Sea Education Association, Woodwell Climate Research Center, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Announce New Fellowship Program to Strengthen Climate and Environmental Science Workforce

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the program will support recent college graduates who bring creative and innovative skills to graduate studies and careers in climate and environmental fields

Falmouth, MA – May 13 – <u>Sea Education Association</u> (SEA), <u>Woodwell Climate Research Center</u>, and <u>Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution</u> (WHOI) announced a new postbaccalaureate fellowship program for recent college graduates to support their pursuit of graduate studies or professional careers in climate- and environmental science-related fields.

Funded by the National Science Foundation, and based in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, the program, Accelerating Climate and Environmental Science Careers through a Postbaccalaureate Fellowship in Woods Hole (ACES Woods Hole), will provide fellows with 12-15 months of paid research, experiential learning, and professional development opportunities designed to promote research skills and knowledge to support academic and career goals.

These opportunities include an interest-aligned research project guided by mentors from Woods Hole scientific institutions and collaboration with local K-12 educators to create hands-on science learning experiences for students, as well as a range of other community-building and education- and career-readiness activities.

"Tackling the climate crisis requires all of the knowledge, expertise, innovation and creativity that we can collectively muster," said Dr. Nigel Golden, Research Scientist at Woodwell Climate. "However, for too long, a lack of support and relevant experience has pushed people out or led them away from careers in climate and environmental science-related fields. ACES will help pull them back and support them every step of the way."

"By creating this scalable, collaborative, and supportive learning ecosystem, ACES will strengthen our climate and environmental science workforce and ensure that the voices shaping our planet's future accurately reflect the communities this science serves," said Onjalé Scott Price, Lead Principal Investigator through Sea Education Association.

Programming will officially kick off in September 2025. Fellows will be offered up to \$500 in relocation support, housing in Woods Hole in a shared dormitory, and a salary of \$44K per year plus benefit options.

All applicants must have completed their undergraduate degree by the start of the program and not yet taken any graduate courses or been accepted to graduate school; must have an interest in marine, environmental, climate, or other earth science; and must be able to live and work in Woods Hole, Massachusetts for the entire program.

For more information about the program and application, please visit https://aces.woodwellclimate.org/. If you are an organization or institution interested in partnering with ACES or supporting recruitment for the program, please email aces@woodwellclimate.org.

ACES is also supported by the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), American Geophysical Union (AGU), Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Multicultural Program (ASLOMP), INSPIRE Environmental, University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography (URI GSO), Morehouse College, UMass Boston, Falmouth Public Schools, and WHOI Sea Grant.

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About Sea Education Association

<u>Sea Education Association (SEA)</u> is an internationally recognized leader in ocean education, located in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. SEA provides undergraduate, gap, and high school students the opportunity to study ocean sciences and blue humanities through immersive experiences in Woods Hole, aboard one of SEA's tall ships, and within coastal communities around the world. For more information about SEA's programs and impact, please visit www.sea.edu.

About Woodwell Climate Research Center

Woodwell Climate Research Center conducts science for solutions at the nexus of climate, people, and nature—solutions that are urgently needed to propel us toward a more equitable, healthy, and sustainable world. Originally founded as the Woods Hole Research Center in 1985, we have a track record of partnering with a global network of communities and leaders to generate just, meaningful impact to address the climate crisis. Our Falmouth, MA headquarters are located on the traditional and sacred land of the Wampanoag people who still occupy this land, and whose history, language, traditional ways of life, and culture continue to influence this vibrant community. Woodwell Climate has earned Charity Navigator's highest rating of 4 stars, as well as a Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or Subscribe to our monthly newsletter.

About Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) is a private, non-profit organization on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, dedicated to marine research, engineering, and higher education. Established in 1930, its primary mission is to understand the ocean and its interaction with the Earth as a whole, and to communicate an understanding of the ocean's role in the changing global environment. WHOI's pioneering discoveries stem from an ideal combination of science and engineering—one that has made it one of the most trusted and technically advanced

leaders in basic and applied ocean research and exploration anywhere. WHOI is known for its multidisciplinary approach, superior ship operations, and unparalleled deep-sea robotics capabilities. We play a leading role in ocean observation and operate the most extensive suite of data-gathering platforms in the world. Top scientists, engineers, and students collaborate on more than 800 concurrent projects worldwide—both above and below the waves—pushing the boundaries of knowledge and possibility. For more information, please visit www.whoi.edu