Advancing women in ocean science to become world-leading professionals by establishing a network and providing mentorship, funding, and field access for a rising cohort of WIOS to push the frontiers of science

RECRUITING NOW

1 Scholar
2 Interns

A scholar will be granted a 2-year award to establish a field research experiment in Little Cayman.

Two residential interns will support the scholar's project for up to 3 months.

For full award details, see the programme website.

PROGRAMME TIMELINE

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<th>APPLICATION DEADLINE</th>
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PROGRAMME DETAILS
reefresearch.org/wios
Whilst progress has been made over the last 30 years in terms of women’s representation within the scientific community, the discipline of ocean science remains hugely unequal in terms of women entering at professional levels vs their progression to key positions within academia. The proportion of women receiving graduate oceanography degrees rose from 2% in the early 1970s to 38% in 2001 (NSF, 2004), yet this increase in women in ocean science is not translating to women in upper ranking roles. By 2014, only 15% were reaching senior faculty positions.

The Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) is launching the Women in Ocean Science (WIOS) programme to recognize outstanding early-career and mid-career scholars, who can advance the frontiers of marine science and become world-leading professionals.

Over the next six years, six WIOS scholars will gain access to develop and deliver field projects of significance, and will also receive support to participate in international meetings. Four internships per year will also be supported as part of the award. In addition to the awards, the WIOS programme will also establish a strong network of professionals who are committed to increasing diversity at the highest level of science.

The WIOS Award will fund research aimed at finding solutions to the greatest challenges facing the ocean and society today. WIOS participants will have access to an influential network of men and women, who are exemplary international leaders of major research institutions, proficient in philanthropy, social science, science communications and media, and grant writing.

The WIOS programme will provide support for innovative research to be undertaken at the CCMI’s facility, the Little Cayman Research Centre. The first award is established thanks to a gift from the Brian Melito and Jessica Colker Trust.