

Debra Lee Hernandez
Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA)

Professional Qualifications

<u>College</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Date</u>
Clemson University	M.S.	1987
Clemson University	B.S.	1986

Appointments

2008 – Present Executive Director, SECOORA, Charleston, S.C.

Duties (including references to the SECOORA By-laws):

- Direct and lead the SECOORA organization, with guidance of the SECOORA Board of Directors.
- Oversee day-to-day operations for the organization, including carrying out the organization’s goal and policies (Article VI, Section 1).
- Lead concurrent multi-year, multi-institutional grant funded projects, receiving over \$17,000,000 in extramural funds for SECOORA since 2008.
- Lead grant writing teams in response to Requests for Proposals (RFPs). This includes oversight for proposal development and maintaining all of the additional required documentation such as project co-PI CVs, budgets, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assessments, data management plans, and stakeholder support materials.
- For successful proposals, work with co-PIs to implement, monitor, and evaluate each smaller project to assure they remain on track for completion within the funding timeframe.
- Serve as the principal spokesperson for SECOORA at local, regional, and national events and work with the IOOS Association to promote IOOS and RA successes at the Congressional level.
- With staff, successfully plan and execute SECOORA Member and Stakeholder Annual meetings.
- Serve as primary staff liaison to the Board of Directors and serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the ExCom (Article 5, Section 1)
- Attend all SECOORA Board meetings, report on progress of the organization (including membership recruitment efforts), answer questions of the Board, and carry out other duties as proscribed (Article VI, Section 1).
- Recruit and appoint the Program Committee Chairs and, with the respective Chairs, recommends committee membership to the Board, with input from the SECOORA Board and staff (Article V, Section 5).
- With input from SECOORA Program Committees, the Stakeholders Advisory Council, staff, and through stakeholder engagement activities, identify and prioritize user-defined projects and services which SECOORA can undertake to help meet ocean observing needs within the southeast region.
- Supervise a professional staff who conduct and implement activities outlined in the SECOORA strategic and business plans (Article VI, Section 2). Conduct annual reviews and performance appraisals for all staff.
- Create job descriptions for new staff positions as recommended by the Board. Advertise, interview, and hire staff, with guidance of the Board (Article 6, Sec. 2).
- Hold weekly team meetings with staff to review on-going projects, contractor and PI management needs, budget updates and purchase requests, and other administrative functions.
- Provide leadership and guidance in the development and implementation of programs (scientific, operational, DMAC, education and outreach) with identified users and businesses, and governmental and academic entities.
- Provide organizational leadership to realize a target level of operational capability
- With input from SECOORA Program Committees, the Stakeholders Advisory Council, and staff, identify and prioritize user-defined projects that can be used to promote SECOORA
- Coordinate fundraising activities with the Treasurer and the Finance and Audit Committee, and the Board as needed (see Article IV, Section 8d; Article V, Section 2c).
- Provide leadership and guidance in the development and implementation of programs (scientific, operational, DMAC, education and outreach) with identified users and business, governmental, and academic entities
- Assist the Governance Committee to conduct face-to-face meetings with existing and prospective members of SECOORA to enhance the program’s visibility and interactions across the SECOORA network.
- Maintain the SECOORA build-out plan documentation for it’s Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System (RCOOS), to include regular updates at least every five years.
- Lead and manage the RCOOS to include establishing annual objectives that require collaboration between PIs and result in increased commitment to and respect for the SECOORA RCOOS.
- Lead and manage SECOORA’s Data Management and Communication (DMAC) infrastructure and services including managing our DMAC contractor, Axiom Data Science.

2006 – 2011 President, Hernandez and Company, LLC, Isle of Palms, S.C.
 2000 – 2006 Director of Program and Policy Development, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), Charleston, S.C.
 1998 – 2000 Assistant Director of Planning, S.C. DHEC OCRM, Charleston, S.C.
 1988 – 1998 Environmental Engineer / Manager of Non-point Source and Special Projects, S.C. DHEC OCRM, Charleston, S.C.

Products

1. Integrating Environmental Monitoring and Observing Systems in Support of Science to Inform Decision-making: Case Studies for the Southeast. Chapter 22 in *Coastal Ocean Observing Systems: Advances and Syntheses*. Porter, D.E., J. Dorton, L. Leonard, H. Kelsey, D. Ramage, J. Cothran, A. Jones, C. Galvarino, V. Subramanian and D. Hernandez. Y. Liu, H. Kerkering and R. Weisberg (eds.). Elsevier Press. DOI:10.1016/B978-0-12-802022-7.00022-5
2. A Case History of the Science and Management Collaboration in Understanding Hypoxia Events in Long Bay, South Carolina, USA. D. Sanger, D. Hernandez, S. Libes, G. Voulgaris, B. Davis, E. Smith, R. Shuford, D. Porter, E. Koepfler and J. Bennett, *Environmental Management*, Volume 46, Number 3, 340-350, DOI: 10.1007/s00267-010-9529-8
3. Establishing A Minimum Standard for Collaborative Research in Federal Environmental Agencies, K. Matso, M. Dix, B. Chicoski, D. Hernandez, and J. Schubel, *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management*, Manuscript Number: IEAM_2007-070
4. Land Use Planning and Its Potential to Reduce Hazard Vulnerability: Current Practices and Future Possibilities, A. Puszkin-Chevlin, D. Hernandez, J. Murley, *Marine Technology Society Journal*, Volume 40, Number 4, Winter 2006/2007.
5. Mitigating Shore Erosion Along Sheltered Coasts, National Research Council, Study Committee: J Benoit, C. S. Hardaway Jr, D. Hernandez, R. Holman, E. Koch, N. McLellan, S. Peterson, D. Reed, D. Suman, The National Academies Press, Washington, DC, ISBN-13:978-0-309-10346-6, 2007.
6. Evaluation of the Impacts of Dock Structures and Land Use on Tidal Creek Ecosystems in South Carolina Estuarine Environments, D. Sanger, A. F. Holland, D. Hernandez, *Environmental Management*, 33(3):385-400.
7. Lessons Learned from Hurricane Hugo, *The South Carolina Engineer*, Volume XLII, Summer, 1992.
8. Study of Ebb Tidal Shoal Dynamics, *Proceedings, Beach Preservation Technology '88*, pp. 365-373, 1988.

Synergistic Activities

2008 – present: IOOS Association Board, Executive Committee and current Vice-Chair
 2012 – 2014: National Academy of Sciences Panel to Review the National Climate Assessment
 2006 – 2011: National Academy of Sciences Ocean Studies Board
 2005 – 2008: Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel (ORRAP), Vice-Chair
 2002 – 2004: Chairperson, Coastal States Organization, Washington, D.C.
 2005 – 2010: Coastal States Stewardship Foundation, Vice-Chair
 2005 – present: South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium Program Advisory Board
 1995 – 1999 Isle of Palms City Council

Collaborators and Other Affiliations

Dr. Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., – GeoOptics, Dr. R. Dodge – NSU, Dr. D. Porter – USC, Dr. L. Leonard – UNC-W, Dr. H. Seim – UNC-CH, M. Conley – TNC, M. R. DeVoe – SC Sea Grant Consortium, Dr. H. Kelsey – U of Maryland, Dr. D. Savidge – SkIO, Dr. N. Shay – U of Miami, Dr. P. Sheng – UF, Dr. R. He – NCSU, Dr. L. Xie – NCSU, Dr. R. Weisberg – USF, Dr. M. Luther – USF, Dr. M. Roffer – ROFFS™, Dr. P. Halpin – Duke

Graduate Advisor: Dr. Earl Hayter, Environmental Protection Agency