

# ~stem seas summer newsletter

~1st edition



# ~stem seas program updates

**\*This summer we welcome the 2017 STEM SEAS cohort from Savannah State University! They will be transiting from Panama City, Florida to Lewes, Delaware aboard the R/V Hugh Sharp from July 26 - August 2!**

**Keep up with them at <https://stemseas.wordpress.com>**

**\*Presentations at the Geological Society of America 2016 Meeting in Denver, Colorado, including a**



**presentation by STEM SEAS alum Kiel Callahan!**

*~Initial results from the STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships (STEMSEAS) program*

*~Overarching vision and structure of the STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships (STEMSEAS) program*

*~Recruiting strategies for the STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships (STEMSEAS) program*

*~Addressing challenges during at-sea research*

**\*Presentation at the 2016 UNOLS Annual Meeting in Fairfax, Virginia**

*~The STEM SEAS program utilizing UNOLS ship time*

**\*Presentation at the American Geophysical Union 2016 Fall Meeting in San Francisco, California**

*~Initial results from the STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships (STEMSEAS) Program*

**\*Presentations at the Joint Northeastern & North-Central Annual GSA Section Meeting**

*~Initial results and social media presence of the STEM Student Experiences Aboard Ships*

*(STEMSEAS) program*

*~The role of social media in recruitment and retention of diverse geoscience undergraduates*

**\*We got official notice from the National Science Foundation (NSF) of the renewal of STEMSEAS funding for three more years!!!**

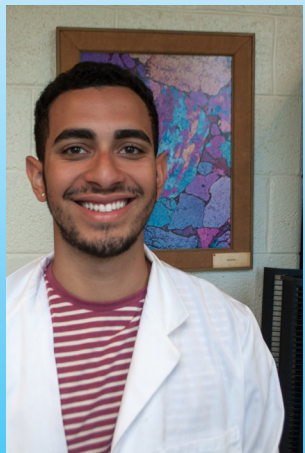
**Thanks to all the students and everyone that has supported STEMSEAS!  
Keep an eye out for future cruises and opportunities to get involved!**

# ~stem seas alumni updates

## **ALHASAN ALSHAARBAF**

- ~Transferred to a 4-year university to finish Biology degree
- ~Job as a lab teaching assistant at university

## **EDUARDO CENTENO**



- ~Accepted into the Ronald E. McNair Program & will present a poster at the McNair National Symposium in California
- ~Participated in the KECK Geology Consortium and went to Texas A&M to the IODP core repository to do research
- ~Will complete his thesis and apply to graduate school programs this fall

## **DIANE HILDERBRAND**

- ~Declared Major in Psychology

## **MIGUEL MORAVEC**

- ~Interning this summer with the VISOR program at Vanderbilt, which “focuses on multi-disciplinary research for formulating, developing, and deploying “smart city” applications in Nashville.”
- ~Won the Vanderbilt Institute of Digital Learning Student Innovation Award: Second Prize for his project “Ediacaran Life in Virtual Reality.”

## **MEGAN BYERS**

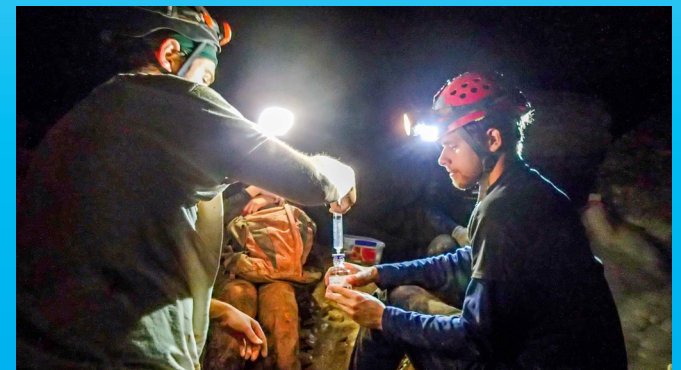
- ~New job at the Product Stewardship Institute
- ~Currently conducting an EPA-funded project “to help local eateries eliminate and reduce single-use plastics that commonly end up as marine debris. This project will result in a step-by-step toolkit that restaurants and eateries can follow to reduce their impact.”

## **ABIGAIL EDWARDS**

- ~Internship with Southern California Earthquake Center

## **EVA LOPEZ**

- ~Awarded the McNair and SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship) fellowships to perform research in the Earth and Planetary Science Department at UC Berkeley



# ~stem seas alumni updates

## SHERESE MORGAN

~Participated in a week-long research cruise exploring the physiological plasticity and response of benthic foraminifera to oceanic deoxygenation

## ELIZABETH NEWMAN



~Awarded School of Environmental & Forest Science (SEFS) Scholarship at UW  
~Summer internship at Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) in data management/ tree inventory  
~Assisted in the UW Aviation Lab on a project to measure population density of Eastern cottontail rabbits in Union Bay Natural Area at UW

## ANAIYA RELIFORD

~Currently a Technical Intern at Northrop Grumman Corporation  
~Worked this summer in Buea, Cameroon conducting cybersecurity research at the University of Buea  
~Plans to compete at conferences and to publicize her research this year

## MATTHEW MULLENS

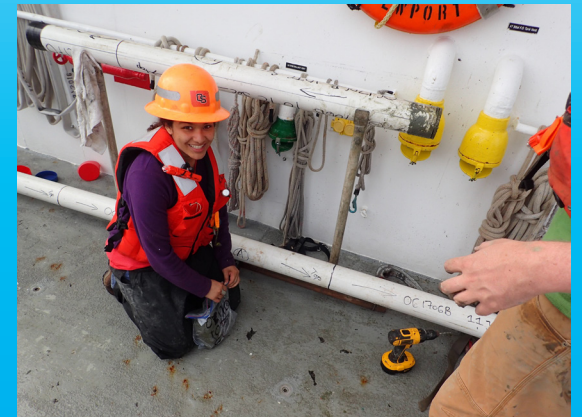
~Selected for the HBCUvc (Venture Capital) Program. "I will have the opportunity to be mentored by a Venture Capitalist and to help fund a tech start up company at my university."

## ALEX PORTWOOD

~His presentation on STEMSEAS led to a feature in his school magazine, a commercial, and on a billboard in Springfield, Illinois!  
~Made All-Conference, All-Region and Academic All-American  
~Received an academic and basketball scholarship to St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa

## IRIS ROMO

~Summer REU at Oregon State University



# ~congratulations, graduates!



**JOSE GARCIA**  
Associates degree in Science



**EVA LOPEZ**  
UC Berkeley, Class of 2017  
Double major in Geophysics and  
Italian Studies



**ALEX PORTWOOD**  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Graduated with a 4.0



**DAGNY YSAÏS**  
CSU Monterey Bay  
Bachelors degree in Marine Science

## ~our words of wisdom

“The STEMseas trip was my favorite part of the whole summer! Such a great **opportunity** to get to know other amazing students and professors from around the country. **Start bonding and making memories** of it from day one, because by the last day you’ll wish you had more time together!”

“Definitely get the ear patch for sea sickness, Dramamine pills will make you sleepy and if you are already sea sick, they may not help much! Overall, **learn** as much as you can, **step out of your comfort zone**, get to know the crew, **stay open minded**, and have lots of fun!!”

“Don’t be afraid to **hang out with the crew!** They love having new faces on board and usually have some pretty good stories to share.”

“Be **curious** and maintain your **enthusiasm.**”

“**Welcome**, Stem Seas 2017 cohort! Remember to bring your seasickness pills and your **camera.** (: ”

“Opportunities like these don’t come often, so really **immerse yourself** in it and enjoy every moment!”

“Really take this opportunity to learn, and **ASK questions!**”

“Keep an **open mind** and don’t be afraid to **step out of your comfort zone** (Even more so than you may already have)!”

“The **wristbands** don’t help with seasickness”

“If you’re not nervous about what’s going to happen, you’re not **dreaming big enough.** Few people can say they discovered the unknown because many people are too afraid of the unknown to try. Always tell yourself, **I can and I will.**”

“Enter this adventure with an **open mind** and take as much as you can from this unique experience, whether you love it or hate it, it will teach you things about yourself and help you **become a better scientist.** Above all, enjoy your time at sea!”

“Be open to life’s challenges and face them with your **head held high.**”

“Make sure to **try everything** you can and learn from everyone because it is an **experience of a lifetime!**”

“It helps to **look at the horizon.**”

“Take the sea sick **medicine** while on the trip. They are really effective and you will feel awful without them”

## ~welcome stem seas 2017 cohort!