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## **Joint Ocean Commission Initiative Awards Inaugural Marc J. Hershman Excellence in Mentoring Award**

*Bipartisan Commission Recognizes Dr. Steven Gaines and Dr. Steven Cadrin for  
Instilling a Passion for Oceans in Students and Young Professionals*

July 20, 2009 (Washington, D.C.) – The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative is proud to award Dr. Steven Gaines and Dr. Steven Cadrin the inaugural Marc J. Hershman Excellence in Mentoring Award. Gaines and Cadrin exemplify the legacy of Professor Hershman by educating, training, and inspiring students and young professionals to pursue careers in ocean and coastal science, policy and management. Joint Ocean Commissioners Dr. Andrew Rosenberg and Dr. Paul Sandifer presented the award on July 20 at the Coastal Zone '09 conference in Boston, MA.

The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative, a national bipartisan organization working toward ocean policy reform, established the award in memory of Professor Marc J. Hershman, who was a true leader in the field of ocean and coastal policy for more than 30 years, and served as a commissioner on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative. Although widely respected for his work in the ocean and coastal management arena, a prominent highlight of Professor Hershman's legacy remains his great devotion to mentoring and inspiring young people. His dedication and enthusiasm for mentoring students, as well as his continued facilitation of their professional development in their early careers, has helped to cultivate the next generation of ocean and coastal managers and scientists.

"The Joint Initiative is proud to present this award to Dr. Steven Gaines and Dr. Steven Cadrin as they truly exemplify Professor Hershman's legacy and are working enthusiastically to inspire future leaders in the field of ocean and coastal management and science," said Admiral James Watkins (U.S. Navy, Ret.), co-chair of the Joint Initiative.

Dr. Steven Gaines is Director of the Marine Science Institute and Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology at the University of California at Santa Barbara. He is a marine ecologist who studies marine conservation, the design of marine reserves, the impact of climate change on oceans, and sustainable fisheries.

Throughout his career as a faculty member first at Brown University and now at the University of California Santa Barbara, Gaines has inspired the career paths of nearly 200 graduate and undergraduate students. Two of his colleagues, including one that was a former student, nominated him for the award, noting that his engagement with his students and younger colleagues is strongly reminiscent of Marc Hershman's style. He supports young scientists by challenging them to take on big issues and championing the results of their work. One colleague wrote, "I feel extremely fortunate to have both been mentored by Steve and have an ongoing working relationship with him. Now that I am mentoring students, I continually try to emulate Steve's model of leadership with my own students."

Dr. Steven Cadrin is the Director of NOAA/UMass Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program and a Professor of Fisheries Oceanography at the School for Marine Science and Technology at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. He also currently serves as the Chair of the New England Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee.

As an advisor to over a dozen graduate students and post-doctoral researchers at UMass-Dartmouth, and a mentor to other young professionals outside of this home institution, Cadrin is affectionately referred to by his students as a "national treasure." He is a hands-on advisor and regularly joins his students aboard fishing and research vessels at the front lines of fisheries science. Cadrin's colleagues remark that he goes above and beyond to support and encourage not only the individuals who study or work with him, but also his peers of equal standing. As one colleague wrote, "It has been recognized that there exists a great need for more highly trained fisheries researchers in order to address the challenges we are facing in fisheries resource management. All on his own, Steve is making great strides in closing the gap."

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*The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and Pew Oceans Commission. The primary goal of the Joint Initiative is to accelerate the pace of change that results in meaningful ocean policy reform.*