

Amanda Terry McCarty

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Silver Spring, MD

Assistant Director for Partnerships, National Sea Grant Program Office (02/07/16 – present)

Acting Deputy Director (12/20/16 – present)

- Oversee work of 23 staff who execute national communications and external affairs portfolios, administer Fellowship Programs, manage \$70 million in grant funding, and provide national coordination for a network of 33 state-based programs with over 1200 employees
- Develop and execute national program priorities, goals, and objectives and monitor progress in achieving them for the National Sea Grant Program focus areas of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, healthy coastal ecosystems, resilient communities and economies, environmental literacy, and workforce development
- Maintain and advance the creation of productive partnerships within and external to NOAA to enhance the effectiveness of the National Sea Grant College Program
- Connect state-based programs with NOAA programs to facilitate two-way transfer of knowledge, tools, and priorities to inform research, policy, and programs

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Leadership Competencies Development Program (07/13/14 – 01/29/16)

I was a member of NOAA's Leadership Competencies Development Program, a competitive 18-month program to develop NOAA's future leaders and managers. At the end of the program, my peers awarded me the Linda Winner Memorial Award for outstanding leadership. In this program, I conducted three developmental detail assignments:

1. *Acting Assistant Director of Network Relations, National Sea Grant Program Office*
(08/31/15 – 01/29/16)

- Supervised 7 Federal employees who execute national communications and external affairs portfolios, administer Fellowship Programs, manage \$70 million in grant funding, and provide national coordination for a network of 33 state-based programs with over 1200 employees
- Led recruitment, hiring, and onboarding of 9 qualified employees, including through permanent and temporary hires, fellowships, and rotational assignments
- Designed and implemented an organizational structure and administrative policies to improve program efficiency and operations and meet current and future program and staffing needs

2. *Acting Senior Policy Analyst, Seafood Inspection Program, NOAA Fisheries*
(02/09/15 – 08/28/15)

- Evaluated the current state of NOAA Fisheries' Seafood Inspection Program and collaboratively developed a vision and goals to optimize efficiency, reduce risks, prioritize resources, and increase effectiveness of management and service delivery for the national program and four regional branches
- Analyzed Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey results to identify program strengths and weaknesses and made recommendations to new office leadership on how to strengthen the program
- Facilitated meetings of a geographically dispersed management team that identified quarterly and annual priorities and defined timelines and performance metrics for measuring progress

3. *Acting Deputy Director, National Weather Service International Activities Office*
(10/27/14 – 01/23/15)

- Served as part of the management team for an office of 16 staff, contributing to decision making on budget execution, human resources, administrative processes, policy development, and strategic planning
- Represented and negotiated on behalf of the U.S. government in meetings of the World Meteorological Organization and Global Framework for Climate Services, serving as Alternate Head of Delegation
- Provided recommendations, background, and support for National Weather Service and NOAA leadership on international weather, water, and climate issues and priorities for meetings and conferences
- Oversaw the office's bilateral portfolio, determining priorities for engagement and supervising staff in efforts to efficiently and effectively advance programs and policies

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International Program Manager, Climate Program Office (10/01/10 – 02/06/16)

- Represent and negotiate on behalf of the U.S. government in international meetings and conferences at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (responsibility retained)
- Coordinate the development, review, and clearance of U.S. positions on climate science, mitigation, and adaptation to international and internal audiences (responsibility retained)
- Lead interagency and international efforts to support management, conservation, and restoration of coastal wetlands for their ability to sequester and store carbon and support adaptation efforts (responsibility retained)
- Worked with scientists to translate research findings into policy-relevant information for leadership and staff at the Department of State, Department of Treasury, Department of Commerce, and the White House
- Built international capacity to adapt to climate impacts through trainings, workshops, technical reviews of million dollar development assistance proposals, and by initiating and co-leading an international Adaptation Partnership Program that brought climate expertise to over 40 developing countries

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Executive Director, NOAA Climate Board, Climate Program Office (02/01/13 – 10/27/14)

- Oversaw operations of NOAA's Climate Board, a forum for high-level, agency-wide decision making on strategic planning, budgets, operating plans, and policy in support of NOAA's climate goals and objectives
- Managed an Executive Secretariat that staffed senior NOAA leadership on climate issues by providing written and oral communications, facilitating sensitive discussions, and monitoring progress on priority actions
- Coordinated NOAA implementation of the President's Climate Action Plan and cross-agency efforts related to climate impacts on marine ecosystems, water resources, coasts, and extreme weather events
- Reviewed proposals for over \$10 million in contract support and climate adaptation grants

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Silver Spring, MD

Climate Planning Lead and Program Analyst, Climate Program Office (02/18/09 – 09/30/10)

- Managed planning, budget formulation, and performance tracking efforts for NOAA's climate portfolio
- Contributed to the development and evaluation of a proposal, including program plans and budgets, for an agency-wide reorganization to establish a new line office to develop and deliver climate services
- Served as a liaison between NOAA's climate observing and monitoring programs and NOAA headquarters
- Developed a 10-year strategic plan for NOAA, providing leadership on the climate-relevant portions

U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; Washington, DC

Legislative Fellow, Majority Staff (02/04/08 – 02/02/09)

- Conducted oversight of programs, policies, and budgets for NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard
- Drafted, negotiated, and passed six bills on ocean, coastal, climate change, and Coast Guard issues into law
- Prepared opening statements, questions, and briefing materials for Committee members and leadership for hearings and executive sessions focused on ocean, coastal, climate, weather, satellites, and fleet issues
- Communicated science and policy to Senators and Congressional Staff through memorandum and briefings
- Tracked scientific publications and news stories relevant to politically significant issues

Grice Marine Laboratory, College of Charleston; Charleston, SC

Research Assistant (04/01/06 – 02/01/08)

- Designed and implemented field- and lab-based research in the fields of marine ecology and genetics
- Conducted extensive background research and synthesized findings
- Analyzed data and presented findings in written and oral communications, including peer-reviewed journals
- Supervised and trained four undergraduate students in related research

Department of Biology, College of Charleston; Charleston, SC

Graduate Teaching Assistant (08/22/05 – 05/26/06)

- Instructed and evaluated undergraduate non-majors in introductory biology laboratories
- Assisted in the development of new curriculum to convey scientific theory to non-majors
- Prepared weekly lectures and laboratory activities for 6 laboratory sections using interactive learning techniques

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Marine Biology, December 2008
College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina

Bachelor of Science, Biology (cum laude, honors program), Minor: Environmental Studies, May 2004
Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- Transition to Management, NOAA Workforce Management Office (2016)
- Leadership Competencies Development Program, NOAA – Participant (2014-2016), Coach (2016-present)
 - Coaching Skills for Federal Leaders, Federal Executive Institute (2015)
 - Leading Individual and Organizational Change, Federal Executive Institute (2015)
 - Inspiring and Motivating Others to Follow, Federal Executive Institute and Jaeger2, LLC (2015)
 - Dealing with Conflict, Federal Executive Institute (2015)
 - Understanding and Applying the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, Federal Executive Institute (2014)
 - Understanding and Applying Benchmarks 360 Feedback, Federal Executive Institute (2014)
- Dealing With Marginal and Unacceptable Performance, NOAA Workforce Management Office (2015)
- Leadership Effectiveness and Advancement Program, NOAA – Participant (2010-2011), Coach (2012-2013)
- Project Design and Evaluation Course, NOAA Coastal Services Center (2009)
- Public Issues and Conflict Management Course, NOAA Coastal Services Center (2009)

SPECIAL SKILLS AND AWARDS

- Secret Level Security Clearance
- Leadership Competencies Development Program Linda Winner Memorial Award (2016)
- Climate Program Office Exceptional Service Award (2014)
- United States Department of State Certificate of Appreciation (2012)
- John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship (2008-2009)
- Languages: Fluent in English (native); Conversational in Spanish and Portuguese

SELECT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Cleary, S., Gon, S. and McCarty, A. (2016) *We Need Nature: the Importance of Biodiversity Live Web Chat*. U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC, USA.
- McCarty, A. (2014) *Coastal 'Blue Carbon' Ecosystems: A Win-Win-Win for Habitat Conservation, Coastal Resilience, and Climate Mitigation*. U.S. Center at UNFCCC 20th Conference of the Parties, Lima, Peru.
- McCarty, A. (2013) *Carbon in Coastal Ecosystems: U.S. Government Scientific and Technical Efforts*. UNFCCC Workshop on Scientific and Technical Aspects of Ecosystems with High-Carbon Reservoirs, Bonn, Germany.
- McCarty, A.T. and E.E. Sotka (2013) *Geographic variation in feeding preference of a generalist herbivore: the importance of seaweed chemical defenses*. *Oecologia*.
- McCarty, A. (2012) *U.S. Observations and Monitoring in Support of Adaptive Water Management*. UNFCCC Technical Workshop on Water, Climate Change Impacts, and Adaptation Strategies, Mexico City, Mexico.
- Sotka, E.E., A. McCarty and H.B. Giddens (2010) *Are tropical herbivores more tolerant of chemically rich seaweeds than are temperate herbivores? A test of seaweed-herbivore coevolution*. Proceedings of the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium.
- Sotka, E.E., A. McCarty, N. Oakman, E. Monroe and F. Van Dolah (2009) *Benthic herbivores are not deterred by brevetoxins produced by the red tide dinoflagellate *Karenia brevis**. *Journal of Chemical Ecology*.
- McCarty, A., L. Leandro, L. Abramson, M. Alexander-Ozinskas, E. Bolen, D. Glickson, C. Hieke, K. Hyun, K. Lassiter, J. Palakovich-Carr, and J. Steele (2008) *Demystifying Capitol Hill*. NOAA, Silver Spring, MD, USA.
- McCarty, A.T. and E.E. Sotka (2008) *Local adaptation in the feeding preferences for chemically-rich seaweeds in the marine herbivore, *Ampithoe longimana**. Ecological Society of America Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, USA.
- McCarty, A.T. and E.E. Sotka (2007) *Phylogeography and ecology of feeding preferences in the marine herbivore, *Ampithoe longimana**. Benthic Ecology Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.