Great Lakes HABs Collaborative
NEWSLETTER
LINKING SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT TO REDUCE HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS FALL 2019

New name, new faces, same goal!

Did you notice? The Great Lakes Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Collaboratory has become the HABs Collaborative! What does this mean? The truth is, we're not sure yet, but our goal (and tagline) remains the same: together we'll link science and management to reduce harmful algal blooms in the Great Lakes. Focusing on how we work together is what inspired the change to a more traditional collaborative. Great Lakes Commission (GLC) staff will continue to stand as the 'backbone organization' for the work—and rather than supporting the 'collective laboratory' model, we will assure that our members have what they need to collaborate and communicate the science behind HABs among decision-makers and other interested stakeholders.



Nicole Zacharda

So, what's changing? First, Nicole Zacharda, Program Manager at the GLC has been asked to help strengthen the GLC's support to the Collaborative. Nicole has been working in water quality issues for 20 years, having spent the past four at the GLC as the lead on various programs and projects involving nutrient pollution and the Great Lakes. As a Blue Accounting issue lead (for both ErieStat and Source Water), Nicole looks forward to helping the HABs Collaborative grow as a trusted space for Great Lakes stakeholders and decision-makers to access the latest science on HABs affecting our lakes.

The HABs Collaborative has further defined and updated its organizational structure to reflect these changes:



Great Lakes HABs Collaborative Organizational Structure, November 2019

NEW: Member Spotlight

We know a lot of good work is happening around the Great Lakes Basin thanks to many of our Collaborative members. Help us share that work by suggesting content for the "Member Spotlight" section of this quarterly newsletter. Please share your ideas with Nicole at nzacharda@glc.org. We aim to spotlight up to three recent efforts per issue, starting with work from these three partners:

University of Toledo's Lake Erie Live Kiosk



Lake Erie Live kiosk at Maumee Bay State Park near Toledo, Ohio.

In May 2019, the HABs Collaborative awarded a small grant to the University of Toledo's (UT) Dr. Tom Bridgeman to build an internet-connected kiosk for park visitors called "Lake Erie Live." Dr. Bridgeman's team, at the UT Lake Erie Center, including Rachel Lohner and Ian Mahoney, worked with the staff at Maumee Bay State Park and Conference Center, which is UT's neighbor on the shore of Lake Erie's western basin in Oregon, Ohio. The kiosk provides easily digestible information about HABs and includes links to frequently updated HAB information such as Ohio BeachGuard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) HAB Bulletin, live buoy data, and satellite imagery. The kiosk also features fact sheets produced by the Collaborative.

Fourth Annual Understanding Harmful Algal Blooms: State of the Science

Ohio Sea Grant presented its fourth annual conference in Toledo, Ohio, on September 12 in partnership with The Ohio State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other sponsors. Over 330 attendees heard the latest science on HABs from leading researchers focused on collaborations and partnerships, watershed dynamics, climate, and social science. A poster session presented additional research to attendees and our own HABs Collaborative shared a booth with Blue Accounting's ErieStat, which aims to track progress toward a healthier Lake Erie.

If you've wondered about making the trip for this one-day event, consider that 95 percent of attendees considered the event to be a valuable experience[1]. You can access presentations and learn more about the event through Ohio Sea Grant's website.



HABs Collaborative & ErieStat booth at Understanding Algal Blooms: State of the Science conference

Steering Committee member Dr. Tim Davis of Bowling Green University leads team to develop new HABs warning system

Dr. Tim Davis, Endowed Professor at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) is a founding member of the HABs Collaborative and part of a team working to improve the rapid detection of cyanotoxins in the field. That work will provide managers with timely information on risk to minimize exposure to water users. The project, titled "Monitoring and Event Response for Harmful Algal Blooms: Portable Toxin Detection Technology to Support Great Lakes Decision Support Tools", is a partnership between BGSU, LimnoTech Inc., MBio Diagnostics Inc., NOAA-NCCOS, The Ohio State University, University of Michigan's Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, and the University of Toledo. The team received fiscal year 2019



Dr. Tim Davis

[1] According to a post-event survey conducted by Ohio Sea Grant.

funding through NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) Competitive Research Program Harmful Algal Bloom Awards, which will support the project through August 2022.

"This award allows for collaboration between universities and industry partners, and enables universities to work with their regional stakeholders," said Davis. "As a public university for the public good, we think these partnerships are absolutely critical to conduct the best science possible."

What's happening with the HABs Collaborative Steering Committee?



Michelle Selzer



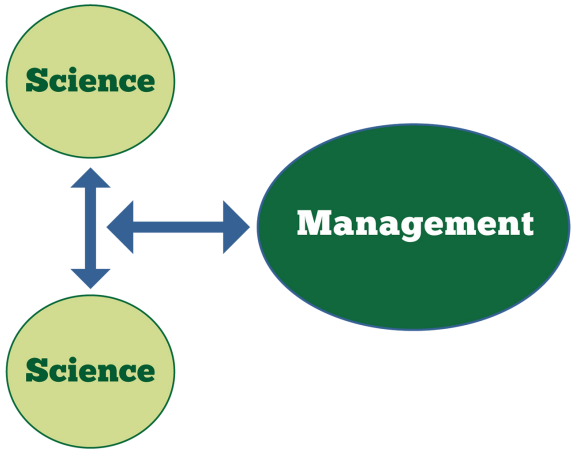
Silvia Newell

First, who is the Steering Committee?

The HABs Collaborative Steering Committee is comprised of 12 individuals from both the HABs research and management communities around the Great Lakes Basin. The committee is currently co-chaired by Michelle Selzer, Lake Coordinator of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and Silvia Newell, Associate Professor at Wright State University. This group plans to expand its membership in early 2020 to add more voices and deepen the impact of the HABs Collaborative's efforts.

Steering Committee, October 2019

Silvia Newell, Wright State University
Michelle Selzer, Michigan EGLE
Raj Bejankiwar, International Joint Commission
Tim Davis, Bowling Green State University
Reagan Errera, NOAA-GLERL
Mary Anne Evans, US Geological Survey
Donna Hill, US EPA
Gina LaLiberte, Wisconsin DNR
Todd Miller, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Dale Robertson, USGS
Katie Stammler, Essex Region CA
Brannon Walsh, US EPA



What are they working on?

Lakewide Action and Management Plans (LAMPs) webinar

The HABs Collaborative Steering Committee is working with each Great Lake LAMP Partnership Working Group to organize a Great Lakes HAB Collaborative webinar. The webinar will highlight the binational LAMP program administered under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The goal of the webinar is to serve as a starting point to understand how the HABs Collaborative can be used to leverage information and knowledge that may help inform HAB-related LAMP planning and implementation needs. Stakeholders interested in participating in the webinar will be advised of the date and time for this webinar through the HABs Collaborative Listserv and social media. For more information please contact Michelle Selzer at mselzerm@michigan.gov.

"Who Does What" Fact Sheet

The HABs Collaborative will also create a fact sheet highlighting different management organizations, reporting cycles, and related efforts around Great Lakes HABs to help the Great Lakes Basin research community understand management strategies and opportunities to share knowledge and get involved in planning and implementation efforts.

Research Dashboard

Early in 2020, the HABs Collaborative will start work on a HABs Research Dashboard to catalog different areas of HABs research using an online platform that will feature active HABs research efforts. Funders and others interested in understanding which researchers are working on various aspects of HABs will be able to use the dashboard as a 'project pipeline' relating to broad categories of HABs research and management. Researchers and management entities will also be able to use the dashboard to connect with potential collaborators. If you are interested in hosting a local workshop on this effort during the winter of 2020, please contact Ken Gibbons at kgibbons@glc.org.

Get involved and stay in touch!

Twitter

The Collaborative is active on Twitter! Follow us to get up-to-date information about our work and other HABs-related content. **@GLHABsCollab**

Join our Listserv!

To join our listserv and receive announcements about the Collaborative, please email Ken Gibbons at kgibbons@glc.org



Ken Gibbons

EPA Funding Opportunity

Use the Collaborative's listserv to seek collaborators on a new funding opportunity recently announced by the U.S. EPA's Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program. Proposals are due on December 10, 2019. Learn more on this call for "Approaches to Reduce Nutrient Loadings for Harmful Algal Blooms Management" through EPA's website on research grants.