

Marine Biological Laboratory



COURSE BIOS - Exploring Microbiomes of Marine Organisms with DNA Sequencing



Hilary Morrison, PhD
Senior Scientist, MBL

<https://www.mbl.edu/jbpc/staff/morrison/>

Dr. Morrison oversees the Keck Sequencing Facility. She studies microbial communities and host microbiomes, e.g., from humans and macroalgae. Dr. Morrison received her A.B. in Biology at Harvard and used the WHOI-MBL library for the first time while writing her honors thesis. She trained in molecular virology and epidemiology at Yale and did postdoctoral work in the CDC's Special Pathogens Branch in Atlanta and at Harvard Medical School. One of her favorite outreach activities is working with the Phytofinders, a high school science club that monitors phytoplankton blooms off the Outer Banks of NC.



David Mark Welch, PhD
Director of Research & Senior Scientist, MBL

<https://www.mbl.edu/jbpc/staff/dmarkwelch/>

Dr. Mark Welch is an evolutionary biologist with a background in biochemistry and molecular biology. His research spans processes of metazoan genome evolution to how rare and unknown microbes shape ecosystems and is united by an overarching interest in the molecular mechanisms by which natural selection and evolutionary history create biological diversity. As part of the International Census of Marine Microbes he helped develop many of the bioinformatic tools that are now standard in the field, and leads development of the Visualization and Analysis of Microbial Populations webserver (vamaps2.mbl.edu). Dr. Mark Welch received his B.A. in Biology from Earlham College and his PhD in Biochemistry from Harvard University.



David Remsen, Director of Marine Research Services

David oversees the marine biological operations at MBL including the collection and welfare of a wide range of marine species, SCUBA diving, and aquaculture. Dave grew up in and around Woods Hole and began his career at the MBL as an undergraduate SCUBA diver for the facility he now directs. For more than two decades Dave has combined and applied his love of marine biology within the field of biodiversity informatics, the applied use of technology on

data and information pertaining to biodiversity. Dave returned to the Cape in 2012 after working in Copenhagen, Denmark as a senior office of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, a multi-governmental organization dedicated to providing access to the worlds biodiversity data. He is a senior member of the board of the Catalogue of Life, an international effort to document all the world's species.



Scott Bennett, Marine Research Services & Secondary Education Manager

Scott coordinates and conducts specimen collections for the Marine Resources Department. Scott is a AAUS certified diver for the MBL, and a USCG licensed small boat captain. He received a B.S. degree in Marine Biology from Roger Williams University. He spent four years in the Ichthyology Department at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City working on the molecular systematics of fishes, with a focus on the blind cave fish of Madagascar. Scott received his MSc degree from California State University Fullerton where his research focus was on the comparative physiology of endothermy in tunas.