Trace Funderburk** Tina Caldwell and Melissa Mason **Todd Gloria Tram Nguyen Travis Kemnitz** Vincy Dunmire Wendy Piniak Whitney Fisler Will Anderson Yaminah Meza Yan Wei Lim Yonat Swimmer and Paul Glenney

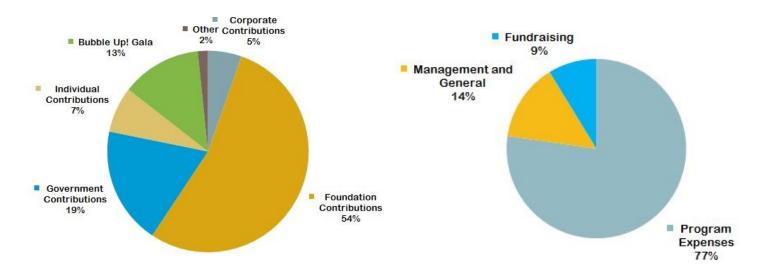


## FINANCIALS

	FY 2015
Revenues, gains, and other support	
Corporate Contributions	\$161,453
Foundation Contributions	\$1,609,330
GovernmentContributions	\$562,221
Individual Contributions	\$219,501
Bubble Up! Gala	\$382,909
Other	\$48,740
Total Revenues, gains, and other support	\$2,984,155
Expenses	
Program Expenses	\$1,260,201
Management and General	\$228,947
Fundraising	\$142,257
Total Expenses	\$1,631,405
Change in Net Assets	\$1,352,750
Net Assets at beginning of year	\$2,139,447
Net Assets at end of year	\$3,492,197

### **Revenue Categories**

### **Expense Categories**





## LEADERSHIP

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kurt Gering, Chair Genette McGowan, Vice Chair Chic Dohoney, Treasurer Sean Caddell Tres Conrique Vincy Dunmire Ileana Ovalle Engel, Cabinet Member Scott Grimes Ted Griswold, Cabinet Member John Johns Benson Lam Michael Lucas Scott Pearson Clifford Schneider



#### **SENIOR STAFF**

Shara Fisler, *Executive Director* Lindsay Goodwin, *Associate Director* Elvia Meza, *Director of Finance and Administration* MacKenzie Sandy, *Director of Philanthropy* 

#### **Contact Ocean Discovery Institute**

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