



# SMSOE Graduate Student Research Symposium

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

1:00 pm Keynote & Oral Presentations | Squamscott Room

3:00 pm Panel Discussion | Squamscott Room

3:30 pm Poster Reception | Piscataqua Room

5:00 pm Award Ceremony | Piscataqua Room

1:00 pm

## Welcome

Erik Chapman, Interim Director, SMSOE & Director, NHSG

1:15 pm

## Keynote

Michael O'Rourke, Ph.D., Michigan State University

Professor, Executive Director of the Toolbox Dialogue Initiative Center

1:35 pm –

## Oral Presentations (10 minutes each with approximately 2 minutes for Q&A)

2:50 pm

- Talia Kuras, Ph.D. student, Natural Resources: Monitoring Saltmarsh Sparrow Responses to Marsh Restoration
- Megan Andersen, Ph.D. student, Ocean Engineering: Design of an Axial-Flow Tidal Turbine Test Bed and Initial Performance Testing with 1:5 Scale MHKF1 Rotor
- Brett Woodsworth, M.S. student, Oceanography: Changing Communities: Using Remote Sensing to Assess Fish Distribution in Coral Reefs
- Alexandria Sangermano, Ph.D. student, Marine Biology: Nekton habitat use of mangrove-seagrass complexes following natural and anthropogenic disturbance in Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Puerto Rico
- Zeeshan Saeed, Ph.D. student, Mechanical Engineering: Free Surface Thermal Signatures: When Rhythms Conceal Self-similar Motion
- Jess Veo, Ph.D. student, Marine Biology: Seasonal calling and acoustic masking in gray (*Halichoerus grypus*) and harbor (*Phoca vitulina*) seals in the Northwest Atlantic
- Daryll Carlson, Ph.D. student, Oceanography: Species Distribution Modeling of Baleen Whales in the Northwest Atlantic

2:50 pm

## Break

3:00 pm

## Panel Discussion

3:30 pm

## Poster Reception

5:00 pm

## Award Ceremony



University of  
New Hampshire  
School of Marine Science  
and Ocean Engineering

