



TRINATIONAL INITIATIVE CUBA - MEXICO - USA

INICIATIVA TRINACIONAL EN CIENCIAS MARINAS Y CONSERVACIÓN DE
GOLFO DE MÉXICO Y EL CARIBE OCCIDENTAL

TRINATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR MARINE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION IN THE
GULF OF MEXICO AND WESTERN CARIBBEAN

**A collaborative workshop to advance marine research in the
Gulf of Mexico and Western Caribbean**

November 14-15, 2015

Acuario Nacional de Cuba, Havana



Support for this workshop was provided by the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, the Bay and Paul Foundations, and the Christopher Reynolds Foundation.

AGENDA

Saturday, November 14, 2015

- 1:00pm **Meet at Hotel Palco lobby for drive to Acuario Nacional de Cuba**
- 1:30pm **Registration and Coffee**
LOCATION: Salón de Conferencias, Acuario Nacional de Cuba
- 2:00pm **Welcome and Introductions**
- Brief introduction from each participant (name/affiliation)
 - Guillermo Garcia-Montero *Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente*
 - Dr. Larry McKinney *Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies*
 - Mark Spalding *The Ocean Foundation*
- 2:40pm **Review of Meeting History, Purpose & Agenda**
- Fernando Bretos *Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science*
 - Guillermo Garcia-Montero –Acuario Nacional de Cuba
- Questions and Comments*
- 3:00pm **Presentations on Emerging Cross Cutting Issues**
- Overview of National Cuban Program on Sharks and Rays**
- *Elisa García Ministerio de la Industria Alimenticia (MINAL)*
- Questions and Comments*
- Sharing Data and Information Across Disciplines and Countries: Challenges and Solutions
- Dr. James Gibeaut *Harte Research Institute*
 - *MSc. Argelia Fernández Agencia de Medio Ambiente de Cuba*
- Proyecto Tres Golfos
- Dr. Patricia González *Centro de Investigaciones Marinas, Universidad de la Habana*
 - Dr. Daria Siciliano *Cuba Marine Research and Conservation Program, The Ocean Foundation*
- 4:20pm **General Reflections**
- Dr. Eldredge Bermingham, *Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science*
 - Dr. Julio Baisre, *Acuario Nacional de Cuba*
- 4:50pm
Questions and Comments

5:00pm **Cocktail Reception at Acuario Nacional de Cuba**

6:30pm **Dinner at El Palenque**

Sunday, November 15, 2015

8:30am **Meet at Hotel Palco lobby for drive to Aquario Nacional**

9:00am **Overview and Logistics of Break-out Groups**

9:15am **Break-out into Groups to Advance the Six Research and Management Projects**

LOCATION: Salón de Conferencias, Acuario Nacional de Cuba

1. Coral Reefs
2. Sharks and Rays
3. Sea Turtles
4. Marine Mammals
5. Fisheries
6. Marine Protected Areas

12:00pm **Lunch in Gran Azul**

1:30pm **Report from Break-out Group Sessions**

20 min. per session, one spokesperson per group

1. Coral Reefs
2. Sharks and Rays
3. Sea Turtles
4. Marine Mammals
5. Fisheries
6. Marine Protected Areas

4:00pm **Discussion of the recent announcement to create a sister park program between the Florida Keys and Flower Gardens National Marine Sanctuaries (USA) and Guanahacabibes National Park (Cuba)**

- Maritza Garcia *Centro Nacional de Áreas Protegidas*
- Billy Causey *NOAA*
- Dan Whittle *Environmental Defense Fund*

4:30pm **Roundtable Discussion:** A reflection on the future of U.S.-Cuba-Mexico collaborations after President Obama's December 17, 2014 announcement to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba. What does this announcement mean for future scientific collaboration among U.S., Cuba, and Mexico?

- Dan Whittle *Environmental Defense Fund*

5:00pm **Meeting assessment and feedback questionnaire**

5:15pm | **Wrap-up: Next steps and Assignments**

6:00pm | **Dinner on your own**