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Newsletter (May 2022)

Virginia Coastal Policy Center, William & Mary Law School

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**WILLIAM & MARY
LAW SCHOOL**

**VIRGINIA COASTAL
POLICY CENTER**

News of the Coast: May 2022



Spring Field Trip to Jamestown

Students in the VCPC Practicum classes enjoyed a visit to Jamestown Island to hear Dave Givens, Director of Archaeology for Jamestown Rediscovery discuss the impacts of climate change on one of our nation's most important endangered historic sites.

Recent Highlights

The Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT) began implementation for six Middle Peninsula localities, facilitating monthly community meetings to work on Resilience Action Checklist items.

This semester, VCPC taught nine students in our Practicum I course and six students in Practicum II, as well as four Research Assistants and an undergraduate student through a Main Campus diversity initiative. Our undergrad, Bryan Stapleton, was accepted to law school in the fall--congratulations, Bryan!

The Coastal Policy Center is assisting the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program with a variety of interesting and important projects this semester, including developing the Commonwealth's first Ocean Plan and

analyzing an In-Lieu Fee program for non-wetland habitats. See more about these efforts below!

VCPC Practicum Courses

Student Feature: Luke Foley

“VCPC was a great experience. I learned a lot about policy-making at the state and local level during class sessions, and the ocean plan project provided valuable insight into the coastal and ocean issues facing Virginia and other parts of the country.” After graduation, Luke is moving to New Jersey where he will clerk for a state court judge



Student Feature: Nate Dominy

Nate, a third-year law student, worked with Luke to research comparisons for a Virginia Ocean Plan in the Practicum I and Practicum II. He also helped to create a communications plan for use in developing the Ocean Plan. Nate plans to work in the Hampton Roads area after graduation.

VCPC Assists Coastal Zone Management Program with Ocean Plan & In Lieu Fee Projects

The Coastal Policy Center’s Practicum I and II classes worked on a variety of interesting projects this semester.

One student team, Nate Dominy and Luke Foley, assisted the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program with the first steps in developing a Virginia Ocean Plan that will provide a comprehensive vision and policy guide for the Commonwealth. The students presented their findings to a Virginia

Ocean Planning Workgroup, wrote a Communications Plan, and helped host a series of stakeholder meetings.

VCPC also is assisting the CZM Program with researching the possibility of expanding Virginia's current in lieu fee program for wetlands impacts to cover more natural resources such as shorebird habitat and subaquatic vegetation. Two VCPC Practicum II students, Erika Bosack and Luke Miller, researched other states' in lieu fee programs this semester.

VCPC will continue working with the CZM Program on both projects this fall.



Student Feature: Erika Bosack

"I am kind of interested in environmental law and policy," graduating 3L Erika jokes, having taken both VCPC Practica, written an article on an environmental law topic published in the W&M Environmental Law & Policy Review, completed an Environmental Law certification, and served as Co-President of a student environmental law society.



Student Feature: Luke Miller

Luke is also a third-year law student with a concentration in Environmental Law. Luke was a VCPC Research Assistant in Summer 2020 and worked on the 2021 Carbon Sequestration Task Force report to the General Assembly, noting that "seeing how many unique perspectives can be brought to the table in policymaking has been a highlight of my time with VCPC".

New VCPC Policy Resources

- [Abandoned and Derelict Vessels in the Commonwealth: How to Improve Virginia's ADV Program](#)

- [A Study of Tribal Communication Frameworks: Some Approaches to Building Partnerships Between Tribal, State, and Local Governments in Virginia](#)
- [Toward a Virginia Ocean Plan: Lessons and Recommendations from Other States](#)
- [Protecting Terrapins with TEDs in Virginia: Lessons from Other States](#)



Bon voyage!

We wish all of our graduates the very best as they start their new adventures! We are proud of you and all of your accomplishments, and know you will be great assets to the law profession.

