

A satellite-style aerial photograph of the Gulf of Mexico coastline, showing the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf of Campeche, and the Yucatan Peninsula. The water is a deep blue, and the land is a mix of green and brown. The text is overlaid on the image.

Harte Research Institute

for

Gulf of Mexico Studies

by

Wes Tunnell

Associate Director

Harte Research Institute

&

Director

Center for Coastal Studies

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Marine History TAMU-CC

1947 University of Corpus Christi

1957 Started Marine Science

1973 Texas A&I University-Corpus Christi

1975 MS Degree (Biology, Marine Emphasis)

1977 Corpus Christi State University

1984 Center for Coastal Studies

1987 Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying & Science



Marine History TAMU-CC

1988 MS Degree Mariculture

1989 Joined Texas A&M University System

1992 MS Degree Environmental Science

1993 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

1994 Four-year Comprehensive Institute

1996 Natural Resources Center

2000 Harte Research Institute



The Harte Research Institute

- **Endowed by Mr. Ed Harte (Sept. 2000)**
- **\$46 million**
 - **6 Endowed Chairs**
 - **12 Endowed Graduate Research Assistantships**
 - **Endowed Operating Budget**
- **“Make a Difference”**



U.S. Marine Lab Endowments

	In Millions
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute	\$250
Harte Research Institute	\$ 46
Woods Hole Marine Biological Lab	\$ 40
Scripps Institute of Oceanography	\$ 31
Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (Miami)	\$ 30



From Texas Legislature

- **\$15 Million for Harte Research Institute Building on TAMU-CC Campus**
- **\$300,000 Annual Special Item Funding for Gulf of Mexico Environmental Lab**



Advisory Council Members:

Dr. Sylvia Earle, Chair – *National Geographic Society*

Sr. Homero Aridjis – *Journalist, Mexico City*

Mr. William Baker – *Environmental Manager, Reliant Energy*

Mr. William Bradford – *Former CEO Dresser / Haliburton*

Mr. Luke Corbett – *CEO, Kerr McGee*

Sr. Eugenio Clariond Reyes – *CEO, Grupo IMSA*

Mr. Jean Michel Cousteau – *Ocean Futures Society*

Dr. Richard Ewing – *Vice President for Research, TAMU*

Dr. Robert Furgason – *President, TAMU-CC*

Mr. Terry Garcia – *Executive Vice President, National Geographic Society*

Dr. David Guggenheim – *Vice President, Ocean Conservancy*

Mr. William Harte – *Harte Family*

Ms. Katharine Armstrong – *Chair, TPW Commission*

Sr. Alejandro Junco de la Vega – *Publisher, Monterrey*

Dr. Kumar Mahadevan – *Executive Director, Mote Marine Lab*

Sr. Guillermo Garcia Montero – *Director, National Aquarium of Cuba*

Mr. Pat Noonan – *Chairman, Conservation Fund*

Dr. John Ogden – *Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography*

Dr./Admiral Alberto Vazquez de la Cerda – *Universidad Veracruzana & Secretaria de Marina*

Dr. Don Walsh – *Oceanographer, Trieste Pilot*



Advisory Council Meeting

- October 2001 – Corpus Christi, Texas**
- December 2001 – Corpus Christi, Texas**
- February 2002 – Houston, Texas**
- April 2002 – Havana, Cuba**
- October 2002 – Veracruz Mexico**
- January 2003 – Corpus Christi, Texas**
- April 2003 – Washington, D.C. (planned)**



Gulf of Mexico Planning Workshop

12-13 December 2001

50 Gulf of Mexico Scientists

- **38 United States**
- **10 Mexico**
- **2 Cuba**



Mission Statement

Create an institute that will support and advance the long-term sustainable use and conservation of the Gulf of Mexico



“Early” Gulf-Wide Beneficial and Achievable Research Projects:

- **Veracruz Reefs Expedition (2002)**
- **Document biodiversity of Gulf of Mexico**
- **Create a Gulf of Mexico marine GIS**
- **Help publish a book on Gulf of Mexico**



Other Projects

- **GulfBase Website**
- **Ed Harte Distinguished Lecture Series (Fall & Spring)**
- **State of the Gulf of Mexico Conference (biennially)**



