

CURRENT RESEARCH

Reducing the global incidence of algae blooms

The old adage, "everything in moderation" is exceptionally relevant when considering the nutrients that accumulate within our oceans and freshwaters. Too little, and aquatic life is unable to thrive, while too much results in algae blooms that can lead to toxic compounds that can kill fish, ultimately harming people from consumption of toxic seafoods. These blooms can also affect drinking water supplies. Dr. Patricia Glibert, of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, has dedicated decades to tackling the ecological problems that occur due to the proliferations of species that result in harmful red tide health risks. In addition to the human and ecological problems that these algae blooms cause, they can also result in large economic costs. When these types of blooms occur, they can force closure of shellfish areas, recreational swimming areas, and they can kill aquaculture products, resulting in losses of thousands to millions of dollars. With our rapidly changing nutrient pollution and climate change, Dr. Glibert hopes to better understand these phenomena to aid management and stewardship of our water resources.

At the forefront of understanding the relationships between regional and global changes in nitrogen pollution and algal blooms, Dr. Glibert's lab uniquely links the cellular physiological processes with global change phenomena. She and her team are continuing to learn about new harmful species and how they function in the environment. In fact, Dr. Glibert, together with her colleagues, is working towards improving our ability to predict when and where algal blooms will occur and thus, with an improved understanding, her research may be able to reduce their frequency. Ranging from...

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AFFILIATION



University of Maryland College Park Campus

EDUCATION

- B.A., in Biology, 1974 , Skidmore College
- M.S., in Earth Sciences, 1976, University of New Hampshire
- Ph.D., in Organismal and Evolutionary Biology, 1982, Harvard University

AWARDS

- University of Maryland Board of Regents Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, 2006
- Honorary Doctorate, conferred by Linnaeus University, Sweden, 2011
- Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2012
- Named one of the top 25 women professors in the State of Maryland, 2013
- Named one of China's 1000 Talents, 2014

RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Ecology, Oceanic, Clean Energy

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Patricia Glibert, of the University of Maryland, as she works to understand nutrient pollution and climate change to aid management and stewardship of our water resources. Donations will fund continued field and laboratory studies by supporting dedicated and qualified research assistance and graduate students. In addition, funds will allow Dr. Glibert and her team to respond to algal bloom events as they happen thereby improving the quality of research and making a larger impact!