

8th Symposium on Harmful Algae in the U.S.

Location: We propose to hold the 8th Symposium on Harmful Algae in the U.S. in Long Beach, California. Long Beach is about 25 miles south of Los Angeles, and is easily accessible by the 3 major airports in the area (Los Angeles International, Long Beach and Bob Hope). There are plenty of public transportation options, as well as shuttles, taxicabs and rental cars in the area. The Los Angeles area is a tourist destination due to the wide variety of tourist attractions such as amusement parks, museums, boat tours, zoos, aquariums, beaches, seaports and Hollywood tours. Tours of Los Angeles will be organized and available for signup with registration for the conference (including attendee family members).

Dates: Late October 2015 (tentatively October 18th to 22nd, 2015)

Theme: The symposium will focus on the land-sea connection of HABs and include both freshwater and marine HABs. The environmental drivers, particularly with respect to nutrients, of blooms and toxin production will also be a central theme.

Potential participating or collaborating organizations: There are a number of California based organizations that will potentially participate in addition that include: California Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring and Alert Program (Cal-HABMAP), California Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Bloom Network (CCHABs), Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS), Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS), California Ocean Science Trust, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, California Regional Water Quality Control Boards, the California State Water Quality Control Board, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Federal organizations anticipated to participate include NOAA, FDA and EPA.

Venue description: The venue for the symposium is the retired ocean liner, The Queen Mary, which is permanently docked in Long Beach, California. The Queen Mary sailed in the North Atlantic Ocean from 1936-1967 and then was retired from service. The Queen Mary is currently a historic landmark (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) that features restaurants, a museum and a 346 room hotel with 80,000 square feet of function space with 16 meeting rooms. The City of Long Beach City offers a free shuttle that departs from the Queen Mary every 15 minutes and goes to downtown Long Beach and the waterfront area (less than 10 minutes from the Queen Mary). The symposium will be held in the Grand Salon and Windsor Rooms which can easily hold 250 attendees and display 150 posters. The banquet will be held at the Aquarium of the Pacific (in Long Beach, close to Queen Mary). The aquarium exhibits focus on the marine life in the Pacific Ocean and feature over 11,000 animals representing over 500 species.



The registration costs are estimated to be \$375 (\$275 for students) and \$30 for the banquet (\$25 for students).

Organizing Committee for LOI: Meredith Howard (Southern California Coastal Water Research Project), Raphael Kudela (University of California, Santa Cruz), David Caron (University of Southern California)